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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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# National & States Affairs

**1.** Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat attended the official name change ceremony of 'Miyan ka Bada' railway station to 'Mahesh Nagar Halt' in Rajasthan. Earlier in 2018, the name of the village was changed from Miyan ka Bada to Mahesh Nagar but the name of the railway station was not changed. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- 'Miyan ka Bada' railway station – renamed to 'Mahesh Nagar Halt' in Rajasthan
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

**2.** With the aim of providing critical medical aid to Sri Lanka during the ongoing crisis, INS Gharial as part of Mission SAGAR IX arrived at Colombo on 29 April 2022 and delivered over 760 kgs of 107 types of critical lifesaving medicines. In line with GoI's vision of "SAGAR" (Security And Growth for All in the Region), the Indian Navy undertakes several deployments titled 'Mission SAGAR' to assist friendly IOR littorals. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- INS Gharial – delivered over 760 kgs of 107 types of critical lifesaving medicines at Colombo as part of 'Mission SAGAR IX'
- SAGAR – Security And Growth for All in the Region
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral R. Hari Kumar | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26<sup>th</sup> Jan, 1950

**3.** With an aim to lead the country towards green shipping, the ministry of ports, shipping and waterways decided to develop and build the first indigenous hydrogen fuelled electric vessels at Cochin Shipyard Ltd (CSL). The hydrogen fuel cell vessel is expected to cost around Rs. 17.50 Cr, of which 75% would be funded by the Government of India. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Cochin Shipyard Ltd – to develop & build first indigenous Hydrogen Fuelled Electric Vessels (Cost – 17.50 Cr)
- HQs of Cochin Shipyard – Kochi, Kerala | Chairman & MD – Madhu S. Nair | Incorporated in – 1972
- Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways: Sarbananda Sonowal | Constituency – Majuli, Assam
- MoS in Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways: Shripad Yesso Naik & Shantanu Thakur

**4.** On the occasion of the inauguration of the Golden Jubilee celebrations of Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) at the CSL Kochi, Union Minister for Ports, Shipping, and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal announced that CSL has committed to invest an initial corpus of Rs 50 Cr in the Start-up companies engaged in the maritime sector. The Minister also unveiled the Start-up engagement framework of CSL. Cochin Shipyard was incorporated in 1972 as a Government of India company. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Sarbananda Sonowal – inaugurated the Golden Jubilee celebrations of Cochin Shipyard Limited at Kochi
- Cochin Shipyard Limited – committed to invest an initial corpus of Rs 50 Cr in the maritime sector Start-up companies
- HQs of Cochin Shipyard – Kochi, Kerala | Chairman & MD – Madhu S. Nair | Incorporated in – 1972
- Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways: Sarbananda Sonowal | Constituency – Majuli, Assam
- MoS in Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways: Shripad Yesso Naik & Shantanu Thakur



**5.** On May 1, the Madras High Court invoked the “parens patriae jurisdiction” to declare Mother Nature as a Living Being with all corresponding rights, duties and liabilities of a living person, in order to preserve and conserve them. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Madras High Court – invoked the “parens patriae jurisdiction” to declare Mother Nature as a ‘Living Being’
- [Chief Justice of Madras High Court – Justice Munishwar Nath Bhandari](#)

**6.** Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) is considering implementing “Organic Aadhaar” for the farmers engaged in organic farming under the ‘National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP)’ to rule out any possibility of bogus enrollment. The idea is to create an identity for the farmer, based on Personal Aadhar and ULPIN, for the organic certification process. The government has been implementing a 14-digit identification number to every plot of land in the country under the Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN) scheme. Moreover, the ‘Tracenet system’ was launched in 2009 to provide details of products exported from the country. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- APEDA is considering implementing “Organic Aadhaar” for the farmers engaged in organic farming under “NPOP”
- ULPIN – **U**nique **L**and **P**arcel **I**dentification **N**umber (a 14-digit identification number to every plot of land)
- [HQs of APEDA – New Delhi | Chairman – M. Angamuthu | Established in – 1986 \(functions under Ministry of C&I\)](#)

**7.** The second phase of the mandatory hallmarking under the “Hallmarking of Gold Jewellery and Gold Artefacts (Amendment) Order, 2022” will come into force from June 1, 2022. As per the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, the second phase of the mandatory hallmarking will cover additional three caratages of gold jewellery/artefacts viz. 20, 23, and 24 carats. Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) is responsible for the implementation of the hallmarking. The authenticity and purity of the hallmarked gold jewellery items with the Hallmark Unique Identification (HUID) number, purchased by the consumer, can also be verified by using ‘verify HUID’ in the ‘BIS CARE’ app. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- The second phase of the mandatory hallmarking of gold will come into force from June 1, 2022
- BIS is responsible for the implementation of the hallmarking | HUID number – **H**allmark **U**nique **I**dentification number
- [HQs of BIS – Manek Bhawan, Old Delhi | Director General – Pramod Kumar Tiwari](#)

**8.** In a move aimed at providing a global platform for millet products, the Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) launched a variety of millet products for all age groups at affordable prices ranging from Rs 5 to Rs 15 at the ‘AAHAR’ food fair, which is Asia’s biggest B2B international food and hospitality fair. All the millet products launched by APEDA are gluten-free, 100% natural and patented. APEDA also launched a variety of “Millet in Minutes” products under the category of Ready-to-Eat (RTE). The 36<sup>th</sup> edition of ‘AAHAR’ was jointly organized by APEDA and the India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO) in New Delhi. In March, 2021, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) has declared 2023 as “International Year of Millets”. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- APEDA – launched gluten-free, 100% natural & patented millet products for all age groups at affordable prices
- APEDA – also launched a variety of “Millet in Minutes” products
- UNGA has declared 2023 as “International Year of Millets”
- HQs of APEDA – New Delhi | Chairman – M. Angamuthu | Established in – 1986 (functions under Ministry of C&I)

**9.** On May 1, Government of India launched the “National Open Access Registry (NOAR)” website to promote open access in the Power Sector. NOAR has been designed as an integrated single window electronic platform accessible to all stakeholders. NOAR is part of the Ministry of Power. National Load Despatch Centre (NLDC) operated by Power System Operation Corporation Limited (POSOCO) has been designated as the nodal agency for implementation and operation of NOAR. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- GoI launched the “National Open Access Registry (NOAR)” website to promote open access in the Power Sector
- NOAR is part of Ministry of Power | Nodal agency of NOAR – NLDC (NLDC is operated by POSOCO)

**10.** On May 1, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar inaugurated a Greenfield Grain-based Ethanol Plant at Purnea, Bihar. The project is a part of Bihar’s ambitious foray into ethanol production using sugarcane, maize and rice to meet the country’s fuel needs. It is built at a cost of Rs 105 Cr and it is a zero-liquid discharge plant that makes it completely environment friendly. This plant will produce 65,000 litres of ethanol per day. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nitish Kumar – inaugurated a Greenfield Grain-based Ethanol Plant at Purnea, Bihar
- Cost – Rs 105 Cr | Capacity – 65,000 litres of ethanol per day
- Bihar: Capital – Patna | CM – Nitish Kumar | Governor – Phagu Chauhan

**11.** Bhupender Yadav, Union Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC) chaired the 16<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee meeting of Project Elephant at the Forest Research Institute (FRI) in Dehradun and launched the “Field Manual for Managing Human-Elephant Conflicts in India”. The manual was prepared by the ministry, along with the Wildlife Institute of India (WWI) and World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF India). Besides the manual, the minister also released the “Preliminary Report on Human Elephant Conflict” and a booklet titled “Trumpet”. India is home to approximately around 27,000 Asian Elephants, which is the world’s largest population of the species. Some 30 elephant reserves have been established so far in 14 major elephant states, according to the Union government. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bhupender Yadav – chaired the 16<sup>th</sup> ‘Steering Committee Meeting of Project Elephant’ in Dehradun, Uttarakhand
- Bhupender Yadav – launched the “Field Manual for Managing Human-Elephant Conflicts in India”
- The manual was prepared by = MoEFCC + WWI + WWF India
- Bhupender Yadav – released a “Preliminary Report on Human Elephant Conflict” & a booklet titled “Trumpet”



**12.** Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan released the 'mandate document' for the National Curriculum Framework (NCF) under the new National Education Policy (NEP) and described it as a step towards decolonisation of the Indian Education System. The NEP 2020 recommended the development of NCF in 4 areas - School Education, Early Childhood Care & Education, Teacher Education and Adult Education. The NCF has been revised four times so far - in 1975, 1988, 2000 and 2005. The proposed revision will be the 5<sup>th</sup> of the NCF. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Education Minister – released the 'mandate document' (5<sup>th</sup> revision) for the National Curriculum Framework (NCF)
- NEP 2020 recommended the development of NCF in 4 areas:
  - School Education, Early Childhood Care & Education, Teacher Education and Adult Education
- Ministry of Education: Dharmendra Pradhan | Constituency – Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Education: Subhas Sarkar

**13.** On May 1, Indian Railways announced the closure of the Special Railway Establishment for Strategic Technology and Holistic Advancement (SRESTHA), Lucknow. Established in March 2016, the SRESTHA directorate, part of the Research Designs and Standards Organisation (RDSO), was tasked with the role of taking up long-term railway research projects requiring technological advancement. As part of the restructuring plan, the railways also decided to merge 32 Directorates of the RDSO and brought them under 7 verticals. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Railways announced the closure of "SRESTHA" (Lucknow, UP)
- SRESTHA – Special Railway Establishment for Strategic Technology and Holistic Advancement | Established in – 2016
- HQs of RDSO – Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh | Director General – Sanjiv Bhutani

**14.** Sikkim became the first state in the North East to launch the Online Building Permission System (OBPS). The OBPS is aimed at improving service delivery with lesser human interface and more accountability to get building plans passed. Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs Hardeep Singh Puri launched the OBPS. A symposium on "Urban Development of North Eastern States - Smart City Revolution" was organized by the Sikkim government in collaboration with Ministry of Development of North East Region (DONER) as part of the Azadi ka Amrit Mohatsav. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sikkim – became the first state in the North East to launch the Online Building Permission System (OBPS)
- Sikkim Govt – organized a symposium on "Urban Development of North Eastern States - Smart City Revolution"
- Sikkim: Capital – Gangtok | CM – Prem Singh Tamang | Governor – Ganga Prasad

**15.** On May 3, Railway Protection Force (RPF) has started "Operation Satark" with an objective of taking action against illicit liquor/FICN/illegal tobacco products/unaccounted gold/cash/precious items being transported through railway network for the purpose of tax evasion/smuggling/commission of crime/acts of terror. Being aware of its responsibility as the first responder in cases of smuggling through rail, RPF took concerted action in such cases and seized smuggled items worth about Rs 3.18 Cr during period from April 5 to April 30, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RPF started "Operation Satark" to take action against illegal items being transported through railway network
- HQs of RPF – New Delhi, India | Director General – Sanjay Chander

**16.** Jammu & Kashmir will organize the first ever National Film Festival from June 15 to 20 in Srinagar. The film festival will be organized by Jammu and Kashmir Film Development Council in collaboration with National Film Development Corporation and Union Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. There are over 40 plus awards to be given during the festival award ceremony. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Srinagar (J & K) – to organize the first ever ‘National Film Festival’ from June 15 to 20
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

**17.** On May 2, RailTel Corporation of India Ltd designed and established a “Health Cloud” at Visakhapatnam premises of Andhra Pradesh Med Tech Zone (AMTZ). The AMTZ is the world’s first integrated medical device manufacturing hub. The “Health Cloud” at AMTZ was inaugurated by Louise Agersnap, Head of WHO Innovation Hub, WHO-Geneva. The partnership will facilitate Empowering of hospitals in rural areas with hi-tech digital healthcare facilities. RailTel is also providing cloud and connectivity support to Electronic Medical Record Alliance (EMRA). RailTel is a Miniratna Central Government PSU. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RailTel Corporation of India – designed & established a “Health Cloud” at Visakhapatnam premises of AMTZ
- AMTZ – world’s first integrated medical device manufacturing hub
- HQs of RailTel – New Delhi | CMD of RailTel – Puneet Chawla
- HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194 | Founded in – 1948

**18.** On April 27-28, Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA), as part its ‘Outreach Initiative’, is connecting with key stakeholders associated with execution of government schemes at ground level. In continuation with this, Ministry of Tribal Affairs organised two days’ workshop in Jharkhand on ‘ADIGRAMS’ (Adivasi Grants Management System). ADIGRAM is a unique portal which monitors physical and financial progress of the grants given by the Ministry to States and can track the actual utilization of funds. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Tribal Affairs – organised two days’ workshop in Jharkhand on ‘ADIGRAMS’
- Jharkhand: Capital – Ranchi | CM – Hemant Soren | Governor – Ramesh Bais
- Ministry of Tribal Affairs: Arjun Munda | Constituency – Khunti, Jharkhand
- MoS in Ministry of Tribal Affairs: Renuka Singh Saruta & Bishweswar Tudu

**19.** Local women in Surajpur district of Chhattisgarh started ‘Chipko movement’ (a tree-hugging campaign), as they were being cut for the mining project in Hasdeo Aranya, a forest in Chhattisgarh. The felling of trees in the Surajpur district started after the Chhattisgarh government gave the final clearance to the second phase of the Parsa East Kete Basen coal mines on April 6. Both projects are owned by Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam and operated by the Adani Group. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Local women in Surajpur, Chhattisgarh – started ‘Chipko movement’ to save trees being cut for the mining project in Hasdeo Aranya forest in Chhattisgarh
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

**20.** The Archaeology and Museums Department of Andhra Pradesh has built a museum in Eluru, where nearly 400 artefacts dating back to the early historic period (from 6<sup>th</sup> Century BC to 4<sup>th</sup> Century BC) to the 19<sup>th</sup> Century AD will be displayed. The Union Ministry of Culture granted ₹3.75 Cr under the 'Upgradation of Museums Scheme' for the 5-Cr project in Eluru town. The museum was built on a 2,000 square-yard campus. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Archaeology & Museums Dept of AP – built a museum in Eluru to display 400 artefacts from early historic period
- [Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati | CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan](#)

**21.** Dharam Pal, Chandigarh Adviser, launched the "Integrated Road Accident Database (iRAD)" project in Chandigarh. The iRAD is an initiative of Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRTH), with an objective to improve road safety in India. The main idea behind it is to create a 'Centralised Accident Database' to host and access all accident related data by various departments/stakeholders. It has been developed by IIT Madras and will be implemented by the National Informatics Centre. As per the 'Road Accident Analysis (RAA) - 2020' report of the Chandigarh Police, the vehicular population (12,34,757) of Chandigarh is 7% more than the city's total human population (11,58,491). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dharam Pal – launched the "Integrated Road Accident Database (iRAD)" project in Chandigarh
- 'iRAD' – an initiative of Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (developed by IIT Madras)

**22.** The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved the investment of Rs 4,526.12 Cr for the 540 MW Kwar Hydro-electric project located on Chenab River in Jammu & Kashmir's Kishtwar district. This is part of the Indus basin. Under the '1960 vintage Indus Water Treaty (IWT)' between India and Pakistan, the two countries share the waters of 6 rivers in the Indus basin that flow through India towards Pakistan. The Kwar hydropower project will be implemented by Chenab Valley Power Projects Private Ltd (CVPPL), a JV between NHPC Ltd and J&K State Power Development Corporation (JKSPDC). The Kwar Hydro Electric Project shall be commissioned within a span of 54 months. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rs 4,526.12 Cr is approved for 540 MW Kwar Hydro-electric project – located on Chenab River in Kishtwar, J&K
- '1960 vintage Indus Water Treaty (IWT)' – between India & Pakistan
- [J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha](#)

**23.** Tata Motors' Tata Passenger Electric Mobility (TPEM) division unveiled its 'Avinya concept' - based on the pure electric vehicle, GEN 3 architecture. It is expected to be launched in 2025. The concept Avinya, derived from the Sanskrit language, stands for 'Innovation'. This architecture is built with the use of next-gen materials, efficient electronic componentry and proprietary energy management strategies & algorithms for efficiency management. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tata Passenger Electric Mobility (Tata Motors' division) – unveiled its first pure EV concept called 'Avinya'
- [HQs of Tata Motors – Mumbai, MH | Non-Executive Director & Chairman – Natarajan Chandrasekaran](#)

**24.** On May 4, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar launched a "Vehicle Movement Tracking System (VMTS)" mobile app that will help in tracking vehicles carrying sand & other mining material. The app will be used at different checkpoints in all the districts of Haryana. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Manohar Lal Khattar ([Haryana](#)) – launched a “Vehicle Movement Tracking System (VMTS)” mobile app
- [Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh](#) | [CM – Manohar Lal Khattar](#) | [Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya](#)

**25.** As on May 1, Ministry of Labour and Employment was working on a mechanism to process accident insurance claims by unorganised workers registered on the e-Shram portal. The portal was launched in August 2021 with the aim of creating a national database of unorganised workers. The ministry was in discussion to link the e-Shram portal with the Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana, the Centre’s existing accident insurance scheme. The scheme would allow the workers to get the direct benefit transfer (DBT) through the e-Shram unique ID number. Moreover, in her Budget Speech 2022-2023, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had announced the linking of 4 portals - National Career Service, e-Shram, UDYAM (for those interested in starting MSMEs) and ASEEM (Atmanirbhar Skilled Employee Employer Mapping). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Labour & Employment – to process accident insurance claims by unorganised workers on e-Shram portal
- Ministry of Labour & Employment – to link the ‘e-Shram’ portal with the ‘Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana’
- [Ministry of Labour & Employment: Bhupender Yadav](#) | [Constituency – Rajasthan](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Labour & Employment: Rameswar Teli](#)

**26.** On May 3, the Lokpal of India will finally move into a new office at World Trade Centre in south Delhi’s Nauroji Nagar, according to the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT), the administrative Ministry for the Lokpal. Spread over an area of 59,504 square feet, the office has been purchased for ₹254.88 Cr. On March 19, 2019, Justice Pinaki Chandra Ghosh was appointed as India’s first Lokpal. The appointment itself was made five years after the Lokpal and Lokayukta Act was passed in 2013. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Lokpal of India – will move into a new office at World Trade Centre in south Delhi’s Nauroji Nagar
- The office has been purchased for ₹254.88 Cr
- ‘Lokpal & Lokayukta Act’ – passed in 2013 | India’s first Lokpal – Justice Pinaki Chandra Ghosh
- [India’s first Lokpal – Justice Pinaki Chandra Ghosh](#)

**27.** On May 4, Odisha government has set up India’s first Tribal Health Observatory (TriHOb) that will establish a repository on the health of the tribal population in the state. The TriHOb is designed to be an effective, evidence-based and a policy-oriented centre. Besides, ‘Mo School’ Abhiyan Chairperson Sushmita Bagchi also launched a ‘Tribal Family Health Survey’ among the indigenous communities. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Odisha – set up India’s first Tribal Health Observatory (TriHOb)
- ‘Mo School’ Abhiyan Chairperson Sushmita Bagchi – launched a ‘Tribal Family Health Survey’
- [Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar](#) | [CM – Naveen Patnaik](#) | [Governor – Ganeshi Lal](#)



**28.** On May 1, Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL) launched “M15 petrol” (15% blend of methanol with petrol) on a pilot basis in Assam’s Tinsukia district. It was launched by Union Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Rameswar Teli, in the presence of NITI Aayog member VK Saraswat and IOC Chairman SM Vaidya. Blending fuel with methanol will provide respite from the rising prices. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IOCL – launched “M15 petrol” (15% blend of methanol with petrol) on a pilot basis – in Assam’s Tinsukia district
- HQs of IOCL – New Delhi | Chairperson – Shrikant Madhav Vaidya | Founded in – 1959
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

**29.** On May 5, the Kerala government launched an Android app “Shaili” aimed at diagnosing and controlling lifestyle diseases among people in the State. The app has been set up as part of the population-based screening project launched by the Health Department under the ‘Nava Kerala Karma’ plan. As part of the health-screening project, ASHA workers have been tasked with collecting information from persons over the age of 30 in their respective areas about any lifestyle diseases. The app, set up under the ‘e-Health’ initiative, would help to collect and codify the information quickly. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kerala Govt – launched an Android app “Shaili” to diagnose & control lifestyle diseases among people
- ASHA workers have been tasked with collecting information about any lifestyle diseases from persons above 30
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

**30.** On May 6, Haryana government launched its ambitious “e-Adhigam” scheme under which nearly 3 lakh tablets were distributed to government school students of Classes 10 & 12. These devices come with pre-loaded content along with personalised and adaptive learning software, and 2GB free data. The “Advance Digital Haryana Initiative of Government with Adaptive Modules” (Adhigam) scheme was launched by CM Manohar Lal Khattar at Maharishi Dayanand University in Rohtak. The CM stated that out of the state budget of nearly Rs 1.70 lakh Cr, Rs 20,000 Cr has been earmarked for Education sector alone. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Haryana – launched “e-Adhigam” scheme to distribute tablets to govt school students of Classes 10 & 12
- Adhigam – Advance Digital Haryana Initiative of Government with Adaptive Modules
- Rs 20,000 Cr (out of the state budget of Rs 1.70 lakh Cr) – is earmarked for Education sector alone in Haryana
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya

**31.** On May 5, Tata Power Solar Systems, wholly-owned subsidiary of Tata Power, received India’s largest single solar EPC order of 1 GW for approx. Rs 5,500 Cr from SJVN. This EPC order has been designed keeping in mind the innovative use of ‘Make in India’ cells and modules. The project will be developed under the ‘CPSU Scheme’ of MNRE and will be completed within a period of 24 months. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tata Power Solar Systems – received India’s largest single solar EPC order of 1 GW for Rs 5,500 Cr from SJVN
- The project will be developed under the ‘CPSU Scheme’ of MNRE
- HQs of Tata Power Solar Systems – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Ashish Khanna

**32.** On May 2, Adani Wilmar Ltd (AWL) reported Rs 54,214 Cr revenue from operations for FY2021-22, a 46.2% higher year-on-year (YoY). With this, Adani Wilmar replaced Hindustan Unilever Ltd (HUL) from the top spot in the local fast moving consumer goods (FMCG) market. HUL, which has been holding the top spot, in terms of yearly revenue, for years, reported Rs 51,468 Cr revenue for FY2021-22. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Adani Wilmar – became the largest FMCG Company in India (overtaking - HUL)
- Adani Wilmar – reported Rs 54,214 Cr revenue from operations for FY2021-22 (46.2% higher YoY)
- [HQs of Adani Wilmar – Ahmedabad, Gujarat | MD & CEO – Angshu Mallick](#)

**33.** On May 5, Union Minister of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI), Pashupati Kumar Paras launched 3 'One District One Product (ODOP)' brands under the Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro food processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme in New Delhi. The MoFPI has signed an agreement with NAFED for developing 10 brands of selected 20 ODOPs under the branding and marketing component of the PMFME scheme. With an outlay of Rs 10,000 Cr over a period of 5 years from 2020-21 to 2024-25, the PMFME Scheme envisions to directly assist the 2,00,000 micro food processing units for providing financial, technical, and business support for up-gradation of existing micro food processing enterprises. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Pashupati Kumar Paras – launched 3 'One District One Product (ODOP)' brands under the 'PMFME Scheme'
- MoFPI + NAFED = an agreement for developing 10 brands of selected 20 ODOPs under the 'PMFME Scheme'
- [Total outlay of "PMFMES" scheme – Rs 10,000 Cr | Launched in – June 2020](#)

**34.** Redrawing the electoral map of Jammu and Kashmir, a 3-member Delimitation Commission earmarked 47 Assembly seats for Kashmir division and 43 for Jammu. The panel, headed by retired Supreme Court judge Ranjana Prakash Desai, signed the final order giving 6 additional seats to Jammu and 1 more to Kashmir. Earlier, Jammu had 37 Assembly constituencies, and Kashmir had 46. Now, the restructuring takes the total number of Assembly seats in the Jammu & Kashmir to 90. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Govt released a new electoral map for Jammu & Kashmir
- 3-member Delimitation Commission earmarked 47 Assembly seats for Kashmir (1 new) & 43 for Jammu (6 new)
- Now, the total number of Assembly seats in J&K – 90 (from 83 earlier)
- [J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha](#)

**35.** On May 4, President Ram Nath Kovind attended the 61<sup>st</sup> annual conference of Bodo Sahitya Sabha at Tamulpur, Assam. The President appreciated Bodo Sahitya Sabha for making invaluable contribution for the past 70 years in strengthening the Bodo language, literature and culture. So far 17 writers have been awarded Sahitya Akademi Awards for their works in Bodo language. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ram Nath Kovind – attended the 61<sup>st</sup> annual conference of Bodo Sahitya Sabha at Tamulpur, Assam
- So far, 17 writers have been awarded Sahitya Akademi Awards for their works in Bodo language
- [Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi](#)

**36.** On May 4, Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID) campus in Bengaluru that will help in stopping modern day crimes and have the upper hand against any threats. C-DAC, the state-run supercomputer developer, is implementing the project, which is part of PM Narendra Modi's zero tolerance policy on terrorism. NATGRID will be available to 11 central agencies and police of all states and union territories. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Amit Shah – inaugurated NATGRID campus in Bengaluru that will help in stopping modern day crimes
- C-DAC – is implementing the project
- NATGRID will be available to 11 central agencies and police of all states & UTs
- HQs of C-DAC – Pune, Maharashtra | Senior Director – Mahesh Kulkarni (functions under MeitY)

**37.** On May 7, Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) has reported a 20.2% rise in net profit at Rs 18,201 Cr for the quarter ended March 2022 as against Rs 14,995 Cr in the same period of last year. With this, RIL's gross revenue for the fiscal 2021-22 has crossed \$100 billion mark (Rs 7,92,756 Cr), the first Indian listed company to achieve the landmark. RIL's revenue in FY22 has increased 47%. Net profit for the full year was Rs 67,845 Cr (\$9 billion), higher by 26.2%. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RIL – reported 20.2% rise in net profit for the quarter ended March 2022 against same period of last year
- RIL's gross revenue for the fiscal 2021-22 crossed \$100 billion
- Net profit for the full year was 9 billion higher by 26.2%
- HQs of Reliance Industries Ltd – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Mukesh Ambani | Founded in – 1973

**38.** On May 5, Nexcharge inaugurated its new manufacturing plant at Prantij in Gujarat. Nexcharge is a joint venture between India's Exide Industries Limited and Switzerland-based Leclanche SA. The company's new state-of-the-art, fully automated manufacturing facility is spread across 6,10,098 sq. feet and is claimed to be the largest in India for the production of lithium-ion battery packs and modules. The company has invested more than Rs 250 Cr in this manufacturing unit. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nexcharge – inaugurated India's largest manufacturing plant for lithium-ion battery packs in – Prantij, Gujarat
- Nexcharge – a JV of Exide Industries Ltd (India) + Leclanche SA (Switzerland)
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat

**39.** The IRCTC will run its first Bharat Gaurav Tourist train on June 21, 2022. This train will run on the Ramayana Circuit identified under Swadesh Darshan scheme covering prominent places associated with life of Lord Shri Rama, including the Ram Janaki temple in Janakpur located in Nepal. The proposed 18-day Bharat Gaurav Tourist train tour has its first stop at Ayodhya, the birthplace of Lord Rama. The train's 18-day journey will cover roughly a distance of around 8000 Kms. Bharat Gaurav Tourist Train is part of the Government of India's initiative Dekho Apna Desh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IRCTC – to run its 1<sup>st</sup> Bharat Gaurav Tourist train in June on Ramayana Circuit identified under Swadesh Darshan scheme
- It is part of the Government of India's initiative 'Dekho Apna Desh'
- Train's 18-day journey will cover a distance of around 8000 Kms
- HQs of IRCTC – New Delhi | Chairman & MD – Rajni Hasija (addl. Charge)
- Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee | President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari | PM – Sher Bahadur Deuba

**40.** Union Minister of Information & Broadcasting Anurag Singh Thakur announced that the World's largest film restoration project under National Film Heritage Mission (NFHM) with a budget of Rs 363 Cr is awarded on May 4, 2022. Under National Film Heritage Mission, approximately 2,200 films will undergo restoration. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Anurag Singh Thakur – announced World's largest film restoration project under 'National Film Heritage Mission'
- Budget – Rs 363 Cr

**41.** On May 5, on the sidelines of the 2<sup>nd</sup> 'India-Nordic Summit' in Denmark's capital city Copenhagen, PM Narendra Modi gifted decoration objects that depict India's rich and diverse traditions. He gifted a silver Meenakari bird figure from Varanasi to Crown Princess of Denmark, Mary, a Rogan painting from Gujarat to Denmark's Queen Margrethe, a brass Tree of Life from Rajasthan to his Finland counterpart, Sanna Marin, a Dokra (Dhokra) boat from Chhattisgarh to the Crown Prince of Denmark, a Kashmiri Pashmina stole to the PM of Sweden, a wall hanging with Kutch embroidery to his counterpart from Denmark, a Dhaal with Koftgiri art from Rajasthan to PM of Norway Jonas Gahr Store. Tarkashi (Koftgiri) on metal is a traditional art of Rajasthan and is used as a means of decorating arms and armour. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- On the sidelines of the 2<sup>nd</sup> 'India-Nordic Summit' in Denmark, PM Narendra Modi gifted:
  - Silver Meenakari bird figure (Uttar Pradesh) – to the Crown Princess of Denmark
  - Rogan painting (Gujarat) – to the Queen of Denmark
  - Brass Tree of Life (Rajasthan) – to the PM of Finland
  - Dokra (Dhokra) boat (Chhattisgarh) – to the Crown Prince of Denmark
  - Kashmiri Pashmina stole (J & K) – to the PM of Sweden
  - Wall hanging with Kutch embroidery (Gujarat) – to the PM of Denmark
  - Dhaal with Koftgiri art (Rajasthan) – to the PM of Norway

**42.** The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has formed an Advisory Committee for advising on Environmental Social and Governance (ESG) related matters pertaining to the securities markets. The committee will be chaired by Navneet Munot, the CEO of HDFC Asset Management Company. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SEBI formed an Advisory Committee for advising on ESG related matters pertaining to the securities markets
- The committee will be chaired by Navneet Munot (CEO of HDFC AMC)
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Madhabi Puri Buch | Established in – 1992



**43.** The Delhi Jal Board announced to provide free sewer connections to 25,000 households in Karawal Nagar and Mustafabad and installing 30 reverse osmosis (RO) plants in Jhuggi-Jhopri (JJ) clusters to provide clean drinking water to their residents. The utility has earmarked Rs 19 Cr under the 'Mukhyamantri Muft Sewer Connection Yojna'. It will prevent 2.5 Cr litres of sewage from directly falling into the Yamuna River. The Kejriwal government has also planned to create a lake in 100 acres of land at Iradatnagar which will be fed from treated water of this STP. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Delhi – to provide free sewer connections to 25,000 households & 30 RO plants in Jhuggi-Jhopri
- Delhi – announced 'Mukhyamantri Muft Sewer Connection Yojna'
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Naresh Kumar

**44.** On May 5, Tata Motors has launched the all-new Ace EV, the electric version of its mini truck ACE. The new Ace EV, zero-emission, four-wheel small commercial vehicle (SCV), is a green and smart transport solution ready to serve a wide variety of intra-city applications. The Ace EV is the first product featuring Tata Motors' EVOGEN powertrain that offers a certified range of 154 kilometres. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tata Motors – launched "Ace EV", the electric version of its mini truck ACE
- Ace EV – the first product featuring Tata Motors' EVOGEN powertrain
- HQs of Tata Motors – Mumbai, MH | Non-Executive Director & Chairman – Natarajan Chandrasekaran

**45.** On May 9, Ministry of Home Affairs launched 'CAPF Punarvaas' through the Welfare and Rehabilitation Board (WARB), with an aim to facilitate retired Central Armed Police Force (CAPF) and Assam Rifle personnel to secure employment with private security agencies. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Home Affairs – launched 'CAPF Punarvaas' to facilitate retired CAPF & Assam Rifle personnel
- Ministry of Home Affairs: Amit Shah | Constituency – Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Home Affairs: Nityanand Rai, Ajay Kumar & Nisith Pramanik

**46.** Alstom delivered India's first semi high-speed regional train for National Capital Region Transport Corporation's (NCRTC) 82.5 km long Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RRTS Phase 1. The rollout ceremony was held at Alstom's manufacturing unit at Savli in Gujarat. Designed and built to move passengers at 180 kmph, these trains are expected to reduce the travel time between Delhi and Meerut by 40%. Alstom SA is a French multinational rolling stock manufacturer operating worldwide in rail transport markets. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Alstom – delivered India's 1<sup>st</sup> semi high-speed regional train for NCRTC 82.5 km Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RRTS Phase 1
- Rollout ceremony was held at Alstom's manufacturing unit at Savli in Gujarat
- HQs of Alstom – Saint-Ouen, France

**47.** On May 6, Central Zoo Authority of India has given nod to India's first safari dedicated to gaurs to come up in Shivamogga district of Karnataka. The gaur also known as the Indian bison, has been listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List since 1986. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- Central Zoo Authority of India – gave nod to India's 1<sup>st</sup> safari dedicated to gaurs to come up in Shivamogga, Karnataka
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thawarchand Gehlot

**48.** In May 2022, Azure Power successfully commissioned its 90 MW solar power project in Assam, the largest in the state. The 90 MW capacity is spread across four districts in the state - Udalguri, Kamrup, Nagaon, and Cachar. Following this commissioning, Azure Power now has an operational capacity of over 2,900 MW of high-performing renewable energy assets in India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Azure Power – commissioned Assam's largest 90 MW solar power project across 4 districts
- HQs of Azure Power Global Ltd – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Ranjit Gupta | Founded in – 2008

**49.** On May 7, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla launched the Kalam website, a literary initiative by the Prabha Khaitan Foundation (PKF) to support and encourage vernacular literature. The Kalam website aims to popularize and provide a platform for veteran and young authors and poets to talk about their writings and love for vernacular literature. The PKF is a Kolkata-based non-profit trust, dedicated to socio-cultural welfare and humanitarian causes. Kalam was launched in the summer of 2015 in Patna and Jaipur. It has conducted over 550 sessions spread over 40 Indian cities and overseas since then. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Om Birla – launched the 'Kalam' website, a literary initiative by the PKF to support & encourage vernacular literature
- PKF – Kolkata-based non-profit trust

**50.** On May 10, Maharashtra Environment Minister Aaditya Thackeray inaugurated India's first organic waste-powered EV charging station at Keshavrao Khadye road near Haji Ali in Mumbai. The first-of-its-kind EV charging station is powered by bio-gas and it will generate 220 units of electricity from food waste collected from its nearby areas. The project is a joint venture between the Civic Body and AeroCare Clean Energy. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Maharashtra – inaugurated India's first organic waste-powered EV Charging Station at Keshavrao Khadye road, Mumbai
- The project is a JV between = Civic Body + AeroCare Clean Energy
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshiyari

**51.** On May 10, Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog launched the "AIM-PRIME Playbook" to help academicians launch deep-tech Enterprises. The AIM PRIME (Program for Researchers in Innovation, Market Readiness and Entrepreneurship) program is aimed at promoting early-stage science-based, deep technology ideas to market through training and guidance over a period of 12 months using a blended learning curriculum. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- AIM, NITI Aayog – launched the "AIM-PRIME Playbook" to help academicians launch deep-tech Enterprises
- HQs of AIM – New Delhi | Director – Chintan Vaishnav | Launched in – 2016 (a flagship initiative of NITI Aayog)

**52.** On May 9, RailTel launched “Prime Minister Wi-Fi Access Network Interface (PM-WANI)” scheme based access to its Public WiFi services across 100 railway stations having 2,384 WiFi hotspots in 22 states. PM-WANI is an ambitious program of the Department of Telecom (DoT) to connect all silo Wi-Fi networks for ease of use and proliferate broadband usage for the masses. The WiFi network of the RailTel is now spread at 6,102 railway stations across the country and has 17,792 WiFi hotspots. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RailTel – launched “PM-WANI” scheme based access to its Public WiFi services across 100 railway stations in 22 states
- ‘PM-WANI’ is an ambitious program of – Department of Telecom (DoT)
- [HQs of RailTel – New Delhi](#) | [CMD – Puneet Chawla](#)

**53.** On May 10, PM Narendra Modi paid homage to all martyrs of the 1857 uprising against the British empire (also known as India’s First War of Independence or Indian Rebellion of 1857) for their outstanding courage. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- PM Narendra Modi – paid homage to all martyrs of the ‘1857 Uprising’ or ‘Indian Rebellion of 1857’ on May 10

**54.** To enhance ease of doing business, the Department of Telecom (DoT) has removed Network Operation and Control Centre (NOCC) charges for the use of space segments for all services like VSAT, satellite telephony etc. The DoT earlier levied ₹21 lakh per transponder per annum for 36 megahertz of spectrum on a pro-rata basis as NOCC charges. Besides this, the department also levied NOCC charges of ₹6,000 for every trial of antenna that are used for receiving and transmitting signals. The NOCC was created under the DoT to control the transmissions from ground segment along with the master control facility under Department of Space to manage the operation of satellites in orbit. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- DoT – removed NOCC charges for the use of space segments for all services like VSAT, satellite telephony etc
- NOCC – **N**etwork **O**peration and **C**ontrol **C**entre
- [Ministry of Communications: Ashwini Vaishnaw](#) | [Constituency – Odisha](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Communications: Devusinh Chauhan](#)

**55.** Poumai tribe, one of the major Naga tribes living in Manipur’s hill district, recently declared their villages a ‘No-drugs Zone’ in order to help the state government curb the drugs menace including illegal poppy cultivation. The move is seen as a push for the BJP government’s “War on Drugs” campaign to curb rampant poppy cultivation. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Poumai tribe (Naga tribes) in Manipur – declared their villages a ‘No-drugs Zone’
- [Manipur: Capital – Imphal](#) | [CM – N. Biren Singh](#) | [Governor – La. Ganesan](#)

**56.** A three-day Utkarsh Mahotsav was organized by Central Sanskrit University in New Delhi from May 7, 2022. The objective behind organising the Utkarsh Mahotsav is to promote Sanskrit language across the country and beyond. The focus of the Mahotsav is - the New Educational Era - Moving towards a Global Orientation of Sanskrit Studies. Dharmendra Pradhan Union Education & Skill Development Minister and Chancellor of Central Sanskrit University, addressed the ‘Utkarsh Mahotsav’. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Central Sanskrit University – organized ‘Utkarsh Mahotsav’ in New Delhi to promote Sanskrit language in India & beyond

**57.** The Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) - Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) have signed a long-term purchase agreement (LTPA) for upcoming dedicated Ethanol plants across India. The first set of Tripartite-cum-Escrow Agreement (TPA) was signed among OMCs, project proponents and Banks of the respective ethanol plant projects. The SBI, IOB and Indian Bank are three banks who are involved in this tripartite agreement. As per the agreement, ethanol produced by these dedicated ethanol plants shall be sold to OMCs for blending with Petrol as per Govt of India's Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Program. In Ethanol Supply Year 2021-22, India achieved 9.90% ethanol blending, consuming 186 Cr Liter of ethanol, saving over 9000 Cr of foreign exchange. However, the Government has advanced the target of achieving 20% blended ethanol by 2025, which is commonly known as E20 target. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- BPCL + IOCL + HPCL = a long-term purchase agreement for upcoming Ethanol plants across India
- SBI + IOB + Indian Bank = are involved in this tripartite agreement as banks of the respective ethanol plant projects
- Government has set the target of achieving 20% blended ethanol (E20 target) by – 2025

**58.** Union Minister Narayan Rane inaugurated India's first Centre of Excellence for Khadi (CoEK) in New Delhi to empower Khadi Institutions throughout the country. The idea of Centre for experimentation, innovation, and design has been conceived by the Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) for Khadi Village and Industries Commission (KVIC). The centre is established at the National Institute of Fashion Technology as a hub in Delhi. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narayan Rane – inaugurated India's first Centre of Excellence for Khadi (CoEK) in New Delhi
- Ministry of MSME – conceived the idea of Centre for experimentation, innovation & design for KVIC
- HQs of KVIC – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Vinai Kumar Saxena | Founded in – 1956
- Ministry of MSME: Narayan Rane | Constituency – Ratnagiri-Sindhudurg, Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of MSME: Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma

**59.** The Environment Ministry has approved an exemption to the laws governing the regulation of coastal zones and has paved the way for gas-powered plants to be set up at Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The Island Coastal Zone Regulation (ICRZ), 2019, limits infrastructure development on vulnerable coastal stretches. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MoEFCC – exempted Andaman & Nicobar from Coastal zones regulation & paved way for Gas-powered plants
- Andaman & Nicobar Islands: Capital – Port Blair | Lieu. Governor – Admiral Devendra Kumar Joshi
- Ministry for Environment, Forest & Climate Change: Bhupender Yadav | Constituency – Rajasthan
- MoS in Ministry for Environment, Forest & Climate Change: Ashwini Kumar Choubey





**60.** On May 11, Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the first issue of “Asom Barta”, a multi-lingual newspaper of the Assam government, which will keep people of the state abreast with the government’s policies and their implementation. The newspaper will be printed in four languages, Assamese, English, Hindi and Bengali. The newspaper will be published by the directorate of information and public relations (DIPR). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Amit Shah – inaugurated the first issue of “Asom Barta”, a multi-lingual newspaper of the Assam government
- Publisher – DIPR | Languages of newspaper – 4 (Assamese, English, Hindi & Bengali)
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

**61.** An on May 10, Toyota Group plans to invest Rs 48 billion (\$624 million) to make electric vehicle components in India, as it works towards Carbon Neutrality by 2050. Toyota Kirloskar Motor and Toyota Kirloskar Auto Parts signed an MoU with Karnataka to invest Rs 41 billion. The rest will come from Toyota Industries Engine India. Indian automakers could generate \$20 billion in revenue from electric vehicles between now and fiscal year 2026, according to forecast by CRISIL. By 2040, 53% of new automobile sales in India will be electric, compared with 77% in China, according to BloombergNEF. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Toyota Group plans to invest Rs 48 billion (\$624 million) to make electric vehicle components in India
- Toyota Kirloskar Motor + Toyota Kirloskar Auto Parts = signed an MoU with Karnataka to invest Rs 41 billion
- CRISIL: Indian automakers could generate \$20 billion in revenue from EVs by FY2026
- BloombergNEF: 53% of new automobile sales in India will be electric by 2040

**62.** To promote a collaborative ecosystem aimed at fostering innovation and adoption of drones for public services, an ‘Experience Studio on Drones’ was launched by Civil Aviation minister Jyotiraditya Scindia at NITI Aayog. Through the experience studio, start-ups and enterprises will be able to showcase their innovations and next-gen technology-enabled solutions. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Jyotiraditya Scindia – launched NITI Aayog’s ‘Experience Studio on Drones’
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Suman Bery

**63.** On May 10, Punjab State Agriculture Department is promoting the cultivation of Green Manure these days as ‘Punjab Agro’ is providing subsidy on the seed at the rate of Rs 2,000 per quintal, which costs Rs 6,300 per quintal without subsidy. Green manures are crops grown specifically for maintaining soil fertility and structure. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Punjab State Agriculture Department is promoting the cultivation of ‘Green Manure’
- ‘Punjab Agro’ is providing subsidy on the seed at the rate of Rs 2,000 per quintal
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Bhagwant Mann | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

**64.** On May 11, the Supreme Court suspended pending criminal trials and court proceedings under ‘Section 124A’ of the Indian Penal Code. The ‘Section 124A’ is better known as ‘Sedition Law’. It was ordered by a three-judge Bench led by Chief Justice of India N. V. Ramana. The court also made it clear that it expects the Centre and States to restrain from registering FIRs, continuing investigations or take coercive measures under Section 124A. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SC suspended pending criminal trials & court proceedings under 'Section 124A' or 'Sedition Law' of the IPC
- [Present Chief of Justice of the Supreme Court of India – Justice N. V. Ramana \(48<sup>th</sup>\)](#)

**65.** On May 7, Minister of Road Transport and Highways of India witnessed the “EKA E9” for the first time in Pune. The EKA E9 is claimed to be India’s first completely ‘Made-In-India’ 9-metre pure electric, zero-emission bus. EKA is a subsidiary of Pinnacle Industries, and the E9 is the company’s first battery-electric bus. The EKA E9 is equipped with a vehicle control unit software designed in-house, with an integrated strategy for vehicle features. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- EKA E9 – India’s first completely ‘Made-In-India’ 9-metre pure electric, zero-emission bus
- EKA – a subsidiary of Pinnacle Industries

**66.** On May 12, PM Narendra Modi virtually addressed Utkarsh Samaroh in Gujarat’s Bharuch. The programme marks the celebration of 100% coverage of 4 key schemes of the state government in the district, which will help provide timely financial assistance to those in need. The district administration of Bharuch carried out the ‘Utkarsh Initiative’ drive from January 1 to March 31, 2022, aiming to ensure complete coverage of schemes providing assistance to widows, elderly and destitute citizens. A total of 12,854 beneficiaries were identified across the four schemes viz. Ganga Swaroopa Aarthik Sahay Yojana, Indira Gandhi Vrudh Sahay Yojana, Niradhar Vrudh Aarthik Sahay Yojana and Rashtriya Kutumb Sahay Yojana. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narendra Modi – virtually addressed “Utkarsh Samaroh” in Gujarat’s Bharuch
- The Utkarsh Samaroh marks the 100% coverage of 4 key schemes of the state government in the district
- [Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat](#)

**67.** The Maharashtra government has come up with an initiative to boost honey production, develop village-based tourism, and underline the role of honeybees in the food chain. Industries minister Subhash Desai launched the ‘Madhache Gaav’ or ‘Village of Honey’ project at Manghar in Satara district, on May 16. The project, which includes a Bee Breeding Centre, distribution of Bee Boxes, Honey Sale Counter, and Information Centre, will cost ₹50 lakh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Maharashtra – launched the ‘Madhache Gaav’ or ‘Village of Honey’ project at Manghar in Satara district
- The project will cost ₹50 lakh
- [Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari](#)

**68.** On May 14, in line with the ‘PM GatiShakti National Master Plan’, Ashwini Vaishnaw, Union Minister for Communications, Electronics & IT and Railways, has launched the “GatiShakti Sanchar” portal for Centralised Right of Way (RoW) approvals. The portal has been developed keeping in view the vision areas of the National Broadband Mission (NBM) at the core. The NBM was set up by the Department of Telecommunication (DoT) on December 17, 2019. This will provide a robust mechanism to achieve the goal of “Broadband for All” as envisaged in the National Digital Communication Policy-2. The portal is developed by Madhya Pradesh State Electronics Development Corporation on behalf of DoT. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ashwini Vaishnaw (DoT) – launched the “GatiShakti Sanchar” portal for Centralised Right of Way (RoW) approvals
- The portal is developed by – Madhya Pradesh State Electronics Development Corporation

**69.** On May 15, Delhi Chief Minister and AAP convenor Arvind Kejriwal visited India’s first Food Security Mart, a revolutionary initiative by Twenty20 party in Kizhakkambalam, Kerala. This is the first visit of Kejriwal to Kerala after he won the Delhi assembly elections for the second consecutive term in 2020. Twenty20 Party is led by Sabu Jacob. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Arvind Kejriwal – visited India’s first Food Security Mart in – Kizhakkambalam, Kerala
- The Food Security Mart – an initiative by Twenty20 party (Twenty20 Party is led by – Sabu Jacob)
- [Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan](#)

**70.** Buddhavanam, a mega Buddhist theme park developed by the Telangana government at Nagarjunasagar on the banks of the Krishna River to attract international tourists, was inaugurated on May 13. Considered to be Asia’s biggest Buddhist spiritual centre, the Buddhavanam has come up at a cost of over ₹100 Cr. The centre of attraction of Buddhavanam project is the 21-meter high and 42-metre wide. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Buddhavanam” – a mega Buddhist theme park in Telangana was inaugurated
- It is Asia’s biggest Buddhist spiritual centre
- [Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan](#)

**71.** On May 13, NITI Aayog launched the National Data & Analytics Platform (NDAP) for open public use. The platform aims to democratize access to public government data by making data accessible, interoperable, interactive, and available on a user-friendly platform. The platform was launched by Suman Bery, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog. NDAP follows a use-case based approach to ensure that the datasets hosted on the platform are tailored to the needs of data users from government, academia, journalism, civil society, and the private sector. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NITI Aayog – launched the “National Data & Analytics Platform (NDAP)” for open public use
- [HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant](#)
- [Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Suman Bery](#)

**72.** In May 2022, India’s first Rural Tribal Technical Training was held at Kushabhau Thakre Auditorium (Minto Hall) in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. After successful operation of this pilot project in the state, the project will be implemented across India. The ‘Parliamentary Sankul Project’ was launched for tribal youths, in collaboration with the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MoSDE) and National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India’s first “Rural Tribal Technical Training” – held at Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
- [Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel](#)



**73.** About 100 innovative tech firms have joined the “Technology Pioneers Network 2022”, of which 5 are Indian start-ups - Vahan, SmartCoin Financials, Recykal, Proeon & Pandocorp. The 2022 cohort is forging new paths in healthcare, food production and more with cutting-edge technologies with young and growing companies. The 2022 Tech Pioneers are based in 30 countries - with Vietnam, Rwanda and the Czech Republic represented for the first time. Over one-third of the selected companies this year are led by women. From the US, food-tech start-up Bonumose has been selected for transforming Global Food Systems. While, Luxembourg’s Mission Space has been selected for developing a satellite-based Space Weather Intelligence System. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- About 100 innovative tech firms joined the “Technology Pioneers Network 2022”
- 5 Indian start-ups among 100: Vahan, SmartCoin Financials, Recykal, Proeon & Pandocorp
- Bonumose ([US](#)) – selected for transforming Global Food Systems
- Mission Space ([Luxembourg](#)) – selected for developing a satellite-based Space Weather Intelligence System

**74.** In May 2022, Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC), a technical arm of the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) signed an MoU with M/s VVDN Technologies Private Limited, an Indian product engineering and manufacturing company, for Open Radio Allowed Network (ORAN) testing facility to facilitate registered startups, MSMEs and Innovators. The product offered for testing will be certified by TEC. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- TEC (DoT) + VVDN Technologies = an MoU for **Open Radio Allowed Network (ORAN)** testing facility
- [HQs of VVDN Technologies – Gurgaon, Haryana](#)

**75.** On May 14, Union Home and Co-operation Minister, Amit Shah inaugurated the National Cyber Forensic Laboratory (NCFL) in Hyderabad. The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) had in December 2021 cleared the setting up of the NCFL for evidentiary purposes in the CFSL, Hyderabad. The lab has been set up under the Cyber and Information Security Division, MHA at an estimated cost of about Rs 35.51 Cr. NCFL has created 4 specialized Hi-tech units with state-of-the-art facilities to address issues in the field of digital forensics. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Amit Shah – inaugurated “National Cyber Forensic Laboratory” in Hyderabad | Cost – Rs 35.51 Cr
- It is set up under the Cyber & Information Security Division, MHA
- [Ministry of Home Affairs: Amit Shah](#) | [Constituency – Gandhinagar, Gujarat](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Home Affairs: Nityanand Rai, Ajay Kumar & Nisith Pramanik](#)

**76.** On May 14, the Ministry of Tourism has started an initiative called ‘YUVA Tourism Clubs’ and CBSE will encourage affiliated schools to implement the same on their campus. The purpose of starting tourism clubs is to “nurture and develop young ambassadors of Indian tourism who would become aware of tourism possibilities in India. A handbook has been prepared by the ministry, which gives information as to what the clubs are supposed to do. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Tourism – started an initiative called ‘YUVA Tourism Clubs’
- CBSE – encourages CBSE affiliated schools to form ‘YUVA Tourism Clubs’
- [Ministry of Tourism: G. Kishan Reddy](#) | [Constituency – Secunderabad, Telangana](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Tourism: Shripad Yesso Naik & Ajay Bhatt](#)
- [HQs of CBSE – New Delhi](#) | [Chairman – Vineet Joshi](#) | [Formed in – 1962](#)



**77.** On May 12, the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) organised a one-day Consultative workshop for 'Forest Fire Management in India' in New Delhi in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change (MoEFCC). The Workshop largely focused on Strengthening of Forest Fire Management in the 26 most forest fire affected districts of India spread over 11 States. This Project will bring in effective and efficient multi-department response to forest fire management. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NDMA + MoEFCC = organised a one-day Consultative workshop for 'Forest Fire Management in India'
- NDMA functions under – Ministry of Home Affairs
- HQs of NDMA – New Delhi | Headed by – Prime Minister of India | Established in – 2005
- Ministry for Environment, Forest & Climate Change: Bhupender Yadav | Constituency – Rajasthan
- MoS in Ministry for Environment, Forest & Climate Change: Ashwini Kumar Choubey

**78.** After receiving in-principal approval from the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Ramgarh Vishdhari Wildlife Sanctuary was notified as India's 52<sup>nd</sup> tiger reserve and Rajasthan's 4<sup>th</sup> (after Ranthambore, Sariska & Mukundra). The reserve will be spread in an area of 1,501.89 sq km. There were an estimated 2,967 tigers in India in 2019, according to the NTCA. The area has been called 'critical' for the movement of tigers by wildlife experts and conservationists. Ramgarh Vishdhari is located mostly in Bundi district and in part in Bhilwara and Kota districts of Rajasthan. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ramgarh Vishdhari WS – notified as India's 52<sup>nd</sup> & Rajasthan's 4<sup>th</sup> Tiger Reserve
- Ramgarh Vishdhari – located mostly in Bundi district + in part of Bhilwara & Kota districts
- According to the NTCA: There were an estimated 2,967 tigers in India in 2019
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

**79.** A first of its kind, Bird Festival in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir is going to be organized to promote Sustainable Ecotourism and give impetus to nature based alternative sources of livelihood to the local people. The festival is tentatively being planned to be held in Pahalgam and Dachigam areas. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- A first of its kind 'Bird Festival' – to be organized in Jammu & Kashmir
- The festival will promote Sustainable Ecotourism & give impetus to nature based alternative sources of Livelihood
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

**80.** On May 16, Ministry of Science & Technology released the Scientific Social Responsibility (SSR) Guidelines and Scientific Research Infrastructure Sharing Maintenance and Networks (SRIMAN) Guidelines. Every scientist in India is expected to contribute at least 10 days in a year towards 'Scientific Social Responsibility' (SSR). The guidelines aimed to harness the potential of the scientific community in achieving social goals. Under the guidelines, the ministry enlisted 17 broad activities which can be taken up by the scientists as part of their SSR to bridge the gap between science and society. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Science & Technology – released the 'SSR Guidelines' & 'SRIMAN Guidelines'
- The guidelines aimed to harness the potential of the Scientific Community in achieving Social Goals
- MoS (I/C) in the Ministry of Science & Technology: Dr. Jitendra Singh | Constituency – Udampur, J&K
- Chairman of Capacity Building Commission – Adil Zainulbhai

**81.** The e-Shram portal of the Ministry of Labour and Employment is being integrated with the 'One Nation One Ration Card' (ONORC) scheme, according to Bhupender Yadav, Minister for Labour and Employment. The e-Shram portal is meant to register workers in the unorganised sector and help them access social security benefits. Moreover, the Unorganised Workers Social Security Board was initiated in 2008. The Unorganised Worker Identification Number was initiated in 2015. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 'e-Shram' portal of Ministry of Labour & Employment – is being integrated with 'One Nation One Ration Card' scheme
- ONORC was started in August 2019
- Unorganised Workers Social Security Board was initiated in 2008
- Unorganised Worker Identification Number was initiated in 2015
- [Ministry of Labour & Employment: Bhupender Yadav | Constituency – Rajasthan](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Labour & Employment: Rameswar Teli](#)

**82.** On May 18, the Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has approved the Amendments to the National Policy on Biofuels -2018. The "National Policy on Biofuels - 2018" was notified by Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas in 2018 in supersession of "National Policy on Biofuels", promulgated through the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy, in 2009. The amendments advanced the ethanol blending target of 20% blending of ethanol in petrol to 2025-26 from 2030. Prime Minister's vision is to make India 'Energy Independent' by 2047. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narendra Modi – approved the amendments to the 'National Policy on Biofuels, 2018'
- The amendments advanced the ethanol blending target of 20% blending of ethanol in petrol to 2025-26 from 2030
- [Dharmendra Pradhan – Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Minister of Steel \(Madhya Pradesh\)](#)

**83.** On May 20, Union Minister of Railways, Ashwini Vaishnaw approved a Rs 8.34 Cr collaborative initiative on Hyperloop Technology, in collaboration with the IIT Madras. Hyperloop is the 5<sup>th</sup> mode of transportation, a high-speed train that travels in a near vacuum tube. The model proposed by Team Avishkar can achieve a top speed of over 1,200 km per hour. Team Avishkar is aiming to build the world's largest student-developed Hyperloop testing facility at IIT Madras. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Railways + IIT Madras = approved a Rs 8.34 Cr collaborative initiative on 'Hyperloop Technology'
- Hyperloop is the 5<sup>th</sup> mode of transportation – a high-speed train that travels in a near vacuum tube
- Model proposed by – Team Avishkar | Top speed – over 1,200 km/hour
- [Director of IIT Madras – V. Kamakoti](#)
- [Ministry of Railways: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency – Odisha](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Railways: Danve Raosaheb Dadarao & Darshana Vikram Jardosh](#)

**84.** On May 21, the Executive Committee under the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) held a 42<sup>nd</sup> Meeting and approved 11 water infrastructure projects worth around Rs 660 Cr. The meeting was chaired by G. Asok Kumar, Director General, NMCG. A big project for sewerage management for cleaning of River Hindon in Saharanpur, Uttar Pradesh was among the projects approved. The estimated cost of the project is Rs 577.23 Cr that includes construction of 135 MLD STP, creation of interception and diversion structures and laying of sewer line etc. For the upgradation of Shivna River in Mandsaur, Madhya Pradesh, the committee approved Rs 28.68 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Executive Committee under NMCG held 42<sup>nd</sup> Meeting & approved 11 Water Infrastructure Projects worth Rs 660 Cr
- The meeting was chaired by – G. Asok Kumar
- [River Hindon – in Uttar Pradesh](#) | [Shivna River – in Madhya Pradesh](#)

**85.** On May 18, the Union Government announced the formation of the Cotton Council of India under the Chairmanship of renowned veteran cotton man Suresh Bhai Kotak. The Council will have representation from Textiles, Agriculture, Commerce, and Finance Ministries along with Cotton Corporation of India and Cotton Research Institute. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Union Government announced the formation of the Cotton Council of India
- Suresh Kotak – to be the Chairman of Cotton Council of India

**86.** In May 2022, West Central Railway has developed a battery-operated dual-mode locomotive named 'Navdoot'. This engine runs on both modes i.e. battery and electricity. This e-engine can pull 18 coaches at a speed of 30 kmph. It has 84 batteries and has a capacity to pull 400 tonnes at present. This Dual Mode Locomotive has also received the 'Best Innovation Award' from the Railway Board. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- West Central Railway – developed a battery-operated dual-mode locomotive named 'Navdoot'
- 'Navdoot' e-engine's capacity at present – 400 tonnes | Speed at present – 30 kmph [{Dynamic Data}](#)
- 'Navdoot' locomotive – also received the 'Best Innovation Award' from the Railway Board
- [HQs of West Central Railway – Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh](#) | [GM – Sudhir Kumar Gupta](#)
- [HQs of Indian Railways – New Delhi](#) | [Chairman & CEO – Vinay Kumar Tripathi](#)

**87.** On May 21, the Delhi Government has undertaken a unique initiative of using Robots for extinguishing fires in the UT. Initially, two robots are introduced into Delhi's firefighting fleet. These remote-controlled fire-fighting robots will have greater accessibility to places and will be able to navigate narrow lanes, reach spaces inaccessible to humans and perform tasks too risky for people. This machine can be operated remotely from a distance of 300 metres. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Delhi – undertook a unique initiative of using Robots for extinguishing fires in the UT
- These robots can be operated remotely from a distance of 300 metres
- [Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal](#) | [Chief Secretary – Naresh Kumar](#)



**88.** On May 18, the Supreme Court allowed Madhya Pradesh for the implementation of reservation for Other Backward Classes (OBC) in local body elections. A Bench led by Justice A. M. Khanwilkar modified the court's order directing the State Election Commission to notify the election programme for over 20,000 urban and panchayat local bodies in the State. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Supreme Court allowed Madhya Pradesh for the implementation of reservation for OBC in local body elections
- The bench was led by – Justice A. M. Khanwilkar
- [Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal](#) | [CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan](#) | [Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel](#)

**89.** On May 21, the Delhi High Court put a halt on a scheme called “Mukhya Mantri Ghar Ghar Ration Yojna” in the national capital. In March 2018, the Delhi Cabinet approved a scheme for delivery of ration at the doorstep of beneficiaries under the ‘Targeted Public Distribution System’. From the moment the proposal was given a go-ahead by the Arvind Kejriwal government in 2018, it faced stiff opposition from the Lieutenant Governor as well as the central government on technical grounds. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Delhi HC – put a halt on a scheme called “Mukhya Mantri Ghar Ghar Ration Yojna” in Delhi
- The scheme was approved by Delhi Cabinet in March, 2018
- [Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal](#) | [Chief Secretary – Naresh Kumar](#)

**90.** In May 2022, Union Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment, Pratima Bhaumik inaugurated ‘Samajik Adhikarita Shivir’ for distribution of 8454 aids and assistive devices to 1155 ‘Divyangjan’ under the ADIP Scheme and to 586 Senior Citizens under the ‘Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana’ of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. The Camp was organized by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) in association with Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO) in Bharatpur District, Rajasthan. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- DEPwD & ALIMCO – organized the ‘Samajik Adhikarita Shivir’ – in Bharatpur, Rajasthan
- Pratima Bhaumik – inaugurated the camp for distribution of 8454 aids & assistive devices to Divyangjan & Senior Citizens
- ‘ADIP Scheme’ & ‘Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana’ – belongs to Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
- [Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur](#) | [CM – Ashok Gehlot](#) | [Governor – Kalraj Mishra](#)

**91.** The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) has issued guidelines easing norms for research into genetically modified (GM) crops and circumventing challenges of using foreign genes to change crops profile. The ‘Guidelines for Safety Assessment of Genome Edited Plants, 2022’ exempt researchers (who use gene-editing technology to modify the genome of the plant) from seeking approvals from the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC). The GEAC is an expert body of the Environment Ministry. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dept. of Biotechnology – issued ‘Guidelines for Safety Assessment of Genome Edited Plants, 2022’ easing norms for research into genetically modified (GM) crops
- GEAC – an expert body of Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate Change

**92.** Greenko Group is setting up the world's largest Integrated Renewable Energy Storage Project (IRES) in Andhra Pradesh's Kurnool district with an investment of over \$3 billion. This 5,230 MW IRES will play a pivotal role in India attaining energy security and enabling global energy transition. This is a first of its kind single location energy storage project with wind and solar capacities. The project will help avoid 15 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> annually. Greenko Group is the world's largest renewable energy storage and leading energy transition and decarbonisation solutions company. It has an installed renewable energy capacity of about 7.5 GW across wind, solar and hydro while 10 GW of projects are under development. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Greenko Group – setting up the world's largest IRES in Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh
- Investment – \$3 billion | The project will help avoid 15 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> annually
- [Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati | CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan](#)

**93.** On May 20, Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur and his Bangladeshi counterpart Dr Hasan Mahmud have jointly released a 90-second trailer of the India - Bangladesh co-production feature film titled "Mujib - The Making of a Nation" made on 'Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman'. The film is directed by Shyam Benegal. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Anurag Thakur + Hasan Mahmud = jointly released a 90-second trailer of the film "Mujib - The Making of a Nation"
- The film is co-produced by – India & Bangladesh | Directed by – Shyam Benegal

**94.** On May 20, the Supreme Court ruled that the recommendations of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council are not binding on either the Central Government or the State Governments. The bench was headed by SC judge Justice Dhananjaya Y. Chandrachud. The SC stated that recommendations of the GST Council, as enunciated under 'Article 279A' of the Constitution, must be construed as only recommendatory in nature. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- The SC ruled that the recommendations of the GST Council are not binding on Central Govt or State Govts
- The bench was headed by – Justice D. Y. Chandrachud (SC judge)

**95.** In a first in the country, Kerala will launch a state-owned over-the-top (OTT) platform, CSpace, on November 1, offering film lovers an array of movies, short films and documentaries of their choice. CSpace will be managed by Kerala State Film Development Corporation (KSFD) on behalf of the state government. Established in 1975, KSFD is the first public sector corporation for film development in India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kerala – to launch a state-owned OTT platform namely "CSpace" on November 1
- 'CSpace' will be managed by Kerala State Film Development Corporation (KSFD) on behalf of the state government
- [Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan](#)

**96.** On May 20, India's aviation regulator, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has granted Jet Airways the Air Operator Certificate (AOC), allowing the airline to resume commercial flight operations in India. The airline is expected to resume operations in the July-September period. With this, Jet Airways will be the first Indian carrier to revive operations under the country's insolvency and bankruptcy law. Jet Airways (under the previous Naresh Goyal management) was grounded in April 2019 when the company went bankrupt. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Jet Airways – was granted the 'Air Operator Certificate' by DGCA & allowed to resume commercial flight operations
- Jet Airways – will be the first Indian carrier to revive operations under the India's Insolvency & Bankruptcy Law
- Jet Airways – went bankrupt in April 2019
- [HQs of Jet Airways – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Sanjiv Kapoor](#)

**97.** On May 23, Kolkata became the first major metropolitan city in India to prepare a detailed register of biodiversity called the People's Biodiversity Register (PBR). The PBR is a 520-page documentation of 399 plant and 283 animal species. Chandigarh and Indore are other important cities to have prepared the document. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kolkata – became the first major metropolitan city in India to prepare the "People's Biodiversity Register (PBR)"
- [West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar](#)

**98.** On May 20, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) asked the Centre and the Arunachal Pradesh government to finalise the conferment of citizenship rights to the eligible people of Chakma and Hajongs tribes as ordered by the Supreme Court. The apex court in 1996 and 2015 ruled in favour of granting citizenship to the members of the two communities settled in Arunachal Pradesh in the 1960s after they were displaced by a dam in East Pakistan (now Bangladesh). The Chakmas are Buddhists, and the Hajongs are Hindus. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NHRC asked to finalise the conferment of citizenship rights to the eligible people of Chakma & Hajongs tribes
- [Arunachal Pradesh: Capital – Itanagar | CM – Pema Khandu | Governor – B. D. Mishra](#)

**99.** On May 19, PM Narendra Modi addressed the "Yuva Shivar" organised at Karelbaug, Vadodara via video conferencing. Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Kundalgham and Shree Swaminarayan Temple Karelbaug, Vadodara, both in Gujarat, organised the Shivar. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- PM Narendra Modi – addressed 'Yuva Shivar' organised by Shree Swaminarayan Temple (Gujarat) – in Vadodara
- [Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat](#)

**100.** On May 17, Election Commission of India (ECI) will lead Democracy Cohort on 'Election Integrity' in partnership with 100 Democratic Countries as part of the 'Summit for Democracy'. ECI has requested to also provide training and capacity building programmes to Election Management Bodies (EMBs) across the world and provide technical consultancy as per needs of other EMBs. The 'Summit for Democracy' was started as a two-day virtual event, hosted by the United States in December 2021, and is now a year-long activity. The US Government has also developed two platforms - 'Focal Groups' and 'Democracy Cohorts' to facilitate participation in the Year of Action. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- ECI – will lead Democracy Cohort on ‘Election Integrity’ in partnership with 100 Democratic Countries as part of the ‘Summit for Democracy’
- The ‘Summit for Democracy’ – started as a two-day virtual event, hosted by the US in Dec 2021
- US – developed two platforms - ‘Focal Groups’ & ‘Democracy Cohorts’ to facilitate participation in the Year of Action
- HQs of ECI – New Delhi | Chief Election Commissioner – Rajiv Kumar (25th) | Formed on – 25th Jan, 1950
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris

**101.** On May 21, Union Minister for Ayush Sarbananda Sonowal announced Ayush initiatives in Sikkim to boost the Medical Tourism sector in the northeast. As part of this, an International Yoga & Naturopathy College would be set up in Sikkim. He also announced other initiatives to boost the traditional medicinal practices, including Sowa Rigpa, Ayurveda and naturopathy, in Sikkim. Sowa Rigpa is a traditional and ancient medicinal practice of the Himalayan people. He also inaugurated a Sowa Rigpa college building at NIT in Deorali, Gangtok. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sarbananda Sonowal – announced Ayush initiatives in Sikkim to boost the Medical Tourism sector in the northeast
- International Yoga & Naturopathy College – to be set up in Sikkim
- Sikkim: Capital – Gangtok | CM – Prem Singh Tamang | Governor – Ganga Prasad

**102.** On May 23, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M. K. Stalin launched the Kalaigharin All Village Integrated Agriculture Development Programme, to be implemented at a cost of Rs 227 Cr aimed at benefiting over 9 lakh farming families in 1,997 village panchayats across the State. The Programme would be implemented in all 12,525 village panchayats across the State during 5 years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- M. K. Stalin (Tamil Nadu) – launched the “Kalaigharin All Village Integrated Agriculture Development Programme”
- Cost – Rs 227 Cr
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi

**103.** On May 25, Union Education Minister, Dharmendra Pradhan, and state minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma unveiled the “Guwahati Declaration” during the ‘North East Research Conclave (NERC) 2022’, held from May 20-22, at IIT Guwahati. At least 100 start-ups are expected to be incubated with around 100 doctoral students to be added within the next 3 years. Under this declaration, a framework to achieve holistic and converging objectives and build targeted mission-mode collaborative efforts will be initiated. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dharmendra Pradhan + Himanta Biswa Sarma = unveiled the “Guwahati Declaration” during ‘NERC 2022’ at IIT Guwahati
- Director of IIT Guwahati – Dr. T. G. Sitharam
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi



**104.** On May 23, Redcliffe Labs, a unit of Redcliffe Lifetech in the U.S., started its first commercial drone flight in India's Healthcare Sector. The company has recently opened its commercial drone corridor between Uttarakhand's Uttarkashi and Dehradun. With this, Uttarakhand became the 1<sup>st</sup> Indian state to roll out drone in healthcare. The project was a part of Redcliffe and Skye Air tie-up. The diagnostic service provider aims to reach at least 500 million Indians by 2027. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Redcliffe Labs (US) – started its first commercial drone flight in India's Healthcare Sector
- Redcliffe Labs – opened its Commercial Drone Corridor between Uttarkashi & Dehradun
- Uttarakhand – became the 1<sup>st</sup> Indian state to roll out drone in Healthcare

**105.** Industrialist Gautam Adani, Supreme Court lawyer Karuna Nundy and Kashmiri rights activist Khurram Parvez are amongst the TIME Magazine's list of 100 Most Influential People of 2022. The list also includes an Indian American businessperson, Bela Bajaria, who is currently the head of the Global TV at Netflix. The 100 people were divided into categories such as Icons, Pioneers, Titans, Artists, Leaders and Innovators. Gautam Adani was listed under the Titans category, while Karuna Nundy and Khurram Parvez were listed under the Leaders category. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "World's 100 Most Influential People of 2022" – by Time magazine
- Gautam Adani + Karuna Nundy + Khurram Parvez + Bela Bajaria = among World's 100 Most Influential People of 2022

**106.** On May 23, Union Home Minister Amit Shah launched several projects and laid the foundation stone of schemes worth Rs 1,180 Cr for the frontier state of Arunachal Pradesh. An MoU was exchanged on building Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU) or National Defence University campus in Arunachal Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Amit Shah – launched several projects & laid the foundation stone of schemes worth Rs 1,180 Cr for Arunachal Pradesh
- Amit Shah – exchanged an MoU on building RRU or National Defence University campus in Arunachal Pradesh
- [Arunachal Pradesh: Capital – Itanagar](#) | [CM – Pema Khandu](#) | [Governor – B. D. Mishra](#)

**107.** Foreign Investment Facilitation Portal (FIF) completed 5 years since the proposal for abolition of Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) was approved by the Union Cabinet on 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2017. 853 FDI proposals have been disposed off through the FIF in last 5 years. Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, was made the Nodal Department for this portal and the portal is managed by the same. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 24 – Foreign Investment Facilitation Portal (FIF) completed 5 years
- Proposal for abolition of FIPB was approved by the Union Cabinet on 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2017
- [HQs of DPIIT – New Delhi](#) | [DPIIT works under – Ministry of Commerce & Industry](#)

**108.** The strategically-significant Sela Tunnel project, located in West Kameng district of Arunachal Pradesh, is expected to be completed by the end of 2022. The project entered a decisive phase after a final blast earlier this year marked the culmination of excavation. The project, being executed by the Border Roads Organisation, includes two tunnels and a link road. The tunnel project will provide an alternate axis to the Sela pass, which is at 13,700 feet. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sela Tunnel project (in West Kameng, Arunachal Pradesh) – is expected to be completed by the end of 2022
- The project is executed by – Border Roads Organisation
- HQs of BRO – New Delhi | Director General – Major Gen Rajeev Chaudhary | Founded on – May 7, 1960
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital – Itanagar | CM – Pema Khandu | Governor – B. D. Mishra

**109.** On May 24, the Secretary of Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Manoj Joshi launched the 8<sup>th</sup> edition of Swachh Survekshan (SS 2023) under Swachh Bharat Mission Urban 2.0. Designed with the theme of 'Waste to Wealth' as its driving philosophy, SS 2023 is curated towards achieving circularity in waste management. The survey would give priority to the principle of 3Rs - Reduce, Recycle and Reuse. The Prime Minister launched the "Swachh Bharat Mission Urban 2.0" on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2021, with a vision of Garbage Free Cities. While the Swachh Survekshan (SS) was introduced by MoHUA in 2016. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Manoj Joshi (Secretary of MoHUA) – launched the 8<sup>th</sup> Swachh Survekshan under 'Swachh Bharat Mission Urban 2.0'
- Theme of 8<sup>th</sup> Swachh Survekshan – "Waste to Wealth"
- Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs: Hardeep Singh Puri | Constituency – Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs: Kaushal Kishore

**110.** In May 2022, the Blue-bellied kukri snake (*Oligodon melaneus* Wall) in the vicinity of Manas National Park, for the first time in India after 112 years, was rediscovered. It may be an indication of the presence of rarer snake species in the northeast. It was last spotted in India in July, 1908 and that was in Tindharia Village in West Bengal. There are 340 species of snakes recorded in India, of which Assam alone has 76. Moreover, there are 88 species of Kukri snake, of which 22 are found in India and 13 in Northeast. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Blue-bellied kukri snake (*Oligodon melaneus* Wall) – rediscovered after 112 years in India (in Manas N.P., Assam)
- It was last spotted in India in July, 1908 – in Tindharia Village, West Bengal
- There are 340 species of snakes recorded in India, of which Assam has 76
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

**111.** In May 2022, Uttar Pradesh launched 'Sambhav' (Systemic Administration Mechanism for Bringing Happiness and Value) portal for disposal of public grievances related to energy and urban development. The portal will work as a platform for flagging grievances received from the public to officers who have been provided login IDs. SAMBHAV will also address pending cases and grievances from chief minister's Jan Sunwai or IGRS system. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Uttar Pradesh – launched ‘Sambhav’ portal for disposal of public grievances related to Energy & Urban Development
- Sambhav – Systemic Administration Mechanism for Bringing Happiness And Value
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**112.** The famed Madame Tussauds wax museum is set to reopen in June, 2022. The international attraction will now be housed on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of DLF Mall of India, Noida, covering an area of 16,000 sq ft. The museum will have around 50 figures of celebrities and superstars from five different zones - History and Leaders, Sports, Music, Bollywood, Hollywood & Film & Television. Madame Tussauds has a 200-year history and legacy. The museum first opened in Connaught Place, Delhi, in 2017. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ‘Madame Tussauds’ wax museum reopened in June 2022 – in Noida, UP
- The museum first opened in 2017 – at Connaught Place, Delhi
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Vinai Kumar Saxena | Chief Secretary – Naresh Kumar
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**113.** On May 25, Punjab chief minister Bhagwant Mann launched a Direct Seeding of Rice (DSR) portal to facilitate farmers to give their willingness to use DSR technology over parts of their land. The portal has been developed by the Mandi Board in sync with the agriculture department. The initiative would be instrumental to compile data about farmers who have opted for DSR technique besides ensuring payment of Rs 1,500 per acre after proper verification through this portal. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Punjab – launched a ‘DSR Portal’ to facilitate farmers to give their willingness to use DSR technology
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Bhagwant Mann | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

**114.** On May 25, the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education released the National Achievement Survey (NAS) 2021 report which assesses the health of school education system in India by conducting comprehensive Evaluation Survey of children’s learning competencies at classes III, V, VIII and X with a cycle period of 3 years. It reflects the overall assessment of School Education System. The last NAS was held in 2017. About 34 lakh students of 1.18 lakh schools in 720 districts from both rural and urban areas have participated in NAS 2021. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “National Achievement Survey 2021” – released by Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education
- It assesses children’s learning competencies at classes III, V, VIII & X with a cycle period of 3 years
- Ministry of Education: Dharmendra Pradhan | Constituency – Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Education: Subhas Sarkar



**115.** The Indian government is aiming to increase its infrastructure spending and as part of that, it plans to build 18,000 km of highways across India in the 2022-23 financial year. The government is aiming to build a 50 km highway every day in this financial year. The government also aims to complete building a 2-lakh km National Highway Network by 2025. In FY22, the NHAI constructed a total length of 4,325 km, of national highways, which is higher than 4,218 km in FY21 and 3,979 km in FY20. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian government's Aim:
  - to build 18,000 km of highways across India in the FY 2022-23 (50 km highway per day)
  - to complete building a 2-lakh km National Highway Network by 2025
- NHAI constructed a total length of 4,325 km of National Highways in FY22 | 4,218 km in FY21 | 3,979 km in FY20
- HQs of NHAI – New Delhi | Chairman – Alka Upadhyaya | Founded in – 1988

**116.** On May 23, Maharashtra joined the World Economic Forum's Global Plastic Action Partnership (GPAP) to advance regional efforts to fight plastic pollution. The partnership will bring together Maharashtra's leading policy-makers, business leaders, civil society organizations and experts to formulate a state-level plan to eradicate plastic pollution. The announcement follows the 5<sup>th</sup> United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA 5), where a resolution was adopted in March 2022. The GPAP-Maharashtra is the first in India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Maharashtra – the first state in India to join the WEF's Global Plastic Action Partnership (GPAP)
- Maharashtra: CM – Eknath Shinde | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

**117.** On May 26, PM Narendra Modi laid the foundation of 11 projects worth over Rs 31,500 Cr in Chennai. It includes laying the foundation stones for the redevelopment of five Railway stations in Tamil Nadu - Chennai Egmore, Rameswaram, Madurai, Katpadi, and Kanyakumari. The redevelopment of the railway stations project is expected to be completed at a cost of over Rs 1,800 Cr. Additionally, PM Modi inaugurated 1,152 houses constructed under the 'Light House Project Chennai' and built at a cost of Rs 116 Cr under the 'Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban'. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narendra Modi – laid the foundation of 11 projects worth over Rs 31,500 Cr in Chennai
- Narendra Modi – inaugurated 1,152 houses constructed under the 'Light House Project Chennai'
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi

**118.** Rajasthan is the first state to institutionalise Health Accounts. The state health accounts will support regular tracking and monitoring of health expenditures over time and can serve as an important tool for evidence-based policy making. WHO India country office will be contributing to the state government's effort by providing technical and financial support. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajasthan – the first state to institutionalise Health Accounts
- WHO will provide technical & financial support to the state government
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

**119.** On May 28, Adani Group announced the commissioning of India's first Wind & Solar Hybrid Power Generation Plant at Jaisalmer in Rajasthan. The 390 MW wind-solar hybrid power plant was commissioned by Adani Hybrid Energy Jaisalmer One Limited (AHEJOL), a subsidiary of Adani Green Energy Limited (AGEL). The new plant has a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with the Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) with a tariff at Rs 2.69 per kilowatt-hour (kWh). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- AHEJOL (Adani Group) – commissioned India's first Wind & Solar Hybrid Power Generation Plant at Jaisalmer, Rajasthan
- [Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur](#) | [CM – Ashok Gehlot](#) | [Governor – Kalraj Mishra](#)

**120.** In May 2022, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Prakash Birla launched the second phase of "Suposhit Maa Abhiyan" in Kota, Rajasthan. In the campaign, 3000 women will be given nutrition kits for 9 months with the help of public support and health check-up will be done every month. The abhiyan was started in 2020 to overcome the nutritional deficiency among women. Lok Sabha speaker Om Birla represents Kota parliamentary constituency. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Second phase of "Suposhit Maa Abhiyan" – launched in Kota, Rajasthan
- [Lok Sabha Speaker – Om Prakash Birla](#)
- [Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur](#) | [CM – Ashok Gehlot](#) | [Governor – Kalraj Mishra](#)

**121.** As on May 27, the Indian Railways aims to introduce India's first semi-high speed freight train called 'Gati Shakti' by December 2022. Based on the 'Vande Bharat' platform, the 16-coach 'Gati Shakti' train will be able to run at 160 km/hour, and will be manufactured at the Integral Coach Factory (ICF) in Chennai. With these trains, the Railways plans to target the e-commerce and courier parcel segment. India's ecommerce market is expected to reach \$111 billion by 2024, \$200 billion by 2026 and \$350 billion by 2030. Moreover, the Railways is aiming to increase its share in freight transportation from the present 27% to 45% by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Railways aims to introduce India's first semi-high speed freight train called 'Gati Shakti'
- The 16-coach 'Gati Shakti' train is based on the 'Vande Bharat' platform | Speed – 160 km/hour
- It will be manufactured at – Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Chennai
- India's ecommerce market is expected to reach: \$111 billion by 2024, \$200 billion by 2026 & \$350 billion by 2030

**122.** In May 2022, a little 10-year-old champion skater from Maharashtra, Rhythm Mamania, has become one of the youngest Indian mountaineers to summit the Everest Base Camp (EBC) in the Himalayan ranges in Nepal. She had no coach or formal training. The 11-day expedition was organised by Rishi Bhandari of Satori Adventures, Nepal. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rhythm Mamania ([Maharashtra](#)) – became one of the youngest Indian mountaineers to summit the Everest Base Camp (EBC) in the Himalayan ranges in Nepal



**123.** On May 27, the Government has approved New Guidelines of Micro & Small Enterprises Cluster Development Programme (MSE-CDP), which will be implemented during 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission Cycle (2021-22 to 2025-26). The guidelines have two components - Common Facility Centers (CFCs) and Infrastructure Development (ID). Under the CFCs, the central government grant will be restricted to 70% of the cost of project from Rs 5 Cr to Rs 10 Cr and 60% of the cost of project from Rs 10 Cr to Rs 30 Cr. Under the Infrastructure Development (ID) component, the central government grant will be restricted to 60% of the cost of project from Rs 5 Cr to Rs 15 Cr for setting up of new Industrial Estate/Flatted Factory Complex and grant will be 50% of the cost of project from Rs 5 Cr to Rs 10 Cr for up-gradation of existing Industrial Estate/Flatted Factory Complex. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Government approved New Guidelines of 'MSE-CDP' to be implemented during 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission Cycle
- 2 components of guidelines: Common Facility Centers (CFCs) & Infrastructure Development (ID)
- Under the CFCs component, the central government grant will be restricted to:
  - 70% of the cost of project from Rs 5 Cr to Rs 10 Cr & 60% of the cost of project from Rs 10 Cr to Rs 30 Cr
- Under the ID component, the central government grant will be restricted to:
  - 60% of the cost of project from Rs 5 Cr to Rs 15 Cr for setting up of new Industrial Estate
  - 50% of the cost of project from Rs 5 Cr to Rs 10 Cr for up-gradation of existing Industrial Estate

**124.** With a ban on 19 single-use plastic (SUP) items to kick in from July 1, the Delhi Government held an exhibition for alternatives to single-use plastic (SUP) and will invite people from across the country in June. The government will introduce a new Green Start-up Policy for those involved in the manufacturing of single-use plastics. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Delhi Government – held an exhibition for alternatives to single-use plastic (SUP)
- 19 single-use plastic (SUP) items – to be banned from July 1 in Delhi

**125.** On May 24, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) became the first gas producer to trade domestic gas on the Indian Gas Exchange (IGX). The first online trade was made on May 23, 2022 by ONGC Director (Onshore) & In-charge Marketing Anurag Sharma. The gas traded was from ONGC Krishna Godavari 98/2 block. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ONGC – became the first gas producer to trade domestic gas on the Indian Gas Exchange (IGX)
- HQs of ONGC – New Delhi | CMD – Alka Mittal (addi. charge)

**126.** The demands for a "Bhil Pradesh", a separate state for tribal people in western India, have begun to be raised again. The Bharatiya Tribal Party (BTP), a political party based in Gujarat, envisions Bhil Pradesh as a separate state carved out of 39 districts spread over four states - Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh & Maharashtra. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bharatiya Tribal Party ([Guj.](#)) – envisions 'Bhil Pradesh' as a separate state carved out of 39 districts spread over 4 states
- Four states – Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh & Maharashtra

**127.** On May 27, Minister of State for Commerce & Industry Anupriya Patel launched “Indian Business Portal”, an International Trade Hub for Indian Exporters and Foreign Buyers, in New Delhi. The Federation of Indian Export Organisation (FIEO) in partnership with GlobalLinker, designed and developed the portal. This is a B2B digital marketplace to empower SME exporters, artisans and farmers to identify new markets for their products and grow their sales globally. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of C&I – launched “Indian Business Portal”, an International Trade Hub for Indian Exporters & Foreign Buyers
- The portal is designed & developed = FIEO + GlobalLinker
- Ministry of Commerce & Industry: Piyush Goyal | Constituency – Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of Commerce & Industry: Anupriya Singh Patel & Som Parkash

**128.** India is working on building 10 Hydropower Projects totalling 6.8 gigawatts (GW) in Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh to fully utilize its share of waters under the 1960 Indus Waters Treaty with Pakistan. The projects are being undertaken at an investment of Rs 68,000 Cr by state-run NHPC Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India is building 10 Hydropower Projects totalling 6.8 GW in J&K and Himachal Pradesh to fully utilize its share of waters under the ‘1960 Indus Waters’ Treaty with Pakistan
- NHPC – is implementing these projects (Investment – Rs 68,000 Cr)
- Pakistan – Islamabad – Pakistani Rupee | PM – Shehbaz Sharif | President – Arif Alvi
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha
- HQs of NHPC – Faridabad, Haryana | MD & Chairman – Abhay Kumar Singh

**129.** On May 24, the National Health Authority (NHA), under its flagship scheme of Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM), launched a revamped Ayushman Bharat Health Account (ABHA) mobile application. The ABHA app was previously known as NDHM Health Records app. The updated version of the ABHA app enables an individual to create an ABHA address (username@abdm) that can be linked with the 14 digit ABHA number. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NHA – launched a revamped ‘ABHA’ mobile application under its flagship scheme of ‘Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission’
- ‘ABHA’ app was previously known as ‘NDHM Health Records’ app
- User can create an ABHA address (username@abdm) that can be linked with the 14 digit ABHA number
- HQs of NHA – New Delhi | CEO – Ram Sevak Sharma | Founded in – 2018

**130.** In May 2022, the Supreme Court appointed a three-member Committee of Administrators (CoA) headed by former top court judge A. R. Dave to manage the affairs of the All India Football Federation (AIFF) and adopt its constitution in line with the National Sports Code and model guidelines. It directed the CoA to forthwith take charge of the AIFF and assist the court by providing inputs to the court in facilitating the adoption of the constitution by the AIFF. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Supreme Court – appointed a 3 member CoA headed by judge A. R. Dave to manage the affairs of the AIFF
- Present Chief of Justice of the Supreme Court of India – Justice N. V. Ramana (48th)

**131.** On May 25, the Kerala government empowered local bodies to cull wild boars that pose a threat to agriculture crops or human life. Section 11-B (1) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972 provides powers to the Chief Wildlife Warden (CWW) to issue special orders to kill wild animals, if the officer is satisfied that a particular animal has become dangerous to human life or property. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kerala – empowered local bodies to cull ‘Wild Boars’
- Section 11-B (1) of the ‘Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972’ – provides powers to issue special orders to kill wild animals if become dangerous to human life or property
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

**132.** Artificial Intelligence (AI) powered solutions, such as Collision Alert System, may soon make roads in India safer to drive. The project ‘Intelligent Solutions for Road Safety through Technology and Engineering’ (iRASTE) is being implemented in Nagpur, Maharashtra. It will identify potential accident-causing scenarios while driving a vehicle and alert drivers about the same with the help of the Advanced Driver Assistance System (ADAS). The project consortium includes CSIR-CRRI, and Nagpur Municipal Corporation (NMC), with Mahindra and Intel as the industry partners. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- The project ‘iRASTE’ is being implemented in Nagpur to make roads in India safer to drive
- iRASTE – ‘Intelligent Solutions for Road Safety through Technology and Engineering’
- The project consortium includes CSIR-CRRI, Nagpur Municipal Corporation (NMC), Mahindra and Intel
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari
- HQs of CSIR – New Delhi | President – Narendra Modi | DG – Shekhar C. Mande | Established in – 1942

**133.** The Government had decided to eliminate Measles & Rubella (MR) from India by the year 2020, having missed the earlier set target of 2015. But the COVID-19 pandemic stole two years from the programme. So, the MR elimination target is now re-set to 2023. The disease is basically fever plus a red rash on the skin. Dr. T. Jacob John is Co-Chair of the India Expert Advisory Group on MR elimination (IEAG MR). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Government decided to eliminate Measles & Rubella (MR) from India – by 2023 (Previous target - by 2020)
- Dr. T. Jacob John – Co-Chair of the India Expert Advisory Group on MR elimination

**134.** On May 27, the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) seized 56 kg of cocaine, estimated to be worth over Rs 500 Cr, from a container near Mundra port in Gujarat’s Kutch district. The price of 1 kg of cocaine is around Rs 10 Cr in international markets. Cocaine is a powerfully addictive stimulant drug made from the leaves of the coca plant native to South America. Moreover, in April, the DRI in a joint operation with Gujarat’s Anti Terrorist Squad (ATS) recovered approximately 260 kg of heroin worth Rs 1,300 Cr at a container station near Kandla port in Kutch district. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- DRI – seized 56 kg of cocaine from a container near Mundra port in Gujarat’s Kutch district
- Cocaine – a powerfully addictive stimulant drug made from the leaves of the coca plant

**135.** On May 25, Chhattisgarh became the second state after Odisha to have recognised Community Forest Resource (CFR) rights inside a National Park, after the state government approved the CFR claims of Gudiyapadar and Nagalsar villages in Kanger Ghati National Park in Bastar district. Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel met the villagers of both the villages at Nangur during his 'Bhent Mulakat' programme and handed over the CFR certificates. In 2016, the Odisha government was the first to recognise Community Forest Resources (CFRs) inside the Simlipal National Park. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Chhattisgarh – became the 2<sup>nd</sup> state to have recognised Community Forest Resource rights inside a National Park
- Odisha – the first to recognise Community Forest Resources (CFRs) inside Simlipal National Park in 2016
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

**136.** On May 27, the Uttarakhand government formed an expert committee for examining and implementing the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) in the state. The panel shall be headed by retired Supreme Court judge Ranjana Desai, who currently heads the Delimitation Commission of India. The Uniform Civil Code (IAST: Samana Nagrika Samhita) is a proposal in India to formulate and implement personal laws of citizens which apply on all citizens equally regardless of their religion, sex, gender and sexual orientation. Currently, personal laws of various communities are governed by their religious scriptures. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Uttarakhand – formed an expert committee for examining & implementing the Uniform Civil Code (UCC)
- Uniform Civil Code – a proposal in India to formulate and implement personal laws of citizens
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Pushkar Singh Dhami | Governor – Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh

**137.** On May 24, the Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY) conducted a brainstorming session with Researchers and Start-ups. The session was aimed to shape strategy for 'Digital India BHASHINI', which is India's Artificial Intelligence (AI) led language translation platform. Bhashini Platform will make AI and Natural Language Processing (NLP) resources available to MSMEs, Start-ups and individuals. The platform is interoperable and will catalyse the entire Digital Ecosystem. Through Bhashini government aims to increase content in Indian languages on the internet. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MeitY – conducted a brainstorming session with Researchers & Start-ups to shape strategy for 'Digital India BHASHINI'
- 'BHASHINI' – India's AI led language translation platform to help MSMEs, Start-ups & individuals
- Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency – Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Rajeev Chandrasekhar

**138.** On May 27, PM Narendra Modi inaugurated India's biggest Drone Festival – 'Bharat Drone Mahotsav 2022' at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. The two-day event was held on May 27 and 28. The PM also interacted with kisan drone pilots as well as witnessed open-air drone demonstrations. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narendra Modi – inaugurated "Bharat Drone Mahotsav 2022" (India's biggest Drone Festival) in New Delhi

**139.** On May 27, Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated the National Facility for Gene Function in Health and Disease (NFGFHD) in Pune. The NFGFHD is set up at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Pune. It is built by IISER Pune and supported by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) at a total cost of about Rs 45 Cr. The advanced facility will build capacities in biological research & assist in reducing knowledge gap in understanding of pathogens. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dharmendra Pradhan – inaugurated the ‘National Facility for Gene Function in Health and Disease (NFGFHD)’ in Pune
- NFGFHD: built by & set up at – IISER, Pune | supported by – Dept. of Biotechnology | Total cost – Rs 45 Cr

**140.** On May 27, While addressing the “National Mineral Congress” held in Bhubaneswar, Additional Secretary in Ministry of Coal, Vinod Kumar Tiwari, announced that the Government of India has set a target to increase coal gasification to 100 million tonnes (MT) by 2030. Gasification facilitates utilization of the chemical properties of coal. The government has prepared a National Mission document to achieve this target. Moreover, India’s hydrogen demand is likely to increase to 11.7 MT by 2030 from 6.7 MT per year as of now. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Vinod Kumar Tiwari – addressed the “National Mineral Congress” held in Bhubaneswar, Odisha
- India’s target to increase Coal Gasification – to 100 million tonnes (MT) by 2030
- India’s hydrogen demand – likely to increase to 11.7 MT by 2030 from 6.7 MT per year as of now

**141.** In May 2022, Fierce clashes and arson broke out in Andhra Pradesh’s Amalapuram city as protesters rallied against the state government’s move to rename the newly created Konaseema district after Dr. B. R. Ambedkar. Konaseema is among the 13 new districts announced by the Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy-led government in April and it is carved out of the East Godavari district. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Andhra Pradesh’s newly created Konaseema district – renamed after Dr. B. R. Ambedkar (carved out of East Godavari)
- [Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati | CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan](#)

**142.** On May 29, Karnataka chief minister Basavaraj Bommai launched a new health and wellness app “AAYU” to address and help heal chronic diseases and lifestyle disorders through yoga and meditation. The app is developed by Swami Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhana Samsthana (S-VYASA) in partnership with RESET TECH, an AI-driven integrated health-tech platform. The app will effectively provide users with personalised wellness solutions and offer doctor consultations. The app is available in multiple languages and aims to reach and impact over 5 million chronic disease patients within a span of 5 years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Karnataka – launched a new health & wellness app “AAYU” to address & help heal chronic diseases & lifestyle disorders
- The app is developed by = S-VYASA + RESET TECH
- The app aims to reach and impact over 5 million Chronic Disease patients within a span of 5 years
- [Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thaawarchand Gehlot](#)

**143.** On May 29, National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE), under Ministry of Education, launched an online portal to streamline the process of recognition of Teacher Education Programs of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and Teacher Education Institutions (TEIs). The applications for the recently launched four year Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP) will be processed on this portal. This portal aims to provide an automated robust framework in the functioning of NCTE. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NCTE – launched an online portal to streamline the process of recognition of Teacher Education Programs of HEIs & TEIs
- [HQs of NCTE – New Delhi](#) | [Chairman – Dinesh Prasad Saklani](#)

**144.** On May 29, Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha and Union minister Jitendra Singh inaugurated the North India's first "Industrial Biotech Park" constructed at Ghatti near Kathua district of J&K. It will transform the economy and enable scientists to tackle challenges of climate change. This biotechnology park has a potential to produce 25 startups in a year. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Manoj Sinha + Jitendra Singh = inaugurated North India's first "Industrial Biotech Park" – at Ghatti, near Kathua, in J & K
- [J & K: Capital – Srinagar](#) | [Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha](#)

**145.** On May 26, the import policy of major paper products has been amended from 'Free' to 'Free subject to compulsory registration under the Paper Import Monitoring System'. In a bid to protect the domestic paper industry, the Ministry of Commerce & Industry decided to make registration compulsory for importing major paper products such as newsprint, handmade paper, envelopes, among others. All imports arriving on or after October 1 will be governed by the Paper Import Monitoring policy. A large proportion of paper products are imported under 'Others' category tariff lines. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of C&I – decided to make registration compulsory for importing major paper products – from October 1, 2022
- Import Policy of major paper products – amended from 'Free' to 'Free subject to compulsory registration under the Paper Import Monitoring System'
- [Ministry of Commerce & Industry: Piyush Goyal](#) | [Constituency – Maharashtra](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Commerce & Industry: Anupriya Singh Patel & Som Parkash](#)

**146.** Mumbai-based Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) is equipping the unemployed youth of 16 village panchayats under the Tarapur Atomic Power Station (TAPS) colony with techno entrepreneurial skills through its "Advanced Knowledge & Rural Technology Implementation (AKRUTI)" programme and it is now set to launch similar initiatives in villages surrounding the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project (KKNPP) in Tamil Nadu. Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) is devising new, user-friendly and cost-effective technologies in the fields of nuclear science, radioisotopes, industry, health and agriculture. These technologies are being taught to the younger generation and the unemployed youth to make them entrepreneurs through 'AKRUTI'. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- NPCIL – to launch initiatives similar to “AKRUTI” program surrounding the ‘Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project’ (TN)
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi
- HQs of NPCIL – Mumbai, Maharashtra

**147.** A surveillance system called “C3iVazra”, installed at the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) headquarters at Dwarka, New Delhi, keeps track of the health of all the computers in its network. Installed in 2021, this Security Operation Centre (SoC) has protected the computers that monitor the highways across the country and has alerted about potential dangers. The SoC was developed by the Cyberphysical systems Technology Innovation Hub (TIH) or C3iHub, set up at IIT Kanpur. A Self-Sovereign Identity (SSI) system based on blockchain technology has also been developed by C3iHub. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “C3iVazra”, a surveillance system – is installed at the NHAI HQs at Dwarka, New Delhi
- It tracks the health of all the computers in its network | It is developed by – C3iHub (set up at IIT Kanpur)

**148.** On May 27, Union Minister of Science and Technology Jitendra Singh inaugurated India’s first ‘Lavender Festival’ in Bhaderwah town of Jammu & Kashmir. Besides, India’s first National Institute of High-Altitude Medicine is being built in Bhaderwah which will attract scholars and researchers not only from India but across the globe. Moreover, CSIR-AROMA Mission, under the Ministry of Science & Technology, aims to develop and disseminate aroma-related science and technology to reach the end-users/clients of CSIR: Farmers, industry and society. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Jitendra Singh – inaugurated India’s first ‘Lavender Festival’ in Bhaderwah, J & K
- India’s first ‘National Institute of High-Altitude Medicine’ is being built in – Bhaderwah, J & K
- CSIR-AROMA Mission – to develop & disseminate aroma-related technology to reach Farmers, industry & society
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha
- HQs of CSIR – New Delhi | President – Narendra Modi | DG – Shekhar C. Mande | Established in – 1942

**149.** As on May 1, the Kerala health department is on alert after the death of a 47-year-old from Thrissur due to the West Nile Virus. The virus was first reported in the state in Alappuzha in 2006 and then in Ernakulam in 2011. The West Nile Virus is a mosquito-borne, single-stranded RNA virus. It is spread by mosquito. According to the WHO, it is “a member of the flavivirus genus and belongs to the Japanese Encephalitis antigenic complex of the family Flaviviridae”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kerala health department – is on alert after the death of a 47-year-old due to the ‘West Nile Virus’
- The ‘West Nile Virus’ – is a mosquito-borne, single-stranded RNA virus
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan
- HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194 | Founded in – 1948

**150.** After a 5-year gap, Maharashtra has overtaken Uttar Pradesh (UP) to regain its position as India's top sugar producer. Shekhar Gaikwad, sugar commissioner of Maharashtra, expects the state's output for the 2021-22 crushing year (October-September) at 138 lakh tonnes (lt), followed by Uttar Pradesh at 104 lt & Karnataka at 60 lt. Till date, Maharashtra has produced 124.75 lt of sugar. All over India produced 355.50 lakh tonnes of sugar in 2021-22. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Maharashtra – overtook Uttar Pradesh as India's top sugar producer
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**151.** On May 27, the Eastern Railway has achieved 100% electrification of its 2,848 km network, with the completion of work in the 41 km Hansdiha-Godda section. The total electrification will help reduce carbon emission significantly and support the Indian Railway in achieving its target of making India's railway network carbon neutral by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Eastern Railway – achieved 100% electrification of 2848 km network with completion of 41km Hansdiha-Godda section

**152.** On May 30, PARAM ANANTA, a state-of the art Supercomputer at IIT Gandhinagar, dedicated to the nation under National Supercomputing Mission (NSM), was commissioned. The NSM is a joint initiative of Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) and Department of Science & Technology (DST). An MoU was signed between IIT Gandhinagar and Centre for Development in Advanced Computing (C-DAC) on 12th October, 2020 to establish this 838 TeraFlops Supercomputing Facility under NSM. PARAM ANANTA system is based on Direct Contact Liquid Cooling technology to obtain a high power usage effectiveness and thereby reducing the operational cost. Under NSM, till date 15 supercomputers, manufactured in India, have been installed across the nation with aggregate compute capacity of 24 petaflops. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 'PARAM ANANTA' (838 TeraFlops Supercomputer) – commissioned at IIT Gandhinagar
- NSM – a joint initiative of MeitY + DST
- Under NSM, 15 supercomputers manufactured in India till date, have been installed across the nation
- Director of IIT Gandhinagar – Amit Prashant
- HQs of C-DAC – Pune, Maharashtra | Senior Director – Mahesh Kulkarni (functions under MeitY)

**153.** On May 30, the National Health Authority (NHA), under its flagship scheme of Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM), has launched a Public Dashboard for real-time information. The public dashboard will be a one-stop solution for information on the mission's progress at state level. The dashboard, under the mission, will display detailed information on core registries like - Ayushman Bharat Health Account (ABHA) numbers, Healthcare Professionals Registry (HPR) and Health Facility Registry (HFR). Till date, a total of 22.1 Cr ABHAs (earlier known as health ID) have been created. The ABDM public dashboard gives a transparent view of the number of ABHA generated on national as well as state/UT level. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NHA – launched a Public Dashboard for real-time information (under 'ABDM')
- ABHA number – 14 digits
- The dashboard will display detailed information on core registries like:
  - ABHA numbers, Healthcare Professionals Registry, Health Facility Registry
- HQs of NHA – New Delhi | CEO – Ram Sevak Sharma | Founded in – 2018

**154.** On May 29, Indo-Bangladesh passenger train services Bandhan Express resumed its service between Kolkata and Khulna after two years. After Kolkata-Khulna Bandhan Express, Maitree Express also resumed its services between Kolkata and Dhaka. However, Mitali Express between New Jalpaiguri and Dhaka will be flagged off at the New Jalpaiguri station on June 1. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indo-Bangladesh passenger train services resumed after two years:
  - Bandhan Express – between Kolkata & Khulna
  - Maitree Express – between Kolkata & Dhaka
  - Mitali Express – between New Jalpaiguri & Dhaka

**155.** The 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of “National AI Portal (<https://indiaai.gov.in>)” was observed on May 30, 2022. This Portal is a joint initiative by the Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY), National e-Governance Division (NeGD) and NASSCOM. The portal focuses on creating and nurturing a unified AI ecosystem in India. The portal was launched by then Hon'ble Minister for Electronics & IT and Communications on May 30, 2020. During an event, INDIAai released a book on the basics of AI titled “AI for Everyone”. The booklet aims to provide free and open AI literacy to the community of young minds. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of “National AI Portal” observed on May 30, 2022
- National AI Portal = a JV of MeitY + NeGD + NASSCOM
- INDIAai – released a book titled “AI for Everyone”

**156.** On May 28, PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the world's first Nano Urea (Liquid) Plant constructed at IFFCO, Kalol in Gandhinagar district of Gujarat. The plant was constructed at a cost of around Rs 175 Cr is an effort to further provide farmers the means to boost productivity and help increase their income. The plant can produce approximately 1.5 lakh 500 ml bottles of nano urea per day. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narendra Modi – inaugurated the world's first Nano Urea (Liquid) Plant – at Kalol, Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- Plant's Capacity – approx 1.5 lakh 500ml bottles of Nano urea per day | Cost of the plant – around Rs 175 Cr
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat

**157.** In May 2022, “Project Vartak” of the Border Road Organisation (BRO) conducted the final blast, which marks the successful completion of excavation work of the Nechiphu Tunnel in Arunachal Pradesh. The blast was remotely conducted by BRO Director General Lt. Gen. Rajeev Chaudhry from New Delhi. The Nechiphu Tunnel, at an altitude of 5,700 feet, is a unique 500-metre-long, D-shaped, single tube double lane tunnel. The tunnel has been conceived to bypass extreme foggy conditions prevailing around Nechiphu Pass. The latest blast marks the cumulative excavation of more than 4,500 meters, achieved by the BRO 'Karmyogis' in less than two years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Project Vartak” of the BRO conducted the final blast of excavation work of ‘Nechiphu Tunnel’ in Arunachal Pradesh
- HQs of BRO – New Delhi | Director General – Major Gen Rajeev Chaudhary | Founded on – May 7, 1960
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital – Itanagar | CM – Pema Khandu | Governor – B. D. Mishra

**158.** On May 26, Chief Commissioner, Delhi Customs Zone, Surjit Bhujabal inaugurated project “NIGAH” at Inland Container Depot (ICD) Garhi Harsaru, Gurugram, Haryana. Project NIGAH is an initiative to track container by using ICTM (ICD Container Tracking Module) which will help in better visibility of the container movement inside the ICD. ICTM has been developed in collaboration with the Custodian M/s. GRFL. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Surjit Bhujabal (Chief Commissioner of Delhi Customs Zone) – inaugurated project “NIGAH” in Gurugram, Haryana
- Project ‘NIGAH’ is an initiative to track container by using ICTM (ICD Container Tracking Module)
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya

**159.** In May 2022, Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), the Maharatna Company, celebrated its 50 years of incorporation with a special logo. The logo was launched by Soma Mondal, Chairman of the SAIL. The SAIL was incorporated on 24<sup>th</sup> January, 1973. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SAIL celebrated its 50 years of incorporation with a special logo (logo was launched by – Soma Mondal)
- HQs of SAIL – New Delhi | CEO – Soma Mondal | Founded on – January 24, 1973



# International Affairs

**1.** The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued a proposal to ban menthol cigarettes and flavoured cigars. This move is aimed at not just curbing smoking in the American population, but also reducing tobacco-related health disparities. However, some states in the US have already banned menthol cigarettes, but the FDA plans to extend the prohibition countrywide. The proposed ban does not cover electronic cigarettes. Tobacco regulation laws in India are covered under “Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003” or “COTPA, 2003”. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- US – proposed to ban menthol cigarettes & flavoured cigars to curb smoking & reduce tobacco-related health disparities
- The proposed ban does not cover electronic cigarettes
- Tobacco regulation laws in India are covered under – COTPA, 2003

**2.** India is not among the 60 countries that have signed a global declaration to keep the Internet open, free, and neutral. The countries that have signed the declaration include the US, European Union, United Kingdom, Canada, France, etc. Called the “Declaration for the Future of the Internet”, the document is an agreement to prevent digital authoritarianism. India, China and Russia are among the large nations that are not part of this declaration. A total of 182 internet crackdowns were reported globally in 2021. Out of 106 shutdowns in India, 85 were reported in Jammu and Kashmir. The number of countries that shut down the internet in 2021 has increased to 34 from 29 in 2020. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- India, China & Russia are not among the 60 nations who signed “Declaration for the Future of the Internet”
- Total 182 internet crackdowns were reported globally in 2021 | Out of 182: 106 were reported in India (85 in J&K)
- The number of countries that shut down the internet in 2021 increased to 34 (from 29 in 2020)

**3.** On May 1, a statue of Sardar Patel was unveiled at Sanatan Mandir Cultural Centre in Markham, Canada. Sanatan Mandir Cultural Centre (SMCC) is a temple and a cultural centre serving the Hindu Community of the Greater Toronto Area. The SMCC Project was initiated by the Gujarat Samaj of Toronto in 1985 to help, promote and preserve Gujarati and culture. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- A statue of Sardar Patel was unveiled at Sanatan Mandir Cultural Centre in Markham, Canada
- [Canada – Ottawa – Canadian Dollar](#) | [PM – Justin Trudeau](#)

**4.** The Central African Republic (CAR) became the second country in the world after El Salvador to adopt Bitcoin as legal tender. It is also the first African country to adopt Bitcoin as an official currency. The country adopted Bitcoin as legal tender along with the existing currency, CFA Franc and established a legal and regulatory framework for cryptocurrencies. CFA Franc is the official currency of 6 countries and is governed by the Bank of Central African States (BEAC). [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- Central African Republic – became 2<sup>nd</sup> country in the world after El Salvador to adopt Bitcoin as legal tender
- Central African Republic – Bangui – CFA Franc | President – Faustin-Archange Touadera | PM – Felix Moloua

**5.** On May 5, the United Nations (UN) launched the “UN-Energy Plan of Action Towards 2025” amid the backdrop of a global energy crisis and worsening climate emergency. The ‘Plan of Action’ was launched by some 30 leading organisations comprising UN-Energy. An Energy Compact Action Network was also launched to match those governments seeking support for their clean energy goals with those governments and businesses that have pledged over \$600 billion to support these commitments. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- United Nations – launched the “UN-Energy Plan of Action Towards 2025”
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Secretary-General – Antonio Guterres | Formed in – October 24, 1945

**6.** As on May 2022, the UK now has an airport namely “Air-One” for flying taxis and drones, the first of its kind in the world. Air-One, made by startup Urban-Air Port in connection with Coventry City Council, is a fully functioning “vertiport”. Air-One is the first fully-operational “pop-up” vertiport. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- UK – has the world’s first airport for flying taxis & drones, namely “Air-One”
- Built by = Urban-Air Port + Coventry City Council
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson

**7.** On May 8, the U.K. health authorities have confirmed a case of Monkeypox, which is a virus passed from infected animals such as rodents to humans. The U.K. Health Security Agency (UKHSA) informed that monkeypox is a rare viral infection that does not spread easily between people and is usually a mild “self-limiting illness” and most people recover within a few weeks. It can be spread when someone is in close contact with an infected person. The virus can enter the body through broken skin, the respiratory tract or through the eyes, nose or mouth. The first-ever recorded occurrence of the monkeypox virus in the U.K. was in 2018. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- UK Health Authorities – confirmed a case of ‘Monkeypox’, a rare viral infection
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson

**8.** On May 9, the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) have created a new “UK India Industry Taskforce”, a joint commission to increase cross-industry collaboration and push the ‘UK-India Free Trade Agreement (FTA)’. The trade deal is also expected to boost Britain’s total trade by as much as 28 billion pounds (USD 34 billion) a year by 2035 and increase wages across the UK regions by 3 billion pounds (USD 3.6 billion). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- CBI (UK) + CII (India) = created a new “UK India Industry Taskforce” to facilitate free trade deal
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson





**9.** In May 2022, South Korea has become the first Asian country to join North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)'s Cooperative Cyber Defense Centre of Excellence (CCDCOE). South Korea's National Intelligence Service (NIS) has been admitted as a contributing participant for NATO CCDCOE, a cyber-defense group based in Tallinn, Estonia. It is the first time an Asian country joins the group. Locked Shields is the world's largest and most complex international real-time cyber defence exercise, organised by the NATO CCDCOE in Tallinn, Estonia. With Korea's membership, NATO CCDCOE now has 32 countries as its official members of which 27 NATO member countries, are categorised as sponsoring nations, and 5 are contributing participants which are non-NATO countries. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- South Korea – first Asian country to join NATO's CCDCOE taking total member countries to 32
- NATO CCDCOE – a cyber-defense group based in Tallinn, Estonia
- [South Korea – Seoul – Korean Republic won](#) | [President – Yoon Suk-yeol \(from May 2022\)](#)

**10.** India has been unanimously elected as the new Chair of the Association of Asian Election Authorities (AAEA) for 2022-2024 at the meeting of the Executive board and General Assembly at Manila, Philippines on May 7, 2022. Commission on Elections, Manila was the current chair of AAEA. The new member in the Executive Board now includes Russia, Uzbekistan, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Taiwan and Philippines. The Election Commission of India, 3-member delegation, headed by Deputy Election Commissioner Nitesh Vyas, attended the Executive Board meeting at Manila. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – elected as new Chair of the AAEA for 2022-2024
- Current Chair of AAEA – Commission on Elections, Manila

**11.** On May 10, the UN General Assembly (UNGA) voted overwhelmingly for the Czech Republic to replace Russia in the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC), following its suspension over allegations of horrific rights violations by Russian soldiers in Ukraine. The Czech Republic was the only candidate for the seat on the 47-member UNHRC. The assembly had approved a US-initiated resolution on April 7 to suspend Russia from the Human Rights Council by a vote of 93-24 with 58 abstentions. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- UNGA approved "Czech Republic" to replace Russia on the UNHRC
- [HQs of UNHRC – Geneva, Switzerland](#) | [President – Nazahat Shameen Khan](#) | [Members – 47 countries](#)
- [HQs of UNGA – New York, USA](#) | [President – Abdulla Shahid](#) | [Member Countries – 193](#)
- [Czech Republic – Prague – Koruna](#) | [President – Milos Zeman](#)

**12.** As India and Israel celebrate 30 years of establishment of diplomatic relations, Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar met his Israeli counterpart Oded Forer at the Knesset (Israel's Parliament) during his 4-day official visit to Israel from May 8. It is decided that 75 Indian villages will be shaped with Israeli cooperation to mark the country's 75<sup>th</sup> Independence anniversary. India and Israel agreed to complete the process of finalising a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) by the end of June, 2022. The minister also visited a desert boutique farm, "Be'er Milka" owned by an Indian-origin farmer Sharon Cherry growing Indian vegetables in the Negev desert area. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar was on 4-day official visit to Israel from May 8
- India + Israel = agreed to complete the process of finalising a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) by the end of June, 2022
- 75 Indian villages will be shaped with Israeli cooperation to mark India's 75<sup>th</sup> Independence Anniversary
- A desert boutique farm "Be'er Milka" – located in Negev desert, Israel (owned by Indian-origin farmer)
- Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel | President – Isaac Herzog | PM – Naftali Bennett

**13.** "The Rock", the world's biggest white diamond, auctioned for a hammer price of 18.6 million Swiss francs (\$18.8 million). The 228.31-carat stone, larger than a golf ball, was sold by Christie's auction house in Geneva. The world record for a white diamond still stands at \$33.7 million, fetched in the Swiss city in 2017 for a 163.41-carat gem. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "The Rock", the world's biggest white diamond, auctioned for 18.6 million Swiss francs (\$18.8 million)

**14.** On May 4, the world's longest suspension footbridge was opened to the public in Czech Republic's Dolni Morava village. The 721-meter-long bridge has been named Sky Bridge 721. The Bridge hangs 95 metres above the ground. As per reports, Sky Bridge 721 took two years to build. The cost of construction was 200 million crowns (USD 8.4 million). This bridge replaced the Guinness World Record holder suspension footbridge namely "Baglung Parbat Footbridge" (567-metre-long) located in Nepal. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sky Bridge 721 – world's longest suspension footbridge was opened in Czech Republic's Dolni Morava village
- It replaced the Guinness World Record of – "Baglung Parbat Footbridge" (567-metre-long) located in Nepal
- Czech Republic – Prague – Koruna | President – Milos Zeman
- Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee | President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari | PM – Sher Bahadur Deuba

**15.** From May 15-21, President Kovind was on a 4-day state visit to Jamaica, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. He inaugurated "Dr BR Ambedkar Avenue", a road named after the architect of India's Constitution, Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar, in Downtown Kingston, Jamaica. He also inaugurated the Jamaica-India Friendship Garden. This is the first visit by the Head of State of India to these two countries. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- President Kovind visited – Jamaica, Saint Vincent & the Grenadines
- He inaugurated a road named "Dr BR Ambedkar Avenue" in Downtown Kingston, Jamaica

**16.** On May 16, China flew an airship named "Jimu No. 1" at record altitude of 9,032 metres, higher than Mount Everest, which is 8,849 metres high. Flying at a speed of 30 metres per second, the airship took off from a base camp at an altitude of 4,300 metres on the world's highest peak. Part of China's Earth Summit Mission 2022, the airship is studying the environment above the highest peak in the world. It will study atmospheric composition data and the water vapour transporting process from the surface. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- China – flew an airship named “Jimu No. 1” at record altitude of 9,032 metres at a speed of 30 metres per second
- It is part of China’s ‘Earth Summit Mission 2022’
- [China – Beijing – Renminbi](#) | [President – Xi Jinping](#)

**17.** On May 21, Mozambique identified its first case of Wild Poliovirus Type 1 case in 30 years. It is the country’s first such case since 1992 and the second imported case of wild poliovirus in Southern Africa this year. As of today, wild poliovirus is endemic only in Afghanistan and Pakistan. The virus multiplies in the intestine, from where it can invade the nervous system and can cause paralysis. There are three variants of the poliovirus, numbered 1 to 3. India launched the ‘Pulse Polio Immunisation Programme’ in 1995. India was declared polio-free in January 2014, after three years of zero cases. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mozambique – identified its first case of ‘Wild Poliovirus’ case in 30 years (since 1992)
- As of today, ‘wild poliovirus’ is endemic only in Afghanistan & Pakistan
- India was declared polio-free in January, 2014
- [Mozambique – Maputo – Mozambican Metical](#) | [President – Filipe Nyusi](#)

**18.** China is constructing a second bridge in an area held by it around the Pangong Tso lake which is located in eastern Ladakh. It could help the Chinese military to quickly mobilise its troops in the region. China has recently completed the construction of the first bridge in the area. The new bridge is being built in an area that is over 20 km from the Line of Actual Control (LAC). Pangong Tso is a disputed lake between India and China. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- China is constructing a second bridge in an area held by it around the Pangong Tso lake
- Pangong Tso – a disputed lake between India & China
- [China – Beijing – Renminbi](#) | [President – Xi Jinping](#)

**19.** At the Quad Summit in Tokyo, the QUAD countries announced to launch a satellite-based Maritime Surveillance Initiative to counter illegal fishing in the Indo-Pacific region. The proposed initiative will use satellite technology to connect existing surveillance centres in Singapore, India and the Pacific region to create a tracking system for illegal fishing from the Indian Ocean and Southeast Asia to the South Pacific. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- QUAD countries announced to launch a satellite-based Maritime Surveillance Initiative to counter illegal fishing
- [QUAD countries – 4: India, US, Japan & Australia](#)

**20.** On May 20, Britain-based NGO 5Rights launched ‘Child online safety toolkit’ to make the online experience safe for children. The toolkit provides a practical and accessible roadmap to create a digital world where children and young people “are safe and fulfilled”. The toolkit can be downloaded for free from [childonlinesafetytoolkit.org](http://childonlinesafetytoolkit.org) and by contacting [info@5rightsfoundation.com](mailto:info@5rightsfoundation.com). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 5Rights (NGO) – launched ‘Child Online Safety Toolkit’ to make the online experience safe for children
- [UK – London – Pound Sterling](#) | [PM – Boris Johnson](#)

**21.** On May 24, an ancient forest was discovered by a cave exploration team at the bottom of a giant karst sinkhole in Leye County in south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. Such giant sinkholes are called "Tiankeng" or "Heavenly Pit" in Mandarin. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- An ancient forest was discovered at the bottom of the giant karst sinkhole or 'Tiankeng' – in China
- [China – Beijing – Renminbi](#) | [President – Xi Jinping](#)

**22.** On May 22, the Indian government plans to hold the IIT-JEE (IIT-Joint Entrance Exam) simultaneously in 25 countries, including the US and Vietnam. In Kuala Lumpur and Lagos, these examinations were held last year. Earlier, with the cooperation of the Indian government, the IIT-JEE exams were held in 12 countries. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian government plans to hold the IIT-JEE (IIT-Joint Entrance Exam) simultaneously in 25 countries
- Earlier, the IIT-JEE exams were held in 12 countries

**23.** On May 23, India agreed to be a part of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF), a US-led economic grouping comprising 12 countries. The economic framework broadly rests on four pillars: trade, supply chain resilience, clean energy & decarbonisation, and taxes & anti-corruption measures. Besides, Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) is to be hosted by the U.S. in November, 2023. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – agreed to be a part of the "Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF)"
- IPEF – a US-led economic grouping comprising 12 countries
- US – to host the APEC in November, 2023
- [US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar](#) | [46<sup>th</sup> President – Joe Biden](#) | [49<sup>th</sup> VP – Kamala Harris](#)

**24.** On May 22, Belgium has become the first country to introduce a compulsory 21-day monkeypox quarantine. The disease, which was first found in monkeys, can be transmitted from person to person through close physical contact. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Belgium – became the first country to introduce a compulsory 21-day monkeypox quarantine
- [Belgium – Brussels – Euro](#) | [PM – Alexander De Croo](#)

**25.** As on May 25, Kuwait plans to start building the World's Largest Petroleum Research Centre in al-Ahmadi by the end of 2022. The project had stalled because of budget pressure, estimating its cost at \$120 million. The centre will have 28 laboratories. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kuwait – plans to start building the World's Largest Petroleum Research Centre in al-Ahmadi by the end of 2022
- [Kuwait – Kuwait City – Dinar](#) | [PM – Sabah Al-Khalid Al-Sabah](#) | [Emir – Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah](#)



**26.** India joined the First Movers Coalition, a global initiative aimed at decarbonising the heavy industry and long-distance transport sectors responsible for 30% of global emissions. It was launched by US President Joe Biden and the WEF at COP26 as a flagship Public-Private Partnership (PPP) to clean up the most carbon-intensive sectors. The First Movers Coalition targets sectors like - aluminium, aviation, chemicals, concrete, shipping, steel and trucking, which are responsible for 30% of global emissions. Moreover, Alphabet, Microsoft and Salesforce have collectively committed USD 500 million to Carbon Dioxide Removal (CDR). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – joined the ‘First Movers Coalition’ (Launched by – US President Joe Biden & the WEF at COP26)
- Alphabet + Microsoft + Salesforce = committed \$500 million to Carbon Dioxide Removal (CDR)
- [First Movers Coalition – global initiative aimed at decarbonising the heavy industry and long-distance transport sectors](#)

**27.** An ancient Cyprus tree that could be up to 5,484 years old and believed to be the world’s oldest living tree, is found in Chile, On May 28. Dubbed as the Great-Grandfather, the Patagonian Cypress, also known as the alerce milenario, would beat the current record-holder by more than 600 years, if findings are proven. The current record of the world’s oldest tree is held by a 4,853-year-old bristlecone pine tree in California. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- An ancient Cyprus tree – the world’s oldest living tree (5,484 years old) – found in Chile
- The current record of the world’s oldest tree is held by – a 4,853-year-old bristlecone pine tree in California
- [Chile – Santiago – Peso | President – Gabriel Boric](#)

**28.** On May 24, the World Economic Forum (WEF) launched a new “Alliance of CEO Climate Action Leaders India” that will work towards fast-tracking decarbonisation pathways along India’s net-zero journey. The Alliance is a collaboration between Kearney and Observer Research Foundation and it brings together Chief Executives from India’s leading businesses. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- WEF – launched a new “Alliance of CEO Climate Action Leaders India” to work towards India’s net-zero journey
- [HQs of WEF – Cologny, Switzerland | Exe Chairman – Klaus Schwab | President – Borge Brende | Founded in – 1971](#)

**29.** On May 23, Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan and Azeri President Ilham Aliyev announced that Armenia & Azerbaijan would be setting up ‘Border Security & Delimitation Commissions’ for resolution over a decades-long conflict over the Nagorno-Karabakh Enclave. Both leaders also agreed to start working on a peace plan. Nagorno-Karabakh, also called ‘Artsakh’ in Armenian, is a landlocked, mountainous and forested region with a population of around 1,50,000. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Armenia + Azerbaijan = sets up ‘Border Security & Delimitation Commissions’ to resolve ‘Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict’
- Nagorno-Karabakh is also called ‘Artsakh’ in Armenian
- [Armenia – Yerevan – Dram | PM – Nikol Pashinyan | President – Vahagn Khachaturyan](#)
- [Azerbaijan – Baku – Manat | PM – Ali Asadov | President – Ilham Aliyev](#)

**30.** In May 2022, the government of Mali decided to withdraw from all the organs and bodies of the 'G5 Sahel', including its anti-jihadist force. With this, Mali aims to protest it being rejected as head of the G5 regional group. The G5 Sahel was created in 2014 and its anti-jihadist force launched in 2017. The G5 Sahel is composed of around 5,000 troops and it includes Mali, Burkina, Mauritania, Chad & Niger. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mali – decided to withdraw from all the organs & bodies of the 'G5 Sahel', including its anti-jihadist force
- G5 Sahel was created in 2014 & its anti-jihadist force launched in 2017 (Mali, Burkina, Mauritania, Chad & Niger)
- [Mali – Bamako – CFA franc](#) | [Transitional President – Col. Assimi Goita](#) | [Transitional PM – Choguel Maiga](#)





# **Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs**

**1.** HDFC Life recently signed up for the UN-supported Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI), epitomising its objective of sustainable growth and long-term value creation. HDFC Life had won the 'Best Governed Company in the listed segment: Large category' award at the 21<sup>st</sup> Institute of Company Secretaries (ICSI) National Awards for Excellence in Corporate Governance in December 2021. HDFC Life Insurance Company Limited is a joint venture between HDFC Ltd and abrdrn (Mauritius Holdings) 2006 Limited. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- HDFC Life – signed up for the UN-supported Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI)
- HDFC Life Insurance – a JV between HDFC Ltd & abrdrn 2006 Ltd ([Mauritius](#))
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your world”
- HQs of HDFC Life Insurance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Vibha Padalkar

**2.** FidyPay, a fintech API platform, partnered with Yes Bank to provide a seamless connected banking experience to the latter's customers. Additionally, FidyPay will also be the solution provider for UPI services. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- FidyPay + Yes Bank = partnership to provide a seamless banking experience to the customers
- HQs of Yes Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Prashant Kumar | Tagline – “Experience our Expertise”

**3.** The RBI modified norms for banks to claim the amount of interest subvention provided to farmers under the short-term crop loan scheme through Kisan Credit Card (KCC). Pending claims for the 2021-22 financial year can be submitted by June 30, 2023. In order to provide short term crop loans up to Rs 3 lakh to farmers at an interest rate of 7% per annum, the government offers interest subvention of 2% annually to banks. An additional 3% interest subvention is provided to farmers who pay their loans promptly. For such farmers, the effective interest rate is 4%. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- RBI – modified norms for banks to claim the interest subvention provided to farmers through 'Kisan Credit Card'
- Govt offers interest subvention of 2% annually to banks to provide KCC up to Rs 3 lakh to farmers at 7% per annum
- Additional 3% to farmers who pay their loans promptly | Effective interest rate for them – 4%
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935
- Total Deputy Governors (4) – Mahesh Kumar Jain | T. Rabi Sankar | Michael D. Patra | M. Rajeshwar Rao

**4.** On May 2, HDFC ERGO General Insurance launched its “Pay as you Drive” program; an insurance solution that offers distance-based insurance to reduce upfront costs of premium. The program was available for owners of new Maruti Suzuki cars in select cities up to May 14, 2022. This program, under the regulatory sandbox, is applicable for 10,000 policies or ₹50 lakh of premium whichever happens earlier and is being offered exclusively through Maruti Suzuki Insurance Broking Private Limited. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- HDFC ERGO General Insurance – launched its “Pay as you Drive” program to reduce costs of premium
- This program was available for owners of new Maruti Suzuki cars in select cities
- This program is being offered exclusively through – Maruti Suzuki Insurance Broking Pvt Ltd
- HQs of HDFC ERGO General Insurance – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Ritesh Kumar



**5.** The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDA) increased maximum investment limit of insurers in Banking, Financial Services & Insurance (BFSI) companies to 30% of their assets from 25%, by making changes to the “Investment Regulations, 2016”. Investment in housing financing companies and infrastructure financing companies will be a part of this. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IRDA increased maximum investment limit of insurers in BFSI companies to 30% of their assets (from 25%)
- HQs of IRDAI – Hyderabad, Telangana | Executive Dr. – Debasish Panda

**6.** DBS Bank India partnered with Anthill Ventures and Headstart Network Foundation to launch “DBS Business Class foundedED”. This forum will be held across cities in India and will celebrate modern-day founders, innovators, and game-changers to foster co-innovation and collaboration in the startup ecosystem. The first event of ‘DBS BusinessClass foundedED’ was recently hosted in Hyderabad. Headstart is India’s largest Volunteer-driven, Grassroot level, Startup Ecosystem Enabler. Headstart began operations in 2007 to support startups and entrepreneurs across India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- DBS Bank India + Anthill Ventures + Headstart Network Foundation = launched “DBS Business Class foundedED”
- The first event of ‘DBS BusinessClass foundedED’ was recently hosted in – Hyderabad
- HQs of DBS Bank India – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Surojit Shome

**7.** The SEBI modified the operational guidelines for Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs), Designated Depository Participants (DDPs), and other Eligible Foreign Investors for generating registration number. The above-mentioned modifications came into effect from May 9, 2022. Besides, on January 14, 2022, the SEBI had notified a circular under SEBI FPI Amendment Regulations 2022, for generation of FPIs registration number by the regulator. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SEBI modified the operational guidelines for FPIs, DDPs & other Eligible Overseas for generating registration number
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Madhabi Puri Buch | Established in – 1992

**8.** On May 3, Bengaluru-based neobank, Open Financial Technologies Pvt Ltd raised \$50 mn in a Series D funding round (led by IIFL Finance Ltd) and reached a valuation of USD 1 billion. With this, India got its 100<sup>th</sup> unicorn. This funding signifies the enthusiasm in the Indian startup ecosystem, which is the world’s third-largest according to Economic Survey, 2021-22. India overtook the UK to reach the spot after the US and China, which added 487 and 301 unicorns respectively, according to the survey. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Open Financial Technologies (Bengaluru-based neobank) – became 100<sup>th</sup> unicorn of India
- ‘Open’ – raised \$50 mn in a Series D funding round (led by IIFL Finance Ltd) & reached a valuation of \$1 billion

**9.** Canara Bank launched ‘Skill Loans’ in association with the Additional Skill Acquisition Programme (ASAP) of Kerala. Loans ranging from ₹5,000 to ₹1.5 lakh can be availed of by students pursuing skill training programmes offered by ASAP Kerala or any other Central or State government-recognised agencies that conduct National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF) or National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) courses. The loan will be provided without any collateral and have a repayment period of 3 to 7 years. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Canara Bank + ASAP Kerala – launched ‘Skill Loans’ for students
- Loans ranging from ₹5,000 to ₹1.5 lakh can be availed without any collateral with a repayment period of 3 to 7 years
- HQs of Canara Bank – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Lingam Venkat Prabhakar
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

**10.** The RBI’s Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) held an off-cycle meeting on 2 & 4 May, 2022 to reassess the evolving inflation-growth dynamics and the impact of the developments after the MPC meeting of April 6-8, 2022. Based on this assessment of the macroeconomic situation and the outlook, the MPC voted unanimously to increase the policy repo rate by 40 basis points to 4.40 %, with immediate effect. Consequently, the standing deposit facility (SDF) rate stands adjusted to 4.15%; and the marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate to 4.65%. Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) is hiked by 50 bps to 4.50% from 4%. While the Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) and Reverse Repo Rate (RRR) stand at the same which is 18% & 3.35% respectively. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- RBI’s Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) held an off-cycle meeting on 2 & 4 May
- Rates after changes made in May 2022:
  - Repo rate – 4.40% | Reverse Repo Rate – 3.35% | Bank Rate or MSF – 4.65%
  - CRR – 4.50% | SLR – 18% | SDF – 4.15% | EPFO – 18.33%
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935

**11.** On May 3, Non-Banking financial company IIFL Finance Ltd and Open Financial Technologies, Asia’s largest SME focused neo-banking platform, announced a joint venture (JV) to launch India’s first neobank that would cater to banking and credit requirements of Micro and Small Enterprises (MSMEs). Initial capital of the joint venture company will be Rs 120 Cr. The JV composition between IIFL Finance and Open is 51:49. The name of the joint venture would be IIFL Open Fintech Private Limited. Recently, Open became the 100<sup>th</sup> unicorn as IIFL led a \$50 million series D funding along with existing investors Temasek, Tiger Global and 3one4 Capital. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- IIFL Finance + Open = JV to launch India’s first neobank that would cater to banking & credit requirements of MSMEs
- IIFL Open Fintech Pvt Ltd (JV) = IIFL Finance + Open = 51:49 | Initial capital = Rs 120 Cr
- Open Financial Technologies – became the 100<sup>th</sup> unicorn of India
- HQs of IIFL Finance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Nirmal Jain | MD – Venkataraman Rajamani

**12.** Union Bank of India (UBI) has become the first public sector lender to go live on the Account Aggregator (AA) Ecosystem, an initiative of the RBI’s to improve credit delivery. Any financial information user (FIU) can request data based on a consent given by the customer on their account aggregator handle. The account aggregator (AA) ecosystem went live in September 2021. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- UBI – became the first public sector lender to go live on the Account Aggregator (AA) Ecosystem
- ‘AA Ecosystem’ – an initiative of the RBI’s to improve credit delivery
- HQs of UBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Rajkiran Rai G. | Tagline – “Good People to Bank With”

**13.** On May 1, Federation of Indian Micro and Small & Medium Enterprises (FISME) and Eqaro Surety Pvt Ltd signed an MoU to set up a digital lending platform to provide access to collateral-free capital up to Rs 25 lakh to micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs). This unique, first time in India initiative will help MSMEs get easier access to credit backed by a surety guarantee without the need to put up collaterals. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- FISME + Eqaro Surety = MoU to set up a digital lending platform to provide access to collateral-free capital up to Rs 25 lakh to MSMEs
- [President of FISME – Prashant Patel](#) | [CEO of Eqaro – Vikash Khandelwal](#)

**14.** On May 7, Indian Bank has unveiled digital broking solution “E-Broking”. E-Broking, an instant and paper-less demat and trading account opening is integrated in the bank’s mobile banking app “IndOASIS”. The product was launched in association with the bank’s financial technology partner Fisdome. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Bank – unveiled digital broking solution “E-Broking” for paper-less demat & trading account opening
- E-Broking – integrated in the bank’s mobile banking app “IndOASIS”
- [HQs of Indian Bank – Chennai, Tamil Nadu](#) | [MD & CEO – Shanti Lal Jain](#) | [Tagline – “Your Own Bank”](#)

**15.** On May 6, the RBI issued a No-Objection Certificate (NoC) with subject to proposal for voluntary merger of ESFB (Equitas Small Finance Bank) & its parent EHL (Equitas Holdings Ltd). The merger is being effected to comply with the RBI norms on small finance banks, mandating the promoter to reduce the stake in the subsidiary to 40% within 5 years of commencement of operations by the SFB. According to RBI’s guidelines, equity shares of SFBs should be listed on recognised stock exchange(s) within 3 years from the date the net worth of SFB reaches Rs 500 Cr. EHL held 74.59% stake in ESFB at end of March 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI – issued an NoC for voluntary merger of Equitas SFB & its parent Equitas Holdings Ltd
- EHL – held 74.59% stake in Equitas SFB at end of March 2022
- [HQs of Equitas SFB – Chennai, Tamil Nadu](#) | [MD & CEO – Vasudevan Pathangi Narasimhan](#)
- [HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH](#) | [Governor – Shaktikanta Das \(25<sup>th</sup>\)](#) | [Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935](#)
- [Total Deputy Governors \(4\) – Mahesh Kumar Jain](#) | [T. Rabi Sankar](#) | [Michael D. Patra](#) | [M. Rajeshwar Rao](#)

**16.** On May 9, HDFC Bank has launched “Xpress Car Loans” - an end-to-end digital new car loan journey for existing customers as well as non-customers. This industry first facility is expected to revolutionise the way car financing is done in India. The bank has integrated its lending application with automobile dealers across India. The Indian automotive industry is poised to become the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest in the world in the next 5-7 years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- HDFC Bank – launched “Xpress Car Loans” - an end-to-end digital new car loan journey
- [HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH](#) | [MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan](#) | [Tagline – “We understand your world”](#)

**17.** In May 2022, Vietnam has opened world’s longest Glass-bottomed Bridge, surpassing the one in Guangdong, China. The pedestrian bridge is called ‘Bach Long’, which translates to ‘White Dragon’. The Bach Long is Vietnam’s third glass bridge. The Bridge is 632m (2,073ft) long and it is located at the height of 150m (492ft). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Vietnam – opened world's longest Glass-bottomed Bridge called 'Bach Long' | Length – 632m (2,073ft)
- Vietnam – Hanoi – Vietnamese dong | PM – Pham Minh Chinh | President – Nguyen Xuan Phuc

**18.** On May 7, Finance Minister, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman addressed the Silver Jubilee (25<sup>th</sup> anniversary) Celebration of India's largest depository, National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL), in Mumbai. From an average of 4 lakh new demat accounts opened every month in 2019-20, it tripled to 12 lakh per month in 2020-21 and has further increased to around 26 lakh per month in 2021-22, the Finance Minister highlighted. As part of the celebration, the Finance Minister also launched "Market ka Eklavya", an online investor awareness program for students in Hindi & other regional languages. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nirmala Sitharaman – addressed the Silver Jubilee (25<sup>th</sup> anniversary) Celebration of the "NSDL" in Mumbai
- Around 26 lakh new demat accounts opened every month in 2021-22
- Nirmala Sitharaman – also launched "Market ka Eklavya", an online investor awareness program for students

**19.** India's flagship digital payments platform - Unified Payments Interface (UPI) saw its highest ever number of transactions in April 2022 at 5.58 billion, amounting to Rs 9.83 trillion, up 33% compared to previous month. In March, UPI processed 5.4 billion transactions amounting to Rs 9.6 trillion for the first time. However, year-on-year (YoY), the volume of transactions jumped 111% and value of transactions increased by almost 100%. In FY22, UPI processed more than 46 billion transactions, amounting to over Rs 84.17 trillion. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- UPI – saw highest ever number of transactions in April 2022 at 5.58 billion, amounting to Rs 9.83 trillion
- In March, UPI processed 5.4 billion transactions amounting to Rs 9.6 trillion for the first time

**20.** Life Insurance Corporation's IPO, the country's biggest public offer, was subscribed 2.95 times on the last day of offer period on May 9, helping the government mobilise about Rs 21,000 Cr. Against 16,20,78,067 shares on offer, 47,83,25,760 bids were received. LIC had fixed the price band at Rs 902-949 per equity share for the issue. The retail investors and eligible employees received a discount of Rs 45 per equity share, while policyholders received a discount of Rs 60 per share. With this, the government diluted 3.5% stake in the insurance behemoth through the Offer for Sale (OFS). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- With LIC's IPO – government mobilised about Rs 21,000 Cr against 16,20,78,067 shares (3.5% stake)
- LIC had fixed the price band at Rs 902-949 per equity share for the issue
- HQs of LIC – Mumbai | Chairman – M. R. Kumar | Founded in – 1956 | Tagline – "Yogakshemam Vahamyaham"

**21.** The SEBI has granted recognition to NSDL Database Management Ltd (NDML) as an Accreditation Agency for 3 years. The NDML will issue accreditation certificate to "accredited investors". The NDML is a wholly-owned subsidiary of National Securities Depository Ltd (NSDL). Earlier, SEBI had granted recognition to CDSL Ventures, a wholly-owned subsidiary of depository CDSL, as an Accreditation Agency for a period of three years with effect from February 1, 2022. [{Read more}}](#)



**Key Points:**

- SEBI – granted recognition to NDML as an Accreditation Agency for 3 years
- SEBI – also granted recognition to CDSL Ventures as an Accreditation Agency for 3 years (from Feb 1, 2022)
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Madhabi Puri Buch | Established in – 1992

**22.** On May 10, Bank of Maharashtra (BoM) launched a clutch of digital products, including Mahabank Leads, Mahabank Kisan Credit Card (MKCC), Virtual Visiting Card (V-Card), as part of its strategy to harness digital banking channels to the optimum level. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- BoM – launched Mahabank Leads, Mahabank Kisan Credit Card (MKCC) & Virtual Visiting Card (V-Card)
- HQs of BoM – Pune, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – A S Rajeev | Tagline – “One Family One Bank”

**23.** On May 8, Bharti AXA Life Insurance launched its financial literacy campaign ‘InspiHE₹ - enabling an Empowered Future’ - a special initiative to spread financial awareness among women and enable them to make informed financial decisions for a secured future. The campaign was launched in line with “International Mother’s Day” (May 8) and ahead of the “International Day of Families” (May 15). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bharti AXA Life Insurance – launched its financial literacy campaign “InspiHE₹ - enabling an Empowered Future”
- HQs of Bharti AXA Life Insurance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Parag Raja

**24.** On May 10, ICICI Bank announced signed an MoU with Britain-based Santander bank, aimed at facilitating the banking requirements of corporates operating across both countries. The partnership is aimed at serving the banking needs of the corporate ecosystem in the growing UK-India corridor. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ICICI Bank + Santander bank ([Britain](#)) = an MoU to facilitate the banking requirements of corporates
- HQs of ICICI Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sandeep Bakhshi | Taglines – “Hum Hain Na!” & “Khayal Apka”

**25.** On May 10, Union Minister for MSME Narayan Rane addressed the “National conference of MSME-Development Institutes, Testing Centres and Technology Centres” held in New Delhi. In the conference, the minister launched the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of “MSME RuPAY Credit Card” with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and four banks, viz. Kotak Mahindra Bank, Bank of Baroda, SBM Bank (India) and HDFC Bank. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “National conference of MSME-Development Institutes, Testing Centres & Technology Centres” – held in New Delhi
- Narayan Rane – launched the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of “MSME RuPAY Credit Card” (with NPCI & 4 banks)
- Ministry of MSME: Narayan Rane | Constituency – Ratnagiri-Sindhudurg, Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of MSME: Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma



**26.** On May 10, Worldline, a payment services firm, signed an MoU with Bank of India to digitise e-challan collections for Madhya Pradesh police department. Three zones namely Jabalpur, Rewa and Shahdol covering 12 districts in MP will be covered in this initiative. Worldline will provide 600 Point of Sale (POS) terminals to MP Police Department. E-challan is an electronically generated challan (online generated system challan) that is taken care of by the Electronic Challan System. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Worldline + Bank of India = an MoU to digitise e-challan collections for Madhya Pradesh Police Department
- HQs of Worldline – Bezons, France | CEO – Gilles Grapinet
- HQs of BoI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Atanu Kumar Das | Tagline – “Relationship Beyond Banking”

**27.** On May 12, Union Bank of India (UBI) launched a digital solution, “Trade nxt”, to enable corporates as well as MSMEs to transact all cross-border export-import transactions. It aims to offer seamless entry and processing of letters of credit, bank guarantees, export and import bills. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- UBI – launched a digital solution, “Trade nxt” to enable corporates/MSMEs for export-import transactions
- HQs of UBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Rajkiran Rai G. | Tagline – “Good People to Bank With”

**28.** On May 13, the RBI imposed several restrictions on Shankarrao Pujari Nutan Nagari Sahakari Bank Limited, Ichalkaranji, Kolhapur, including on withdrawals, in view of the lender’s worsening financial position. Under the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC) insurance scheme, deposits of up to Rs 5 lakh are insured. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI – imposed several restrictions on Shankarrao Pujari Nutan Nagari Sahakari Bank Limited, Ichalkaranji, Kolhapur
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935
- Total Deputy Governors (4) – Mahesh Kumar Jain | T. Rabi Sankar | Michael D. Patra | M. Rajeshwar Rao

**29.** On May 12, SpiceJet and Axis Bank partnered to launch the most rewarding co-branded credit card, powered by Visa that will offer a host of privileges and benefits to customers. The card comes in two variants - SpiceJet Axis Bank Voyage and Voyage Black. The card is aimed at facilitating a superlative travel experience for flyers through SpiceClub, the first frequent flyer program by a low cost carrier in India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SpiceJet + Axis Bank = partnered to launch the most rewarding Co-branded Credit Card
- The card will be in two variants – SpiceJet Axis Bank Voyage and Voyage Black
- HQs of SpiceJet – Gurugram, Haryana | Chairman & MD – Ajay Singh
- HQs of Axis Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Amitabh Chaudhry | Tagline – “Badhti ka Naam Zindagi”

**30.** On May 13, the government has made requirement of a Permanent Account Number (PAN) or Aadhaar number for depositing or withdrawing Rs 20 lakh or more in a financial year or for opening a Current Account mandatory. The move is expected to help the income tax department monitor high-value cash transactions, and deposits/withdrawals where tax would not be getting paid by the individual otherwise on his or her income. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Govt made requirement of PAN or Aadhaar mandatory for depositing/withdrawing Rs 20 lakh or more in a FY or for opening a Current Account

**31.** On May 13, the RBI permitted commercial banks, including Small Finance Banks, to continue providing credit facility to NBFCs for the purpose of on-lending to certain priority sectors. The facility was available till March 31, 2022. Bank credit to NBFCs, including HFCs, for on-lending will be allowed up to an overall limit of 5% of an individual bank's total Priority Sector Lending (PSL) in the case of commercial banks. In the case of SFBs, credit to NBFC-MFIs and other MFIs will be allowed up to 10%. According to the circular, SFBs are allowed to lend to registered NBFC-MFIs and other MFIs which have a Gross Loan Portfolio (GLP) of up to Rs 500 Cr as on March 31 of the previous financial year. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI permitted commercial banks to continue providing credit facility to NBFCs for the purpose of on-lending
- In the case of commercial banks: Bank Credit to NBFCs will be allowed up to 5% of an individual bank's total PSL
- In the case of SFBs: Credit to NBFC-MFIs and other MFIs will be allowed up to 10%
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935

**32.** On May 17, AXA France India, with its Indian insurance partners, announced to launch India's first-ever mental health insurance cover in its group policies. The first-ever standalone product in this space will provide Rs 25,000 for virtual consultations with therapists, psychologists and life coaches, and up to Rs 1 lakh for hospitalisation. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- AXA France India – launched India's first-ever mental health insurance cover
- It will provide Rs 25,000 for virtual consultations and up to Rs 1 lakh for hospitalisation
- Location of AXA France India – New Delhi

**33.** On May 17, Private insurer PNB MetLife India Insurance Company launched a Dental Health Insurance plan. This is the first insurance plan in India that covers fixed-benefit outpatient expenses and provides financial assistance with costs related to overall dental health. To provide convenience to its customers, PNB MetLife has tied up with more than 340 dental clinics. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- PNB MetLife – launched India's first Dental Health Insurance plan
- HQs of PNB Metlife – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Ashish Kumar Srivastava | Established – 2001

**34.** On May 15, the top Reserve Bank of India (RBI) officials told a parliamentary panel that cryptos can lead to "Dollarisation" of a part of the economy, which would be against the country's sovereign interest. These currencies can replace a part of monetary system & can also undermine the RBI's capacity to regulate the flow of money in the system. Meanwhile, the crypto industry has urged the government to reduce the TDS on payments towards gains arising from trading in cryptocurrencies to 0.01% or 0.05%, from the proposed 1%. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- RBI officials says: Cryptos can lead to “Dollarisation” of a part of the Economy against the country’s sovereign interest
- These currencies can undermine the RBI’s capacity to regulate the flow of money in the system
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935
- Total Deputy Governors (4) – Mahesh Kumar Jain | T. Rabi Sankar | Michael D. Patra | M. Rajeshwar Rao

**35.** On May 16, the International Monetary Fund lifted the yuan’s weighting in the Special Drawing Rights currency basket, prompting the Chinese central bank to pledge to push for a further opening of its financial markets. The IMF raised the yuan’s weighting to 12.28% from 10.92% in its first regular review of the SDR evaluation. The weighting of the US dollar rose to 43.38% from 41.73%. The SDRs are an international reserve asset that can be converted into five currencies. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IMF – raised the yuan’s weighting to 12.28% from 10.92% in its first regular review of the SDR evaluation
- HQs of IMF – Washington, D.C., US | President – Kristalina Georgieva | Member countries – 190

**36.** The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) approved an amendment to the “SEBI (Collective Investment Schemes) Regulations, 1999” to strengthen the regulatory framework for Collective Investment Schemes (CIS). The SEBI enhanced the net worth criteria and track record requirements for entities managing such schemes. Also, the markets regulator has mandated a minimum of 20 investors and a subscription amount of at least Rs 20 Cr for each Collective Investment Scheme (CIS). In addition, the regulator has put a cap on cross-shareholding in Collective Investment Management Company (CIMC) to 10% to avoid conflict of interest. CIMCs are required to have a minimum net worth of ₹50 Cr as compared to the present requirement of ₹5 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SEBI – approved an amendment to the “SEBI (Collective Investment Schemes) Regulations, 1999”
- SEBI – mandated a minimum of 20 investors and a subscription amount of at least ₹20 Cr for each CIS
- SEBI – put a cap on cross-shareholding in CIMC to 10% to avoid conflict of interest
- CIMCs are required to have a minimum net worth of ₹50 Cr
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Madhabi Puri Buch | Established in – 1992

**37.** The RBI stated in response to an application under the “Right to Information (RTI) Act” that 12 Public sector banks reported over 51% decline in the amount involved in frauds to Rs 40,295.25 Cr during the financial year 2021-22, as compared to Rs 81,921.54 Cr in preceding fiscal 2020-21. However, the number of fraud cases didn't fall at the same pace as a total of 7,940 frauds reported by the PSBs in 2021-22, against 9,933 incidents reported in FY21. The highest amount of Rs 9,528.95 Cr was reported by the city-based Punjab National Bank (PNB), involving 431 such incidents. While the SBI reported the highest number of fraud cases/incidents worth Rs 6,932.37 Cr in as many as 4,192 cases. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 12 PSBs reported over 51% decline in the amount involved in frauds to Rs 40,295.25 Cr during FY 2021-22
- Number of fraud cases reported by the PSBs in 2021-22 – 7,940 frauds
- The highest amount of frauds reported by – PNB (Rs 9,528.95 Cr)
- The highest number of frauds reported by – SBI (4,192 cases)

**38.** On May 13, Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB) has won 6 National Awards in different categories for outstanding achievement under enrolment of Atal Pension Yojana (APY). The awards have been instituted by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank – won 6 National Awards in different categories instituted by the PFRDA
- KVGB won the award for outstanding achievement under enrolment of Atal Pension Yojana (APY)
- [HQs of PFRDA – New Delhi](#) | [Chairperson – Supratim Bandyopadhyay](#) | [Founded in – 2003](#)

**39.** On May 15, the India Infoline Home Finance Limited (IIFL - HFL) organised its flagship event 'Kutumb', with the theme "Andhra Pradesh and Telangana - Urgent need for Green Affordable Housing" in collaboration with the Asian Development Bank (ADB). 'Kutumb' is a knowledge ecosystem conceptualised by the IIFL Home Loans to promote green affordable housing in India. The event took place in a hybrid model in Hyderabad, Vijayawada, Vellore and Rajamahendravaram. The IIFL HFL targeted to disburse home loans amounting to more than ₹7,200 Cr in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana (₹4,320 Cr in A.P. and ₹2,880 Cr in Telangana) by 2025. The Beneficiary-Led Construction (BLC), a Centrally sponsored scheme, aims at providing assistance up to ₹1.50 lakh per house to individual eligible families belonging to EWS categories. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IIFL HFL + ADB = organised IIFL HFL's flagship event 'Kutumb'
- Theme of the event – "Andhra Pradesh and Telangana - Urgent need for Green Affordable Housing"
- IIFL HFL targeted to disburse Home Loans amounting to more than ₹7,200 Cr in Andhra Pradesh & Telangana by 2025
- BLC Scheme aims at providing assistance up to ₹1.50 lakh per house to individual eligible families belonging to EWS
- [HQs of IIFL Home Loan – Gurgaon, Haryana](#) | [CEO – Monu Ratra](#)

**40.** To facilitate a seamless payment experience for travellers and other customers, the Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL) has introduced an innovative omnichannel payment solution across Kempegowda International Airport, in partnership with Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited (KMBL) and Pune-based Phi Commerce. This is a first-of-its-kind initiative undertaken by any airport in India. The solution will power B2B and B2C payments across channels - both online and offline. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kempegowda Int. Airport + KMB + Phi Commerce = introduced India's first Innovative Omnichannel Payment Solution
- [HQs of Kotak Mahindra Bank – Mumbai, MH](#) | [MD & CEO – Uday Kotak](#) | [Tagline – "Let's make money simple"](#)

**41.** In the second half of FY22 (Oct 2021-March 2022), India's foreign exchange (forex) reserves dropped by \$28.05 billion and stood at \$607.31 billion, as per the RBI's "38<sup>th</sup> Half-yearly Report on Management of Foreign Exchange Reserves". In the first half of FY22 ending in Sep 2021, the reserves stood at \$635.36 billion. As of March 31, 2022, foreign exchange assets stood at \$540.72 billion, while gold reserves are at \$42.55 billion and SDRs at \$18.89 billion. Meanwhile, the net forward asset (receivable) of RBI in the domestic foreign exchange market stood at \$65.79 billion as of the end of March 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “38<sup>th</sup> Half-yearly Report on Management of Foreign Exchange Reserves” – released by the RBI
- India’s Forex Reserves dropped by \$28.05 billion to reach \$607.31 billion in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of FY22 (Oct 2021-March 2022)
- Foreign Exchange Assets – \$540.72 billion | Gold Reserves – \$42.55 billion | SDRs – \$18.89 billion
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935

**42.** On May 13, Assam Rifles, Axis Bank and National Integrity and Educational Development Organisation (NIEDO) has signed an MoU to establish a Centre of Excellence and Wellness, to secure a better future for the youth of Nagaland. The center is named ‘Late Capt N Kenguruse, MVC Centre of Excellence and Wellness’ and it will be located at Chieswema, Kohima. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Assam Rifles + Axis Bank + NIEDO = an MoU to establish a ‘Centre of Excellence & Wellness’ for the youth of Nagaland
- The center is named ‘Late Capt. N. Kenguruse, MVC Centre of Excellence & Wellness’ & located at Chieswema, Kohima
- Nagaland: Capital – Kohima | CM – Neiphiu Rio | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi (addi. charge)
- HQs of Axis Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Amitabh Chaudhry | Tagline – “Badhti ka Naam Zindagi”

**43.** The Office of the Economic Adviser, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) released the index numbers of wholesale price in India (Base Year: 2011-12) for the month of April, 2022 (Provisional) and for the month of February, 2022 (Final). The annual rate of inflation was 15.08% (Provisional) for the month of April, 2022 (Y-o-Y) as compared to 10.74% in April, 2021. The rate of inflation based on WPI Food Index increased marginally from 8.71% in March, 2022 to 8.88% in April, 2022. The month over month change in WPI index for the month of April, 2022 stood at 2.08 % as compared to March, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- DPIIT – released the ‘Index Numbers of Wholesale Price in India’ for April, 2022 (Provisional) & for Feb, 2022 (Final)
- The annual rate of inflation was 15.08% (Provisional) for April, 2022 (as compared to 10.74% in April, 2021)
- The rate of inflation based on WPI Food Index increased marginally to 8.88% in April, 2022 (from 8.71% in March, 2022)
- The month over month change in WPI index for April, 2022 is 2.08 % (as compared to March, 2022)
- HQs of DPIIT – New Delhi | DPIIT works under – Ministry of Commerce & Industry

**44.** On May 19, P. N. Vasudevan, Managing Director and CEO, Equitas Small Finance Bank, has decided to step down from his role in order to focus on the public charitable trust. Vasudevan holds about 2% stake in Equitas Holdings. Vasudevan had started Equitas in 2007 as a microfinance institution and it later converted into an SFB in 2016. Vasudevan would continue as MD and CEO till the succession and transition process is completed. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- P. N. Vasudevan – decided to step down from his role as MD & CEO of Equitas Small Finance Bank
- HQs of Equitas SFB – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | MD & CEO – Vasudevan Pathangi Narasimhan (till the succession)

**45.** In May 2022, the RBI imposed a penalty of Rs 29.79 lakh on Unimoni Financial Services Limited for non-compliance with certain instruction contained in the master direction on issuance and operation of Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPI). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI – imposed a penalty of Rs 29.79 lakh on Unimoni Financial Services for non-compliance on operation of PPI
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935
- Total Deputy Governors (4) – Mahesh Kumar Jain | T. Rabi Sankar | Michael D. Patra | M. Rajeshwar Rao

**46.** On May 19, New Development Bank (NDB) has issued an RMB-denominated bond of 7 billion yuan (about USD 1.04 billion) in China's interbank bond market with a maturity of 3 years. Upon the completion of the issuance, the bank would have a cumulative total of 30-billion-yuan bonds issued under its RMB bond programs. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NDB – issued RMB-denominated bond of 7 billion yuan (about \$1.04 billion) in China's interbank bond market
- Maturity – 3 years | Total bonds issued by NDB under RMB bond programs – 30-billion-yuan
- HQs of NDB – Shanghai, China | President – Marcos Prado Troyjo (established by BRICS Countries - in 2014)

**47.** On May 18, Finance Ministry has come out with a new Government Guarantee Policy (GGP), which aims to include all the changes in General Financial Rules (GFR) and financial policies. Such a policy is required as the volume of sovereign guarantees undertaken during a financial year is limited as per the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, 2003. The Centre will not give guarantees aggregating to an amount exceeding 0.5% of the GDP in any financial year. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Finance Ministry – come out with a new GGP to include all the changes in GFR and financial policies
- The Centre will not give guarantees aggregating to an amount exceeding 0.5% of the GDP in any FY
- Ministry of Finance: Nirmala Sitharaman | Constituency – Karnataka
- MoS in Ministry of Finance: Pankaj Chaowdhary & Bhagwat Kishanrao Karad

**48.** On May 18, HDFC Bank has carved out rural banking as a separate vertical and will be opening 1,060 branches in mofussil areas and semi-urban pockets as part of the increased focus in FY23. The bank has appointed Anil Bhavnani, who has been working with it for 19 years, to head the newly-carved rural banking vertical. The bank has tied up with Institute of Rural Management, Anand to chalk its Rural Initiative Strategy. Last year, Axis Bank had announced the 'Bharat Banking' initiative aimed at the same market. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- HDFC Bank – carved out Rural Banking as a separate vertical and will be opening 1,060 branches in rural areas
- Anil Bhavnani – will head the newly-carved Rural Banking Vertical
- HDFC Bank – partnered with Institute of Rural Management to chalk its Rural Initiative Strategy
- 'Bharat Banking' initiative – belongs to Axis Bank
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – "We understand your world"

**49.** In May 2022, Volopay, a Y Combinator-backed corporate cards and payable management company partnered with Visa's Fintech Fast Track Program to offer financial management solutions. The partnership program was founded by Visa in order to support innovative financial services and solutions. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- Volopay + Visa's Fintech Fast Track Program = partnered to offer financial management solutions
- HQs of Visa – Foster City, California | CEO – Alfred F. Kelly | Founded in – 1958

**50.** On May 20, RBL Bank, Amazon Pay and Amazon Web Services (AWS) announced a collaboration to offer UPI payments for peer-to-peer and peer-to-merchant transactions. With this integration Amazon Pay will issue NPCI's allocated UPI ID with the handle @rapl, to RBL Bank. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBL Bank + Amazon Pay + AWS = collaboration to offer UPI payments for peer-to-peer & peer-to-merchant transactions
- HQs of RBL Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – R. Subramaniakumar | Chairman – Prakash Chandra
- HQs of AWS – Seattle, Washington, US | CEO – Adam N. Selipsky
- HQs of Amazon – Seattle, US | CEO – Andy Jassy | Incorporated in – 1994
- HQs of Amazon India – Hyderabad, Telangana | Country Head – Amit Agarwal

**51.** On May 18, HDFC Ltd launched a 'Spot Offer' on WhatsApp, to provide an in-principle home loan approval to home buyers within two minutes. The platform, built by HDFC and Cogno AI, will offer a conditional home loan approval in a couple of minutes. HDFC is focused on an online digital platform for loans and retail deposits, and initiated 'HDFC Customer Connect' for all customer requests. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- HDFC Ltd – launched a 'Spot Offer' on WhatsApp to provide an in-principle home loan approval within 2 minutes
- HQs of HDFC Ltd – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Deepak Parekh | VC & CEO – Keki Mistry
- HQs of Whatsapp – California, USA | CEO – Jan Koum | Founded in – 2009

**52.** On May 19, the RBI asked banks to provide the option of Interoperable Card-less Cash Withdrawal (ICCW) at their ATMs. This move is aimed at curbing frauds like skimming, card cloning and device tampering. Currently, cardless cash withdrawal through ATMs is offered by a few banks for their customers at their own ATMs. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI asked banks to provide the option of "Interoperable Card-less Cash Withdrawal (ICCW)" at their ATMs
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935
- Total Deputy Governors (4) – Mahesh Kumar Jain | T. Rabi Sankar | Michael D. Patra | M. Rajeshwar Rao

**53.** As on May 21, India recorded the highest ever annual foreign direct investment (FDI) of \$83.57 billion in 2021-22, exceeded the previous year's FDI by \$1.6 billion. In 2020-21, the inflows were \$81.97 billion. Singapore was the topmost investor in India, accounting for 27% of the FDI, followed by the US at 18% and Mauritius at 16%. Computer Software & Hardware emerged as the top recipient sector of FDI equity inflows with an around 25% share, followed by Services sector and Automobile sector, both at 12%. Karnataka was the top recipient state with a 38% share of the total FDI, followed by Maharashtra (26%) and Delhi (14%). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – recorded the highest ever annual FDI of \$83.57 billion in 2021-22 (increased by \$1.6 billion from PY)
- Top investor of FDI: Singapore (27%) | followed by – US (18%) & Mauritius (16%)
- Top recipient sector of FDI: Computer Software & Hardware | followed by – Services (12%) & Automobile (12%)
- Top recipient state of FDI: Karnataka | followed by – Maharashtra (26%) & Delhi (14%)

**54.** On May 19, the RBI approved trade transactions between India and Sri Lanka to be settled in Indian rupee outside the Asian Clearing Mechanism. The approval is alongside a government-guaranteed \$1 billion term loan from State Bank of India (SBI) to the Sri Lankan government for purchasing essential goods from India. The Asian Clearing Union (ACU) was established in 1974 at the initiative of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (ESCAP) for promoting regional cooperation. Besides, in May 2022, Sri Lanka defaulted on debt payment obligation for the first time in history as the grace period to repay \$78 million of debt interest payment expired. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI approved trade transactions between India & Sri Lanka to be settled in Indian Rupee outside the Asian Clearing Mechanism
- SBI – had provided a government-guaranteed \$1 billion term loan to Sri Lanka for purchasing essential goods
- [HQs of ACU – Tehran, Iran](#)

**55.** The New Development Bank (NDB) of the BRICS countries has announced plans to open its Regional Office of India at the Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City) to cater to infrastructure and sustainable development needs of the country. The Indian Regional Office will be instrumental in enhancing NDB's engagement with borrowers and stakeholders. Headquartered in Shanghai, the NDB was established by BRICS nations, namely Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa. The bank formally opened in July 2015. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NDB – plans to open its Regional Office of India – at GIFT City, Gujarat
- [HQs of NDB – Shanghai, China](#) | [President – Marcos Prado Troyjo](#) (established by BRICS Countries - in 2014)

**56.** On May 18, IDBI Bank announced the divestment of its entire holding of 6.23 Cr equity shares in Asset Reconstruction Company (India) Ltd (ARCIL) to Avenue India Resurgence Pte. Ltd. With the latest stake sale, IDBI Bank has now ceased to be the sponsor shareholder of ARCIL. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IDBI Bank – announced the divestment of its entire holding of 6.23 Cr equity shares in ARCIL to Avenue India Resurgence
- IDBI Bank – now ceased to be the sponsor shareholder of ARCIL
- [HQs of IDBI Bank – Mumbai, MH](#) | [MD CEO – Rakesh Sharma](#) | [Chairman – M. R. Kumar](#) | [Established in – 1964](#)

**57.** On May 23, the RBI has set up a six-member committee headed by former Deputy Governor, B. P. Kanungo, to review Customer Service Standards in RBI Regulated Entities (REs). The committee will evaluate the efficacy, adequacy and quality of customer service in regulated entities (REs). The committee will identify best practices adopted globally and domestically in customer service and grievance redressal. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI – set up a 6-member committee to review Customer Service Standards in RBI Regulated Entities
- The committee is headed by – B. P. Kanungo (former Deputy Governor)
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935
- Total Deputy Governors (4) – Mahesh Kumar Jain | T. Rabi Sankar | Michael D. Patra | M. Rajeshwar Rao

**58.** On May 21, Digital financial services firm One97 Communications, which operates under Paytm brand, formed a joint venture general insurance company namely “Paytm General Insurance Limited (PGIL)”. Paytm has committed to invest Rs 950 Cr in this JV over a period of 10 years. Initially, One97 Communications (OCL) will hold a 49% stake in PGIL, while the rest 51% stake is to be owned by VSS Holding Private Limited (VHPL), which is led by OCL’s MD Vijay Shekhar Sharma. Post the investment, Paytm will hold 74% stake in PGIL, reducing VHPL’s stake in the company to 26%. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- One97 Communications (49%) + VSS Holding (51%) = formed a JV namely “Paytm General Insurance (PGIL)”
- Post the investment, Paytm will hold 74% stake in PGIL, reducing VHPL’s stake in the company to 26%
- HQs of Paytm – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | CEO – Vijay Sekhar Sharma | Founded in – 2010

**59.** On May 23, HDFC Bank partnered with Retailio to launch a new range of co-branded credit cards primarily targeted at chemists and pharmacies in the merchant segment. Retailio is the country’s largest B2B pharma marketplace. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- HDFC Bank + Retailio = partnered to launch co-branded credit cards primarily targeted at chemists & pharmacies
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your world”

**60.** In May 2022, the RBI approved the appointment of T. N. Manoharan as the part-time Chairman to the board of IDBI Bank for a period of 3 years. With this, M. R. Kumar has ceased to be the non-executive non-whole time chairman of the bank. The LIC had 49.24% shareholding in IDBI Bank, as of March 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- T. N. Manoharan – appointed as part-time Chairman to the board of IDBI Bank for 3 years
- HQs of IDBI Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD CEO – Rakesh Sharma | Chairman – M. R. Kumar | Established in – 1964

**61.** The FDI equity inflows into India contracted marginally, by 1%, to \$58.77 billion during 2021-22, according to official data from the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT). The FDI equity inflows stood at \$59.63 billion during 2020-21. However, total foreign direct investment into India rose by 2% to the highest ever \$83.57 billion in 2021-22. Total FDI inflows include equity inflows, reinvested earnings and other capital. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- According to official data from DPIIT for 2021-22:
- FDI equity inflows into India contracted marginally, by 1%, to \$58.77 billion (from \$59.63 billion during 2020-21)
- Total FDI into India rose by 2% to the highest ever \$83.57 billion
- HQs of DPIIT – New Delhi | DPIIT works under – Ministry of Commerce & Industry

**62.** On May 24, UCO Bank signed a co-lending agreement with Paisalo Digital Limited for agriculture business to capitalize on the huge Rs 8 lakh Cr market of small-ticket loans for the 365 million underbanked and under-served population. Co-lending is an emerging area in priority sector financing and due focus is given by the Government of India to help agriculture and other small borrowers who are the backbone of the Indian economy. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- UCO Bank + Paisalo Digital = co-lending agreement for Agriculture Business
- HQs of UCO Bank – Kolkata, West Bengal | MD & CEO – Soma Sankara Prasad | Tagline – “Honours your Trust”

**63.** On May 25, the RBI has cancelled the Certificate of Registration (CoR) issued to 5 NBFCs due to irregular lending practices. It was due to violation of RBI guidelines on outsourcing and Fair Practices Code in their digital lending operations undertaken through third party apps. These include UMB Securities Ltd., Anashri Finvest Ltd., Chadha Finance Private Ltd., Alexcy Tracon Private Ltd. and Jhuria Financial Services Private Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI – cancelled the Certificate of Registration (CoR) issued to 5 NBFCs due to irregular lending practices
- The 5 NBFCs are: UMB Securities, Anashri Finvest, Chadha Finance, Alexcy Tracon & Jhuria Financial Services Private Ltd
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935
- Total Deputy Governors (4) – Mahesh Kumar Jain | T. Rabi Sankar | Michael D. Patra | M. Rajeshwar Rao

**64.** On May 23, Mahagram has tied up with IndusInd Bank to enhance digital payments ecosystem in India. The partnership signed between Mahagram and IndusInd Bank aims to add 15 million (1.5 Cr) small merchants to UPI QR in the current fiscal year. Recently, Mahagram has also launched a citizen service delivery portal ‘GramSevak.com’ to provide basic doorstep banking and e-governance services to all the citizens residing in rural as well as urban locations. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mahagram + IndusInd Bank = tied up to enhance digital payments ecosystem in India
- Mahagram – launched ‘GramSevak.com’ portal to provide basic doorstep banking & e-governance services
- HQs of IndusInd Bank – Pune, MH | MD & CEO – Sumant Kathpalia | Tagline – “We Make You Feel Richer”

**65.** On May 21, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) decided to transfer Rs 30,307 Cr as surplus to the government for 2021-22, following the 596<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Central Board of Directors of the RBI. The decision was taken after deciding to maintain the Contingency Risk Buffer (CRB) at 5.50% of its balance sheet. This year’s transfer is far lower than that of the previous financial year which was Rs 99,126 Cr. For the year, the government is targeting approximately Rs 74,000 Cr as dividend/surplus from the RBI, public sector banks (PSBs) and other public financial institutions (FIs). Recently, the government raised over Rs 20,500 Cr from the public listing of Life Insurance Corporation (LIC). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- In the 596<sup>th</sup> meeting, Central Board of Directors of the RBI decided to maintain the CRB at 5.50% of RBI’s balance sheet
- RBI – to transfer Rs 30,307 Cr as surplus to the government for 2021-22
- Government’s target to receive as dividend/surplus from the RBI, PSBs & other public FIs = Rs 74,000 Cr
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935
- Total Deputy Governors (4) – Mahesh Kumar Jain | T. Rabi Sankar | Michael D. Patra | M. Rajeshwar Rao

**66.** On May 23, the SEBI allowed mutual funds to launch passively managed Equity-Linked Savings Schemes (ELSS). MFs can have either an actively-managed ELSS scheme or a passively-managed one but not in both categories. The move will allow new fund houses that are especially focusing on passive schemes to float a passively-managed ELSS fund. Besides, SEBI has come out with a new framework for managing passive funds like - Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) and Index Funds, on the recommendations of Working Group (WG). In this regard, the SEBI stated that investors can directly approach the AMC for redemption of units of ETFs, for transactions of up to Rs 25 Cr without any exit load. The minimum subscription amount at the time of New Fund Offer (NFO) for debt ETFs/index funds and other ETFs/index funds will be Rs 10 Cr and Rs 5 Cr, respectively. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SEBI – allowed mutual funds to launch passively managed Equity-Linked Savings Schemes (ELSS)
- MFs can have either an actively-managed ELSS scheme or a passively-managed one, but not in both categories
- SEBI – started a new framework for managing passive funds like ETFs & Index Funds
- Investors can directly approach the AMC for redemption of units of ETFs, for transactions of up to Rs 25 Cr
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Madhabi Puri Buch | Established in – 1992

**67.** On May 25, India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) introduced issuer charges for the Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AePS). These charges will come into effect from June 15, 2022. The first three AEPS transactions, such as AEPS cash withdrawal, AEPS cash deposit, and AEPS mini statement, will be free per month. Following the free transactions, each transaction will cost Rs 20 plus GST. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IPPB – introduced issuer charges for Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AePS) to come into effect from June 15, 2022
- The first three AEPS transactions will be free per month, after that each transaction will cost Rs 20 + GST
- HQs of UIDAI – New Delhi | CEO – Saurabh Garg | Founded on – January 28, 2009
- HQs of IPPB – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Venkatram Jayanthi | Established on – 1st Sep, 2018

**68.** The State Bank of India (SBI) introduced Real-Time Xpress Credit on its Yono platform for salaried customers, called Real-Time Xpress Credit (RTXC). Xpress Credit will allow eligible customers to get personal loans of up to Rs 35 lakh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SBI introduced Real-Time Xpress Credit (RTXC) on Yono for salaried customers to give personal loans of up to Rs 35 lakh
- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MDs – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Ashwani Bhatia | Ashwini Kumar Tewari | Swaminathan Janakiraman
- HQs of SBI Cards & Payment Services Ltd – Gurgaon, Haryana | MD & CEO – Rama Mohan Rao Amara

**69.** On May 25, BOB Financial Solutions (BFSL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Bank of Baroda (BoB) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation (HPCL) in partnership with NPCI, launched HPCL BoB co-branded contactless RuPay Credit Card. The card is designed to reward customers for spends at HPCL fuel pumps as well as the HP Pay app. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- BFSL + HPCL + NPCI = launched 'HPCL BoB co-branded Contactless RuPay Credit Card'
- The card is designed to reward customers for spends at HPCL fuel pumps as well as the 'HP Pay' app
- HQs of BOB Financial Solutions – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Shailendra Singh
- HQs of BOB – Vadodara, Gujarat | CEO – Sanjiv Chadha | Tagline – "India's International Bank"
- HQs of HPCL – Mumbai, MH | CEO & Chairperson – Mukesh Kumar Surana (till April, 2022) | Founded in – 1974
- HQs of NPCI – Mumbai | Chairman – Biswamohan Mahapatra | MD & CEO – Dilip Asbe | Established in – 2008

**70.** On May 24, HDFC Securities has launched HDFC Money, a robo-advisory platform for all mutual fund investments. HDFC Money is a 100% digital platform that doesn't involve opening or having a Demat Account. Apart from Mutual Funds, one can also manage other aspects of finances such as accessing, managing, and tracking portfolios, starting goal planning, insurance planning, creating E-wills, and managing/filing taxes. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- HDFC Securities – launched HDFC Money, a robo-advisory platform for all mutual fund investments
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – "We understand your world"

**71.** On May 25, AU Small Finance Bank launched two new products namely – 'AU Royale Salary' and 'AU Royale Business' current accounts, under its affluent banking programme, "AU Royale". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- AU Small Finance Bank – launched two new products, 'AU Royale Salary' & 'AU Royale Business' current accounts
- HQs of AU SFB – Jaipur, Rajasthan | MD & CEO – Sanjay Agarwal

**72.** On May 26, the RBI notified that the Non-banking companies now need Rs 25 Cr minimum net worth to set up Bharat Bill Payment Operating Units (BBPOU). It is lowered from the earlier minimum net worth requirement of Rs 100 Cr. The BBPS is an interoperable bill payment network. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI lowered minimum net worth requirement for Non-banking Co. to set up 'BBPOU' – to Rs 25 Cr (from Rs 100 Cr)
- BBPOU – **B**harat **B**ill **P**ayment **O**perating **U**nit
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935

**73.** On May 26, Northern Arc Capital, an NBFC focused on under-served households and businesses, has entered into a strategic partnership with Indian Bank. The partnership would enable the two financial institutions to collaborate, co-operate, co-lend loans, and widen their respective markets and customer base. Indian Bank would get access to Northern Arc's n-POS platform. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Northern Arc Capital + Indian Bank = a strategic partnership
- HQs of Northern Arc Capital – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | MD & CEO – Kshama Fernandes
- HQs of Indian Bank – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | MD & CEO – Shanti Lal Jain | Tagline – "Your Own Bank"





**74.** On May 23, Tata Capital Ltd launched 'Loan Against Shares' (LAS), an end-to-end integrated digital financial offering. As per the statement, customers can avail loans upto Rs 5 Cr by simply pledging their dematerialised shares online which is facilitated by NSDL. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tata Capital Ltd – launched 'Loan Against Shares', an end-to-end integrated digital financial offering
- HQs of Tata Capital – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Rajiv Sabharwal

**75.** On May 26, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has formed various committees through the General Insurance Council (GIC) to overhaul the insurance sector. The committees will suggest reforms in several areas of general, reinsurance and life insurance such as regulation, product, distribution, among others. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IRDAI – formed committees through General Insurance Council (GIC) to overhaul the Insurance Sector
- HQs of IRDAI – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Debasish Panda

**76.** On May 19, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has withdrawn the recognition granted to the Indian Commodity Exchange Limited. Consequent to the withdrawal, ICEX has been directed to transfer the money available in the Investor Protection Fund and Investor Services Fund of ICEX to SEBI's Investor Protection and Education Fund. ICEX was recognised as an exchange in October 2009 by the central government. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SEBI – withdrawn the recognition granted to the Indian Commodity Exchange Limited (ICEX)
- ICEX – recognised as an exchange in October 2009 by the central government
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | Founded on – April 12, 1992

**77.** On May 26, Standard Chartered Bank (SCB) paid ₹4.97 Cr to settle a case with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) for alleged violation of regulatory norms involving CG Power and Industrial Solutions Ltd. SCB had approached SEBI with a proposal to resolve a matter involving alleged Prohibition of Fraudulent and Unfair Trade Practices (PFUTP) violations. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Standard Chartered Bank – paid ₹4.97 Cr to settle a case with the SEBI
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | Established in – 1992
- HQs of SCB – London, UK | CEO – Bill Winters | CEO, Asia – Benjamin Hung

**78.** On May 27, MUFG Bank announced that it has become the first Japanese bank to obtain an approval for opening a branch at GIFT City in Gujarat. This is the bank's sixth branch in India. The Tokyo-based bank received approval from International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) and Financial Services Agency in Japan to open the branch. MUFG Bank opened its first India branch in Mumbai in 1953. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MUFG Bank – the first Japanese bank to obtain an approval for opening a branch at GIFT City in Gujarat
- MUFG Bank opened its first India branch in Mumbai in 1953
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Fumio Kishida
- HQs of IFSCA – Gandhinagar, Gujarat | Chairman – Injeti Srinivas

**79.** In May 2022, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) increased the weighting of the US Dollar and Chinese Yuan (also known as renminbi) in its review of the Special Drawing Rights (SDR) evaluation. The IMF raised the yuan's weighting to 12.28% from 10.92%, and US dollar's weighting to 43.38% from 41.73%, while those of Euro, Japanese Yen and British Pound declined. It was the first regular review of the SDR evaluation since the Chinese currency was included in the basket in 2016. SDRs are an International Reserve Asset that can be converted into 5 currencies. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IMF – increased the weighting of US Dollar to 43.38% & Chinese Yuan to 12.28% in its review of the SDR evaluation
- SDRs are an International Reserve Asset that can be converted into 5 currencies
- HQs of IMF – Washington, D.C., US | President – Kristalina Georgieva | Member countries – 190

**80.** Stashfin, a neobanking platform, has launched a credit line card especially for women called “LiveBoundless”. The card offers dedicated cashback rewards, welcome credits, free ATM withdrawals, and other deals. According to a Statista study, the Indian credit card market volume was at 37.5 million in FY2018, 57.7 million in FY2020 and reached 62 million in FY2021. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Stashfin ([New Delhi](#)) – launched a credit line card especially for women called “LiveBoundless”

**81.** On May 27, the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) launched a new life insurance product called “Bima Ratna”, a non-linked, non-participating, individual savings life insurance product that combines protection and savings. Death benefit, Survival Benefit, Maturity Benefit, Guaranteed Additions, Date of commencement of risk, Date of vesting, Settlement Option, etc are the key features of the plan. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- LIC – launched a new life insurance product called “Bima Ratna” that combines protection & savings
- HQs of LIC – Mumbai | Chairman – M. R. Kumar | Founded in – 1956 | Tagline – “Yogakshemam Vahamyaham”

**82.** According to the official data from government on aggregate GST registrations in the 2017-22 period, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh have topped in Goods and Services Tax (GST) registrations by businesses and dealers, followed by Gujarat and Tamil Nadu. Maharashtra has 1.48 million normal GST payers who pay taxes on a monthly basis, while Uttar Pradesh has 1.33 million such tax payers, followed by 1.09 million of Gujarat & 1.06 million of Tamil Nadu. Besides, Uttar Pradesh has the largest share of small businesses with the state accounting for over 3,57,000 composition dealers. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Maharashtra + Uttar Pradesh = topped in GST registrations followed by Gujarat and Tamil Nadu
- Maharashtra: 1.48 million regular GST payers, Uttar Pradesh: 1.33 million, Gujarat: 1.09 million & Tamil Nadu: 1.06 million
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

**83.** On May 28, Tata AIA Life Insurance Company Limited (Tata AIA Life), a JV by Tata Sons and AIA Group, launched a “Smart Value Income Plan”, a non-linked, participating life insurance savings plan where the bonus can be adjusted against premium payments. This plan includes first-in-industry features such as the option to accumulate cash bonuses. Individuals between the age group of 1 and 65 can buy the Smart Value Income Plan, with a maximum maturity age of 100 years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tata AIA Life Insurance – launched a “Smart Value Income Plan”, a non-linked, participating life insurance savings plan
- Individuals between the age group of 1 & 65 can buy the Smart Value Income Plan
- [HQs of Tata AIA Life – Mumbai, Maharashtra](#) | [MD & CEO – Naveen Tahilyani](#)

**84.** India’s economic growth or GDP slipped to 4.1% in the fourth quarter of 2021-22, while annual growth stood at 8.7% from 6.6% in the previous fiscal, as per the data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO). According to the data, India’s real GDP grew to Rs 147.36 lakh Cr from Rs 135.58 lakh Cr in 2020-21. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- According to NSO: India’s Economic Growth or GDP in FY 2021-22 – 8.7% (from 6.6% in FY21)
- India’s real GDP grew to Rs 147.36 lakh Cr in FY 2021-22 (from Rs 135.58 lakh Cr in 2020-21)
- [HQs of NSO – New Delhi](#) | [Chairperson – Bimal Kumar Roy](#)

**85.** On May 30, the SEBI restructured its Risk Management Review Committee (RMRC), which reviews the risk management framework for the cash and derivatives. The 14-member committee will be headed by IIM Ahmedabad Professor Jayanth R. Varma. The committee has been entrusted with the task of recommending changes if required in the margin system, consider and suggest measures in reducing transmission of risk from other segments and review the investor protection measure in the stock exchanges related to risk management. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SEBI restructured its 14-member Risk Management Review Committee (RMRC) – headed by Jayanth R. Varma
- [HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra](#) | [Chairman – Ajay Tyagi](#) | [Established in – 1992](#)



# **Defence Affairs**

**1.** Defender Europe 2022 (DE22) and Swift Response 2022 (SR22), large-scale US Army-led, multinational, joint military exercises were held from May 1 to May 27. Defender Europe 22 is an international, collaborative and cyclical exercise organised by the US Armed Forces to build preparedness and interoperability between US and NATO allies and partners. Besides, the US and NATO allies took part in Exercise Swift Response 2022, which is an annual multinational training exercise. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- ‘Defender Europe 2022’ & ‘Swift Response 2022’ – US Army-led multinational joint military exercises
- DE22 – organised by US Armed Forces to build preparedness & interoperability between US & NATO allies & partners
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46<sup>th</sup> President – Joe Biden | 49<sup>th</sup> VP – Kamala Harris

**2.** On May 2, the Indian Coast Guard’s ship named Kamla Devi (Yard 2118), which is the fifth in a series of 5 Fast Patrol Vessels, was launched in Parganas district of West Bengal. The entire design of these ‘Fast Patrol Vessels’ has been developed in-house by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) shipyard, Kolkata. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- ICG’s ship ‘Kamla Devi’ (Yard 2118) – 5<sup>th</sup> in a series of 5 FPV – launched in Parganas, West Bengal
- Developed by – GRSE shipyard, Kolkata
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar
- HQs of GRSE – Kolkata, India | Chairman & MD – P. R. Hari | Founded in – 1884

**3.** As published on May 3, the People’s Liberation Army Navy (PLAN) of China launched an unknown missile from the warship Wuxi, a ‘Type 055’ guided-missile cruiser on April 19. The new weapon is presumed to be an anti-ship ballistic missile, known as ‘YJ-21’. If the initial analysis of this YJ-21 is correct, then China becomes the first country in the world to operationally field such a missile from a naval vessel. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- PLAN (China) – launched an unknown missile from the warship Wuxi, a ‘Type 055’ guided-missile cruiser
- The new weapon is presumed to be an anti-ship ballistic missile, known as ‘YJ-21’
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

**4.** On May 4, France’s Naval Group pulled out of India’s P-75I submarine project due to conditions mentioned in the request for proposal (RFP) related to air independent propulsion (AIP) system. Six conventional submarines are being domestically built for the Indian Navy under P-75I submarine project. RFPs were issued to two shortlisted Indian companies - Larsen and Toubro and Mazagaon Docks Limited. The ₹43,000 Cr-contract will be awarded by the Defence Ministry following a detailed evaluation of the responses sent by the two strategic partners. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- France – pulled out of India’s ‘P-75I’ submarine project due to conditions mentioned in the RFP related to AIP
- RFPs were issued to two shortlisted Indian companies – Larsen & Toubro + Mazagaon Docks Limited
- France – Paris – Euro | President – Emmanuel Macron | PM – Jean Castex



**5.** On May 2, the indigenous Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System (ATAGS) successfully completed the validation trials towards meeting the specifications of the Army. The week-long Preliminary Service Quality Requirements (PSQR) validation retrials were conducted at the Pokhran field firing ranges from April 26 to May 2. The ATAGS is a 155mm, 52-calibre heavy artillery gun jointly developed by Armament Research and Development Establishment (ARDE), the Pune-based laboratory of DRDO, in partnership with Bharat Forge and Tata Group. The ATAGS has demonstrated a range of over 45 km. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System – completed the validation trials towards meeting the specifications of the Army
- The trials were conducted at the Pokhran field firing ranges, Rajasthan
- ATAGS (heavy artillery gun) – jointly developed by ARDE (DRDO's lab) + Bharat Forge + Tata Group
- HQs of DRDO – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy | Established in – 1958

**6.** The Indian Coast Guard Director General V. S. Pathania commissioned its second Air Squadron named “845 Squadron (CG)”, of Advanced Light Helicopter Mk-III at an event held at Nedumbassery in Kochi, Kerala. The first ALH Mk-III squadron of the Coast Guard is in Bhubaneswar. The 845 Sqn (CG) is commanded by Commandant Kunal Naik. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- V. S. Pathania – commissioned its 2<sup>nd</sup> Air Squadron named “845 Squadron (CG)” of ALH Mk-III – in Kochi, Kerala
- The 845 Sqn (CG) is commanded by – Commandant Kunal Naik
- The first ALH Mk-III squadron of the Coast Guard is in – Bhubaneswar
- HQs of ICG – New Delhi | DG – Virender Singh Pathania | Founded in – 1977

**7.** The Assam Rifles felicitated the surviving soldiers of “Operation Dudhi”, marked as the most successful counter-insurgency operation in India's defence history. On May 3, 1991, a 15-member column of the 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion had moved from Chowkibal for a routine patrol to check the winter-vacated post of Dudhi. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Assam Rifles – felicitated the surviving soldiers of “Operation Dudhi” (most successful counter-insurgency operation)
- “Operation Dudhi” – conducted by Assam Rifles on May 3, 1991
- HQs of Assam Rifles – Shillong, Meghalaya | DG – Lt. Gen. Pradeep Chandran Nair
- Assam Rifles – popularly known as “Sentinels of the Northeast” (India's oldest Paramilitary Force)

**8.** On May 10, AI Engineering Services Ltd (AIESL) signed an MoU with Boeing for maintenance of its critical equipment on key defence platforms, including the P-81 fleet used by the Navy and two VVIP Boeing 777s aircrafts operated by the Indian Air Force (IAF). The AIESL, an Air India subsidiary, is India's largest DGCA approved MRO facility. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- AIESL + Boeing = an MoU for maintenance of its critical equipment on key Defence Platforms
- AIESL (India's largest DGCA approved MRO facility) – is a subsidiary of Air India
- HQs of Boeing – Chicago, US | CEO – Dave Calhoun | Founded in – 1916

**9.** INS Kolkata visited Djibouti from May 4-7, 2022, as part of the anti-piracy patrol being undertaken by the Indian Navy to ensure safe transit of merchant vessels in the Gulf of Aden. Indian Navy warships have been deployed in the Gulf of Aden since October 2008 for anti-piracy patrol. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- INS Kolkata – visited Djibouti as part of the anti-piracy patrol being undertaken by the Indian Navy
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral R. Hari Kumar | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26th Jan, 1950

**10.** Indian Naval Ship (INS) Gomati is now based in Uttar Pradesh's capital Lucknow, as it retired on May 15, 2022. Third of the indigenously built 'Godavari' class guided missile frigate, INS Gomati was commissioned into the Indian Navy on April 16, 1988. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- INS Gomati – retired on May 15, 2022 | It is now based in Lucknow, UP
- It was commissioned into the Indian Navy on – April 16, 1988
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral R. Hari Kumar | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26th Jan, 1950

**11.** On May 17, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launched two frontline warships of the Indian Navy - 'INS Surat' and 'INS Udaygiri' at Mazagon Docks Limited (MDL) in Mumbai. 'Surat' is the 4<sup>th</sup> & last Guided Missile Destroyer of the 'Project 15B' class, while 'Udaygiri' is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Stealth Frigate of the 'Project 17A' class. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajnath Singh – launched 2 frontline warships of Indian Navy - 'INS Surat' & 'INS Udaygiri' – at Mazagon Docks, Mumbai
- INS Surat – 4<sup>th</sup> & last Guided Missile Destroyer of the 'Project 15B' class
- INS Udaygiri – 2<sup>nd</sup> Stealth Frigate of the 'Project 17A' class

**12.** India's first indigenous Flying Trainer Aircraft "HANSA-NG", designed and developed by CSIR-National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL), Bangalore has successfully completed the sea level trials at Puducherry from February 19 to March 5, 2022. The aircraft was piloted by K. V. Prakash and Dilip Reddy. HANSA-NG is one of the most advanced flying trainer powered by Rotax Digital Control Engine. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "HANSA-NG" - India's first indigenous Flying Trainer Aircraft – completed the sea level trials at Puducherry
- HANSA-NG – designed & developed by CSIR-NAL, Bangalore & powered by Rotax Digital Control Engine
- HQs of CSIR – New Delhi | President – Narendra Modi | DG – Shekhar C. Mande | Established in – 1942

**13.** On May 18, an indigenously developed Naval Anti-Ship Missile was successfully test-fired for the first time from a naval helicopter from Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur off Odisha coast. The Indian Navy carried out the test in association with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). The test was carried out from a Seaking-42B helicopter. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- Indian Navy – successfully test-fired indigenously developed Naval Anti-Ship Missile from a Sea King-42B helicopter
- The test was carried out in association with DRDO – from ITR, Chandipur off Odisha coast
- 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

**14.** On May 18, Defence minister Rajnath Singh flew a sortie in the P-8I long-range maritime reconnaissance and anti-submarine warfare aircraft of the Indian Navy during his visit to Mumbai. The Indian Navy was the first international customer for the P-8 aircraft, which is produced by US aerospace major Boeing. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajnath Singh – flew a sortie in ‘P-8I’ anti-submarine warfare aircraft of the Indian Navy
- Indian Navy was the first international customer for the ‘P-8’ aircraft | ‘P-8I’ – produced by Boeing
- HQs of Boeing – Chicago, US | CEO – Dave Calhoun | Founded in – 1916

**15.** On May 22, the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the Indian Navy-Bangladesh Navy Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT) commenced in the Northern Bay of Bengal. Indian Navy and Bangladesh Navy units undertook joint patrolling along the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL). The last INBN CORPAT was conducted in October 2020. INS Kora, a guided-missile corvette, and INS Sumedha, an offshore patrol vessel, participated in the exercise. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 4<sup>th</sup> edition of Indian Navy-Bangladesh Navy Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT) – commenced in the Northern Bay of Bengal
- INS Kora + INS Sumedha = participated in the exercise
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral R. Hari Kumar | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26th Jan, 1950
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

**16.** Pravaig, a Bengaluru-based startup, has won an order to provide compact energy storages to European combat forces. The Pravaig Field Pack will be supplied to the defence manufacturer. These tactical batteries are designed, engineered, and made in India. Pravaig’s Field Pack provides the modern soldier and their equipment enough energy to charge the equivalent of a MacBook 60 times. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Pravaig (Bengaluru startup) – won an order to provide Compact Energy Storages to European combat forces

**17.** The Gandhinagar-based Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU) will develop a Wargame Research & Development Centre in New Delhi for the Indian Army. It aims to train its soldiers in virtual reality simulation war games, designed specifically to meet the challenges of counter-terrorism and counter-insurgency operations by the armed forces in India. An MoU was signed between the RRU and the Army Training Command of the Indian Army for this purpose. The laboratory will be prepared by Tech Mahindra. The RRU functions under the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rashtriya Raksha University – to develop a Wargame Research & Development Centre in New Delhi for Indian Army
- RRU + Army Training Command = an MoU to train its soldiers in virtual reality simulation war games
- The laboratory will be prepared by – Tech Mahindra | RRU functions under – Ministry of Home Affairs
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande | Vice Chief – Lt. General Baggavalli Somashekar Raju

**18.** The 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of Indian Navy (IN) - Bangladesh Navy (BN) Bilateral Exercise 'Bongosagar' commenced at Port Mongla, Bangladesh on 24 May, 2022. The Harbour Phase of exercise is scheduled from 24-25 May which will be followed by a Sea Phase in the Northern Bay of Bengal from 26-27 May. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bongosagar – 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of India Bangladesh Naval Bilateral Exercise commenced at Port Mongla, Bangladesh
- Harbour Phase (24-25 May) – at Port Mongla | Sea Phase (26-27 May) – in the Northern Bay of Bengal
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral R. Hari Kumar | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26th Jan, 1950
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

**19.** On May 25, Captain Abhilasha Barak became the first woman to join the Army Aviation Corps as a helicopter pilot after completing a year-long course at the Combat Army Aviation Training School at Nashik in Maharashtra. Barak hails from Haryana and was commissioned in the Army Air Defence Corps in September 2018. She was awarded 'wings' along with 36 army pilots by Army Aviation director general Lieutenant General Ajay Kumar Suri during a valedictory ceremony at the Nashik-based training school. Barak has been assigned to the second flight of 2072 Army Aviation Squadron that operates the Dhruv Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Captain Abhilasha Barak ([Haryana](#)) – became the first woman to join the Army Aviation Corps as a Helicopter Pilot
- She completed her course at the Combat Army Aviation Training School at Nashik, Maharashtra
- She has been assigned to the second flight of '2072 Army Aviation Squadron' that operates the 'Dhruv ALH'
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande | Vice Chief – Lt. General Baggavalli Somashekar Raju
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya

**20.** On May 26, the Indian Navy successfully tested its ship-based surface to air missile system by taking down a low flying target. The test was carried out from a stealth frigate INS Teg deployed on the western seaboard by the force. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Navy successfully tested its ship-based surface to air missile system from a stealth frigate INS Teg
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral R. Hari Kumar | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26th Jan, 1950

**21.** On May 26, Nirdeshak, a survey vessel (large) of the Indian Navy, was launched at Kattupalli near Chennai, Tamil Nadu. Nirdeshak is one of the four survey vessels (large) that is expected to enhance the hydrographic and oceanographic survey capabilities of the Indian Navy. Of the four survey vessels, three are built by L&T and one by Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE). “Nirdeshak is the second of survey vessels to be launched. Remaining two will be delivered in 2023 and 2024. Vice-Admiral Biswajit Dasgupta was the chief guest on the occasion. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ‘Nirdeshak’, a survey vessel of Indian Navy – launched at Kattupalli near Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- ‘Nirdeshak’, one of the four survey vessels – built by GRSE
- [Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai](#) | [CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin](#) | [Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi](#)

**22.** On May 31, Ministry of Defence signed a contract with Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) for the supply of indigenously built beyond visual range air-to-air missiles called “ASTRA MK-I” and Associated Equipment for the Indian Air Force and Indian Navy at the cost of Rs 2,971 Cr. The “ASTRA MK-I” air-to-air missile was designed and developed by the DRDO. The missile is fully integrated onto the ‘Su-30 MK-I’ fighter aircraft. The Indian Navy will integrate the missile on the ‘MiG 29K’ fighter aircraft. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Defence + BDL = a contract for the supply of “ASTRA MK-I”, indigenously built air-to-air missile for IAF & Navy
- Cost of the contract – Rs 2,971 Cr | “ASTRA MK-I” was designed & developed by – DRDO
- [HQs of BDL – Hyderabad, Telangana](#) | [CMD – Siddharth Mishra](#) | [Founded in – 1970](#)



# Sports & Games

**1.** Double Olympic medallist P V Sindhu won a bronze medal in women's singles at the Badminton Asia Championships 2022 held from April 26 to May 1, 2022 in Manila, Philippines. This is Sindhu's second medal in the tournament as she had claimed a bronze in 2014. Moreover, Malaysian badminton player Lee Zii Jia won Gold medal in men's singles. While Chinese badminton player Wang Zhiyi won Gold medal in women's singles. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- P V Sindhu – won bronze medal in women's singles at "Badminton Asia Championships 2022" held in Manila, Philippines
- Men's singles: Gold – Lee Zii Jia ([Malaysia](#)) | Women's singles: Gold – Wang Zhiyi ([China](#))
- [Philippines – Manila – Peso](#) | [President – Rodrigo Duterte](#)

**2.** A 1923 story on a soccer event in Assam's Sivasagar has become the reason for celebrating the Centenary of Sports Journalism in the State. Asamiya, a weekly magazine published by Chandra Kumar Agarwallahad carried a descriptive story on a series of football matches in the issue of July 1, 1923. This soccer news was published 78 years after the Baptist Missionary Press in Sivasagar printed Orunodoi, the first Assamese magazine, in 1846. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Assam is celebrating the Centenary of Sports Journalism in the State (reason: 1923 story on a Soccer Event)
- [Assam: Capital – Dispur](#) | [CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma](#) | [Governor – Jagdish Mukhi](#)

**3.** On May 3, Ronnie O'Sullivan won the "World Snooker Championship 2022" beating Judd Trump in Sheffield, England. Ronnie O'Sullivan is a seven-time champion of the world. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Ronnie O'Sullivan – won the "World Snooker Championship 2022" beating Judd Trump

**4.** On May 4, South African tennis player Kevin Anderson announced his retirement. Anderson ended a 15-year professional career during which he climbed to No. 5 in the ATP Rankings, won 7 ATP Tour titles and reached 2 Grand Slam finals. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Kevin Anderson ([South Africa](#)) – announced retirement from Tennis

**5.** On May 3, Kerala emerged as champion of the 75<sup>th</sup> National Football Championship for Santosh Trophy beating West Bengal at the Manjeri Payyanad Stadium in Malappuram. The hosts now have seven Santosh Trophy titles to their name and it was the first time they won the competition on home soil since 1993. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Kerala – the 75<sup>th</sup> National Football Championship for Santosh Trophy (beating West Bengal)
- [Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram](#) | [CM – Pinarayi Vijayan](#) | [Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan](#)

**6.** On May 2, Harshada Sharad Garud scripted history becoming the first Indian to win a Gold medal at the IWF Junior World Championships 2022. She lifted 153-kg in the 45-kg weight category, which includes 70kg in Snatch and 83 kg in Clean and Jerk to finish on top of the podium. Turkey's Bektas Cansu bagged the silver medal while Moldova's Teodora-Luminita Hincu won the bronze medal. The other Indian in the same weight category, Anjali Patel finished fifth. Before Harshada, Mirabai Chanu had won a bronze in 2013 and Achinta Sheuli won a silver medal in 2021. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- Harshada Sharad Garud – first Indian to win a Gold medal at the “IWF Junior World Championships 2022”.
- Silver – Bektas Cansu ([Turkey](#)) | Bronze – Teodora-Luminita Hincu ([Moldova](#))
- HQs of IWFL – New Delhi | President – Sahdev Yadav | Secretary General – Anande Gowda
- HQs of IWF – Lausanne, Switzerland | Interim President – Dr. Michael Sheriar Irani (Interim) | Founded in – 1905

**7.** Ridhi Phor and Tarundeep Rai won a Gold medal in the ‘recurve mixed team’ event at the “2022 Archery World Cup Stage 1” at Antalya, Turkey. India thus ended its campaign in the first outdoor event of the year with two Gold medals. The first came through the ‘compound men’s team’ of Abhishek Verma, Rajat Chauhan and Aman Saini. Tarundeep Rai had won silver medal at the Asian Games in Guangzhou 2010. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “2022 Archery World Cup Stage 1” – held at Antalya, Turkey
- Ridhi Phor + Tarundeep Rai = won a Gold medal in the ‘Recurve Mixed Team’ event
- Abhishek Verma + Rajat Chauhan + Aman Saini = won a Gold medal in the ‘Compound Men’s Team’

**8.** The 2<sup>nd</sup> edition Khelo India University Games (KIUG) 2021, the biggest ever sporting events of India envisaged by the Prime Minister of India and hosted by JAIN University, concluded on May 3, 2022 in Bengaluru, Karnataka. JAIN University topped the medals tally by winning a total of 27 medals with 16 gold, 6 silver, and 5 bronze. A total of 20 sports were played in the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of KIUG, in which indigenous sports like Yogasana and Mallakhamba were given prominence for the first time in the history of any sports event. The mascot of KIUG 2021 was ‘Veera’, an elephant, and the Logo featured the iconic Vidhana Soudha building, Legislative House in Bengaluru. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- KIUG (2<sup>nd</sup> edition): hosted & Topped by – JAIN University | Total 20 sports were played | Mascot – ‘Veera’, an elephant
- Odisha hosted the 1<sup>st</sup> edition in 2020
- [Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore](#) | [CM – Basavaraj Bommai](#) | [Governor – Thaawarchand Gehlot](#)

**9.** The Asian Games 2022, which were scheduled to be held in September in Hangzhou, has been postponed until 2023 due to Covid-19 pandemic. India finished 8<sup>th</sup> on the medal table with a total of 69 medals at the ‘2018 Asian Games’ which were held in Jakarta and Palembang cities of Indonesia. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Asian Games 2022” (scheduled to be held in Hangzhou, China in Sep) – postponed until 2023
- ‘2018 Asian Games’ – held in Jakarta & Palembang, Indonesia (India’s rank in medal tally 8<sup>th</sup> - with 69 medals)

**10.** On May 8, Union Sports Minister Anurag Thakur launched the mascot “Dhakad” along with official logo and official jersey of the 4<sup>th</sup> “Khelo India Youth Games” at Panchkula, Haryana. Haryana will host the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the Khelo India Youth Games from June 4 to June 13 at Panchkula and other cities. Five traditional games Gatka, Thangta, Yogasana, Kalaripayattu, and Mallakhamb will be included in the 4<sup>th</sup> edition. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- Anurag Thakur – launched the mascot “Dhakad”, official logo & official jersey of the 4<sup>th</sup> “Khelo India Youth Games”
- Haryana – to host the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the Khelo India Youth Games at Panchkula & other cities
- 5 indigenous games – Yoga, Gatka, Kalaripayattu, Thang-Ta & Mallakhamb | Total games – 25
- [Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh](#) | [CM – Manohar Lal Khattar](#) | [Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya](#)

**11.** In May 2022, Spanish Carlos Alcaraz won men’s singles title at the “Madrid Open 2022”, beating defending champion Alexander Zverev. Earlier, Tunisia’s Ons Jabeur clinched women’s singles title to become the first African player to win a WTA 1000 event. She defeated American Jessica Pegula. Moreover, the pair of Wesley Koolhof and Neal Skupski defeated Juan Sebastian Cabal and Robert Farah to win the men’s doubles tennis title at the Madrid Open. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Carlos Alcaraz ([Spain](#)) – won men’s single title at the “Madrid Open 2022” (defeating - Alexander Zverev)
- Ons Jabeur ([Tunisia](#)) – won women’s single title at the “Madrid Open 2022” (defeating - Jessica Pegula)
- Wesley Koolhof + Neal Skupski = won men’s doubles title at the “Madrid Open 2022”
- Ons Jabeur – became the first African player to win a WTA 1000 event

**12.** On May 9, Red Bull driver & Formula One world champion Max Verstappen won the inaugural “F1 Miami Grand Prix” held in May 2022. Max Verstappen defeated Charles Leclerc to win first Miami Grand Prix. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Max Verstappen ([Red Bull - Netherlands](#)) – won the inaugural “F1 Miami Grand Prix” (defeating - Charles Leclerc)

**13.** On May 5, Indian karateka Supriya Jatav won a Gold medal in ‘mixed event’ category and an individual bronze medal in the ‘55-61 kg Kumite’ category at the “US Open Karate Championships” in Las Vegas, USA. Last year, she became the first senior Indian to win a gold medal in the individual Kumite category. And this year, she became the first Indian to win a Gold medal in the karate mixed event category. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “US Open Karate Championships” – held in Las Vegas
- Supriya Jatav – won a Gold medal in ‘mixed event’ category & a Bronze medal in ‘Individual Kumite’ category
- She became the first Indian to win a Gold medal in both categories

**14.** On May 8, Indian Grandmaster D Gukesh emerged champion in the 1<sup>st</sup> Chessable Sunway Formentera Open 2022 chess tournament held in Spain. It was a hat-trick of titles for him after he had recently won the La Roda tournament and the Menorca Open. He settled for a draw with Armenian GM Haik M Martirosyan in the final round to win the title with eight points. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> “Chessable Sunway Formentera Open 2022” chess tournament – held in Spain
- D. Gukesh – settled for a draw with Haik M. Martirosyan ([Armenia](#)) in the final round & won the Championship
- [Spain – Madrid – Euro](#) | [PM – Pedro Sanchez](#)



**15.** On May 5, Olympian Discus Thrower Kamalpreet Kaur was provisionally suspended by Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) for testing positive for a banned substance. She was suspended for the presence/use of prohibited substance stanozolol in her sample. Kaur had made it to the Tokyo Olympics final, finishing sixth with a throw of 63.7m. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kamalpreet Kaur ([Discus Thrower](#)) – provisionally suspended by AIU for testing positive for a banned substance

**16.** On May 9, Indian Grandmaster Arjun Erigaisi finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Tepe Sigeman Chess Tournament. The 18-year old Erigaisi drew his final round game against higher-rated Czech opponent David Navara. The tournament was won by American Hans Moke Niemann. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Arjun Erigaisi – finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the “Tepe Sigeman Chess Tournament”
- Tournament was won by – Hans Moke Niemann ([US](#))

**17.** In May 2022, Indian boxer Nikhat Zareen won a Gold Medal at the 12<sup>th</sup> edition of the “IBA Women’s World Boxing Championships 2022” by defeating Thailand's Jitpong Jutamas in the 52kg final. The championship was held in Istanbul, Turkey. With this, Telangana native Zareen became only the fifth Indian female boxer to win gold at the World Championships. Moreover, Manisha Moun (57kg) and Parveen Hooda (63kg) won bronze medals after losing their semi-finals. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “IBA Women’s World Boxing Championships 2022” – held in Istanbul, Turkey
- Gold: Nikhat Zareen ([Telangana](#)) in 52kg category | Bronze: Manisha Moun & Parveen Hooda

**18.** In May 2022, India’s Men’s Badminton Team won the “Thomas Cup” title (World Men’s Team Championship) with a commanding 3-0 win over 14-time Thomas Cup Champions Indonesia. It is a historic triumph that will enhance India's status in the sport. In the first Men’s Singles, Lakshya Sen defeated Anthony Sinisuka Ginting of Indonesia. In the second Men’s Singles, Kidambi Srikanth defeated Indonesia's Jonatan Christie. Then India's best doubles pair of Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy defeated Mohammad Ahsan and Kevin Sanjaya Sukamuljo. Moreover, South Korea’s Women’s Badminton Team won the “Uber Cup” (World Women’s Team Championship), beating China. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Men’s Badminton Team – won the “Thomas Cup” (defeating - Indonesia)
- South Korea’s Women’s Badminton Team – won the “Uber Cup” (defeating - China)
- In Badminton: Thomas Cup – World Men’s Team Championship | Uber Cup – World Women’s Team Championship

**19.** On May 15, World No. 1 Novak Djokovic of Serbia won his 6<sup>th</sup> “Italian Open” title after victory over Greek Stefanos Tsitsipas in Rome. Novak claimed his 1,000<sup>th</sup> career victory, against Casper Ruud, to reach the final. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Novak Djokovic ([Serbia](#)) – won his 6<sup>th</sup> “Italian Open” title (defeating - Stefanos Tsitsipas)

**20.** Malaysia will host the 2027 South East Asian Games and Singapore the 2029 edition, announced by the two countries, ahead of the opening ceremony of the Covid-delayed 2021 showpiece in Vietnam. The 2021 Games in the Vietnamese capital Hanoi were delayed six months because of Covid and are set to officially open in May 2022. The 2023 SEA Games are scheduled to be held in Cambodia and 2025 edition will be in Bangkok, Thailand. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Host countries of South East Asian Games:
- 2021 (delayed in 2022) – Vietnam | 2023 – Cambodia | 2025 – Thailand | 2027 – Malaysia | 2029 – Singapore
- Malaysia – Kuala Lumpur – Ringgit | PM – Ismail Sabri Yaakob | King – Al-Sultan Abdullah

**21.** On May 14, China will no longer host the “AFC Asian Cup 2023” finals due to the COVID-19 situation in the country. The event, which is played every 4 years and features 24 national teams from across the continent, was due to be held in 10 cities from June 16 to July 16, 2023. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- China – will no longer host the “AFC Asian Cup 2023” finals due to the COVID-19 situation
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

**22.** India ranked 9<sup>th</sup> in medal tally with 17 medals (8 Gold, 1 Silver, 8 Bronze) at the 24<sup>th</sup> edition of “2021 Summer Deaflympics” (also called “Caxias 2021” or “XXIV Summer Deaflympic Games”). Ukraine topped the medal tally, followed by USA and Iran. The event was held at Caxias do Sul, Brazil with the mascot ‘the Ring-tailed Coati - Nino’. The Motto of the event was “Sports comes from the Our Hearts”. Indian golfer Diksha Dagar won Gold medal at the Deaflympics, defeating American Ashlyn Grace in the final. While Abhinav Deshwali won Gold in the Men’s 10m air pistol event. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – ranked 9<sup>th</sup> with 17 medals (8 Gold, 1 Silver, 8 Bronze) at the 24<sup>th</sup> “2021 Summer Deaflympics”
- 1<sup>st</sup> – Ukraine, 2<sup>nd</sup> – USA, 3<sup>rd</sup> – Iran | Hosted by – Brazil
- Mascot – “Ring-tailed Coati - Nino” | Motto – “Sports comes from the Our Hearts”
- Brazil – Brasilia – Brazilian real | President – Jair Bolsonaro

**23.** On May 14, All India Chess Federation (AICF) signed an MoU with the Tamil Nadu Government for the forthcoming 44<sup>th</sup> Chess Olympiad, scheduled to be held in Chennai from July 28 to August 10, 2022. This is the first time in history that India is hosting the world’s biggest chess event. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- AICF + Tamil Nadu = an MoU for the forthcoming 44<sup>th</sup> Chess Olympiad – to be held in Chennai
- India is hosting the world’s biggest Chess Event for the first time
- HQs of AICF – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | President – Sanjay Kapoor | Secretary – Bharat Singh Chauhan
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi

**24.** On May 18, Odisha was crowned as the champion of the 12<sup>th</sup> Hockey India Senior Women National Championship 2022 in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh with a thrilling 2-0 victory over Karnataka in the final of the competition. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Odisha – won the 12<sup>th</sup> 'Hockey India Senior Women National Championship 2022' in Bhopal (defeating - Karnataka)
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

**25.** In May 2022, Adani Sportsline, a part of the Adani Group, made a foray into franchise cricket by acquiring the rights to own and operate a franchise in UAE T20 League. Licensed by the Emirates Cricket Board, the UAE T20 League will be an annual event that will feature six teams competing in a 34-match event. Adani will be the fifth franchise owner of the UAE T20 league. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Adani Sportsline – acquired the rights to own & operate a franchise in UAE T20 League
- Adani will be the 5<sup>th</sup> franchise owner of the UAE T20 league which is licensed by the Emirates Cricket Board
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan

**26.** In May 2022, Avinash Sable broke Bahadur Prasad's 30 year old national record in the 5000 metres, clocking 13 minutes and 25.65 seconds, in San Juan Capistrano, USA, finishing 12<sup>th</sup> in a high-quality field. Avinash is from Madhva village in Beed, Maharashtra. He holds the national half marathon record too. The oldest athletics record in India is Shivnath Singh's 1978 mark in the marathon, a road race. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Avinash Sable – broke Bahadur Prasad's 30 year old National Record in the 5000 metres – in San Juan Capistrano, USA
- Avinash (Maharashtra) – finished 5000m in 13 minutes & 25.65 seconds (12<sup>th</sup>)

**27.** On May 22, Red Bull's Max Verstappen claimed a hard-fought "Spanish Grand Prix" win at the Circuit de Barcelona-Catalunya in Spain. Sergio Perez took second place and the final podium place went to Mercedes' George Russell. Ferrari's Charles Leclerc exited the race from a comfortable lead due to the power unit issue. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Max Verstappen (Red Bull - Netherlands) – won the "Spanish Grand Prix 2022"

**28.** Indian pistol pairs Esha Singh and Saurabh Chaudhary won a Gold medal in the 'mixed team pistol' event at the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) Junior World Cup in Suhl, Germany. India's Palak and Sarabjot Singh settled for the silver medal after losing to Esha and Saurabh. Ramita and Paarth Makhija also won Silver in the 10m air rifle mixed team competition. In all, India has so far won 10 medals, including four gold medals. Overall, the Indian Junior Shooting Team stood at the first position with 33 medals (13 Gold, 15 Silver & 5 Bronze). The Indian contingent was led by Manu Bhaker and Saurabh Chaudhary. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "ISSF Junior World Cup 2022" – held in Suhl, Germany
- Indian Junior Shooting Team – ranked first with 33 medals (13 Gold + 15 Silver + 5 Bronze)
- Indian contingent was led by = Manu Bhaker + Saurabh Chaudhary
- Esha Singh & Saurabh Chaudhary – won Gold medal in the 'mixed team pistol' event
- Palak & Sarabjot Singh – won Silver medal in the 'mixed team pistol' event
- Ramita & Paarth Makhija – won Silver medal in the '10m air rifle mixed team' event

**29.** In May 2022, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) awarded the title sponsorship rights for the “Women’s T20 Challenge 2022” to Indian fantasy sports platform My11Circle. The Women’s T20 Challenge this year will comprise four games which will be played from May 23 to May 28 at Pune’s MCA stadium. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- My11Circle – to be Title Sponsor of the upcoming ‘Women’s T20 Challenge 2022’
- Women’s T20 Challenge – to be played from May 23 to May 28 at Pune’s MCA stadium
- HQs of BCCI – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Sourav Ganguly | Secretary – Jay Shah | Founded in – 1928

**30.** On May 25, Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched the “Olympic Values Education Programme (OVEP)”, which is a pilot project aiming at disseminating principles-based curriculum to aid children’s active, healthy and responsible citizens. Odisha is the first state in the country to launch OVEP. Initially, the inaugural pilot project aims to reach 32,000 children enrolled in 90 schools across Bhubaneswar and Rourkela and once fully functional, it will impact 70 lakh children across India. The OVEP had been implemented across the world since 2006. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Odisha – the first state to launch the “Olympic Values Education Programme (OVEP)”
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

**31.** The Indian para badminton team finished with 23 medals, including 7 Golds, 3 Silver and 13 Bronze at the 1<sup>st</sup> Bahrain Para Badminton International Championships 2022 in Manama. Shuttler Manisha Ramdass shot into limelight with her twin gold medal show. Top para shuttlers Pramod Bhagat and Tarun Dhillon also clinched Gold medals each. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – won 23 medals (7 Golds) at the 1<sup>st</sup> “Bahrain Para Badminton International Championships 2022” in Manama
- Bahrain – Manama – Dinar | PM – Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa | King – Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa

**32.** In May 2022, Inter Milan defeated Juventus with 4-2 in the Italian Cup final at the Stadio Olimpico in Rome, Italy. Juventus also lost to Inter in the Italian Super Cup in January and it is the first year since 2011 it has finished the season without a trophy. Juventus Football Club, colloquially known as Juve, is a professional football club based in Turin, Piedmont, Italy. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Inter Milan – won the Italian Cup final at the Stadio Olimpico in Rome, Italy (defeating - Juventus)
- Juventus Football Club – a professional FC based in Turin, Piedmont, Italy
- Italy – Rome – Euro | President – Sergio Mattarella | PM – Mario Draghi

**33.** On May 23, Justin Thomas defeated fellow American Will Zalatoris to win the PGA Championship at Southern Hills, Oklahoma, US. Thomas is 2017 PGA champion & it is his second PGA title. The PGA Championship is an annual golf tournament conducted by the Professional Golfers’ Association of America. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Justin Thomas (Golf) – won his 2<sup>nd</sup> ‘PGA Championship’ in the US (defeating - Will Zalatoris)
- PGA Championship – an annual Golf tournament conducted by the Professional Golfers’ Association of America

**34.** On May 21, India's 16-year-old Grandmaster Rameshbabu Praggnanandha defeated World Champion Magnus Carlsen for the second time in a year, in the fifth round of the Chessable Masters Online Rapid Chess Tournament. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- R. Praggnanandha – defeated Magnus Carlsen for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time in a year, in the 5<sup>th</sup> round of the Chessable Masters Online Rapid Chess Tournament
- HQs of FIDE – Lausanne, Switzerland | President/Chairman – Arkady Dvorkovich | Founded on – July 20, 1924

**35.** On May 26, Chinese world No. 2 Ding Liren defeated India's Grandmaster R. Praggnanandhaa in the final of Meltwater Champions Chess Tour Chessable Masters online tournament. R. Praggnanandhaa defeated Russian-born Dutch chess grandmaster Anish Giri in the semifinal and became the first Indian player to reach the final of this tournament. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ding Liren ([China](#)) – won the Meltwater Champions Chess Tour Chessable Masters (defeating - R. Praggnanandhaa)
- R. Praggnanandhaa – the first Indian player to reach the final of this tournament

**36.** On May 26, Jyothi Yarraji smashed the women's 100m Hurdle National Record for the third time in two weeks at the "De Harry Schulting Games 2022" in Vught, the Netherlands. The 22-year-old athlete from Andhra Pradesh clocked 13.04 seconds under a headwind speed of +1.4m/s. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "De Harry Schulting Games 2022" – held in Vught, Netherlands
- Jyothi Yarraji ([Andhra Pradesh](#)) – smashed the women's 100m Hurdle National Record for the third time in two weeks
- [Netherlands – Amsterdam – Euro](#) | [PM – Mark Rutte](#)

**37.** On May 30, Red Bull's Sergio Perez of Mexico registered his first Formula One (F1) win of the season at the "Monaco Grand Prix 2022". Perez finished ahead of Ferrari's Carlos Sainz (second) and teammate Max Verstappen (third). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sergio Perez ([Mexico - Red Bull](#)) – won his first F1 win title at the "Monaco Grand Prix 2022"

**38.** In May 2022, Gujarat Titans won the 15<sup>th</sup> edition of the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2022, sponsored by Tata Group. The first qualifier was held on the 24<sup>th</sup> of May between Gujarat Titans and Rajasthan Royals. The second qualifier was played by Rajasthan Royals and Royal Challengers Bangalore. IPL final was held on the 30<sup>th</sup> of May between Gujarat Titans and Rajasthan Royals in the Narendra Modi stadium, Ahmedabad, and was won by a one-sided match by Gujarat Titans. 2007-08 was the launching year of the IPL. The first-ever IPL was won by Rajasthan Royals in 2008. Gujarat Titans is the first sports team in India to launch its team logo named "The Titans Dugout" in metaverse. Ashish Nehra was the head coach of Gujarat Titans, while Hardik Pandya was the captain of the team. West Indies player Dwayne Bravo, who was playing for Chennai Super Kings, became the highest wicket-taker in the IPL, surpassing Sri Lanka's Lasith Malinga. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Gujarat Titans – won the ‘IPL 2022’ (15<sup>th</sup>) in the Narendra Modi stadium, Ahmedabad (defeating - Rajasthan Royals)
- Sponsor of ‘IPL 2022’ – Tata Group
- Gujarat Titans: Head Coach – Ashish Nehra | Captain – Hardik Pandya
- Dwayne Bravo ([West Indies](#)) – became the highest wicket-taker in the IPL
- IPL was launched in – 2007-08 | 1<sup>st</sup> IPL was won by – Rajasthan Royals in 2008
- Gujarat Titans – first sports team in India to launch its team logo namely “The Titans Dugout” in metaverse
- [Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar](#) | [CM – Bhupendra Patel](#) | [Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat](#)

**39.** In May 2022, India’s premier long jumper Murali Sreeshankar of Kerala has won the gold medal at the 12<sup>th</sup> “International Jumping Meeting” in Kallithea, Greece with an effort of 8.31m. The Tokyo Olympian is the current national record holder with a jump of 8.36m. Sreeshankar was followed by Swede Thobias Montler (8.27m) and France’s Jules Pommery (8.17m). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Murali Sreeshankar ([Kerala](#)) – won the gold medal at the 12<sup>th</sup> “International Jumping Meeting” in Kallithea, Greece
- Silver – Thobias Montler ([Sweden](#)) | Bronze – Jules Pommery ([France](#))

**40.** On May 31, American chess Grandmaster (GM) Wesley Barbossa So won the 2022 Norway Chess Blitz tournament by beating GM Magnus Carlsen who ranked 2nd. Indian Grandmaster Viswanathan Anand defeated Norwegian GM Magnus Carlsen in round seven of the tournament & ranked 4<sup>th</sup>. While Russian-born Dutch chess grandmaster Anish Giri ranked 3rd in the tournament. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Wesley Barbossa So ([USA](#)) – won the “2022 Norway Chess Blitz” tournament (Defeated - Magnus Carlsen)
- Viswanathan Anand – ranked 4<sup>th</sup> | Anish Giri (Russian-born Dutch) – ranked 3<sup>rd</sup>

**41.** On May 29, a Para-Canoeist Prachi Yadav became the first Indian to bag a World Cup medal by capturing a Bronze medal at the “2022 ICF Paracanoe World Cup” held in Poznan, Poland. Prachi bagged the bronze medal in VL2 Women’s 200m with a timing of 1:04.71 seconds, finishing behind Canada’s Brianna Hennessy (Silver) and Australia’s Susan Seipel (Gold). Manish Kaurav (KL3 Men 200m) and Manjeet Singh (VL2 Men 200m) also reached the finals for the first time ever in the history of the tournament. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Prachi Yadav ([Para-Canoeist](#)) – won Bronze at “2022 ICF Paracanoe World Cup” held in Poznan, Poland (first Indian)
- Gold – Brianna Hennessy ([Canada](#)) | Silver – Susan Seipel ([Australia](#))



# Persons in News

**1.** Priyanka Mohite from Maharashtra's Satara district has become the first Indian woman to climb five peaks above 8000 metres, after climbing Mount Kanchenjunga, the third highest mountain in the world (8,586m height). It is situated in the eastern Himalayas on the border between Sikkim, northeastern India, and eastern Nepal. The 30-year-old climbed the third highest peak on Earth on May 5, 2022. In 2020, she also won the prestigious Tenzing Norgay Adventure Award. She climbed Mount Everest in 2013, Mount Lhotse in 2018, Mount Makalu in 2019 and Annapurna 1 in 2021. Notably, she is also the first Indian woman to climb Annapurna 1 and Makalu. There are 14 8000m-plus height mountains in the world - seven in Nepal, two in China and five in Pakistan. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Priyanka Mohite ([Maharashtra](#)) – became the first Indian woman to climb 5 peaks above 8000 metres
- She achieved the milestone after climbing 'Mount Kanchenjunga', 3<sup>rd</sup> highest mountain in the world (8,586m height)

**2.** A Nepalese Sherpa scaled Mount Everest for a record 26<sup>th</sup> time, beating his own previous record set last year. The 52-year old Kami Rita Sherpa scaled the 8,848.86-metre mountain on May 7. He first summited the peak in 1994. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Kami Rita Sherpa ([Nepal](#)) – scaled world's highest peak 'Mount Everest' for the 26<sup>th</sup> time (breaking his own record)
- [Argentina – Buenos Aires – Peso](#) | [President – Alberto Fernandez](#)

**3.** In May 2022, Indian-origin academic Swati Dhingra has been appointed as an external member to the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC). Dhingra was the first Indian-origin woman to join the committee. Swati Dhingra will replace current external member, Michael Saunders, on 9 August and will serve for a 3-year term. Andrew Bailey is the Governor of the Bank of England. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Swati Dhingra (1<sup>st</sup> Indian-origin woman) – appointed as an external member to the Bank of England's MPC
- [UK – London – Pound Sterling](#) | [PM – Boris Johnson](#)

**4.** West Bengal's Piyali Basak became the first Indian woman to scale Mt. Everest without supplementary oxygen. She is a primary school teacher from Chandernagore district. In September-October of 2021, Piyali also became the first woman to climb Mt. Dhaulagiri (8167 meters) without any oxygen support. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Piyali Basak ([West Bengal](#)) – the first Indian woman to scale Mt. Everest & Mt. Dhaulagiri without supplementary oxygen
- [West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata](#) | [CM – Mamta Banerjee](#) | [Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar](#)

## **Arts & Cultural Affairs**

**1.** On May 16, PM Narendra Modi along with his Nepalese counterpart Sher Bahadur Deuba laid the foundation stone for the “India International Centre for Buddhist Culture & Heritage” in the Lumbini, Nepal. The Centre will be a world-class facility welcoming pilgrims and tourists from all over the world to enjoy the essence of spiritual aspects of Buddhism. The centre is being built by the International Buddhist Confederation, New Delhi. After the “Shilanyaas” ceremony, which was performed by monks belonging to three major Buddhist traditions, Theravada, Mahayana and Vajrayana, the two Prime Ministers also unveiled a model of the Centre. Moreover, on the occasion of Buddha Purnima, PM Modi signed 6 MoUs during bilateral talks in Lumbini, Nepal. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Narendra Modi + Sher Bahadur Deuba = laid the foundation stone for “India International Centre for Buddhist Culture & Heritage” in Lumbini, Nepal
- PM Modi – signed 6 MoUs during bilateral talks in Lumbini, Nepal
- Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee | President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari | PM – Sher Bahadur Deuba



# Science & Technology

**1.** The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) announced to shut down the operations of Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy (SOFIA) mission, the world's largest flying telescope by September 30, 2022. SOFIA had confirmed the presence of water on the Moon and it's been in operation since 2014. SOFIA is a collaboration between NASA and the German Space Agency (DLR). NASA's decision to shut down SOFIA closely follows the White House's 2023 federal budget request released on 28 March 2022, which did not allocate money to SOFIA. SOFIA is operating at the cost of about \$85 million per year. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- NASA – announced to shut down the operations of 'SOFIA' mission (the world's largest flying telescope) – by Sep 30
- SOFIA's operating cost – about \$85 million per year
- [HQs of NASA – Washington D.C., US](#) | [Administrator – Bill Nelson](#) | [Founded on – July 29, 1958](#)

**2.** On May 2, Kurapati Sai Divya designed and developed a 1U Cubesat - a class of research spacecraft called nanosatellites. The CubeSat called "LakshyaSAT" was successfully launched into the stratosphere from the United Kingdom. Sai Divya is a research scholar in Satellite Communications and hails from Tenali. The payload LakshyaSAT reached an altitude of 26 km and stayed in the stratosphere for around three hours. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Kurapati Sai Divya ([Andhra Pradesh](#)) – designed & developed 1U Cubesat called "LakshyaSAT"
- The cubesat was launched into the stratosphere from the UK

**3.** On May 3, IIT Hyderabad announced a demonstration of the Extreme Massive MIMO (Multiple-Input Multiple-Output), a key technology that is being considered for 5G-advanced and 6G deployment. Extreme massive MIMO refers to next-generation technology that uses very large antenna arrays. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- IIT Hyderabad – announced a demonstration of 'Extreme Massive MIMO' technology for 5G-advanced & 6G deployment
- MIMO – **M**ultiple-**I**nter **M**ultiple-**O**utput
- [Director of IIT Hyderabad – B. S. Murty](#)

**4.** On May 3, Researchers at IIT Mandi have identified a drug molecule called "PK2" that can be used to treat diabetes. The molecule is able to trigger the release of insulin by the pancreas, and can potentially be used as an orally administered medicine for diabetes. The findings of the research have been published in the Journal of Biological Chemistry. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Researchers at IIT Mandi – identified a drug molecule called "PK2" that can be used to treat diabetes
- [Director of IIT Mandi – Prof. Laxmidhar Behera](#)

**5.** On May 4, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) announced its mission to Venus by December 2024. The mission aims to study what lies below the surface of the solar system's hottest planet, and also unravel the mysteries under the Sulfuric Acid clouds enveloping it. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- ISRO announced its mission to Venus by December 2024
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – S. Somanath | Formed on – August 15, 1969

**6.** On May 5, a new plant species “Peperomia Albertiae” is discovered in Idukki district by researchers at the postgraduate and research department of Botany at St. Albert’s College in Kochi. The discovery was published in the March edition of the Kew Bulletin journal of botanical garden, England. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Peperomia Albertiae” a new plant species – discovered in Idukki, Kerala – by researchers of St. Albert’s College (Kochi)
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

**7.** Russia launched a secret military payload into orbit around the earth using its new ‘Angara 1.2’ rocket. The launch took place at the Plesetsk Cosmodrome in the town of Mirny in the north-western Russian region of Arkhangelsk Oblast. This was the first operational flight of Angara 1.2. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Russia – launched a secret military payload into orbit around the earth using its new ‘Angara 1.2’ rocket
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

**8.** As part of its modernisation and network-centric warfare and communications programme, the Indian navy plans to acquire a dedicated earth imaging satellite - Geo Imaging Satellite-2 (GISAT-2), this fiscal. Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV)-F12 will be the launching vehicle. The Gisat-2, is among 21 planned procurements, including some long-term acquisitions as per information from the Ministry of Defence (MoD). The navy has been allotted Rs 45,250 Cr for modernisation under budget estimates for 2022-23. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian navy – to acquire ‘GISAT-2’, an Earth Imaging Satellite | it will be launched by – ‘GSLV-F12’
- Indian navy – has been allotted Rs 45,250 Cr for modernisation under budget estimates for 2022-23
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral R. Hari Kumar | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26th Jan, 1950
- Ministry of Defence: Rajnath Singh | Constituency – Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Defence: Ajay Bhatt

**9.** A team led by scientists from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in the US discovered a rare “Triple Black Widow” system - a pair of stars that rapidly circle each other before one is consumed by the other. It is located some 3,000 light-years away. The star system named “ZTF J1406+1222” has the shortest known orbit of any black widow binary i.e. 62 minutes. The system derives its name from the “black widow” spiders. The study used HiPERCAM, a high-speed camera developed by researchers at the University of Sheffield. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Scientists from MIT (US) – discovered a rare “Triple Black Widow” system - a pair of stars named “ZTF J1406+1222”
- The system derives its name from the “black widow” spiders



**10.** In May 2022, Scientists from the Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology & Natural History (SACON) in Coimbatore carried out a survey of slender loris populations in Tamil Nadu's Dindigul forest division. The gray slender loris (*Loris lydekkerianus*) belongs to the family Loridae. It is a species of primate. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SACON (Coimbatore) – carried out a survey of slender loris populations in Tamil Nadu's Dindigul forest division
- The gray slender loris – belongs to the family Loridae (species of primate)
- HQs of IIFL Finance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Nirmal Jain | MD – Venkataraman Rajamani

**11.** Paleontologists in Argentina have discovered the fossil of the largest dinosaur from the Raptor family, the Megaraptor named 'Maip macrothorax'. This raptor measured 33 feet long and weighed over 5 tons. The fossil of the megaraptor were uncovered in El Calafate, a city in Argentina. Maip 's name was chosen by Aranciaga Rolando. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Paleontologists – discovered the fossil of the largest dinosaur from the Raptor family the Megaraptor named 'Maip macrothorax' from – Argentina
- Argentina – Buenos Aires – Peso | President – Alberto Fernandez

**12.** On May 8, the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), which has been working in Rakhi Garhi in Haryana for the last 32 years, made one of its biggest discoveries yet with the excavation of a 5000-year-old jewellery making factory. Rakhigarhi or Rakhi Garhi is a village and one of the oldest archaeological sites belonging to the Indus Valley Civilisation in Hisar district of Haryana. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ASI discovered a 5000-year-old jewellery making factory in Haryana's Indus Valley site Rakhigarhi
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya
- HQs of ASI – New Delhi | Director General – V. Vidyavathi

**13.** The 'Kadiri-Lepakshi 1812', developed at Kadiri Agriculture Research Station in a three-way cross and notified by the National Varietal Committee, is a new variety of Groundnut. A major advantage of the Kadiri-Lepakshi variety is it contains 28% of proteins and 51% of oil compared to 48% in K-6 variety. The seed was developed in Andhra Pradesh. This variety is said to be drought-resistant and can withstand inundation of fields due to untimely excess rainfall just before harvest. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 'Kadiri-Lepakshi 1812' – a new drought-resistant variety of Groundnut
- This variety contains 28% of proteins and 51% of oil | The seed was developed in – Andhra Pradesh

**14.** On May 9, Bengaluru-based Bellatrix Aerospace has tested an Eco-friendly Propulsion System for satellites that cuts a new path from the hydrazine-dependent fuel systems and offers a potential 20% jump in fuel efficiency for space satellites. Bellatrix's recent testing of its Green Propulsion System also marks a key inflection point in the startup's journey in building a space taxi system for satellites. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bellatrix Aerospace – tested 'Eco-friendly Propulsion System' that offers a 20% hike in fuel efficiency for space satellites
- HQs of Bellatrix Aerospace – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Ganapathy | Established in – 2015

**15.** On May 13, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully completed the static test of the human-rated solid rocket booster “HS200” for the Gaganyaan Programme at Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC), Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh. The booster engine is part of the Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle MkIII (GSLV Mk III) rocket that will carry Indian astronauts to space. India's first manned space flight mission - ‘Gaganyaan’, is expected to launch in 2023. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ISRO successfully completed the static test of the human-rated solid rocket booster “HS200” for the mission ‘Gaganyaan’
- [HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka](#) | [Director – S. Somanath](#) | [Formed on – August 15, 1969](#)

**16.** On May 12, the Indian Air Force (IAF) successfully test-fired an extended-range version of BrahMos supersonic cruise missile from ‘Su-30 MKI’ fighter aircraft in the Bay of Bengal, for the first time. The range of the advanced version of this BrahMos missile is extended to around 350 km from the original 290 km. This feat was achieved by dedicated and synergetic efforts of the IAF, Indian Navy, DRDO, BrahMos Aerospace & Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL). BrahMos missile flies at a speed of 2.8 Mach or almost three times the speed of sound. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IAF – test-fired an extended-range version of BrahMos supersonic cruise missile from ‘Su-30 MKI’ in the Bay of Bengal
- 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](#)

**17.** On May 12, the NASA launched its Endurance mission through its three-stage Oriole IIIA rocket from Andoya Space’s Ny-Alesund, Svalbard Launch Facility in Norway. The rocket carried instruments to measure Earth’s electric potential, and provide a clue as to why the planet supports life successfully. Endurance is a NASA-funded mission conducted through the Sounding Rocket Program at the Wallops Flight Facility in Virginia. Moreover, the Svalbard Rocket Range is owned and operated by Andoya Space Center. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NASA – launched its “Endurance” mission through its ‘Orole IIIA’ rocket from Andoya Space’s Launch Facility in Norway
- [HQs of NASA – Washington D.C., US](#) | [Administrator – Bill Nelson](#) | [Founded on – July 29, 1958](#)

**18.** The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has built a twin-satellite mission called “DISHA-H&L” for studying the impact of space weather on the Earth’s upper atmosphere. The DISHA-H satellite will be placed at a high inclination orbit and DISHA-L, at a lower inclination orbit. “DISHA” is short for “Disturbed and Quiet time Ionosphere-Thermosphere Systems at High Altitudes”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ISRO built a twin-satellite mission “DISHA-H&L” to study the impact of space weather on the Earth’s upper atmosphere
- DISHA – **D**isturbed and **Q**uiet time **I**onosphere-**T**hermosphere **S**ystems at **H**igh **A**ltitudes
- [HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka](#) | [Director – S. Somanath](#) | [Formed on – August 15, 1969](#)



**19.** In May 2022, NASA's InSight lander has detected the largest quake on Mars. It is the largest quake ever observed on another planet. InSight lander has been studying Mars' deep interior since touching down on the planet in 2018. The quake probably originated near the Cerberus Fossae region, which is more than 1,000 kilometers from the lander. Marsquakes can be used to probe what lies beneath Mars' surface. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NASA's InSight lander – detected the largest quake ever observed on another planet – on Mars
- HQs of NASA – Washington D.C., US | Administrator – Bill Nelson | Founded on – July 29, 1958

**20.** On May 13, the CSIR-National Aerospace Laboratories (CSIR-NAL) initiated taxi trials for the evaluation of an indigenously developed Digital Anti-Skid Braking System for the 19-seat Light Transport aircraft named "SARAS Mk2". It will benefit operation from airfields with short runways to boost regional air connectivity. Digital Anti-skid Brake Management System is developed for the first time in India for civil aircraft by the CSIR-NAL. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- CSIR-NAL ([Bangalore](#)) – initiated taxi trials for the evaluation of an indigenously developed Digital Anti-Skid Braking System for "SARAS Mk2" aircraft
- HQs of CSIR – New Delhi | President – Narendra Modi | DG – Shekhar C. Mande | Established in – 1942

**21.** On May 13, Scientists have discovered almost 35-million-year-old fossil of a Madtsoiidae snake from Ladakh Himalaya for the first time indicating their prevalence in the subcontinent for much longer time than previously thought. Madtsoiidae is an extinct group of medium-sized to gigantic snakes. The research published in Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Scientists have discovered almost 35-million-year-old fossil of a Madtsoiidae snake from Ladakh Himalaya
- Madtsoiidae – an extinct group of medium-sized to gigantic snakes
- The research was published in – Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology
- Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R. K. Mathur

**22.** The Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) has developed India's first indigenous mRNA vaccine technology for Covid-19. The vaccine technology, which is 90% effective against Covid-19 in the mouse model, can also be used to fight other infectious diseases like malaria, dengue and tuberculosis once the pandemic ends. Though there are mRNA (messenger RNA) vaccines developed by Pfizer and Moderna to prevent Covid-19, the CCMB's mRNA vaccine technology is fully indigenous and was developed without any external scientific assistance. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- CCMB – developed India's first indigenous mRNA vaccine technology for Covid-19
- It is 90% effective against Covid-19 in the mouse model
- HQs of CSIR-CCMB – Hyderabad, Telangana | Director – Vinay K. Nandicoori

**23.** In May 2022, Radiocarbon dating of excavations from Mayiladumparai in Krishnagiri district confirmed that iron was in used in Tamil Nadu as early as 2172 BCE, or 4,200 years ago, making it the oldest iron age site currently found in India. The habitation-cum-burial site in Mayiladumparai was first excavated in the year 2003 by K Rajan of the Thanjavur-based Tamil University and based on his promising results, excavation was resumed in 2021 by the state Department of Archaeology. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mayiladumparai in Krishnagiri district (Tamil Nadu) – became the oldest iron age site currently found in India
- Excavations confirmed that iron was used in Tamil Nadu as early as 2172 BCE, or 4,200 years ago
- [Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi](#)

**24.** On May 17, the US Air Force revealed that 419<sup>th</sup> Flight Test Squadron and the Global Power Bomber Combined Test, both headquartered at Edwards Air Force Base in California, successfully conducted the test of hypersonic weapon. The ‘B-52H Stratofortress’ bomber launched an “AGM-183A Air-launched Rapid Response Weapon (ARRW)” off the coast of Southern California, US. The ARRW was developed by Lockheed Martin to destroy flexible, time-sensitive targets in combat situations. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 419<sup>th</sup> Flight Test Squadron & Global Power Bomber Combined Test – conducted the test of hypersonic weapon
- ‘B-52H Stratofortress’ bomber launched an “AGM-183A Air-launched Rapid Response Weapon (ARRW)”
- ‘AGM-183A ARRW’ is developed by – Lockheed Martin
- [HQs of Lockheed Martin – Maryland, USA | CEO – Jim Taiclet | Founded in – 1995](#)

**25.** On May 18, Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh chaired the 4<sup>th</sup> Joint Meeting of all Science Ministries and Departments in New Delhi. In addition, 75 Students’ satellites, under a space mission called “UNITYsat”, are scheduled to launch in 2022, coinciding with Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. ‘Azadisat’ is also scheduled to launch this year. These 75 students’ satellites are developed by students from the Chandigarh University, IIT Kanpur, IIT Bombay and 11 other institutions. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dr. Jitendra Singh – chaired the 4<sup>th</sup> Joint Meeting of all Science Ministries & Departments in New Delhi
- 75 Students’ satellites are scheduled to launch in 2022 under a space mission called “UNITYsat”
- [MoS \(I/C\) in the Ministry of Science & Technology: Dr. Jitendra Singh | Constituency – Udhampur, J&K](#)
- [MoS in the Department of Atomic Energy and Space: Dr. Jitendra Singh](#)

**26.** On May 18, Herpetologists in Mizoram have recorded a new species of non-venomous snake living away from sources of water unlike its six recognised sister-species. The new-to-science snake named “lenrul”, meaning high-elevation snake in the Mizo language, is the only one of its kind in India found beyond 1,700 metres above the mean sea level. The snake’s scientific name is *Herpetoreas murlen*, derived from the place it was found - Murlen National Park in Champhai district of Mizoram. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- A new species of non-venomous snake “*Herpetoreas murlen*” – found in Murlen National Park, Mizoram
- Snake is named “lenrul”, meaning high-elevation snake in the Mizo language
- It is the only one of its kind in India found beyond 1,700 metres above the mean sea level
- [Mizoram: Capital – Aizawl | CM – Zoramthanga | Governor – B. D. Mishra \(addi. charge\)](#)

**27.** On May 19, Chinese scientists have proposed a space project to survey the sky through a space-borne telescope to hunt for habitable Earth-like planets outside the solar system, about 32 light-years from Earth. The project, named Closeby Habitable Exoplanet Survey (CHES), if carried out, will be the first space mission specially designed to search for habitable terrestrial planets around nearby Sun-like stars. The CHES will observe about 100 Sun-like stars 32 light-years away on a long-term survey and will hopefully discover roughly 50 Earth-like planets or super-Earths, planets that are up to about 10 times the mass of Earth. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- China – proposed a project, named ‘CHES’ to survey the sky for habitable Earth-like planets outside the Solar System
- It will be the first space mission specially designed to search for habitable terrestrial planets around nearby Sun-like stars
- [China – Beijing – Renminbi](#) | [President – Xi Jinping](#)

**28.** On May 18, a team of scientists at the Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies (Kufos) has standardised the techniques for artificial breeding of Olive barbs (Kuruva Paral) and Filament barb (Kalakkodiyam), and have developed brood stocks for Highfin barb (Kooral) and Carnatic carp (Pachilavetti). The conservation measures being taken up by Kufos are supported under the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)-India High Range Landscape project. The university has also set up a Hatchery at Idamalayar with the support of the UNDP. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Scientists at Kufos – standardised the techniques for artificial breeding of Olive barbs & Filament barb
- Scientists have developed brood stocks for Highfin barb & Carnatic carp
- Kufos – set up a Hatchery at Idamalayar with the support of the UNDP
- [Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram](#) | [CM – Pinarayi Vijayan](#) | [Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan](#)

**29.** A team of Australian researchers have identified a biochemical marker in the blood that could help identify newborn babies at risk for sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS). In their study, babies who died of SIDS had lower levels of an enzyme called butyrylcholinesterase (BChE) shortly after birth. BChE plays a major role in the brain’s arousal pathway, and low levels would reduce a sleeping infant’s ability to wake up or respond to its environment. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Australian researchers identified a biochemical marker in the blood related to ‘SIDS’
- SIDS – Sudden Infant Death Syndrome
- Babies who died of SIDS had lower levels of an enzyme called ‘butyrylcholinesterase (BChE)’ shortly after birth
- [Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar](#) | [PM – Scott Morrison](#)

**30.** The Denisovans, an extinct group of archaic humans first discovered in a Siberian cave in 2008, were found outside of northern Asia too, the analysis of a tooth found in a Laos cave has shown. The tooth, a permanent lower molar, was discovered by a team of scientists in December 2018 from Cobra Cave in Hua Pan province, Laos. The scientists published their study titled “A Middle Pleistocene Denisovan molar from the Annamite Chain of northern Laos” in the journal ‘Nature Communications’ on May 17, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- A study “A Middle Pleistocene Denisovan molar from the Annamite Chain of northern Laos” – was published in the journal ‘Nature Communications’
- The ‘Denisovans’ were found outside of northern Asia too | The study is based on – a molar tooth
- Denisovans – an extinct group of archaic humans first discovered in a Siberian cave in 2008

**31.** On May 20, the James Webb Space Telescope, the world’s largest and most powerful space-based observatory, recently completed the first test to track a moving object, which verified that the telescope could conduct moving target science. The engineering team tested this capability on a small asteroid in the Main Belt: 6481 Tenzing, named after Tenzing Norgay, the famous Tibetan mountain guide who was one of the first people to reach the summit of Mount Everest. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- James Webb Space Telescope – completed the first test to track a moving object
- The test was done on a small asteroid in the ‘Main Belt: 6481 Tenzing’, named after ‘Tenzing Norgay’

**32.** On May 19, Hyderabad-based space technology startup Skyroot Aerospace successfully conducted a static fire test of its “Kalam-100” rocket that will power the “Vikran-1” launch vehicle. The third stage, named “Kalam-100” after former President APJ Abdul Kalam, was fired for a duration of 108 seconds. During the test, the rocket produced a peak vacuum thrust of 100 kN (about 10 tons). The test was conducted at a facility of one of the company’s investors Solar Industries India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Skyroot Aerospace – conducted a static fire test of its “Kalam-100” rocket that will power the “Vikran-1” launch vehicle
- [HQs of Skyroot Aerospace – Hyderabad, Telangana](#) | [CEO – Pawan Kumar Chandana](#)

**33.** On May 18, the NASA and Boeing launched the ‘Starliner’ spacecraft on the Second Orbital Flight (OFT-2), atop a United Launch Alliance Atlas V rocket from Space Launch Complex-41 on Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NASA + Boeing = launched the ‘Starliner’ spacecraft on the Second Orbital Flight (OFT-2)
- It was launched with ‘Atlas V’ rocket (the rocket is being operated by United Launch Alliance)
- [HQs of Boeing – Chicago, US](#) | [CEO – Dave Calhoun](#) | [Founded in – 1916](#)
- [HQs of NASA – Washington D.C., US](#) | [Administrator – Bill Nelson](#) | [Founded on – July 29, 1958](#)

**34.** On May 20, AstroSat, India’s first dedicated astronomy mission, which was launched in September 2015 by the ISRO, has detected the birth of a black hole for the 500<sup>th</sup> time. The AstroSat comprises 5 instruments that can simultaneously study the Universe in ultraviolet, optical, and X-ray radiation. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- AstroSat – detected the birth of a black hole for the 500<sup>th</sup> time
- “AstroSat” - India’s first dedicated astronomy mission – launched by the ISRO (in Sep 2015)



**35.** On May 21, Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh launched single national portal called “Biological Research Regulatory Approval Portal (BioRRAP)” for Biotech researchers and start-ups. The BioRRAP is an initiative of Department of Biotechnology. The Portal BioRRAP will cater to all those seeking regulatory approval required for biological research and development activity in India. The Minister of State (I/C) Ministry of Science & Technology also stated that India is poised to become a Global Bio-manufacturing Hub and will figure among the top 5 countries of the world by 2025. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Jitendra Singh – launched single national portal called “Biological Research Regulatory Approval Portal (BioRRAP)”
- BioRRAP – an initiative of Department of Biotechnology
- India is poised to become a Global Bio-manufacturing Hub & will figure among the top 5 countries by 2025

**36.** On May 21, the herpetologists have discovered a new species of venomous snake named “Maya’s Pit Viper”, also recognised as “*Trimeresurus mayaae*” at the Umroi Military Station in Ri-Bhoi, Meghalaya. It is also believed to allude to maya, meaning the supernatural powers, or the illusion related to local legends. The study was published in the recent edition of PLOS One, a peer-reviewed journal. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Maya’s Pit Viper” or “*Trimeresurus mayaae*” - a new species of venomous snake – discovered in Ri-Bhoi, Meghalaya
- [Meghalaya: Capital – Shillong](#) | [CM – Conrad Kongkal Sangma](#) | [Governor – Satya Pal Malik](#)

**37.** As on May 2022, NASA’s space prob “Voyager 1” is sending back Mysterious data, puzzling its engineers. It is continuing its journey beyond the Solar System, 45 years after it was launched in 1977. Voyager 1 left our solar system and entered interstellar space in 2012. It is now 14.5 billion miles away from Earth, making it the most distant human-made object. The Attitude Articulation & Control System (AACS) is essential for Voyager to send NASA data about its surrounding interstellar environment. The Voyager mission employs two robotic interstellar probes, Voyager 1 and Voyager 2. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NASA’s space prob “Voyager 1” – most distant human-made object (14.5 billion miles away from Earth)
- It was launched in 1977, left our solar system & entered interstellar space in 2012
- [HQs of NASA – Washington D.C., US](#) | [Administrator – Bill Nelson](#) | [Founded on – July 29, 1958](#)

**38.** A team of experts from the National Geographic (NatGeo) Society has installed the “world’s highest weather station” on Mt. Everest at an altitude of 8,830 metres to automatically measure various meteorological phenomena. The automatic weather station was installed a few metres below the summit point (8,848.86 metres). Moreover, Nepal’s Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM) and National Geographic Society signed an MoU to operate all five Automatic Weather Stations installed by NatGeo to provide near real-time information regarding mountain conditions. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NatGeo – installed the ‘world’s highest weather station’ on Mt. Everest at an altitude of 8,830 metres
- Nepal’s DHM + National Geographic Society = MoU to operate all five Automatic Weather Stations installed by NatGeo
- [Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee](#) | [President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari](#) | [PM – Sher Bahadur Deuba](#)

**39.** On May 25, Researchers from the University of Kerala and the Jawaharlal Nehru Tropical Botanic Garden and Research Institute (JNTBGRI) discovered a new plant species of the genus *Ophiorrhiza*, a group of plants valued for their medicinal uses, in the biodiversity-rich Western Ghats region in Thrissur district of Kerala. It has been named *Ophiorrhiza sasidharaniana* after Prof. A. Sasidharan, former Botany Department head of the University College, Thiruvananthapuram. The journal *Annales Botanici Fennici* published the discovery. *Ophiorrhiza* (family Rubiaceae) has over 380 species, found mainly in wet tropical and subtropical forests of southeast Asia. India has 52 species. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Researchers from University of Kerala + JNTBGRI = discovered a new plant species of genus 'Ophiorrhiza' in Thrissur
- India has 52 species of *Ophiorrhiza* (family Rubiaceae)
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

**40.** Communications minister Ashwini Vaishnaw tested India's first 5G audio and video call, a Voice over New Radio (VoNR) technology, designed and developed by IIT Madras in India. Moreover, PM Narendra Modi inaugurated India's first 5G test bed. Besides, a Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)-backed consortium including C-DoT has been shortlisted as the core equipment provider by state-run Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd (BSNL) for its next generation network roll out. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ashwini Vaishnaw – tested India's 1<sup>st</sup> 5G audio & video call, a VoNR technology (designed & developed by - IIT Madras)
- Director of IIT Madras – V. Kamakoti

**41.** PARAM PORUL, a state-of the art Supercomputer at NIT Tiruchirappalli was inaugurated on May 25, 2022 by Bhaskar Bhat, Chairperson Board of Governors, Tiruchirappalli. It is dedicated to the nation under National Supercomputing Mission (NSM) - a joint initiative of Ministry of Electronics & Information (MeitY,) and Department of Science & Technology (DST). An MoU was signed between NIT Tiruchirappalli and Centre for Development in Advanced Computing (C-DAC) on 12th October, 2020 to establish this 838 TeraFlops Supercomputing Facility under NSM. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 'PARAM PORUL' supercomputer – inaugurated at NIT Tiruchirappalli under 'National Supercomputing Mission (NSM)'
- NSM – a joint initiative of MeitY & DST
- NIT Tiruchirappalli + C-DAC = an MoU in 2020 to establish this 838 TeraFlops Supercomputing Facility under NSM
- HQs of C-DAC – Pune, Maharashtra | Senior Director – Mahesh Kulkarni (functions under MeitY)

**42.** On May 27, a new species of old world monkey discovered from Arunachal Pradesh was named "Sela macaque" (*Macaca selai*), after a strategic mountain pass at 13,700 ft above sea level. It was identified and analysed by a team of experts from the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) and the University of Calcutta. Their study was published in the latest edition of 'Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution'. Sela is situated between Dirang and Tawang towns in western Arunachal Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- “Sela macaque”, a new species of old world monkey – discovered from Arunachal Pradesh
- Published in – ‘Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution’ journal
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital – Itanagar | CM – Pema Khandu | Governor – B. D. Mishra

**43.** On May 24, Money spiders, commonly found in European meadows, have been reported for the first time in India from the Muthanga range of the Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary. Researchers of Christ College, Irinjalakuda, Thrissur, have discovered the spider that belongs to the family of dwarf spiders (Linyphiidae) under the genus Prosoponoides. The ant-mimicking spider has been named ‘Toxeus alboclavus’. It is the first report of this genus from India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ‘Toxeus alboclavus’, ant-mimicking spider – discovered from the Muthanga range of the Wayanad W.S. (Kerala)
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

**44.** On May 29, Russia successfully test-fired a hypersonic Zircon (Tsirkon) cruise missile over a distance of about 1,000 km (625 miles). The missile was fired from the Barents Sea and hit a target in the White Sea. Hypersonic weapons can travel at 9 times the speed of sound. In April, Russia also test-launched a new nuclear-capable intercontinental missile “Sarmat”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Russia – successfully test-fired “Zircon (Tsirkon)” hypersonic cruise missile over a distance of about 1,000 km (625 miles)
- Russia – also test-launched a new nuclear-capable intercontinental missile “Sarmat” (in April)
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

**45.** The researchers from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) have developed a True Random Number Generator (TRNG). It can improve data encryption and provide improved security for sensitive digital data such as credit card details, passwords, and other personal information. In IISc’s TRNG device, random numbers are generated using the random motion of electrons. Min-entropy is a parameter used to measure the performance of TRNGs. Its value ranges from 0 (completely predictable) to 1 (completely random). The TRNG device from Majumdar’s lab showed a record-high min-entropy of 0.98. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IISc, Bangalore – developed a True Random Number Generator (TRNG) to improve data encryption
- Min-entropy – a parameter used to measure the performance of TRNGs (Value range - 0 to 1)
- Director of IISc, Bangalore – Govindan Rangarajan | Established in – 1909

**46.** On May 31, NASA’s Hubble Space Telescope captured images of two spiral galaxies, which are collectively known as “Arp 303”. Individually, they are called IC 563 (bottom) and IC 564 (top). They are more than 275 million light-years away in the direction of the constellation Sextans. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Hubble Space Telescope (NASA) – captured images of two spiral galaxies, collectively known as “Arp 303”
- HQs of NASA – Washington D.C., US | Administrator – Bill Nelson | Founded on – July 29, 1958

**47.** On May 30, the official 59<sup>th</sup> edition of the “List of the World’s Top 500 Supercomputers” was unveiled in Germany. Frontier, developed by US’s designated supercomputer facility, the Oak Ridge Leadership Computing Facility, is the world’s first supercomputer to cross the performance margin of 1 exaflops. With this, the supercomputer has surpassed Fugaku, belonging to Japan’s Riken Centre for Computational Science, as the world’s most powerful supercomputer right now. Fugaku has a performance score of 442 petaflops. 1 exaflop is equivalent to 1,000 petaflops. Frontier is built using Hewlett Packard Enterprise (HPE) architecture and powered by Advanced Micro Devices (AMD) processors. Moreover, Param Siddhi is India’s High Performance Computing-Artificial Intelligence (HPC-AI) supercomputer developed by Dept. of S & T, MeitY, under National Supercomputing Mission (NSM) at Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC). Param Siddhi offers peak performance of 3.3 petaflops. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 59<sup>th</sup> edition of the “List of the World’s Top 500 Supercomputers” – unveiled in Germany
- ‘Frontier’ supercomputer of the US – is the world’s first supercomputer to cross the performance margin of 1 exaflops
- ‘Frontier’ – surpassed ‘Fugaku’ supercomputer of Japan & became the world’s most powerful supercomputer
- 1 exaflop is equivalent to 1,000 petaflops
- Frontier: built using – Hewlett Packard Enterprise (HPE) | Powered by – Advanced Micro Devices (AMD)
- ‘Param Siddhi’ – India’s High Performance Supercomputer (developed by = DST + MeitY + C-DAC)



# Appointments & Resignations

**1.** On May 2, Sangeeta Singh, a 1986 batch Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officer, took additional charge as Chairman of Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), after incumbent JB Mohapatra retired on April 30. Singh is currently holding charge of Audit and Judicial. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Sangeeta Singh – appointed as Chairman of CBDT (succeeding - JB Mohapatra)
- HQs of CBDT – New Delhi | Chairman – Sangeeta Singh | Formed in – 1944

**2.** Shivalik Small Finance Bank appointed Anshul Swami as its Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer. Previously, Swami was associated with RBL Bank as Head of Retail & Inclusion, Products. Anshul succeeded Suveer Kumar Gupta for this post. Moreover, Shivalik SFB is the first Urban Co-operative Bank in India to become a Small Finance Bank. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Anshul Swami – appointed as MD & CEO of Shivalik SFB (succeeding - Suveer Kumar Gupta)
- Shivalik SFB – the first Urban Co-operative Bank in India to become a Small Finance Bank
- HQs of Shivalik SFB – Saharanpur, Uttar Pradesh | MD & CEO – Anshul Swami

**3.** On May 2, the 595<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Central Board of Directors of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) was held. The board approved the nomination of Dr. Rajiv Ranjan, executive director as an ex-officio member of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC). Deputy governors and other directors of the central board attended the meeting. Rajiv replaced Mridul Saggar.

## **Key Points:**

- RBI – approved Rajiv Ranjan as an ex-officio member of the Monetary Policy Committee (succeeding - Mridul Saggar)
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935
- Total Deputy Governors (4) – Mahesh Kumar Jain | T. Rabi Sankar | Michael D. Patra | M. Rajeshwar Rao

**4.** On May 1, the Central Intelligence Agency's Director William J. Burns appointed Nand Mulchandani, an Indian-origin person, as the first ever Central Technology Officer (CTO) of the CIA. Before joining the CIA, Mulchandani most recently served as the CTO and acting director of the US Department of Defense's Joint Artificial Intelligence Center. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Nand Mulchandani – appointed as the first ever Central Technology Officer (CTO) of the Central Intelligence Agency
- HQs of CIA – Virginia, US | Director – William J. Burns

**5.** On May 3, the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approved appointment of Tarun Kapoor as Adviser to the Prime Minister, in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), in the rank and scale of Secretary to Government of India, for two years. Tarun succeeded Bhaskar Khulbe. Gyanesh Kumar is appointed as Secretary in Ministry of Cooperation. While Alkesh Kumar Sharma is appointed as secretary in Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (Meity). [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- Tarun Kapoor – appointed as Adviser to the Prime Minister in the PMO (succeeding - Bhaskar Khulbe)
- Gyanesh Kumar – appointed as Secretary in Ministry of Cooperation
- Alkesh Kumar Sharma – appointed as Secretary in Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology

**6.** On May 4, IBM Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Arvind Krishna is elected to the Board of Directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. He is elected as a Class B director for 3-year term ending December 31, 2023. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Arvind Krishna – elected to the Board of Directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York

**7.** On May 7, City Union Bank Ltd announced that RBI has approved the appointment of M Narayanan as the part-time Chairman of the Bank for two years with effect from May 4, 2022. Narayanan was inducted into the Board on May 3, 2016, as an Independent Director. Narayanan will succeed R Mohan. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- M. Narayanan – appointed as the part-time Chairman of City Union Bank for two years (Succeeding - R. Mohan)
- HQs of CUB – Kumbakonam, Tamil Nadu | CEO – Dr. N. Kamakodi

**8.** On May 5, Google appointed Archana Gulati as a new Public Policy Head in India. Archana has worked as a joint secretary for digital communications at NITI Aayog. Before that, between 2014 and 2016, she worked as a senior official at India's antitrust body, the Competition Commission of India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Archana Gulati – appointed as Google's new Public Policy Head in India
- HQs of Google – California, US | CEO – Sundar Pichai | Founded in – 1998

**9.** On May 8, the former World Bank economist Rodrigo Chaves sworn in as the new President of Costa Rica, promising to fight corruption and revive the economy. He is associated with the Social Democratic Progress Party (SDPP). He succeeded former President Jose Maria Figueres. San Jose is the capital of the country, while Costa Rican Colon (CRC) is its official currency. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rodrigo Chaves – sworn in as the new President of Costa Rica
- Costa Rica – San Jose – Costa Rican colon | President – Rodrigo Chaves

**10.** On May 10, Ferdinand Romualdez Marcos Jr., commonly referred to as Bongbong Marcos, is elected as the President of Philippines. He is associated with 'Partido Federal ng Pilipinas' political party. He previously served as a Senator of the Philippines from 2010 to 2016. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ferdinand Romualdez Marcos Jr. – elected as the President of Philippines
- Philippines – Manila – Peso | President – Ferdinand Romualdez Marcos Jr.



**11.** On May 11, French luxury brand Louis Vuitton has announced actor Deepika Padukone as its latest 'House Ambassador'. She has also been named a member of the jury of this year's 75<sup>th</sup> Cannes Film Festival. Deepika is the first Indian to be signed as a house ambassador by Louis Vuitton. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Deepika Padukone – the first Indian to be named House Ambassador of a French luxury fashion brand - 'Louis Vuitton'

**12.** On May 13, the Tata Group has appointed Campbell Wilson (the CEO of Singapore Airlines' wholly-owned low-cost subsidiary Scoot) as Air India's new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Managing Director (MD). Wilson succeeds the CMD Natarajan Chandrasekaran. While Leslie Thng will replace Wilson at Scoot. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tata Group – appointed "Campbell Wilson" as MD & CEO of Air India
- [HQs of Air India – New Delhi](#) | [MD & CEO – Campbell Wilson](#)

**13.** The President has appointed Justice Nongmeikapam Kotiswar Singh, senior-most Puisne Judge of Gauhati High Court as Acting Chief Justice of the Gauhati HC in Assam. Justice N. K. Singh succeeded Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia. The Centre also notified the appointment of Gauhati HC Chief Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia as Supreme Court judge. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nongmeikapam Kotiswar Singh – appointed as Acting Chief Justice of the Gauhati HC (succeeding - Sudhanshu Dhulia)
- Sudhanshu Dhulia – appointed as Supreme Court judge
- [Assam: Capital – Dispur](#) | [CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma](#) | [Governor – Jagdish Mukhi](#)

**14.** On May 8, John Lee was elected as the leader of Hong Kong after winning an election held through a closed voting system. Lee, who was the only candidate running for the position, replaced Carrie Lam who had held the post since 2017. Many criticised Lee's appointment as the new Chief Executive, stating it was a move by China to increase its influence over Hong Kong. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- John Lee – elected as the leader of Hong Kong (succeeding - Carrie Lam)

**15.** On May 13, Sri Lankan President Gotabaya Rajapaksa appointed former PM Ranil Wickremesinghe as the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, in a bid to restore stability in the island nation in the midst of a political impasse and stifling economic crisis. This is the sixth time Mr. Wickremesinghe has been appointed to the office. Ranil Wickremesinghe succeeds Gotabaya's older brother Mahinda Rajapaksa who recently resigned from the post. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ranil Wickremesinghe – appointed as the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka
- [Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte](#) – [Sri Lankan Rupee](#)
- [PM – Ranil Wickremesinghe](#) | [President – Gotabaya Rajapaksa](#)

**16.** On May 11, the Union Ministry of Law & Justice announced that Rajiv Kumar, the current Election Commissioner, as the 25<sup>th</sup> Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) from May 15. Kumar took charge from CEC Sushil Chandra. The President appointed Rajiv Kumar in pursuance of clause (2) of Article 324 of the Constitution. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajiv Kumar – appointed as the 25<sup>th</sup> Chief Election Commissioner (succeeding - Sushil Chandra)
- HQs of ECI – New Delhi | Chief Election Commissioner – Rajiv Kumar (25<sup>th</sup>) | Formed on – 25<sup>th</sup> Jan, 1950

**17.** On May 10, Yoon Suk-yeol was sworn in as South Korean President in a huge ceremony at Seoul's National Assembly. He is associated with South Korea's main opposition People Power Party (PPP). Yoon replaced Moon Jae-in. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Yoon Suk-yeol – sworn in as president of South Korea (succeeding - Moon Jae-in)
- South Korea – Seoul – Korean Republic won | President – Yoon Suk-yeol

**18.** On May 13, Sanjiv Bajaj (Chairman & MD of Bajaj Finserv Ltd) assumed office as the President of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) for 2022-23. He took over from T. V. Narendran (CEO & MD of Tata Steel Ltd). Pawan Munjal (Chairman & CEO of Hero MotoCorp Ltd) took over as CII President-Designate for 2022-23 while R. Dinesh (Executive Vice Chairman of TVS Supply Chain Solutions) took over as Vice President for this period. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sanjiv Bajaj (CMD of Bajaj Finserv) – appointed as the President of the CII (succeeding - T. V. Narendran)
- Pawan Munjal (Chairman & CEO of Hero MotoCorp) – took over as CII President-Designate for 2022-23
- R. Dinesh (Executive Vice Chairman of TVS Supply Chain Solutions) – took over as Vice President
- HQs of Bajaj Finserv – Pune, Maharashtra | Chairman & MD – Sanjiv Bajaj

**19.** On May 15, Manik Saha, Tripura BJP chief and Rajya Sabha MP, took oath as new Chief Minister of Tripura at Raj Bhawan in Agartala, a day after Biplab Kumar Deb resigned from the post. Dr. Saha joined BJP in 2016 after quitting Congress. Deb had taken oath as the first CM of Tripura in 2018. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Manik Saha – took oath as new Chief Minister of Tripura (succeeding – Biplab Kumar Deb)
- Biplab Kumar Deb resigned from the post
- Tripura: Capital – Agartala | CM – Manik Saha | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya

**20.** On May 16, Somalia's parliament elected Hassan Sheikh Mohamud as the country's 10<sup>th</sup> President. Mohamud previously served as president from September 2012 to February 2017 and is now the first leader of the country elected twice as Somalia's head of state. Mahamud defeated Mohamed Abudallahi Mohamed (Farmajo) in an indirect presidential election. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Hassan Sheikh Mohamud – elected as the 10<sup>th</sup> President of Somalia (succeeding - Mohamed Abudallahi Mohamed)
- Somalia – Mogadishu – Dollar/Shilling | President – Hassan Sheikh Mohamud



**21.** On May 17, Centrist politician Elisabeth Borne was appointed France's new Prime Minister, becoming only the Second Woman in history to hold the post. She succeeded Jean Castex who resigned from the post in May. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Elisabeth Borne – appointed as new Prime Minister of France (succeeding – Jean Castex)
- France – Paris – Euro | President – Emmanuel Macron | PM – Elisabeth Borne

**22.** On May 13, Senior IAS officer Nidhi Chibber (currently Additional Secretary in Ministry of Heavy Industries) has been appointed as the Chairperson of the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) in a top-level bureaucratic reshuffle effected by the Centre. Vivek Kumar Dewangen (currently Additional Secretary in Ministry of Power) has been named Chairman & Managing Director, REC Ltd., under Ministry of Power. Rakesh Sarwal (Additional Secretary in NITI Aayog) will be Managing Director of National Waqf Development Corporation Ltd., under Ministry of Minority Affairs. Vikas Sheel has been named Mission Director of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nidhi Chibber – appointed as the Chairperson of the CBSE (succeeding - Vineet Joshi)
- Vivek Kumar Dewangen – appointed as the Chairman & MD of REC Ltd ( succeeding - Sanjay Malhotra)
- Vikas Sheel – appointed as Mission Director of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)
- HQs of CBSE – New Delhi | Chairman – Nidhi Chibber | Formed in – 1962
- HQs of REC Ltd – New Delhi | Chairman & MD – Vivek Kumar Dewangen | Founded in – 1969

**23.** On May 13, the Central Government granted a 2<sup>nd</sup> extension for a further period of 6 months, till the end of November 2022, to Andhra Pradesh Chief Secretary Sameer Sharma, who was supposed to retire on May 31 at the end of his extended tenure. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sameer Sharma – granted 2<sup>nd</sup> extension as Andhra Pradesh Chief Secretary – for 6 months (till Nov 2022)
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati | CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

**24.** On May 14, the RBI appointed Sitikantha Pattanaik and Rajiv Ranjan as Executive Directors with effect from May 1. Ranjan will also serve as an ex-officio member of the rate-setting panel Monetary Policy Committee (MPC). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sitikantha Pattanaik + Rajiv Ranjan = appointed as Executive Directors of the RBI
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935

**25.** On May 17, Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) has appointed Subhash Sheoratan Mundra, a public interest director, as the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the company. S. S. Mundra will replace Justice Vikramajit Sen. Mr. Mundra retired as Deputy Governor of Reserve Bank of India in July 2017. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Subhash Sheoratan Mundra – appointed as the Chairman of the BSE (succeeding - Vikramajit Sen)
- HQs of BSE – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Subhash Sheoratan Mundra | MD & CEO – Ashishkumar Chauhan

**26.** On May 17, Naveen Srivastava, presently Additional Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Nepal. Srivastava will succeed Vinay Kwatra, who became Foreign Secretary. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Naveen Srivastava – appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Nepal (succeeding - Vinay Kwatra)
- Vinay Kwatra – became Foreign Secretary
- [Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee](#) | [President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari](#) | [PM – Sher Bahadur Deuba](#)

**27.** In May 2022, Aruna Singh, presently working as Additional Member (Telecom) in the Railway Board, took over additional charge of the post of Chairman & Managing Director of RailTel Corporation of India Limited (RCIL). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Aruna Singh – took over additional charge of the post of CMD of RailTel Corporation of India Limited
- [HQs of RailTel – New Delhi](#) | [CMD – Aruna Singh \(additional charge\)](#)

**28.** In May 2022, India-born conservation biologist Dr Kamal Bawa is elected to the US National Academy of Sciences. He is also the President of Bengaluru-based Ashoka Trust for Research and Ecology and Environment (ATREE). Dr Bawa is also an elected fellow of the Royal Society (London) and the American Philosophical Society. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dr. Kamal Bawa (President of ATREE, Bengaluru) – elected to the US National Academy of Sciences
- [US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar](#) | [46th President – Joe Biden](#) | [49th VP – Kamala Harris](#)

**29.** On May 19, Anil Baijal, who was appointed as the Delhi Lieutenant Governor in 2016, sent his resignation to the President of India. He has resigned for personal reasons. The 1969-batch IAS officer's tenure as L-G was 5 years and 5 months. He retired in 2006 as Union Urban Development Secretary. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Anil Baijal – resigned from the post of the Delhi Lieutenant Governor
- [Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal](#) | [Chief Secretary – Naresh Kumar](#)

**30.** On May 20, the Central Advisory Board on Archaeology (CABA), that is meant to strengthen contacts between the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and those in the field of Archaeological Research, was re-constituted for a period of 3 years. The Culture Minister will be the Chairperson of the CABA. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Central Advisory Board on Archaeology (CABA) – re-constituted for 3 years
- The Minister of Culture will be the Chairperson of the CABA
- [HQs of ASI – New Delhi](#) | [Director General – V. Vidyavathi](#)

**31.** On May 17, Eicher Motors Limited (EML), the parent company of Royal Enfield, has announced the appointment of B. Govindarajan as Royal Enfield's new Chief Executive Officer (CEO). Previously, Govindarajan had been serving as the Executive Director of Royal Enfield since August, 2021. In addition, Govindarajan will also serve as a Wholetime Director on the Board of EML. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- B. Govindarajan – appointed as new CEO of Royal Enfield
- HQs of Royal Enfield – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | CEO – B. Govindarajan

**32.** On May 21, on the recommendations of the Nomination and Remuneration Committee (NRC), the board of Infosys approved the reappointment of Salil Parekh as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Managing Director of the company for 5 more years, from July 1, 2022 to March 31, 2027. Mr. Parekh has been the CEO & MD of the company since 2018. Moreover, the NRC has approved a grant of 1,04,000 shares to 6 KMPs (Key Managerial Personnel) and another 3,75,760 shares to 88 other Senior Executives of the organisation. These Performance Stock Units will be granted under the Infosys Expanded Stock Ownership Plan 2019. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Infosys – approved the reappointment of Salil Parekh as MD & CEO of the Company for 5 years (till March 31, 2027)
- HQs of Infosys – Bengaluru, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Salil Parekh | Founded in – 1981

**33.** On May 23, Vinai Kumar Saxena, currently serving as the Chairman of the Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC), is appointed as the new Lieutenant Governor (LG) of National Capital Territory of Delhi as President Ram Nath Kovind accepted the resignation of Anil Baijal due to his personal reasons. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Vinai Kumar Saxena (Chairman of KVIC) – appointed as new LG of Delhi (after the resignation of - Anil Baijal)
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Vinai Kumar Saxena | Chief Secretary – Naresh Kumar
- HQs of KVIC – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Vinai Kumar Saxena | Founded in – 1956

**34.** On May 22, on the recommendations of the Nomination and Remuneration Committee (NRC), One97 Communications has reappointed Paytm founder Vijay Shekhar Sharma as the MD & CEO of the company for 5 years, till December, 2027. One 97 Communications operates under Paytm brand. The tenure will be effective from December 19, 2022, to December 18, 2027. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Vijay Shekhar Sharma – reappointed as the MD & CEO of One97 Communications (Paytm)
- HQs of Paytm – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | CEO – Vijay Sekhar Sharma | Founded in – 2010
- HQs of Paytm Money – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Varun Sridhar | Founded in – 2009

**35.** On May 23, the Inter-State Council, which works to promote and support cooperative federalism in the country, has been reconstituted with Prime Minister Narendra Modi as Chairman and Chief Ministers of all States and six Union ministers as members. The government has also reconstituted the standing committee of the Inter-State Council with Union Home Minister Amit Shah as Chairman. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Inter-State Council – is reconstituted with Prime Minister Narendra Modi as Chairman
- Chief Ministers of all States & six Union ministers are appointed as members
- Standing committee of the Inter-State Council is reconstituted with Union Home Minister Amit Shah as Chairman

**36.** On May 23, Anthony Albanese was sworn in as Australia's new Prime Minister. Anthony Albanese's center-left Labor Party defeated predecessor Scott Morrison's conservative coalition in Australia's Federal Election in 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Anthony Albanese ([Labor Party](#)) – sworn in as Australia's new Prime Minister (defeating - Scott Morrison)
- [Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Anthony Albanese](#)

**37.** On May 21, the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) approved the proposal for the appointment of Vivek Kumar as Private Secretary (PS) to Prime Minister Narendra Modi with pay at level 14 of the Pay Matrix. Vivek Kumar is currently the director of the Prime Minister's Office (PMO). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Vivek Kumar – appointed as Private Secretary (PS) to Prime Minister Narendra Modi

**38.** On May 20, the Central government appointed 1998 batch IAS officer Gyanesh Bharti as the new Commissioner of unified Municipal Corporation of Delhi. The Centre has appointed Ashwani Kumar as the special officer in the unified MCD. The Centre merged the three civic bodies - South Delhi Municipal Corporation, North Delhi Municipal Corporation & East Delhi Municipal Corporation - into a single MCD by passing the "Delhi Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Act, 2022". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Gyanesh Bharti – appointed as the new Commissioner of unified Municipal Corporation of Delhi
- The Centre passed "Delhi Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Act, 2022" & merged the 3 Civic Bodies into one MCD
- [Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Vinai Kumar Saxena | Chief Secretary – Naresh Kumar](#)

**39.** In May 2022, IndiGo announced the appointment of Pieter Elbers as a new CEO. He will replace Ronojoy Dutta, 71, who retires on September 30, 2022. Pieter is the President & CEO of KLM Royal Dutch Airlines since 2014. He will join IndiGo on or before October 1, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Pieter Elbers – appointed as CEO of IndiGo (succeeding - Ronojoy Dutta)
- [HQs of IndiGo – Gurugram, Haryana | CEO – Pieter Elbers | Chairman – Meleveetil Damodaran](#)

**40.** An Indian Government Officer Anwar Hussain Shaik has been made the chair of the World Trade Organisation's Committee on Technical Barriers on Trade, after a gap of 10 years. Mr. Shaik will take this role from Elisa Maria Olmeda de Alejandro from Mexico. Mr. Shaik was posted in PMI (Permanent Mission of India) Geneva. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Anwar Hussain Shaik – appointed as the chair of the WTO's Committee on Technical Barriers on Trade
- He will succeed Elisa Maria Olmeda de Alejandro ([Mexico](#))
- [Mexico – Mexico City – Peso | President – Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador](#)
- [HQs of WTO – Geneva, Switzerland | 7th DG – Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala \(Nigeria\) | Members – 164](#)

**41.** On May 24, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus was reappointed for his second five-year term as the Director-General of the World Health Organisation (WHO). He was elected unanimously amid the ongoing difficulties of responding to the devastating coronavirus pandemic. Tedros is a former government minister from Ethiopia. He is the first African to lead the agency and the only director-general not qualified as a medical doctor. He is also the first WHO leader not to be supported by their home country. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus ([Ethiopia](#)) – reappointed for his second 5-year term as the DG of the WHO
- He is the first African to lead the agency & the only DG not qualified as a medical doctor
- [HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland](#) | [DG – Tedros Adhanom](#) | [Member Countries – 194](#) | [Founded in – 1948](#)
- [Ethiopia – Addis Ababa – Ethiopian Birr](#) | [President – Sahle-Work Zewde](#) | [PM – Abiy Ahmed](#)

**42.** On May 25, Narinder Batra announced to step down from the post of President of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) in the next term, to focus more on his role as the President of the International Hockey Federation (FIH). Batra had filed his nomination for the IOA President's post in 2017 as a representative (life member) of Hockey India and won the election. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narinder Batra – to step down from the post of President of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) in the next term
- He will focus more on his role as the President of the International Hockey Federation (FIH)
- [HQs of FIH – Lausanne, Switzerland](#) | [President – Narinder Batra](#) | [CEO – Thierry Weil](#) | [Founded in – 1924](#)
- [HQs of Hockey India – New Delhi](#) | [President – Gyanendro Ningombam](#)
- [HQs of IOA – New Delhi](#) | [President – Narinder Dhruv Batra](#) | [Secretary General – Rajeev Mehta](#)

**43.** On May 25, Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan has been appointed as the Chairperson of the Committee B at the 75<sup>th</sup> World Health Assembly (WHA). The Committee B primarily discusses administrative and financial matters of the World Health Organization (WHO). The Committee A meet to debate technical and health matters. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajesh Bhushan (Union Health Secretary) – appointed as the Chairperson of the Committee B at the 75<sup>th</sup> WHA
- Committee B – discusses administrative & financial matters of the WHO
- Committee A – debates on technical & health matters
- [HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland](#) | [DG – Tedros Adhanom](#) | [Member Countries – 194](#) | [Founded in – 1948](#)

**44.** In May 2022, Bharti Airtel's board has reappointed Gopal Vittal as Managing Director & CEO for a further period of 5 years ending on January 31, 2028. The reappointment came on a day the telco posted consolidated net profit at Rs 2,007.8 Cr in the March quarter, up 141% sequentially and 164% on year. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Gopal Vittal – reappointed as MD & CEO of Bharti Airtel for 5 years
- [HQs of Bharti Airtel – New Delhi](#) | [CEO & MD – Gopal Vittal](#) | [Chairman – Sunil Bharti Mittal](#)

**45.** On May 23, JSW Group appointed Gaurav Sachdeva as new CEO of its e-commerce venture JSW One Platforms. He took over the role after his successful tenure at JSW Ventures. JSW One will soon be constituting an employee stock ownership plan (ESOP) for all its staff. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Gaurav Sachdeva – appointed as new CEO of JSW One Platforms (subsidiary of JSW Group)
- [HQs of JSW Group – Mumbai, Maharashtra](#) | [CMD – Sajjan Jindal](#)

**46.** On May 26, Olympics bronze medallist Lovlina Borgohain has been elected as the Chair and a voting member on the Board of Directors for the Athletes' Committee of the International Boxing Association (IBA). While Indian boxer Shiva Thapa has also been elected as a member of the IBA Athletes Committee. Borgohain and Thapa were elected by the boxers that participated during the men and women's world championships that were held in October 2021 and May 2022 respectively. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Lovlina Borgohain – elected as Chair & Member of the IBA Athletes' Committee
- Shiva Thapa – elected as Member of the IBA Athletes' Committee
- [HQs of IBA – Lausanne, Switzerland](#) | [President – Umar Kremlyov](#)

**47.** On May 31, Senior IAS officer Vandita Sharma (1986 batch) took charge as Chief Secretary of Karnataka. Ms. Sharma will be in office till November 2023. She took over from P. Ravi Kumar, who retired on May 31. Ms. Sharma is the 39<sup>th</sup> Chief Secretary of the State and the fourth woman to occupy the coveted post. She is also honorary president of the Karnataka IAS Officers' Association. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Vandita Sharma – appointed as 39<sup>th</sup> Chief Secretary of Karnataka (4<sup>th</sup> woman)
- She is also honorary President of the Karnataka IAS Officers' Association
- [Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore](#) | [CM – Basavaraj Bommai](#) | [Governor – Thaawarchand Gehlot](#)

**48.** On May 30, Former SBI Executive, Natarajan Sundar joined National Assets Reconstruction Company Ltd (NARCL) as its new Managing Director & CEO, replacing Padmakumar M. Nair. In the previous week, NARCL appointed Mr. Karnam Sekar as the Independent Director and Non-Executive Chairman of the Board. Malvika Sinha, retired Executive director of the RBI, also joined the Board of NARCL as an Independent Director. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Natarajan Sundar – appointed as new MD & CEO of NARCL (replacing Padmakumar M. Nair)
- Karnam Sekar – appointed as an Independent Director & Non-Executive Chairman of NARCL
- Malvika Sinha – appointed as an Independent Director
- [MD & CEO of NARCL – Natarajan Sundar](#) | [Chairman – Pradip Shah](#) | [Lead Sponsor – Canara Bank \(12% equity\)](#)

**49.** On May 28, the Central government appointed Pankaj Sharma, Joint Secretary in Department of Financial Services (DFS), as part-time member of the Pension Fund Regulatory & Development Authority (PFRDA). In the PFRDA Board, Sharma has come in the place of erstwhile DFS Additional Secretary Vandita Kaul. Pension regulator PFRDA has a chairman besides 3 whole-time members and 3 part-time members (only two are filled up posts). India's pension Assets Under Management (AUM) are growing at a robust pace of about 27-30% Compounded Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) and are expected to touch Rs 30 lakh Cr by 2030. In 2021-22, Pension AUM grew a robust 27.43% at Rs 7.37 lakh Cr. Meanwhile, the Centre has appointed Suchindra Mishra & Shashank Saxena as members in the Board of International Financial Services Authority (IFSCA). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Pankaj Sharma – appointed as part-time member of the PFRDA
- India's pension AUM are growing at 27-30% CAGR & are expected to touch Rs 30 lakh Cr by 2030
- Suchindra Mishra + Shashank Saxena = appointed as members in the Board of IFSCA
- HQs of PFRDA – New Delhi | Chairperson – Supratim Bandyopadhyay | Founded in – 2003
- HQs of IFSCA – Gandhinagar, Gujarat | Chairman – Injeti Srinivas

**50.** On May 28, President Ram Nath Kovind has given justice Pradip Kumar Mohanty the additional charge of Lokpal chairperson after justice Pinaki Chandra Ghose completed his term as the Lokpal Chief on May 27, 2022. PC Ghose was appointed the first Chief of Lokpal in March, 2019. A Lokpal chief and members are appointed for a term of five years or until attaining the age of 70 years. The Lokpal is headed by a chairperson and can have 8 members. At present, there are 6 members in the Lokpal. The Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, which envisages the appointment of a Lokpal at the Centre and Lokayuktas in states to look into cases of corruption against certain categories of public servants, was passed in 2013. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Pradip Kumar Mohanty – given the additional charge as Lokpal Chairperson (succeeding – Pinaki Chandra Ghose)
- Lokpal – headed by a Chairperson & can have 8 members (currently 6)
- 'The Lokpal & Lokayuktas Act' – passed in 2013





# Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

**1.** Dr. Bina Modi, Chairperson of Modi Enterprises, was adjudged the “Woman Transforming India Award” at Indo-American Chamber of Commerce’s 6<sup>th</sup> “Entrepreneur & Leadership Awards 2022”. The Award was presented by the Minister for Civil Aviation, Shri Jyotiraditya Scindia. Dr Bina Modi is the President & MD of Godfrey Phillips India Ltd and Chairperson & MD of Indofil Industries Limited. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Dr. Bina Modi – received the ‘Woman Transforming India Award’ at the 6<sup>th</sup> “Entrepreneur & Leadership Awards 2022”
- [HQs of Modi Enterprises – New Delhi](#) | [Chairperson – Dr. Bina Modi](#)

**2.** The Department of Food and Public Distribution (DFPD) received the prestigious “Prime Minister’s Award for Excellence in Public Administration, 2020” for its scheme ‘One Nation One Ration Card’ (ONORC) on the occasion of 15<sup>th</sup> Civil Services Day in New Delhi. The ONORC which was started initially in 4 States in August 2019 was swiftly rolled out in a very short span of time in 32 States/UTs by December 2020. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Dept. of Food & Public Distribution – received the “Prime Minister’s Award for Excellence in Public Administration, 2020” for its ‘ONORC’ scheme
- ONORC was started in August 2019

**3.** On May 5, a NASA’s climate research scientist, Agronomist and Climatologist, Cynthia Rosenzweig was awarded the “World Food Prize 2022”. She was awarded the \$250,000 prize in recognition of her innovative modeling of the impact of climate change on food production. World Food Prize Foundation award her as the founder of the Agricultural Model Intercomparison and Improvement Project. She completed the first projections of how climate change will affect food production in North America in 1985 and globally in 1994. Nobel prize laureate Norman Borlaug created the World Food prize in 1986. M. S. Swaminathan is the first Indian to receive the World Food Prize in 1987. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Cynthia Rosenzweig ([American Agronomist & Climatologist](#)) – received the “World Food Prize 2022” (\$250,000 prize)

**4.** On May 1, Doordarshan has won the 14<sup>th</sup> edition of “Exchange4media News Broadcasting (ENBA) Award” for its TV series based on pet care namely ‘Best Friend Forever’. Doordarshan’s TV series has been selected for the best in-depth Hindi series. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Doordarshan – won the 14<sup>th</sup> “Exchange4media News Broadcasting Award” for its ‘Best Friend Forever’ TV series

**5.** On May 5, the awards committee of Akhil Bharat Rachanatmak Samaj (ABRS), under the chairmanship of Mohan Joshi, awarded General Tej Kaul (retired) with the prestigious “Dr. Nirmala Deshpande Memorial (DNDM) Global Peace Award”. The award ceremony was held in New Delhi on the occasion of late Nirmala Deshpande’s 14<sup>th</sup> Memorial Day celebration. He has also been awarded with the PVSM (Param Vishisht Seva Medal), AVSM (Ati Vishist Seva Medal) and the VSM (Vishisht Seva Medal) by the President of India. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- General Tej Kaul – awarded with the prestigious “Dr. Nirmala Deshpande Memorial (DNDM) Global Peace Award”
- Other awards: PVSM, AVSM, VSM

**6.** On May 5, Information & Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur announced that India will be the official ‘Country of Honour’ at the upcoming ‘Marche’ Du Film’, organised alongside the Cannes Film Festival, in France. It is the first time the Marche du Film has an official Country of Honour. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – will be the official ‘Country of Honour’ at the ‘Marche’ Du Film’, organised alongside Cannes Film Festival, in France
- [France – Paris – Euro](#) | [President – Emmanuel Macron](#) | [PM – Jean Castex](#)

**7.** Gurusamy Krishnamoorthy, Madurai native and CEO of Penlon (a British medical device manufacturing firm), is set to receive the “Member of the Royal Order of British Empire (Civil Division) Award 2022” from the Queen Elizabeth II for his service during pandemic. He led the consortium that delivered 11,700 ventilators to the U.K. government in 12 weeks. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Gurusamy Krishnamoorthy – to receive the “Member of the Royal Order of British Empire (Civil Division) Award 2022”
- [UK – London – Pound Sterling](#) | [PM – Boris Johnson](#)

**8.** On May 10, “Pulitzer Prize 2022” winners in Journalism, Books, Drama and Music were announced. The winner’s list included four Indians - Adnan Abidi, Sanna Irshad Mattoo, Amit Dave, and the late Danish Siddiqui of Reuters, who were awarded “2022 Pulitzer Prizes” in Journalism. Danish Siddiqui posthumously won the ‘Pulitzer Prize 2022’ for images of COVID’s toll in India. Journalists from Ukraine were recognised with a ‘2022 Pulitzer Prize Special Citation’. While the list for Books, Drama and Music included, “The Netanyahus” novel by Joshua Cohen for Fiction, “Fat Ham” by James Ijames for Drama, “Covered with Night” book Nicole Eustace & “Cuba: An American History” by Ada Ferrer for History, “Frank: sonnets” by Diane Seuss for Poetry, “Voiceless Mass” by Raven Chacon for Music. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Pulitzer Prize 2022” winners in Journalism, Books, Drama & Music are announced
- Four Indians winners in Journalism: Adnan Abidi, Sanna Irshad Mattoo, Amit Dave & late Danish Siddiqui
- Journalists from Ukraine – recognised with a ‘2022 Pulitzer Prize Special Citation’
- “Pulitzer Prize 2022” winners in Books, Drama & Music:
  - Fiction: “The Netanyahus” novel by Joshua Cohen
  - Drama: “Fat Ham” by James Ijames
  - History: “Covered with Night” book Nicole Eustace & “Cuba: An American History” by Ada Ferrer
  - Poetry: “Frank: sonnets” by Diane Seuss
  - Music: “Voiceless Mass” by Raven Chacon



**9.** On May 11, noted architect Balkrishna Vitthaldas Doshi has been conferred with prestigious “Royal Gold Medal 2022”, which is considered as the world’s highest honours for architecture. The president of the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) Simon Allford presented the medal to the renowned architect in person at his residence in Ahmedabad. The Ahmedabad-based distinguished architect is among the rare people to have been awarded both the Royal Gold Medal and the Pritzker Architecture Prize in their lifetime. In India, he was awarded the Padma Bhushan in 2020. He is also the recipient of the French ‘Global Award for Lifetime Achievement for Sustainable Architecture’ by the Institut Francais d’architecture, Paris. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Balkrishna Vitthaldas Doshi – conferred with “Royal Gold Medal 2022”, world’s highest honor for architecture
- He is among the rare people to have been awarded both the ‘Royal Gold Medal’ & ‘Pritzker Architecture Prize’

**10.** In May 2022, Nobel Prize-winning theoretical physicist and author Frank Wilczek, the Herman Feshbach Professor of Physics at MIT, has been awarded the “2022 Templeton Prize”. This prize is awarded to individuals whose life’s work embodies a fusion of science and spirituality. Wilczek won the ‘2004 Nobel Prize’ in Physics, along with David Gross and David Politzer. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Frank Wilczek ([US](#)) – Theoretical Physicist, Mathematician & Nobel Laureate – received the “2022 Templeton Prize”
- Frank Wilczek – received the ‘2004 Nobel Prize’ in Physics (along with David Gross & David Politzer)

**11.** On May 10, Army Chief Gen Manoj Pande was conferred the “Param Vishisht Seva Medal” for distinguished service of exceptional order by President Ram Nath Kovind at a “Defence Investiture Ceremony” held at the Rashtrapati Bhawan. President Ram Nath Kovind, who is the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, conferred 13 Shaurya Chakras, including 6 posthumously, to Service personnel. The President also conferred 14 Param Vishisht Seva Medal (PVSM), 4 Uttam Yudh Seva Medals (UYSM) and 24 Ati Vishisht Seva Medals (AVSM) for distinguished service of exceptional order. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- President Ram Nath Kovind conferred the following honors to Defence Service personnel:
  - 13 Shaurya Chakras (including 6 posthumously)
  - 14 Param Vishisht Seva Medal (PVSM)
  - 4 Uttam Yudh Seva Medals (UYSM)
  - 24 Ati Vishisht Seva Medals (AVSM)
- Army Chief Gen Manoj Pande – conferred with the “Param Vishisht Seva Medal”

**12.** On May 15, Devasahayam Pillai, who embraced Christianity in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, became the first Indian layman to be declared a saint by Pope Francis during an impressive canonisation ceremony at the Vatican. Nine others, including four women, were also canonised along with Devasahayam. With the completion of the process, Devasahayam, who took the name “Lazarus” after embracing Christianity in 1745, became the first lay person from India to become a saint. Devasahayam was born on April 23, 1712, as Neelakanta Pillai in a Hindu Nair family in Kanyakumari, Tamil Nadu. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- Devasahayam Pillai – became the first Indian layman to be declared a saint by Pope Francis
- Devasahayam Pillai – born on April 23, 1712 in a Hindu Nair family in Kanyakumari, Tamil Nadu
- [Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai](#) | [CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin](#) | [Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi](#)

**13.** On May 13, Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, President of Dubai Civil Aviation Authority, Chairman of Dubai Airports and Chairman and Chief Executive of Emirates Airline and Group, honoured the winner of the “Aster Guardians Global Nursing Award” at an award ceremony held at Atlantis The Palm, Dubai. Anna Qabale Duba from Marsabit County in Kenya was named the winner of the Award, which has a prize money of USD 250,000. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum – honoured the winner of the “Aster Guardians Global Nursing Award”
- He is President of Dubai Civil Aviation Authority, Chairman of Dubai Airports, Chairman & CEO of Emirates Airline

**14.** On May 17, Piramal Group Chairman Ajay Gopikisan Piramal has received an Honorary Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) by Her Majesty The Queen. Mr. Piramal received the award for services to the UK-India trade relationship as India co-Chair of the UK-India CEO Forum. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ajay Gopikisan Piramal – received an Honorary Commander of the Order of the British Empire – by Queen Elizabeth II

**15.** In May 2022, 48-years old British climber Kenton Edward Cool reached the summit of Mount Everest for the 16<sup>th</sup> time, the most of any non-Nepali climber. The UK’s Kenton Cool first climbed Everest in 2004 and has since had an expedition almost every year taking clients up the world’s highest peak. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kenton Edward Cool – reached the summit of Mount Everest for the 16<sup>th</sup> time (the most of any non-Nepali climber)
- [UK – London – Pound Sterling](#) | [PM – Boris Johnson](#)

**16.** In May 2022, Activist Cecile Ndjebet, of Cameroon, won the “2022 Wangari Maathai Forest Champions Award” in recognition of her outstanding contribution to preserving forests and improving the lives of people who depend on them. The award was presented by the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) and was conferred at a ceremony during the “XV World Forestry Congress” in Seoul, Republic of Korea. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “XV World Forestry Congress” – held in Seoul, South Korea
- Cecile Ndjebet ([Cameroon](#)) – won the “2022 Wangari Maathai Forest Champions Award”
- [Cameroon – Yaounde – Central African CFA franc](#) | [President – Paul Biya](#)

**17.** Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) Workers, India's frontline rural healthcare workers, won the World Health Organisation's (WHO) 2022 Global Leaders Award. The honour recognizes contributions to advancing global health, leadership, and commitment to regional health issues. A total of six recipients were given the awards. These included Dr. Paul Farmer, Dr. Ahmed Hankir, Ludmila Sofia Oliveira Varela, Polio workers in Afghanistan, and Yohei Sasakawa. ASHA workers are female community health workers trained to function as a bridge between the community and the public health system. ASHA workers were instituted as community-based health functionaries under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) launched in 2005. Currently, there are around 10 lakh ASHA workers across India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ASHA Workers – won the WHO's "2022 Global Leaders Award"
- Currently, there are around 10 lakh ASHA workers across India
- HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194 | Founded in – 1948

**18.** On May 22, the Music Academy announced Sangita Kalanidhi award winners for the years 2020, 2021 and 2022. Noted vocalist and teacher Neyveli R. Santhanagopalan has been selected for the award for 2020, mridhangam maestro Tiruvarur Baktavatsalam for 2021 and violinists Lalgudi GJR Krishnan and his sister GJR Vijayalakshmi for 2022. Nagaswaram player Kizhvelur G. Ganesan has been selected for the Sangita Kala Acharya award for 2020, vocalist and musicologist Ritha Rajan for 2021 and musicologist Vainika R. S. Jayalakshmi for 2022. The TTK award for 2020 goes to vocalist Thamarakkad Govindan Namboothiri. Mridhangam and jalatarangam player Nemani Somayajulu will get the award for 2021 and kanjira artist A. V. Anand for 2022. Musicologist award for 2022 goes to V. Premalatha. The Nritya Kalanidhi awardees are Rama Vaidhyathan (2020), Narthaki Nataraj (2021) and Bragha Bessell (2022). Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M. K. Stalin will be the Chief Guest & present the awards on December 15, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Music Academy announced 'Sangita Kalanidhi Award' winners for 2020, 2021 & 2022: (Presented by - M. K. Stalin)
  - Sangita Kalanidhi Award: Neyveli R. Santhanagopalan (2020), Tiruvarur Baktavatsalam (2021), GJR Krishnan (2022)
  - Sangita Kala Acharya Award: Kizhvelur G. Ganesan (2020), Ritha Rajan (2021), R. S. Jayalakshmi (2022)
  - TTK Award: Thamarakkad Govindan Namboothiri (2020), Nemani Somayajulu (2021), A. V. Anand (2022)
  - Nritya Kalanidhi Award: Rama Vaidhyathan (2020), Narthaki Nataraj (2021), Bragha Bessell (2022))
  - Musicologist Award: V. Premalatha (2022)

**19.** Sachin Tendulkar will continue as UNICEF's 'Goodwill Ambassador' for a record 20<sup>th</sup> year, working for the welfare of underprivileged children. In 2003, he was chosen to take lead in the initiative to create awareness and promote polio prevention in India. In 2013, he was appointed UNICEF Ambassador for South Asia to advocate good hygiene and sanitation across the region. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sachin Tendulkar – will continue as UNICEF's 'Goodwill Ambassador' for a record 20<sup>th</sup> year
- He was chosen to create awareness & promote 'Polio' prevention in India in 2003
- HQs of UNICEF – New York, US | Executive Director – Catherine Russell | Established in – 1946

**20.** In May 2022, Union Minister of Power and New and Renewable Energy, R. K. Singh conferred NHPC Limited with the first prize for the year 2020-21 and the second prize for the year 2018-19 for excellent implementation of Rajbhasha during the meeting of Hindi Salahkar Samiti chaired by R. K. Singh. NHPC has also been awarded “Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar” 9 times by the Government of India for its excellent work in the field of implementation of Rajbhasha. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NHPC Limited – conferred with the first prize for 2020-21 for excellent implementation of Rajbhasha
- NHPC Limited – conferred with the second prize for 2018-19 for excellent implementation of Rajbhasha
- Hindi Salahkar Samiti – chaired by Union Minister R. K. Singh
- NHPC – was awarded “Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar” 9 times by the GoI for implementation of Rajbhasha
- [HQs of NHPC – Faridabad, Haryana](#) | [MD & Chairman – Abhay Kumar Singh](#)

**21.** On May 23, Kishore Jayaraman, President, India and South Asia for Rolls-Royce, has received an honorary Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) by Her Majesty the Queen of England - Queen Elizabeth II. He received the award for services to international trade and investment. Mr. Jayaraman is a board member of the U.K.-India Business Council. Under his leadership, Rolls-Royce company set up the ‘Engineering Centre’ in Bengaluru in 2015, ‘Digital Centre of Excellence’ with over 60 digital technologists in 2017, and its first ‘Start-up Accelerator Programme’ in India in 2019. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kishore Jayaraman – received an honorary Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) by Queen Elizabeth II
- He received the award for his services to ‘International Trade & Investment’
- Kishore Jayaraman is President of Rolls-Royce for India & South Asia
- [UK – London – Pound Sterling](#) | [PM – Boris Johnson](#)

**22.** On May 9, the 161<sup>st</sup> birth anniversary of poet Rabindranath Tagore, West Bengal Government announced to institute a new Literary Award called “Bangla Academy Award”, to be given once in three years, to honour those enriching Bengali literature. Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, as the author of a poetry collection titled ‘Kobita Bitan’, is the first recipient. Bangla Academy Award was introduced in 2022 by Sahitya Akademi. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 9 – 161<sup>st</sup> birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore
- West Bengal – announced to institute a new Literary Award called “Bangla Academy Award” (once in three years)
- Mamata Banerjee – first recipient of “Bangla Academy Award” as the author of a poetry collection titled ‘Kobita Bitan’
- [West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata](#) | [CM – Mamta Banerjee](#) | [Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar](#)

**23.** On May 24, Dr. A. Gopalakrishnan, Director of the ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) has won the prestigious VASVIK (Vividhlaxi Audyogik Samshodhan Vikas Kendra) Industrial Research Award for the year 2020 in the category of Agricultural Sciences and Technology. His research works include the Genetic Stock Identification (GSI), species inventory, taxonomy, breeding and seed production of threatened and commercially important species for mariculture. The VASVIK research award is given in total 9 categories every year. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- Dr. A. Gopalakrishnan (Director of ICAR- CMFRI) – won “VASVIK Industrial Research Award” for 2020
- His category – ‘Agricultural Sciences & Technology’
- ‘VASVIK Research Award’ is given in total 9 categories every year
- [HQs of ICAR – New Delhi](#) | [DG – Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra](#) | [Established in – 1929](#)

**24.** On May 27, Delhi-based author Geetanjali Shree’s Hindi novel ‘Tomb of Sand’ has won the prestigious “2022 International Booker Prize”. ‘Tomb of Sand’, originally published in Hindi in 2018 as ‘Ret Samadhi’ was translated into English by Daisy Rockwell. It is the first book in any Indian language to win this high-profile award. The novel is based on boundary-crossing 80-year-old heroine. The 50,000-pound (\$63,000) prize money will be split between Shree and Rockwell. All shortlisted authors and translators each received GBP 2,500 for the first time in 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ‘Tomb of Sand’ Hindi novel – won “2022 International Booker Prize” | Author – Geetanjali Shree
- First book in any Indian language to win ‘International Booker Prize’
- The Novel was originally published in Hindi in 2018 as ‘Ret Samadhi’ | Translated into English – by Daisy Rockwell

**25.** Nawazuddin Siddiqui made headlines at the ‘Cannes Film Festival 2022’. He became the recipient of the ‘Excellence in Cinema’ award at the “French Riviera Film Festival” that took place on May 20-21 in Cannes. He was bestowed the honour by two-time Emmy winner American actor-producer, Vincent De Paul. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nawazuddin Siddiqui – received the ‘Excellence in Cinema’ award at the “French Riviera Film Festival” in Cannes, France
- He was bestowed the honour by – Vincent De Paul

**26.** On May 25, Pune-based Ashok Dyalchand was conferred with the prestigious “Child Rights Hero of the Decade” Award at the World’s Children’s Prize (WCP) ceremony held in Sweden. Mr. Ashok has been tirelessly campaigning against child marriages and for girls’ rights in India for more than four decades. Ashok, along with Ghana’s James Kofi Annan and Pakistan’s Malala Yousafzai, was among the 8 nominees for the prestigious award given by the World’s Children’s Prize Foundation (WCPF). Ms. Yousafzai was voted for her “fight for the right of all girls to education and freedom”. The award was given by Queen Silvia of Sweden. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- World’s Children’s Prize (WCP) ceremony – held in Sweden
- Ashok Dyalchand ([Pune](#)) – conferred with the prestigious “Child Rights Hero of the Decade” Award
- Other awardees along with Ashok Dyalchand: James Kofi Annan ([Ghana](#)), Malala Yousafzai ([Pakistan](#))

**27.** On May 24, Radio Jockey Umar Nisar (RJ Umar), who hails from south Kashmir, was awarded the “01 Best Content Award” and the “Immunization Champion Award” by UNICEF at the annual “Radio4Child 2022 Awards” in Mumbai. The Radio4Child felicitated radio professionals from private FM and All India Radio from across India for their commendable work during the COVID-19 pandemic as well as for routine vaccination. The award was presented by multi-Grammy Award-winning music composer, Environmentalist, and UNICEF celebrity supporter, Ricky Ke. [{Read more}](#)





**Key Points:**

- The annual “Radio4Child 2022 Awards” – held in Mumbai
- RJ Umar Nisar ([J & K](#)) – was awarded the “01 Best Content Award” & “Immunization Champion Award” by UNICEF

**28.** On May 29, the 17<sup>th</sup> edition of the Mumbai International Film Festival of India (MIFF 2022) conferred “Dr. V. Shantaram Lifetime Achievement Award” on noted author and documentary filmmaker, Sanjit Narwekar, to commemorate his exquisitely deep, remarkably diverse and inspiring body of work. Union Minister Piyush Goyal was the Chief Guest of the opening ceremony. The coveted award comprises of cash prize of Rs. 10 lakhs, Golden Conch and a citation. Winner of the National Award for the ‘Best Book on Cinema’ in 1996, Shri Narwekar’s passion for film history has manifested in writing and editing more than 20 books on cinema. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sanjit Narwekar – received “Dr. V. Shantaram Lifetime Achievement Award” at the 17<sup>th</sup> edition of ‘MIFF 2022’
- He is the winner of the National Award for the ‘Best Book on Cinema’ (1996)

**29.** Jawaharlal Nehru University’s (JNU) Vice-Chancellor Santishree Dhulipudi Pandit was awarded the “Shrimati Sushma Swaraj Stree Shakti Samman-2022”, named after the former Foreign Affairs Minister. Pandit was extended this award for rising through the ranks to assume the top academic leadership at the prestigious JNU. The institute presented the awards to a number of women luminaries to commemorate the ‘International Women’s Day for Peace and Disarmament’ on May 24. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 24 – International Women’s Day for Peace & Disarmament
- Santishree Dhulipudi Pandit ([JNU VC](#)) – awarded the “Shrimati Sushma Swaraj Stree Shakti Samman-2022”

**30.** On May 29, the World Health Organization (WHO) has selected Jharkhand for the “World No Tobacco Day (WNTD) Award-2022”, recognising its efforts in controlling tobacco consumption. State’s Tobacco Control Cell of the Health Department received the award on the occasion of World No Tobacco Day in New Delhi on May 31. National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP) was launched in Jharkhand in 2012. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Jharkhand – selected for the “World No Tobacco Day (WNTD) Award-2022” by the WHO
- [Jharkhand: Capital – Ranchi | CM – Hemant Soren | Governor – Ramesh Bais](#)
- [HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194 | Founded in – 1948](#)

**31.** On May 28, the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT), the premier Telecom R&D Centre of the Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications, organized the annual “Intellectual Property (IP) Awards” ceremony to felicitate its IP achievers in various areas of Telecom. A total of 43 inventors were awarded for their commendable achievements. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Annual “Intellectual Property (IP) Awards” ceremony – organized by the C-DOT
- Total 43 inventors were awarded for their commendable achievements
- [HQs of C-DoT – New Delhi | Executive Director – Rajkumar Upadhyay](#)
- [C-DoT functions under – Ministry of Communications](#)

**32.** On May 28, Shaunak Sen's documentary, 'All That Breathes', has won the "L'Oeil d'Or" award at the 75<sup>th</sup> "Cannes Film Festival 2022". It was India's only entry at the festival. 'All That Breathes' revolves around the lives of brothers Mohammad Saud & Nadeem Shehzad. This documentary had also won the "World Documentary Grand Jury Prize" at the 2022 Sundance Film Festival. Indian Actress Deepika Padukone served as the jury member of this festival. Moreover, India was named the first 'Country of Honour' at Cannes Market, organized alongside Cannes Festival. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Shaunak Sen's documentary 'All That Breathes' – won the "L'Oeil d'Or" award at the 75<sup>th</sup> Cannes Film Festival 2022
- 'All That Breathes' – also won "World Documentary Grand Jury Prize" at the '2022 Sundance Film Festival'
- Deepika Padukone – served as the jury member of 75<sup>th</sup> Cannes Film Festival 2022
- India – named the first 'Country of Honour' at Cannes Market



# Schemes & Initiatives

**1.** On May 1, Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel launched the scheme, titled 'Mukhyamantri Mitaaan Yojna' (Mitaaan stands for friend), which will be implemented as a pilot project in 14 civic bodies. Residents of these 14 municipal corporations can now avail around 100 public services at their doorstep under this new scheme. People can contact the nominated individual 'Mitaaan' on toll free number - 14545 for the service. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Chhattisgarh – launched “Mukhyamantri Mitaaan Yojna” to avail around 100 public services in 14 MCs
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

**2.** Atal Innovation Mission launched the phase 1 of the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the Atal New India Challenge (ANIC 2.0). Atal New India Challenge is a flagship program of Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog. The program aims to seek, select, support and nurture technology-based innovations that solve sectoral challenges of national importance and societal relevance. The 1<sup>st</sup> phase of ANIC 2.0 will see 18 challenges from 7 sectors. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Atal Innovation Mission – launched the phase 1 of the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the “Atal New India Challenge (ANIC 2.0)”
- The 1<sup>st</sup> phase of ANIC 2.0 will see 18 challenges from 7 sectors
- HQs of AIM – New Delhi | Director – Chintan Vaishnav | Launched in – 2016 (a flagship initiative of NITI Aayog)

**3.** The second anniversary of Survey of Villages Abadi and Mapping with Improvised Technology in Village Areas (SVAMITVA) scheme was observed on April 24, 2022. It is a Central Sector Scheme of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj which is aimed to provide the record of rights to village household owners in rural areas and issue Property Cards. Under the scheme drone technology has been used for the first time to map actual property area of land owners. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- April 24 – 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of 'SVAMITVA' scheme
- 'Svavitva scheme' – belongs to Ministry of Panchayati Raj | Launched by PM Modi – on April 24, 2020
- SVAMITVA – Survey of Villages & Mapping with Improvised Technology in Village Areas

**4.** The Maharashtra Department of Prisons has launched a loan scheme titled Jivhala for inmates serving sentences in jails across the state. The scheme is being offered by the Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank. This is the first kind of credit scheme for prisoners in India. The credit scheme 'Jivhala' means 'affection' in Marathi. In the initial phase, a loan of Rs 50,000 will be given at a 7% interest rate. Inmates will be able to use the loans for education of their children, medical treatment of family members, legal fees, or any other expenses. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Maharashtra – launched loan scheme titled 'Jivhala' (means 'affection' in Marathi) for inmates serving sentences in jails
- Scheme is offered by – Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank
- A loan of Rs 50,000 will be given at a 7% interest rate
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari



**5.** 7<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of three social security (Jan Suraksha) schemes, Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) and Atal Pension Yojana (APY) were observed on May 9, 2022. PMJJBY, PMSBY and APY were launched by PM Narendra Modi on May 9, 2015 from Kolkata, West Bengal. The PMJJBY and PMSBY provide access to low cost life/accidental insurance cover to the people, while the APY provides an opportunity for saving in the present for getting a regular pension in old age. Age criteria is 18-50 years for PMJJBY, 18-70 years for PMSBY & 18-40 years for APY. While the benefit under PMJJBY is a life cover of Rs 2 Lakh, accidental death cum disability cover of Rs 2 lakh under PMSBY & the guaranteed minimum monthly pension of Rs 1000 or Rs 2000 or Rs 3000 or Rs 4000 or Rs 5000 at the age of 60 years under APY. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 9 – marked the 7<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of three social security (Jan Suraksha) schemes: PMJJBY, PMSBY & APY
- PMJJBY: Age criteria – 18-50 years, Benefit – Life cover of Rs 2 Lakh
- PMSBY: Age criteria – 18-70 years, Benefit – Accidental death cum disability cover of Rs 2 lakh
- APY: Age criteria – 18-40 years, Benefit – Guaranteed minimum monthly pension at the age of 60 (from 1000 to 5000)
- PMJJBY, PMSBY & APY were launched by PM Narendra Modi on May 9, 2015 from Kolkata

**6.** On May 11, the Haryana government launched the “Chaara-Bijae Yojana” to encourage farmers to grow fodder and help gaushalas, which have been grappling with fodder shortage amid a rise in the stray cattle population. Under the scheme, farmers who have tied up with gaushalas, will be eligible to receive a financial aid of ₹10,000 per acre for up to 10 acres under fodder cultivation. The number of cow shelters in the state increased from 175 in 2017 to 600 in 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Haryana – launched the “Chaara-Bijae Yojana” to encourage farmers to grow fodder & help gaushalas
- Under the scheme, farmers will be eligible to receive a financial aid of ₹10,000 per acre for up to 10 acres
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya

**7.** Telangana state government announced extension of insurance coverage to handloom and power loom weavers under ‘Nethanna Bima’ (Weaver’s Insurance) Scheme. The State Government issued orders to extend insurance coverage to Rs 5 lakh. Over Rs 29 Cr have been sanctioned for implementing the scheme during the current year. The insurance coverage will be extended to weavers in the age group of 18 to 59 years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Telangana – extended insurance coverage to handloom & power loom weavers under ‘Nethanna Bima’ Scheme
- The insurance coverage will be extended to weavers in the age group of 18 to 59 years
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

**8.** The Delhi Cabinet has approved the implementation of the Delhi Start-up Policy, under which start-ups would get collateral-free loans and other benefits. CM Kejriwal announced that entrepreneurship classes and a ‘Business Blasters’ program would be introduced at college-levels after their grand success in schools. The Delhi government would pay up to 50% of the rent of a start-up’s office lease. The policy aims to encourage, facilitate and support 15,000 start-ups by 2030. A monitoring committee will be formed to oversee the Delhi Start-up Policy which will be headed by the finance minister of the Delhi government. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Delhi Cabinet – approved the implementation of the ‘Delhi Start-up Policy’
- ‘Business Blasters’ program – to be introduced at college-levels after their grand success in schools
- Delhi government would pay up to 50% of the rent of a start-up’s office lease
- [Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal](#) | [Lt. Governor – Anil Baijal](#) | [Chief Secretary – Naresh Kumar](#)

**9.** On May 8, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched “Ladli Laxmi scheme-2.0” during a state-level function at Lal Parade Ground in Bhopal. During the function, Chief Minister also dedicated the ‘Ladli e-Samvad’ app to establish a continuous dialogue with Ladlis. It is an innovative initiative to encourage daughters to pursue higher education and make them self-dependent. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Madhya Pradesh – launched “Ladli Laxmi scheme-2.0”
- Shivraj Singh Chouhan ([MP](#)) – dedicated the ‘Ladli e-Samvad’ app to establish a continuous dialogue with Ladlis
- [Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal](#) | [CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan](#) | [Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel](#)

**10.** On May 11, Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Ajay Kumar Mishra has launched New Repatriate Welfare Scheme namely “Repco Subhiksham” (a deposit scheme of Repco Bank), a Micro Finance Loan scheme and an app for Repco Micro Finance Ltd (RFML) in Chennai. “Repco Subiksham” provides a new deposit scheme for Senior Citizens. Repco Mahila Samriddhi Scheme meant for SHGs aims at supporting income generation activities for the underprivileged sections. It will provide collateral free loan to women with household income of up to ₹3 lakh. The loan amount would be between ₹50,000 and ₹2.5 lakh. Repco Bank was registered as a cooperative society under the Union Ministry of Home Affairs established in 1969 with the primary objective of rehabilitation of repatriates from Myanmar and Sri Lanka. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ajay Kumar Mishra – launched “Repco Subhiksham”, a Micro Finance Loan scheme, in Chennai
- “Repco Subiksham” provides a new deposit scheme for – Senior Citizens
- Repco Mahila Samriddhi Scheme – provides collateral free loan between ₹50,000 & ₹2.5 lakh to women

**11.** On May 8, Tamil Nadu announced 5 new development schemes including nutritious breakfast for students of Classes I to V in government schools on all working days. Under the second scheme, medical assistance and nutrients would be provided to children to address deficiency. The third scheme is to upgrade 25 higher secondary schools into schools of excellence at a cost of Rs 150 Cr in line with Delhi’s model government schools. The fourth scheme is to establish 708 urban hospitals akin to primary and secondary health centres to provide quality healthcare to people. The fifth scheme is to extend the ‘CM in Your Constituency’ programme to all 234 constituencies. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tamil Nadu announced 5 new development schemes:
  - To provide nutritious breakfast for students of Classes I to V in government schools
  - To provide medical assistance and nutrients to children to address deficiency
  - To upgrade 25 higher secondary schools into schools of excellence
  - To establish 708 urban hospitals
  - To extend the ‘CM in Your Constituency’ programme to all 234 constituencies
- [Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai](#) | [CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin](#) | [Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi](#)

**12.** Chhattisgarh has become the first state in the country to restore the old pension scheme in order to provide assured income to retired employees. The state government has sent a proposal to the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) for the withdrawal of Rs 17,000 Cr accrued under the National Pension Scheme since November 2004. The old pension scheme will be effective from April 1, 2022. A minimum of 12% of basic salary will be deducted as per the General Provident Fund rule. The old pension scheme gives 50% of the employee's salary as pension. A similar request by the Rajasthan government was rejected. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Chhattisgarh – became the 1<sup>st</sup> state to restore the Old Pension Scheme to provide assured income to retired employees
- The old pension scheme will be effective from – April 1, 2022
- The old pension scheme gives 50% of the employee's salary as pension
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

**13.** On May 13, PM Narendra Modi launched the “Madhya Pradesh Startup Policy” during the Madhya Pradesh Startup Conclave held in Indore. He also launched the Madhya Pradesh Startup portal, which will facilitate and help promote the startup ecosystem. The new Startup Policy of Madhya Pradesh will provide an additional 20% support to women-led start-ups. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narendra Modi – launched the “Madhya Pradesh Startup Policy”
- ‘Madhya Pradesh Startup Conclave’ – held in Indore
- The new Startup Policy of will provide an additional 20% support to women-led start-ups
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel

**14.** On May 17, Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann launched his government's flagship ‘Lok Milni’ (Public Interaction) program for on-the-spot redressal of the people's grievances. Earlier, the program was named as ‘janta darbar’ but it was later renamed. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bhagwant Mann – launched government's flagship ‘Lok Milni’ program for on-the-spot redressal of people's grievances
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Bhagwant Mann | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

**15.** On May 17, Union Minister of Education Dharmendra Pradhan called for “Malviya Mission” to set up nation-wide ecosystem for faculty development in higher education institutes. He called for a multidisciplinary approach towards teacher education with focus on Indian values, languages, knowledge, ethos, and traditions. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dharmendra Pradhan – called for “Malviya Mission” to set up an Ecosystem for Faculty Development in Higher Education Institutes
- Ministry of Education: Dharmendra Pradhan | Constituency – Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Education: Subhas Sarkar

**16.** More than 9 Cr beneficiaries of Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) will now get a subsidy of Rs 200 per gas cylinder for up to 12 cylinders per year, as announced by the central government. It will lead to a reduction in its price, costing Rs 803 per 14.2 kg cylinder now. PMUY was launched by Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi on 1 May, 2016. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Beneficiaries of 'Ujjwala Yojana' will get a subsidy of Rs 200 per gas cylinder for up to 12 cylinders per year
- PMUY – launched by PM Narendra Modi on 1 May, 2016

**17.** On May 30, PM Narendra Modi released benefits under the "PM CARES for Children" scheme for children who lost their parents due to the Covid-19 pandemic. PM Modi has promised Rs 4,000 a month for basic needs, financial support for schooling, scholarship for higher education, and free treatment up to Rs 5 lakh by giving them the Ayushman Health Card. The scheme will also help youth of 18 to 23 years, who lost their parents in the pandemic, with a monthly stipend and they will be given Rs 10 lakh when they turn 23. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- PM Narendra Modi – released benefits under the "PM CARES for Children" scheme
- PM Modi has promised Rs 4,000 a month for basic needs & schooling and free treatment up to Rs 5 lakh
- Monthly stipend to youth of 18 to 23 years who lost their parents in the pandemic (Rs 10 lakh when they turn 23)

**18.** On May 31, the government has revised the premium rates of Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) by making it Rs 1.25 per day premium for both schemes. This includes revising PMJJBY from Rs 330 to Rs 436 and PMSBY from Rs 12 to Rs 20. The revision comes for the first time in 7 years since the launch of schemes in 2015. The revised premium rates will come into effect from June 1, 2022. As of March 31, 2022, the number of active subscribers enrolled under PMJJBY and PMSBY is 6.4 Cr and 22 Cr respectively. Moreover, the Government has set a target to increase the coverage from 6.4 Cr to 15 Cr under PMJJBY and from 22 Cr to 37 Cr under PMSBY in the next 5 years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Govt revised the premium rates of Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana & Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana
- Premium rates of PMJJBY revised from Rs 330 to Rs 436 | Premium rates of PMSBY revised from Rs 12 to Rs 20
- Target set by Govt to increase the coverage: to 15 Cr under PMJJBY | to 37 Cr under PMSBY (in 5 years)

**19.** On May 30, the Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) was approved for continuation till the financial year 2025-26 with the total outlay of Rs 13,554.42 Cr. The extension of the scheme is over the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission Cycle for 5 years from 2021-22 to 2025-26. The scheme will create sustainable employment opportunities for about 40 lakh persons in 5 financial years. Along with the extension of the time frame, some major modifications have been made in the existing scheme. These include increase in the maximum project cost from existing Rs 25 lakh to Rs 50 lakh for manufacturing units and from existing Rs 10 lakh to Rs 20 lakh for service units. The PMEGP is the flagship scheme of the Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme – extended for 5 years till FY 2025-26 (Outlay – Rs 13,554.42 Cr)
- PMEGP – a flagship scheme of the Ministry of MSME
- Maximum Project Cost for manufacturing units – increased to Rs 50 lakh (from existing Rs 25 lakh)
- Maximum Project Cost for service units – increased to Rs 20 lakh (from existing Rs 10 lakh)



**20.** In May 2022, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved new guidelines for the implementation of “Indira Gandhi Shahari Rozgar Yojana”. The scheme was announced by Gehlot in the 2022-23 budget to provide employment in urban areas on the lines of the ‘Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA)’. Under the new urban employment scheme, 100 days of employment per year will be provided to the families residing in urban areas. The state government will spend Rs 800 Cr per year on this ambitious scheme. The people in the age group of 18 to 60 years residing in the local body area will be registered on the basis of Jan Aadhaar card. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajasthan – approved new guidelines for the implementation of “Indira Gandhi Shahari Rozgar Yojana”
- Under the new urban employment scheme:
- Government will spend Rs 800 Cr per year
- 18 to 60 years old people residing in the local body area will be registered on the basis of Jan Aadhaar card
- 100 days of employment per year will be provided
- [Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur](#) | [CM – Ashok Gehlot](#) | [Governor – Kalraj Mishra](#)

**21.** On May 28, the Union Government extended the “Prime Minister’s Special Scholarship Scheme (PMSSS)” for students from Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh for another 5 years. The PMSSS was introduced by the Congress-led UPA government in 2011. Aimed at promoting employment opportunities for students from J&K and Ladakh, the scheme, with an annual budget of Rs 180 to Rs 190 Cr, is implemented by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Government extended “Prime Minister’s Special Scholarship Scheme” for 5 years – for students from J&K and Ladakh
- PMSSS was introduced by the UPA government in 2011 | Implemented by – AICTE | Annual budget – Rs 180-190 Cr



# Important Days & Dates

**1.** To celebrate the achievements of Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG) has decided to celebrate 1<sup>st</sup> May 2022 as Ujjwala Diwas. Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) is a major step towards social inclusion by providing Free LPG connection to every BPL household. The scheme was launched by PM Narendra Modi on 1st May 2016 at Ballia, Uttar Pradesh. Oil marketing companies organised more than 5000 LPG panchayats on the occasion of Ujjwala diwas on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2022. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- May 1 (2022) – celebrated as “Ujjwala Diwas” by MoPNG
- Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana – launched on 1<sup>st</sup> May, 2016 at Ballia, Uttar Pradesh

**2.** World Tuna Day is observed every year on 2 May to spread awareness among people about Tuna fish. The United Nations marked the day to spread awareness about sustainable fishing practices and make people know how Tuna is threatened by overwhelming demand. In 2016, the United Nations General Assembly officially finalised 2 May as World Tuna Day in its resolution 71/124. So, the first Tuna Day was recognised globally on 2 May 2017. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- May 2 – World Tuna Day by – UNGA (since 2017)
- HQs of UNGA – New York, USA | President – Abdulla Shahid | Member Countries – 193

**3.** International Labour Day is marked on 1 May annually. Also known as International Workers’ Day or May Day, the occasion celebrates the contribution of workers to society. The first Labour Day was marked in 1890 in Europe. In India, the first International Workers’ Day celebrations were held in 1923 by the Labour Kisan Party in Madras. The country celebrates International Labour Day as Antarrashtriya Sharmik Diwas, Kamgar Diwas or Kamgar Din. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- May 1 – “International Labour Day” or “International Workers’ Day” or “May Day” (since 1890)
- The first International Workers’ Day (in India) – held in 1923 by the Labour Kisan Party in Madras
- HQs of ILO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG –Guy Ryder | DG – Gilbert Houngbo (from Oct 1, 2022) | Founded in – 1919

**4.** Every year, 3 May is celebrated as World Press Freedom Day. The day acts as a reminder for the government to uphold the right to freedom of expression. In 1993, 3 May was declared World Press Freedom Day. From 2 to 5 May 2022, UNESCO and the Republic of Uruguay hosted the annual “World Press Freedom Day Global Conference” in hybrid format in Punta Del Este, Uruguay. In 2022, the theme is “Journalism under Digital Siege”. Belarusian Association of Journalists was named the laureate of the “2022 UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize” or “Press Freedom Prize 2022”. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- May 3 – World Press Freedom Day (since 1993)
- 2022’s Theme – “Journalism under Digital Siege”
- UNESCO + Uruguay = hosted the annual “World Press Freedom Day Global Conference”
- Belarusian Association of Journalists – named the laureate of the “2022 UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize” or “Press Freedom Prize 2022”

**5.** World Asthma Day is observed on the first Tuesday of May every year. It is organised by the Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA), a World Health Organization collaborative organization founded in 1993. The day is observed to increase awareness about asthma and its management across the world. This year, World Asthma Day 2022 falls on May 3. In 2022, the theme is “Closing Gaps in Asthma Care”. The day was first observed in 1998. In 2020, the World Asthma Day was observed on May 5 and in 2023, it will be observed on May 2. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 3 (first Tuesday of May) – World Asthma Day – by GINA (since 1998)
- 2022’s Theme – “Closing Gaps in Asthma Care”

**6.** World Laughter Day is celebrated every year on the first Sunday of May to raise awareness about laughter and its many healing benefits. This year, the day falls on May 1, 2022. World Laughter Day was first celebrated on May 10, 1998, in Mumbai, India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 1 (first Sunday of May) – World Laughter Day
- The Day was first celebrated on May 10, 1998 – in Mumbai, Maharashtra

**7.** On May 1, PM Narendra Modi greeted the people of Gujarat and Maharashtra on the foundation day of the two western states. On this day in 1960, the former state of Bombay was bifurcated on a linguistic basis which gave existence to two states - Gujarat and Maharashtra, after the enactment of the Bombay Reorganisation Act, 1960. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 1 – foundation day of Gujarat & Maharashtra
- State of Bombay was bifurcated in Gujarat & Maharashtra on May 1, 1960 on a linguistic basis
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshiyari
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat

**8.** International Firefighters’ Day (IFFD) is celebrated every year on 4 May to honour the work of firefighting professionals. International Firefighters Day was instituted after the tragic death of five firefighters who lost their lives while trying to douse a wildfire in Australia in 1998. The day also marks the Saint Florian’s Day, the first known commander of a firefighting squad in the Roman era who lost his life while performing his duty. Red and Blue ribbon, pinned together, is the significant symbol of this day. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 4 – International Firefighters’ Day & Saint Florian’s Day

**9.** On 4 May, Coal Miners Day is observed annually to highlight one of the toughest professions- those working in coal fields or mines. In India, the coal mining business began in 1774. It was when the East India Company exploited the Raniganj coalfield which is located in the Asansol and Durgapur region. In FY 2020-21, Chhattisgarh had registered the highest coal production of 158.409 MT, followed by Odisha, Madhya Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 4 – Coal Miners Day
- Chhattisgarh – registered the highest coal production in FY21

**10.** Ayushman Bharat Yojana, also known as the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY), was started by PM Narendra Modi in 2018. Since then, 30 April is celebrated as Ayushman Bharat Diwas. This day is celebrated with the aim to spread awareness among the people in rural areas about the government's healthcare scheme. As per a PTI report, India has operationalised 75,532 Ayushman Bharat-Health and Wellness Centres (HCW) so far. India is on track to functionalise 1.5 lakh HWCs by December 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- April 30 – Ayushman Bharat Diwas
- Ayushman Bharat Yojana or PMJAY – launched by PM Modi in 2018

**11.** World Hand Hygiene Day is observed by the World Health Organisation (WHO) on May 5 every year. In 2022, the slogan or motto of the day is "Unite for Safety: Clean Your Hands". While the theme is focused on recognizing that we can add to a facility's Climate or Culture of Safety and Quality through cleaning our hands. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 5 – World Hand Hygiene Day
- Slogan/motto – "Unite for Safety: Clean Your Hands"

**12.** Astronomers and sky enthusiasts marked the "International Dark Sky Week 2022" from April 22-30. The "International Dark Sky Week" is an annual event hosted by the International Dark-Sky Association (IDA). The event aims to raise awareness about the negative impact of light pollution and celebrate the night sky. According to IDA, light pollution is increasing at twice the rate of population growth and 83% of the world's population lives under the light-polluted sky. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- April 22-30 – "International Dark Sky Week 2022" – hosted by the IDA
- 83% of the world's population lives under the light-polluted sky
- HQs of IDA – Arizona, US | CEO – Ruskin Hartley

**13.** "International No Diet Day (INDD)" is celebrated on May 6 every year. The day is dedicated to promoting a healthy lifestyle with a focus on health at any size and in raising awareness of the potential dangers of dieting and the unlikelihood of success. The day was created by Mary Evans Young in 1992 & celebrated in the UK for the first time. The symbol of International No Diet Day is a light blue ribbon. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 6 – "International No Diet Day (INDD)" | Symbol of the Day – Light Blue Ribbon
- The day was celebrated for the first time in the UK by 'Mary Evans Young' in 1992

**14.** On May 6, Southern Railway organised a grand programme to mark the 67<sup>th</sup> Railway Week celebrations. Railway Week is celebrated every year from April 10 to 16 in commemoration of the first train run on Indian soil on April 16, 1853 from Bori Bunder to Thane. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- April 10 to 16 – 67<sup>th</sup> Railway Week
- Southern Railway organised a grand programme to mark the 67<sup>th</sup> Railway Week celebrations
- HQs of Southern Railway – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | GM – B.G. Mallya

**15.** Every year on May 7, World Athletics Day is commemorated. On this day, the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) was created as a social responsibility project called 'Athletics for a Better World'. The day was established in 1996 by then-IAAF President Primo Nebiolo. The date is subject to adjustment, however, the month stays the same as May. The Athletics Federation of India (AFI) is the national governing body for athletics in India. AFI was established in 1946. It's a member of the IAAF, the Indian Olympic Association, and the AAA. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 7 – World Athletics Day (since 1996)
- HQs of IAAF or World Athletics – Monaco | President – Sebastian Coe | Founded in – 1912
- HQs of AFI – New Delhi | President – Adille J. Sumariwalla | Secretary General – Ravinder Chaudhry

**16.** The 161<sup>st</sup> birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore was observed on May 7, 2022. Rabindranath Tagore, India's first Nobel Prize winner, was born in Kolkata on May 7, 1861. He was a poet, writer, playwright, composer, philosopher, social reformer and painter. Tagore was known as the Bard of Bengal and Gurudev. In 1913, Tagore became the first non-European to win a Nobel Prize in Literature. The Bengali poet was awarded a 'Knighthood' by King George V in 1915, however, he repudiated it after the 1919 Jallianwala Bagh massacre. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 7 – 161<sup>st</sup> birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore (a Bengali poet) | India's first Nobel Prize winner (1913)
- Tagore – the first non-European to win a Nobel Prize in Literature

**17.** The two-day global observance called the "United Nations (UN)'s Time of Remembrance and Reconciliation for Those Who Lost Their Lives during the Second World War" was marked on May 8 and 9, 2022 to pay tribute to the victims of World War-II. The 77<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of WW2 was marked in 2022. VE Day (Victory in Europe) is celebrated every 8 May and May 8, 1945 is the day on which Allied forces formally announced the surrender of Germany, which brought the Second World War to an End in Europe. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "UN's Time of Remembrance and Reconciliation for Those Who Lost Their Lives during the Second World War" – marked on May 8 & 9, 2022
- 2022 marked the 77<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of WW2
- May 8 – VE (Victory in Europe) Day

**18.** Every year World Thalassaemia Day is observed on May 8. The day creates awareness to honour the struggle of patients suffering from the disease. The day was announced by Thalassaemia International Federation (TIF) on May 8, 1994. In 2022, the theme is "Be Aware. Share. Care: Working with the global community as one to improve thalassaemia knowledge". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 8 – World Thalassaemia Day (since 1994)
- 2022's Theme – "Be Aware. Share. Care: Working with the global community as one to improve thalassaemia knowledge"

**19.** World Red Cross Day also known as Red Crescent Day is celebrated on May 8 every year. This date marks the birth anniversary of Henry Dunant, who is the founder of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). He is also the recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize. The theme of World Red Cross Day 2022 is 'BeHumanKind'. The day was first celebrated on May 8, 1948. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 8 – World Red Cross Day or Red Crescent Day (since 1948) | Birth anniversary of – Henry Dunant
- 2022's Theme – "BeHumanKind"

**20.** On May 7, 2022, the 63<sup>rd</sup> Raising Day of the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) was celebrated. The capital budget of BRO was recently increased by 40% to Rs 3,500 Cr in Financial Year 2022-23. BRO is a leading road construction agency under the Ministry of Defence with a primary role of providing road connectivity in the border areas. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 7 – 63<sup>rd</sup> raising day of BRO
- Capital budget of BRO was recently increased by 40% to Rs 3,500 Cr in Financial Year 2022-23
- HQs of BRO – New Delhi | Director General – Major Gen Rajeev Chaudhary | Founded on – May 7, 1960

**21.** World Password Day is observed on the first Thursday of May across the globe. In 2022, the 8<sup>th</sup> World Password Day was marked on 5 May. The aim of World Password Day is to create awareness about the need for strong password security. In 2005, author Mark Brunett discussed the idea of celebrating a day of passwords through his book titled Perfect Passwords. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 5 (first Thursday of May) – 8<sup>th</sup> World Password Day
- Author Mark Brunett – discussed the idea of celebrating a day of passwords through his book "Perfect Passwords"

**22.** In 2019, the 40<sup>th</sup> session of UNESCO's General Conference decided to proclaim 5 May of each year as "World Portuguese Language Day". The date of 5 May was officially established in 2009 by the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries (CPLP). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 5 – World Portuguese Language Day (since 2019)
- UN language days:
  - Arabic (18 December)
  - Chinese (20 April)
  - English (23 April)
  - French (20 March)
  - Russian (6 June)
  - Spanish (23 April)



**23.** The United Nations marked the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the “International Argan Day” or “International Day of Argania” on May 10, 2022. In 2022, the theme is “The Argan tree, Symbol of Resilience”. The argan tree (*Argania spinosa*) is a native species of the sub-Saharan region of Morocco and it is endemic to Morocco. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 10 – 2<sup>nd</sup> “International Argan Day” or “International Day of Argania” by – UN
- 2022’s theme – “The Argan tree, Symbol of Resilience”
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Secretary-General – Antonio Guterres | Formed in – October 24, 1945

**24.** The birth anniversary of the 13<sup>th</sup> king of Mewar, Maharana Pratap, was celebrated on May 9. According to the Hindi calendar the warrior king’s birth anniversary is on the Tiritiya tithi of Jyeshtha’s Shukla Paksha. Maharana Pratap was born in Kumbhalgarh Fort (Pali). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 9 – birth anniversary of Maharana Pratap (the 13<sup>th</sup> king of Mewar)

**25.** The National Technology Day is celebrated every year on 11 May, the day reminds Indians of the country’s technological advancements. The day was first celebrated in 1999. It was officially declared by the Late Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee after the 5 nuclear tests were carried out on May 11, 1998. The date also commemorates the day on which India successfully conducted the Pokhran nuclear test (Pokhran II) code-named Operation Shakti on 11<sup>th</sup> May 1998. Initially the code name of the nuclear test was ‘Smiling Buddha’. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 11 – “National Technology Day” (since 1999)
- The day commemorates ‘Pokhran II’ nuclear test code-named “Operation Shakti” or “Smiling Buddha”

**26.** Every year, Russia celebrates “Victory Day” on May 9 to commemorate the Soviet Union’s victory over Germany’s Nazi forces in World War II. Over 8 million (80 lakh) Russian soldiers are estimated to have died during World War II. Russia and other parts of the erstwhile Soviet Union refer to the Second World War as the Great Patriotic War. The erstwhile Soviet Union first celebrated Victory Day on May 9, 1945. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 9 – “Victory Day” celebrated by Russia
- The day commemorates the Soviet Union’s victory over Germany’s Nazi forces in World War II

**27.** “International Mother’s Day” is celebrated on the second Sunday in the month of May every year. In 2022, International Mother’s Day was celebrated on May 8. Mother’s Day is also known as ‘Mothering Sunday’. In 1908, a woman named Anna Jarvis in the US first decided to commemorate the day in the memory of her mother, who had passed away 3 years ago. Within a few years, several parts of the US began celebrating this day as Mother’s Day. In 1914, US President Woodrow Wilson declared Mother’s Day as national holiday. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 8 (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of May) – “International Mother’s Day” or “Mothering Sunday”

**28.** International Nurses Day 2022 was observed May 12 across the world to honour their services towards humanity. It is the birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale, the English social reformer, statistician and founder of Modern Nursing. In 1974, the International Council of Nurses declared this day. In 2022, the theme is “Nurses: A Voice to Lead - Invest in Nursing and Respect Rights to Secure Global Health”. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- May 12 – International Nurses Day (birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale)
- 2022's theme – “Nurses: A Voice to Lead - Invest in Nursing and Respect Rights to Secure Global Health”

**29.** The first “International Day of Plant Health” was observed on May 12, 2022. The day was established following a decision in March 2022 by the UN General Assembly. The Day is a key legacy of the International Year of Plant Health (IYPH), which was marked in 2020-2021. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 12 – 1<sup>st</sup> “International Day of Plant Health” – by the UNGA
- ‘International Year of Plant Health (IYPH)’ – marked in 2020-2021

**30.** World Migratory Bird Day is marked twice a year since its inauguration in 2006. The day is celebrated on second Saturday of May & October. In 2022, the day falls on 14 May and 8 October. World Migratory Bird Day is celebrated across Mexico, Central and South America, and the Caribbean on the second Saturday of October annually. While in the United States and Canada, the day is celebrated on the second Saturday in May. The theme for World Migratory Bird Day 2022 is “Light Pollution”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 8 – International Migratory Bird Day or World Migratory Bird Day (since 2006)
- It is celebrated on second Saturday of May & October
- 2022's Theme – “Light Pollution”

**31.** Buddha Jayanti or Vaisakhi Buddha Purnima or Vesak Day, the festival of Buddha Purnima is based on the Asian lunisolar calendar and marks the birth of Gautama Buddha. It is celebrated with great fervour in India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan, Tibet and numerous other South East Asian countries. It falls on a full moon day in the month of Vaisakh (April/May) according to the Hindu calendar and this year, Buddha Purnima was celebrated on Monday, May 16. In Hinduism, Buddha is considered as the 9<sup>th</sup> avatar of Lord Vishnu. Buddha was born as Prince Siddhartha Gautama (563-483 BCE) and attained Nirvana (salvation) under the Mahabodhi tree at Bodh Gaya, Bihar. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 16 – Buddha Jayanti or Vaisakhi Buddha Purnima or Vesak Day in 2022

**32.** The “International Day of Light” is celebrated annually on May 16. It marks the anniversary of the first successful operation of the laser in 1960 by physicist and engineer Theodore Maiman. The day was first celebrated in 2018. The day celebrates the role light plays in science, culture and art, education, and sustainable development. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 16 – “International Day of Light”
- The day marks the anniversary of the first successful operation of the laser in 1960 by Theodore Maiman

**33.** The UN's “International Day of Living Together in Peace” is celebrated on May 16 throughout the world. It aims to urge people to live together in a united and peaceful way. The day was first observed in 2018. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 16 – “International Day of Living Together in Peace” (since 2018)

**34.** National Dengue Day is observed every year on May 16 by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in India. It aims to create awareness about dengue; and to intensify preventive measures and preparedness for the control of disease. Tamil Nadu reported 2361 cases of dengue, followed by Karnataka (1417) & Andhra Pradesh (692). This viral disease is caused by the dengue virus (DENV, 1–4 serotypes) and it is spread by a specific mosquito called 'Aedes Aegypti'. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 16 – “National Dengue Day” – observed in India by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
- It is spread by a mosquito called 'Aedes Aegypti' & caused by dengue virus (DENV, 1–4 serotypes)

**35.** On May 15, the United Nations celebrates International Families Day at its headquarters and worldwide. The United Nations General Assembly declared it in 1993. The UN Secretary-General has chosen the theme “Families and Urbanization” for 2022. It provides possibilities to raise awareness about family concerns and to increase understanding of the economic, demographic, and social dynamics that affect families. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 15 – International Families Day – by UN
- 2022's Theme – “Families & Urbanization”
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Secretary-General – Antonio Guterres | Formed in – October 24, 1945

**36.** International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT) was observed on May 17. The Day celebrates diversity and raises awareness of the human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTIQ+) people. This year's theme “Our Bodies. Our Lives. Our Rights”. aims to remind us that everyone has the right to fulfil their full potential through exercising bodily autonomy. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 17 – International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia & Transphobia
- 2022's Theme – “Our Bodies. Our Lives. Our Rights”

**37.** World Hypertension Day is celebrated on May 17 every year. The main aim of World Hypertension Day is to educate the public and increase awareness of hypertension, which is also commonly known as high blood pressure. In 2022, the theme is “Measure Your Blood Pressure Accurately, Control It, Live Longer”. The day was first inaugurated in May 2005. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 17 – World Hypertension Day (since 2005)
- 2022's Theme – “Measure Your Blood Pressure Accurately, Control It, Live Longer”

**38.** World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD) is observed every year on May 17 to raise awareness of the benefits that the Internet and other information and communication technologies (ICT) can offer to society and economies. In 2022, the theme is “Digital Technologies for Older Persons and Healthy Ageing”. The day also commemorates the signing of the first International Telegraph Convention and the founding of the ITU. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 17 – World Telecommunication & Information Society Day
- 2022's Theme – “Digital Technologies for Older Persons and Healthy Ageing”

**39.** The 47<sup>th</sup> statehood day of Sikkim was celebrated on May 16, 2022. It was on this day in 1975 that Sikkim had become a state of the Union of India following the 36<sup>th</sup> amendment of the Constitution. Sikkim has set an example before rest of the country in organic farming and adopting the path of sustainable development. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 16 – 47<sup>th</sup> statehood day of Sikkim
- Sikkim – became a state of the Union of India in 1975 following the 36<sup>th</sup> amendment of the Constitution
- [Sikkim: Capital – Gangtok | CM – Prem Singh Tamang | Governor – Ganga Prasad](#)

**40.** World AIDS Vaccine Day is celebrated each year to raise awareness about the importance of HIV vaccinations in preventing HIV infection and AIDS. It is observed on May 18 each year and is also known as the HIV Vaccine Awareness Day. The day was celebrated in May 1998 for the first time after President Bill Clinton gave a speech at Morgan State University in 1997 where he stated that a vaccine was the only way to limit the spread and eventually wipe out HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 18 – “World AIDS Vaccine Day” (since 1998)
- HIV – Human Immunodeficiency Virus

**41.** International Museum Day (IMD) is celebrated every year on 18 May to highlight the importance of museums in any culture. In 2022, the theme is “The Power of Museums”. The idea of having an International Museum Day first surfaced during a meeting called ‘Crusade for Museums’, organised by ICOM in 1951. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 18 – International Museum Day
- 2022’s Theme – “The Power of Museums”

**42.** On May 13, Minister of State for the PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Dr. Jitendra Singh released the e-book “Civil List-2022 of IAS Officers” at North Block, New Delhi. The dynamic list will help in selecting the right officer for the right assignment based on available profile and is a vital source of information on the officers manning various posts for the general public. It will contribute towards Digital India initiative of the Government of India. This is the 67<sup>th</sup> edition of the Civil List and 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of e-book in PDF with unique search facilities and hyperlinking of contents for ease of access of information. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dr. Jitendra Singh – released the e-book “Civil List-2022 of IAS Officers” in New Delhi
- This is the 67<sup>th</sup> edition of the Civil List and 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of e-book in PDF

**43.** On May 17, PM Narendra Modi addressed a programme to mark the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI). He also released a postal stamp to commemorate the occasion. During the programme, Prime Minister also launched a 5G Test Bed, developed as a multi-institute collaborative project by a total of 8 institutes led by IIT Madras. TRAI was established in 1997 through the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narendra Modi – addressed a programme to mark the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of the TRAI
- Narendra Modi – launched a ‘5G Test Bed’, developed as a multi-institute collaborative project
- [HQs of TRAI – New Delhi | Chairman – P. D. Vaghela | Established in – 1997](#)

**44.** May 19 is celebrated across the globe as World Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD). The disease is chronic inflammatory condition of the intestine and is of two main types: Ulcerative Colitis and Crohn's disease. IBD is increasing in India and this increase is largely driven by changes in the diet and westernization of lifestyle. A recent editorial in Lancet Gastroenterology and Hepatology described South Asia (including India) as a new frontier of IBD. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 19 – World Inflammatory Bowel Disease
- An editorial in 'Lancet Gastroenterology & Hepatology' described South Asia (including India) as a new frontier of IBD

**45.** World Metrology Day is celebrated every year on 20 May. On this occasion, scientific communities come together to pay homage to a meeting that happened on this day in 1875 to establish a standard measurement system for all nations. The day commemorates the anniversary of signature by representatives of 17 nations of the 'Metre Convention-1875'. In 2022, the theme is "Metrology in the Digital Era". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 20 – World Metrology Day | 2022's Theme – "Metrology in the Digital Era"
- 'Metre Convention' was signed by 17 nations on 20 May, 1875 – in Paris, France

**46.** Every year on the third Friday in May, National Endangered Species Day is observed, and this year it is observed on May 20. The goal of the day is to raise public awareness of endangered species and the various efforts that may be taken to protect them. The 'Endangered Species Act' was enacted on December 28, 1973. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 20 (3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of May) – "National Endangered Species Day"
- 'Endangered Species Act' was enacted on – Dec 28, 1973

**47.** World Bee Day is observed annually by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) on May 20 across the globe. The day is marked to raise awareness about the essential roles bees play in supporting people and the environment. In 2022, the theme is "Bee Engaged: Celebrating the Diversity of Bees and Beekeeping Systems". The day also marks the birth anniversary Slovenian beekeeper Anton Jansa - the pioneer of modern beekeeping. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 20 – World Bee Day by – FAO (birth anniversary Slovenian beekeeper Anton Jansa)
- 2022's Theme – "Bee Engaged: Celebrating the Diversity of Bees and Beekeeping Systems"
- HQs of FAO – Rome, Italy | DG – QU Dongyu | Formation – 16th October, 1945

**48.** International Tea Day is observed on May 21 every year by the United Nations. The day aims to raise awareness of the long history and the deep cultural and economic significance of tea around the world. Tea is the world's most-consumed drink, after water. The United Nations had declared International Tea Day in 2020 to promote its health benefits due to its anti-inflammatory and antioxidant properties. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 21 – International Tea Day – by the UN (since 2020)
- Largest tea producer in India – Assam



**49.** The UN's International Day to End Obstetric Fistula is observed on May 23. In 2022, the theme is "End Fistula Now: Invest in Quality Healthcare, Empower Communities!". The UN Member States adopted a resolution to end fistula by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 23 – International Day to End Obstetric Fistula – by UN
- 2022's Theme – "End Fistula Now: Invest in Quality Healthcare, Empower Communities!"
- UN Member States adopted a resolution to end fistula – by 2030
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Secretary-General – Antonio Guterres | Formed in – October 24, 1945

**50.** Anti-Terrorism Day is celebrated on May 21 in India every year. It aims to raise awareness about terrorism and violence and the way it affects the common people. It also aims to show how detrimental terrorism is to the nation. It was on 21 May, 1991 that former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated. This year marks the 31<sup>st</sup> death anniversary of 6<sup>th</sup> former Prime Minister of India Rajiv Gandhi. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 21 – Anti-Terrorism Day (31<sup>st</sup> death anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi)
- Former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated – on 21 May, 1991

**51.** The UN's International Day for Biological Diversity (IDB) was observed on May 22 to create awareness about the importance of biodiversity and highlight the issues related to it. The theme in 2022 is "Building a shared future for all life". The day was first observed in 2001. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 22 – International Day for Biological Diversity by – UN (since 2001)
- 2022's Theme – "Building a shared future for all life"
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Secretary-General – Antonio Guterres | Formed in – October 24, 1945

**52.** In 2001, the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) adopted the "Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity" and in December 2002, the UN General Assembly, in its resolution, declared May 21 to be the "Diversity Day", officially known as "World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development". The day provides an opportunity to deepen the understanding of the values of cultural diversity and to advance the four goals of the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, adopted on 20 October 2005. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 21 – "World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue & Development" – by UNGA (since 2002)
- UNESCO – adopted the "Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity" in 2001
- HQs of UNESCO – Paris, France | Director-General – Audrey Azoulay | Founded in – 1945 | Members – 193 Countries

**53.** World Retinoblastoma Awareness Week was observed between May 15 to 21, 2022. Retinoblastoma is the most common eye cancer (malignant tumor) occurring in young children. It can be life-threatening as well as take away vision if not treated timely and is detected by seeing White Reflex (WR). Nearly 1,500-2,000 children are diagnosed with retinoblastoma every year in India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 15 to 21 – World Retinoblastoma Awareness Week
- Retinoblastoma – most common Eye Cancer (malignant tumor) occurring in young children

**54.** On May 22, Ministry of Culture has started to commemorate the yearlong celebration of the 250<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Raja Ram Mohan Roy. It will continue till next year 22<sup>nd</sup> May. The inaugural ceremony took place at Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library Foundation, Salt Lake, Kolkata. The programme was organized by Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre (EZCC), Ministry of Culture. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Culture – celebrated the 250<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Raja Ram Mohan Roy on May 22

**55.** The 22<sup>nd</sup> edition of “World Turtle Day” was celebrated on May 23, 2022 to recognize the value of these reptiles on the planet. The day was observed in 2001 for the first time. This year, the theme is “Shellebrate”. The theme asks everyone to Love and Save Turtles. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 23 – 22<sup>nd</sup> edition of World Turtle Day
- 2022's theme – “Shellebrate”

**56.** Global Accessibility Awareness Day (GAAD) is celebrated on the third Thursday in May of each year. It aims to bring awareness to how someone with a disability may experience web-based content compared to those without a disability. This year, the 11<sup>th</sup> edition of GAAD was observed on May 19. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 19 (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday) – 11<sup>th</sup> Global Accessibility Awareness Day

**57.** May 25 is celebrated as World Thyroid Day. The day is dedicated to raising awareness about the disease, its study and treatment. In 2022, the theme is “Thyroid and Communication”. Thyroid disease is a group of disorders that affects the thyroid gland. The decision to celebrate World Thyroid Day on 25 May was taken in 2007 in Germany's Leipzig. Blue paisley ribbon is the international symbol of thyroid awareness. International Thyroid Awareness Week is annually observed across the globe on the 4<sup>th</sup> Week of May which was marked from May 25 to 31, this year. Thyroid gland is shaped like a ‘Butterfly’. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 25 – World Thyroid Day | International symbol of Thyroid Awareness – Blue Paisley Ribbon
- 2022's theme – “Thyroid and Communication”
- May 25 to 31 (4<sup>th</sup> Week of May) – International Thyroid Awareness Week

**58.** International Missing Children's Day is observed every year on 25<sup>th</sup> May. The aims of the day are to place a spotlight on the issue of child abduction, educate parents on safeguarding measures to protect their children and also honour those who have never been found and celebrate those who have. Missing Children's Day began as an observance in the USA in 1983. The date was chosen following the disappearance of 6-year-old Etan Patz on 25<sup>th</sup> May 1979 from New York City. The day was formally recognised on 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2001. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 25 – International Missing Children's Day (since 2001)

**59.** African World Heritage Day is a day declared by United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to celebrate the cultural and natural heritage of Africa. The day is celebrated on 5 May each year. The UNESCO declared the day in 2018. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 5 – African World Heritage Day – by UNESCO (since 2018)
- HQs of UNESCO – Paris, France | Director-General – Audrey Azoulay | Founded in – 1945 | Members – 193 Countries

**60.** On May 28, World Hunger Day is annually observed across the globe since 2011. It has been estimated that almost 800 million people in the world don't have enough food to eat. In 2022, the theme is "Youth Ending Hunger". It is an international initiative by 'The Hunger Project', a non-profit organisation based in New York, US. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 28 – World Hunger Day (since 2011)
- 2022's Theme – "Youth Ending Hunger"

**61.** "International Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories" was observed from May 25 to 31. The UN General Assembly (UNGA) called for the annual observance of this Week on December 6, 1999. The week was first observed in 2000. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 25 to 31 – UN's "International Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories" (since 2000)

**62.** "Menstrual Hygiene Day" is celebrated on 28 May every year. It falls on the day of the International Day of Action for Women's Health 2022 across the world. The day is celebrated to highlight the importance of menstrual care and aims to raise awareness about the social issues and challenges faced by women during menstruation. The first ever Menstrual Hygiene Day was observed in 2014. The theme for World Menstrual Hygiene Day 2022 is "To create a World where No Woman or Girl is held back because they menstruate, by 2030". While the theme of the International Day of Action for Women's Health 2022 is "Resist and Persist, amid Crises and Global Uncertainty". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 28 – Menstrual Hygiene Day
- 2022's Theme – "To create a World where No Woman or Girl is held back because they menstruate, by 2030"
- May 28 – International Day of Action for Women's Health
- 2022's Theme – "Resist and Persist, amid Crises and Global Uncertainty"

**63.** African Heads of Missions in New Delhi and Ministry of External Affairs jointly celebrated Africa Day on 25 May, 2022. Africa Day is the annual commemoration of the foundation of the Organisation of African Unity in 1963 and the attainment of independence. This year marked the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the African Union. The African Union has designated 2022 as the "Year of Nutrition" with the theme of "Rationale for Nutrition". On trade and economic front, India is the fourth largest partner for Africa registering US\$ 69.7 billion trade during 2018-19, and is the fifth largest investor in Africa with cumulative investments at US\$ 70.7 billion. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- May 25 – Africa Day (commemoration of the foundation of the Organisation of African Unity in 1963)
- 2022 – designated by African Union as “Year of Nutrition” with the theme of “Rationale for Nutrition”
- India – 4<sup>th</sup> largest partner for Africa & 5<sup>th</sup> largest investor in Africa
- Ministry of External Affairs: S. Jaishankar | Constituency – Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of External Affairs: Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, V. Muraleedharan & Meenakshi Lekhi

**64.** The “International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers” is celebrated on May 29 annually for paying tribute to the contributions of uniformed and civilian personnel to the organisation’s work. The day aims to honour nearly 4,200 peacekeepers who had lost their lives serving under the UN flag since 1948. The first UN peacekeeping mission called the ‘United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO)’ began operations in Palestine on 29 May, 1948. In 2022, the theme of the day is “People. Peace. Progress: The Power of Partnerships”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 29 – International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers
- 2022’s Theme – “People. Peace. Progress: The Power of Partnerships”

**65.** On May 30, Millions of e-cigarette users or vapers across the globe celebrated “World Vape Day”. The main components of the liquid used in e-cigarettes are propylene glycol and glycerin, accounting for 95% of the e-liquid. The day aims to create awareness about the alternatives to harmful tobacco products. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 30 – “World Vape Day”
- e-cigarettes = 95% Propylene Glycol & Glycerin + Water, Nicotine & Flavorings

**66.** International Everest Day is celebrated every year on 29 May. This day celebrates the first summit of Mount Everest by New Zealand’s Sir Edmund Hillary and Nepal’s Tenzing Norgay Sherpa. The duo climbed Mount Everest on this day in 1953. Reaching an elevation of 29,032 feet (8,849 metres), Mount Everest is the highest mountain in the world. [{Read more}](#).

**Key Points:**

- May 29 – International Everest Day
- 1<sup>st</sup> Summit of Mount Everest in 1953 – by Sir Edmund Hillary ([New Zealand](#)) & Tenzing Norgay Sherpa ([Nepal](#))
- [New Zealand – Wellington – Dollar \(NZD\)](#) | [PM – Jacinda Ardern](#)
- [Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee](#) | [President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari](#) | [PM – Sher Bahadur Deuba](#)

**67.** On May 30, Goa celebrated its 35<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day. Goa received its full statehood in 1987. Goa remained under Portuguese rule even after 14 years of India’s independence. On this occasion, awards were given to persons from various walks of life for their outstanding achievement in respective fields including former Chief Ministers of Goa. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 30 – 35<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day of Goa | Goa received its full statehood in – 1987
- [Goa: Capital – Panaji](#) | [CM – Pramod Sawant](#) | [Governor – P. S. Sreedharan Pillai](#)



**68.** World Digestive Health Day is marked on 29 May to create more awareness about the importance of a healthy digestive system. In 2022, the theme is “Colorectal Cancer Prevention: Getting Back on Track”. The day was launched in 2004 to mark the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of the World Gastroenterology Organisation. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 29 – World Digestive Health Day
- 2022’s Theme – “Colorectal Cancer Prevention: Getting Back on Track”
- [HQs of World Gastroenterology Organisation – Wisconsin, United States](#)

**69.** World No Tobacco Day is observed annually on May 31. In 2022, the theme of the day is “Tobacco: Threat to our environment”. According to WHO, Tobacco kills over 8 million people every year. In 2008, the WHO banned any kind of advertisement or promotion about tobacco, thinking that probably the ads attract youth to indulge in smoking. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 31 – World No Tobacco Day
- 2022’s Theme – “Tobacco: Threat to our environment”
- WHO banned any kind of advertisement or promotion about tobacco in – 2008
- [HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland](#) | [DG – Tedros Adhanom](#) | [Member Countries – 194](#) | [Founded in – 1948](#)



## **Books & Authors**

**1.** The Bengali version of “Reporting India: My Seventy-Year Journey as a Journalist”, authored by veteran journalist Prem Prakash, was released in Kolkata recently. The book, initially launched in 2020, was named by the Kalinga Literary Festival (KLF) as the Book of the Year in the non-fiction category in 2021. The book provides a detailed account of the Prem Prakash’s professional life and the stories he covered from Jawaharlal Nehru’s demise to the rise of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Bengali version of “Reporting India: My Seventy-Year Journey as a Journalist” was released in Kolkata recently
- Author – Prem Prakash

**2.** The Bengali translation of French novel “Meursault, contre-enquete” (The Meursault Investigation) has won the 5<sup>th</sup> Romain Rolland Book Prize during the French LitFest 2022. The award was given to translator Trinanjan Chakraborty and publisher Patra Bharati. The Meursault Investigation is a debut novel of Algerian writer and journalist Kamel Daoud. Romain Rolland Book Prize, started in 2017, aims at awarding the best translation of a French title into any Indian language, including English. The French LitFest 2022 was part of the ongoing ‘Bonjour India’, an art and culture summer festival which celebrates the relationship India and France share. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Bengali translation of French novel “Meursault, contre-enquete” – won the 5<sup>th</sup> Romain Rolland Book Prize
- The award was given to = Trinanjan Chakraborty (translator) + Patra Bharati (publisher)

**3.** On May 8, Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu released the book titled ‘The Struggle for Police Reforms in India: Ruler’s Police to People’s Police’ written by former IPS officer Prakash Singh. The book was published by Rupa Publications. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- “The Struggle for Police Reforms in India: Ruler’s Police to People’s Police” book – authored by IPS Prakash Singh
- Launched by – M. Venkaiah Naidu | Publisher – Rupa Publications

**4.** Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu released the book “Modi@20 Dreams Meet Delivery” in New Delhi. The book encompasses the experiential journey of Modi since he left his house at the tender age of 17 and set out on a mission of knowing himself, his country and finally defining the mission of transforming India. ‘Modi@20’ is an anthology edited and compiled by BlueKraft Digital Foundation, and is a compilation of chapters authored by eminent intellectuals and domain experts. The book is published by Rupa Publications. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- M. Venkaiah Naidu – released book “Modi@20 Dreams Meet Delivery” about the journey of Modi since he left his house
- Edited and compiled by – BlueKraft Digital Foundation | Publisher – Rupa Publications

**5.** HarperCollins India is set to publish the best-selling author Preeti Shenoy’s new novel titled “A Place Called Home”. This novel is about secrets, family, and finding yourself. This book is also an important social commentary on the class system that exists in India. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- “A Place Called Home” novel – authored by Preeti Shenoy | Publisher – HarperCollins India

**6.** A new book titled “Listen to Your Heart: The London Adventure” is authored by Ruskin Bond. The book was published by Penguin Random House India on Ruskin Bond’s 88<sup>th</sup> birthday, marked on May 19, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Listen to Your Heart: The London Adventure” book – authored by Ruskin Bond
- Publisher – Penguin Random House India
- The book was published on May 19, Ruskin Bond’s 88<sup>th</sup> birthday

**7.** Author and journalist Wesley Morgan is the winner of the “William E. Colby Award 2022” for military and intelligence writing. He was cited for his book “The Hardest Place: The American Military Adrift in Afghanistan’s Pech Valley”. The Colby award carries a \$5,000 prize. The award is given for a major contribution to the understanding of military history, intelligence operations or international affairs. The Colby Award is presented by Norwich University in Northfield, Vermont. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Wesley Morgan – won the “William E. Colby Award 2022” for military & intelligence writing
- He was cited for his book – “The Hardest Place: The American Military Adrift in Afghanistan’s Pech Valley”
- The Colby Award is presented by – Norwich University ([Vermont, US](#))



# Obituaries

**1.** On May 4, British racing driver Charles Anthony Standish Brooks, known as Tony Brooks passed away at the age of 90. He was nicknamed the 'Racing Dentist' who was Formula One's last surviving grand prix winner from the 1950s and also finished second in the 1959 World Championship. He won 6 Grand Prix during his sports life. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Charles Anthony Standish Brooks ('Tony Brooks') – a British Racing Driver – passed away (winner of 6 Grand Prix)
- His nick name – 'Racing Dentist'

**2.** On May 8, Eminent Odia litterateur Rajat Kumar Kar, a Padma Shri awardee, died in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. He was 88 years old. He was conferred with Padma Shri in 2021 for Literature & Education. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Rajat Kumar Kar – Eminent Odia litterateur – passed away (Padma Shri award in 2021)

**3.** On May 10, Legendary musician & Santoor maestro Pandit Shiv Kumar Sharma passed away at the age of 84. Often remembered for his jugalbandi with Pt Hari Prasad Chaurasia, he also composed music for several Bollywood films. He was honoured with Padma Shri in 1991 and Padma Vibhushan in 2001 in the field of Arts. His autobiography "Journey with a Hundred Strings: My Life in Music" was co-written with author Ina Puri. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Pandit Shiv Kumar Sharma – Legendary musician & Santoor maestro – passed away (Padma Shri awardee in 1991)
- Autobiography – "Journey with a Hundred Strings: My Life in Music" (co-written with author Ina Puri)

**4.** On May 11, Veteran Congress leader and former Union minister Pandit Sukh Ram passed away at the age of 94. He served as Minister of Communication & Information Technology (I/C) from 1993 to 1996. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Pandit Sukh Ram – Congress leader & former Minister of Communication & IT – passed away

**5.** On May 11, Ukraine's first president Leonid Kravchuk passed away at the age of 88. President Volodymyr Zelensky described Kravchuk as a "historic figure". He won the first-ever national presidential election in Ukraine in 1991. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Leonid Kravchuk – Ukraine's first president – passed away (He won the presidential election in Ukraine in 1991)
- [Ukraine – Kyiv – Ukrainian hryvnia](#) | [President – Volodymyr Zelensky](#)

**6.** On May 12, Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed deep grief over the demise of Sanskrit and Hindi Scholar Dr. Rama Kant Shukla. He was honoured with Padma Shri in 2013 for Literature & Education. He was also honoured with the President's Award under the Sanskrit category in 2009. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Dr. Rama Kant Shukla – Sanskrit & Hindi Scholar – passed away (Padma Shri in 2013)



**7.** Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, ruler of Abu Dhabi and President of the United Arab Emirates since 2004, passed away at the age of 73. Sheikh Khalifa took over as President (UAE's second) in November 2004. Rulers in the United Arab Emirates announced that they unanimously appointed Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan as the President of the nation. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan – 2<sup>nd</sup> President of UAE – passed away
- Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan – appointed as new President of UAE
- [UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham](#) | [President – Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan](#)

**8.** On May 12, Sanskrit scholar Bhagirath Prasad Tripathi 'Vagish Shastri' died after a prolonged illness. He was 86. Acharya Vagish Shastri was given the title of Mahamahopadhyay by Kashi Pandit Parishad in 1982. He was awarded the Padma Shri in 2018 and the President's Award in 2013. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bhagirath Prasad Tripathi ('Vagish Shastri') – Sanskrit Scholar – passed away
- Awards: Padma Shri (2018), President's Award (2013)

**9.** On May 15, Former Australian test cricketer Andrew Symonds has died in car accident near Townsville in northeast Australia. He was 46. He played all three formats as a batting all-rounder. Commonly nicknamed 'Roy', he was a key member of two World Cup winning squads. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Andrew Symonds ([Australia](#)) – Cricketer – passed away (Nickname - 'Roy')

**10.** In May 2022, Yuri Averbakh, a Russian chess grandmaster, passed away at the age of 100. He was the first grandmaster to reach this age. He was among the world's best players for a decade, trained world champions and was the last surviving participant in one of the greatest competitions in history. Averbakh took part in the Candidates Tournament in Zurich in 1953. In 1954, Averbakh won the Soviet Championship. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Yuri Averbakh ([Russia](#)) – Chess Grandmaster – passed away
- [Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble](#) | [PM – Mikhail Mishustin](#) | [President – Vladimir Putin](#)

**11.** On May 28, Former Albanian President Bujar Nishani, who was often criticised for his center-right political affiliation from the leftist coalition, died following a serious health problem. He was 55. Nishani served as President from 2012 until 2017. At 45, he was elected as the youngest and sixth president in post-communist Albania. Tirana & Albanian Lek are the capital & currency of Albania. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bujar Nishani – Former Albanian President (2012 to 2017) – passed away
- [Albania – Tirana – Albanian Lek](#) | [President – Ilir Meta](#)

# Meetings, Conferences & Summits

**1.** External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar called on Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, who offered her country's main seaport - Chittagong Port, to India's northeastern states like Assam and Tripura to enhance connectivity between the two neighbours. The two countries fixed the date of the 7<sup>th</sup> Bangladesh-India Joint Consultative Commission (JCC) meeting on May 30, scheduled to take place in New Delhi. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Bangladesh – offered Chittagong Port to India's northeastern states like Assam & Tripura to enhance connectivity
- 7<sup>th</sup> Bangladesh-India JCC meeting – scheduled to take place in New Delhi
- Chittagong Port – located in Bangladesh
- [Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka](#) | [PM – Seikh Hasina](#) | [President – Abdul Hamid](#)

**2.** The Chief Justice of India N V Ramana chaired the 39<sup>th</sup> Conference of Chief Justices held in New Delhi. This was followed by the joint conference of Chief Justices and Chief Ministers at Vigyan Bhavan which was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The meeting reviewed the progress on resolutions passed in the last conference held in 2016, and considered the steps needed to improve the justice delivery system. The first chief justices conference was held in November 1953. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- N V Ramana – chaired the 39<sup>th</sup> Conference of Chief Justices held in New Delhi
- The first chief justices conference was held in November, 1953
- [Present Chief of Justice of the Supreme Court of India – Justice N. V. Ramana \(48<sup>th</sup>\)](#)

**3.** PM Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated the “Global Patidar Business Summit 2022” held in Surat. The three-day business summit was organised by Sardardham, an organisation devoted to the Patidar community. Two earlier editions of the summit were held in 2018 and 2020. The PM asked the community to create groups consisting of both experienced and young members to work on issues of national interest and document ideas, global good practices and government policies. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- PM Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated the 3-day “Global Patidar Business Summit 2022” held in Surat, Gujarat
- The summit was organised by – Sardardham

**4.** The Indian Air Force (IAF) organized a national seminar on Logistics Management “LOGISEM VAYU - 2022” at Air Force Auditorium, New Delhi. A document on logistics philosophy of IAF titled ‘Tenets of Logistics’ and a book on history of Logistics in IAF titled ‘Footprints in Sands of Time’ were released. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- IAF organized a national seminar on Logistics Management “LOGISEM VAYU - 2022” in New Delhi
- ‘Tenets of Logistics’ document & ‘Footprints in Sands of Time’ book were released during seminar
- [HQs of IAF – New Delhi](#) | [Chief – Air Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari](#) | [Vice Chief – Air Marshal Sandeep Singh](#)





**5.** NITI Aayog, as a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations, organized a National Level Workshop on “Innovative Agriculture” in Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. The workshop had four technical sessions: (i) a panel discussion on natural farming in States, (ii) natural farming for soil health restoration and climate change mitigation, (iii) promotion of natural farming, and (iv) innovations in natural farming. A bilingual compendium of success stories of natural farming, comprising of 110 success stories from 13 states across India, was released during the event. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NITI Aayog – organized a National Level Workshop on “Innovative Agriculture” in New Delhi
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Suman Bery

**6.** On May 4, PM Narendra Modi, along with the prime ministers of Denmark, Iceland, Finland, Sweden, and Norway, attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> India-Nordic Summit hosted at Christiansborg Palace in Copenhagen, Denmark. The summit was focused on post-pandemic economic recovery, climate change, renewable energy, and the evolving global security scenario. The first India-Nordic summit was held in Stockholm in 2018. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narendra Modi – attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> “India-Nordic Summit” in Copenhagen, Denmark
- The first ‘India-Nordic summit’ was held in Stockholm in 2018
- Denmark – Copenhagen – Danish krone | PM – Mette Frederiksen

**7.** On May 2, Insolvency & Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI), along with IIM Ahmedabad, organised the first two-day “International Research Conference on Insolvency & Bankruptcy”. The Minister of State for Statistics and Programme Implementation, Planning and Corporate Affairs, Rao Inderjit Singh, highlighted the journey of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), 2016. The two-day research conference was held under the aegis of the Misra Centre of Financial Markets at IIM Ahmedabad. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IBBI + IIM Ahmedabad = organised the first 2-day “International Research Conference on Insolvency & Bankruptcy”
- HQs of IBBI – New Delhi | Chairperson – Ravi Mittal | Established in – 2016 (set up by Ministry of Corporate Affairs)

**8.** On May 5, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh addressed the 37<sup>th</sup> “Air Chief Marshal (ACM) P. C. Lal Memorial Lecture” organised by the Air Force Association in New Delhi. On the occasion, Mr. Singh released a book titled “Indo-Pak war 1971 - Reminiscences of Air Warriors”, a compilation of 50 articles penned by veterans narrating their experiences, edited by Air Marshal Jagjeet Singh and Group Captain Shailendra Mohan. Air Chief Marshal P.C. Lal was the Vice Chief of the Air Staff during the 1965 war and had served as the 7<sup>th</sup> Air Chief during the 1971 war. ACM P. C. Lal was awarded the ‘Distinguished Flying Cross’ during the Burma Campaign in World War II. He was awarded the Padma Bhushan in 1966 and the Padma Vibhushan in 1972 for his contributions during the two wars. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- Rajnath Singh – addressed 37<sup>th</sup> “Air Chief Marshal (ACM) P. C. Lal Memorial Lecture” in New Delhi
- Rajnath Singh – released a book titled “Indo-Pak war 1971 - Reminiscences of Air Warriors”
- The book is edited by = Air Marshal Jagjeet Singh + Group Captain Shailendra Mohan
- ACM P. C. Lal – served as 7<sup>th</sup> Air Chief during the 1971 war & Vice Chief of the Air Staff during the 1965 war
- ACM P. C. Lal’s awards: ‘Distinguished Flying Cross’ + Padma Bhushan (1966) + Padma Vibhushan (1972)

**9.** On May 2, the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) in partnership with the US Agency for International Development (USAID) hosted the “International Conference on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (ICDRI 2022)” from May 4-6, 2022. The 3-day interactive hybrid conference will explore ways to strengthen the resilience of transitioning infrastructure systems, with an emphasis on human-centered approaches. The CDRI will also feature a ‘Resilient Infrastructure Marketplace’ to promote and strengthen opportunities for both the public and private sector. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- CDRI + USAID = hosted the “International Conference on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (ICDRI 2022)”
- HQs of CDRI – New Delhi | Member countries – 30 | Launched by Narendra Modi (in 2019)
- HQs of USAID – Washington D.C., US | Administrator – Samantha Power | Founded in – 1961

**10.** On May 5, Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal chaired the meeting of the National Sagarmala Apex Committee (NSAC) in New Delhi. The NSAC is the apex body providing policy directions and guidance for port-led development - Sagarmala projects and reviews its implementation. Holistic development of coastal communities through a new initiative ‘Sagartat Samridhi Yojana’ was also taken up for discussion in the meeting. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sarbananda Sonowal – chaired the meeting of the ‘National Sagarmala Apex Committee (NSAC)’ in New Delhi
- Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways: Sarbananda Sonowal | Constituency – Majuli, Assam
- MoS in Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways: Shripad Yesso Naik & Shantanu Thakur

**11.** On May 6, the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) held a two-day Regional Conference in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh. NHAI signed an MoU with Uttar Pradesh State Rural Livelihood Mission (UPSRLM) to involve the self-help groups in taking up the plantations along the National Highways. The second MoU was signed between NHAI and AMMANN India Pvt Ltd to create a talent pool of highly skilled workforce, fully trained on advanced technologies in Highway construction, rehabilitation, and maintenance. In FY 2021-22, NHAI constructed a total length of 4,325 km, which is higher than the 4,218 km in FY 2020-21 and 3,979 in FY 2019-20. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NHAI held a two-day Regional Conference in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- NHAI + UPSRLM = an MoU to involve the SHGs in taking up the plantations along the National Highways
- NHAI + AMMANN India Pvt Ltd = an MoU to create a talent pool of highly skilled workforce
- HQs of NHAI – New Delhi | Chairman – Alka Upadhyaya | Founded in – 1988

**12.** On May 6, Plastindia Foundation announced PLASTINDIA 2023, the 11<sup>th</sup> edition of international plastics exhibition, conference & convention, to be held from February 1 to 5, 2023, at the newly built State of the Art International Exhibition Centre at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. PLASTINDIA 2023 will focus on innovation, sustainability, and growth, facilitating modern techniques that will help to maintain a cleaner environment and lead to sustainable economic growth. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Plastindia Foundation – announced 11<sup>th</sup> ‘PLASTINDIA 2023’ to be held in New Delhi (from Feb 1-5, 2023)

**13.** On May 6, PM Narendra Modi addressed the inaugural session of Jain International Trade Organisation’s “JITO Connect 2022” via video conferencing. During the session, PM Modi gave a new dimension to the term “Earth”. He further highlighted the benefits of transparent ‘faceless’ tax assessment, one nation-one tax, productivity linked incentive schemes. The theme of the summit was “Together Towards Tomorrow”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narendra Modi – addressed the inaugural session of “JITO Connect 2022”
- During the session, PM Modi gave a new dimension to the term “Earth”
- Theme of the summit – “Together Towards Tomorrow”
- [Location of JITO – Mumbai, Maharashtra](#)

**14.** On May 4, Ministry of Textiles organised a “National Conference on PM Mega Integrated Textile Regions and Apparel Park (PM MITRA) Parks Scheme”. The conference was inaugurated by U. P Singh, Secretary, Ministry of Textiles. The Conference provided a platform for making presentation by officials from 13 State Governments. PM MITRA Park will offer the opportunity to create an Integrated Textiles Value Chain right from spinning, weaving, processing/dyeing and printing to garment manufacturing etc. at one location and will reduce logistics cost of Industry. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Textiles – organised a “National Conference on PM MITRA Parks Scheme”
- [Ministry of Textiles: Piyush Goyal](#) | [Constituency – Maharashtra](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Textiles: Darshana Vikram Jardosh](#)

**15.** Union Minister for MSMEs Narayan Rane inaugurated “Enterprise India National Coir Conclave 2022” in Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu is one of the leading hubs for the coir industry. Coir is also called Coconut fibre. The government planned to do more for the coir cluster in the State. The coir industry provided employment to more than 7 lakh people in the rural areas of the coconut growing States. Almost 80% of these artisans were women. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narayan Rane – inaugurated “Enterprise India National Coir Conclave 2022” in Tamil Nadu
- [Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai](#) | [CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin](#) | [Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi](#)
- [HQs of Coir Board – New Delhi](#) | [Chairman – D. Kuppuramu](#)

**16.** Union Minister, for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bhupender Yadav delivered National Statement at the 15<sup>th</sup> Session of the Conference of Parties (COP15) of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) hosted from 9 to 20 May, 2022 in Abidjan, Cote d’Ivoire. India handed over the presidency to the Republic of Cote d’Ivoire. COP15’s theme is “Land. Life. Legacy: From Scarcity to Prosperity”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bhupender Yadav – delivered National Statement at the COP15 of the UNCCD – hosted in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire
- Theme of the COP15 – “Land. Life. Legacy: From Scarcity to Prosperity”

**17.** The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) in association with APAC News Network virtually organised the 6<sup>th</sup> Edition of the monthly ‘Webinar with Universities’ series on ‘Igniting Young Minds, Rejuvenating Rivers’. The theme for the webinar was ‘Waste Water Management’. The session was presided over by Shri G. Asok Kumar, Director General, NMCG. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NMCG – organised 6<sup>th</sup> monthly ‘Webinar with Universities’ series on ‘Igniting Young Minds, Rejuvenating Rivers’
- Theme of the webinar – “Waste Water Management”
- [NMCG functions under – Ministry of Jal Shakti](#) | [DG – G. Asok Kumar](#)

**18.** On May 11, the BRICS countries agreed to launch an ‘Early Warning System’ for large-scale pandemics, during the 12<sup>th</sup> “Meeting of BRICS Health Ministers” hosted by China virtually. The meeting was joined by more than 70 attendees including health ministers from BRICS countries and the deputy Director-General of the World Health Organization. China is scheduled to host the “BRICS Summit” in Xiamen in June, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 12<sup>th</sup> “Meeting of BRICS Health Ministers” hosted by – China
- BRICS countries – agreed to launch an ‘Early Warning System’ for large-scale pandemics
- China – to host the “BRICS Summit” in Xiamen in June, 2022

**19.** Union Minister of State for Ministry of New and Renewable Energy Bhagwant Khuba attended “Intersolar Europe 2022” held from May 11-13, 2022. The Minister delivered a key note address at the investment promotion event “India’s Solar Energy Market” in Munich. The event was organized by the Indo-German Energy Forum (IGEF). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bhagwant Khuba – attended “Intersolar Europe 2022” held in Munich | organized by – IGEF
- An investment promotion event “India’s Solar Energy Market” – organized by IGEF
- [Germany – Berlin – Euro](#) | [President – Frank-Walter Steinmeier](#)

**20.** On May 12, PM Narendra Modi participated in the 2<sup>nd</sup> “Global COVID Virtual Summit” on the invitation of the US President Joe Biden. Narendra Modi delivered his remarks in the Opening Session of the Summit on the theme “Preventing Pandemic Fatigue and Prioritizing Preparedness”. PM Modi had also participated in the first Global COVID virtual Summit hosted by President Biden on 22 September 2021. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- PM Narendra Modi – participated in the 2<sup>nd</sup> “Global COVID Virtual Summit”
- PM Modi – delivered his remarks in the session on theme “Preventing Pandemic Fatigue & Prioritizing Preparedness”
- [US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar](#) | [46<sup>th</sup> President – Joe Biden](#) | [49<sup>th</sup> VP – Kamala Harris](#)

**21.** Counter-terrorism experts from India, Pakistan and other member states of the SCO deliberated on boosting cooperation in combating various regional security challenges at SCO-RATS meet hosted by India at New Delhi. India assumed the Chairmanship of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation's Regional Anti-Terror Structure (SCO-RATS) on October 28 for a period of one year. The member states of the SCO are Russia, China, India, Pakistan, Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. Afghanistan is among the observer states of the SCO. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SCO-RATS member states – deliberated on boosting cooperation in combating various Regional Security Challenges
- 'SCO-RATS Meet' hosted by India at New Delhi
- India assumed the Chairmanship of the SCO-RATS on October 28 for a period of one year
- [HQs of SCO – Beijing, China](#) | [SG – Zhang Ming](#) | [Present Member Countries – 8](#) | [Presidency – Uzbekistan](#)

**22.** The 1<sup>st</sup> "Incredible India International Cruise Conference 2022" was held on May 14-15, 2022 in Mumbai with the 'Captain Cruzo' mascot. The Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Development of the Northeastern Region (DoNER), G. Kishan Reddy addressed the participants on May 15 about the various tourism related themes and discussions. 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. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> "Incredible India International Cruise Conference 2022" – held in Mumbai
- Organised by – Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways + Mumbai Port Authority + FICCI | Mascot – 'Captain Cruzo'
- [HQs of FICCI – New Delhi](#) | [DG – ArunChawla](#) | [President – Sanjiv Mehta](#) | [Founded in – 1927](#)
- [Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways: Sarbananda Sonowal](#) | [Constituency – Majuli, Assam](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways: Shripad Yesso Naik & Shantanu Thakur](#)

**23.** On May 12, the 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of Interpol's Match-Fixing Task Force (IMFTF) concluded with a call for harmonised global efforts to curb competition manipulation. At the event, the members deliberated on various mechanisms such as the establishment of National Platforms, as outlined in the Macolin Convention. The Council of Europe Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions, known as the Macolin Convention, is a multi-lateral treaty aimed at checking match-fixing. It came into force on September 1, 2019, and has been signed by 32 countries and ratified by 7 countries. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- At 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of IMFTF, members deliberated to curb competition manipulation as outlined in the Macolin Convention
- Macolin Convention – came into force on September 1, 2019, & has been signed by 32 countries and ratified by 7 countries
- [HQs of Interpol – Lyon, France](#) | [President – Ahmed Naser Al-Raisi](#) | [Founded on – September 7, 1923](#)

**24.** Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal delivered the keynote address at the 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of India-Oman Joint Business Council (JBC) in New Delhi. The minister also stated that India was considering entering into a Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) with Oman. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of India-Oman Joint Business Council (JBC) – held in New Delhi
- India is considering entering into a Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) with Oman
- Oman – Muscat – Rial | Sultan – Haitham bin Tariq Al Said

**25.** From May 17-20, the first International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) was held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, US. In 2018, UN Member States agreed to review the progress made at the local, national, regional and global levels in implementing the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) in the framework of the United Nations. The quadrennial IMRF will be hosted by the President of the UN General Assembly. V. Muraleedharan, Minister of State for External Affairs, headed the Indian delegation to the first IMRF. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- V. Muraleedharan – headed Indian delegation at the 1<sup>st</sup> International Migration Review Forum – held in New York
- The quadrennial IMRF will be hosted by – the President of the UNGA
- HQs of UNGA – New York, USA | President – Abdulla Shahid | Member Countries – 193

**26.** Vast areas of degraded land across the globe require restoration. For this, the investment in forest and landscape restoration globally must be tripled by 2030 to implement global commitments and meet internationally agreed goals and targets, according to the recently adopted Seoul Declaration. The Declaration focuses on identifying key areas that can help combat multiple crises humanity faces. It was adopted on May 5, 2022, at the XV World Forestry Congress, held in Seoul, South Korea. The Declaration was signed by 141 participant countries. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- XV World Forestry Congress – held in Seoul, South Korea
- Seoul Declaration – was recently adopted to triple the investment in Forest & Landscape Restoration by 2030
- The Declaration was adopted on May 5, 2022, at the Congress & signed by 141 participant countries
- South Korea – Seoul – Korean Republic won | President – Yoon Suk-yeol

**27.** On May 17, the Minister of Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and Textiles, Piyush Goyal chaired the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of National Startup Advisory Council (NSAC) in New Delhi. The Minister also launched “NavIC Grand Challenge” which aims at promoting adoption of NavIC as geo-positioning solution. Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) had constituted the NSAC to advise the Government on measures needed to build a strong ecosystem for nurturing innovation and startups in India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Piyush Goyal – chaired the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of National Startup Advisory Council (NSAC) in New Delhi
- Piyush Goyal – launched “NavIC Grand Challenge” to promote NavIC as GPS
- Ministry of Commerce & Industry: Piyush Goyal | Constituency – Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of Commerce & Industry: Anupriya Singh Patel & Som Parkash
- Ministry of Textiles: Piyush Goyal | Constituency – Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of Textiles: Darshana Vikram Jardosh



**28.** On May 13, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal and Abdulla Bin Touq Al Marri, Minister of Economy, United Arab Emirates launched India-UAE Start-up Bridge at India-UAE Economic Partnership Summit in Mumbai. This bridge will act as a one-stop platform where information regarding the Indian and UAE startup ecosystem will be easily accessible to entrepreneurs and stakeholders from both countries. This is the first such bridge by UAE with any country. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 'India-UAE Economic Partnership Summit' – held in Mumbai
- India + UAE = launched 'India-UAE Start-up Bridge' (first such bridge by UAE with any country)
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan

**29.** In May 2022, the 15<sup>th</sup> World Forestry Congress (WFC 2021) was organised by the Korea Forest Service (KFS) and Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) in Seoul, Republic of Korea. The theme of the Congress is "Building a Green, Healthy and Resilient Future with Forests". The last congress was held in 2015. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 15<sup>th</sup> "World Forestry Congress" – organised in Seoul, South Korea (by Korea Forest Service + FAO)
- Theme of the Congress – "Building a Green, Healthy and Resilient Future with Forests"
- HQs of FAO – Rome, Italy | DG – QU Dongyu | Formation – 16<sup>th</sup> October, 1945
- South Korea – Seoul – Korean Republic won | President – Yoon Suk-yeol

**30.** On May 20, China hosted the BRICS Foreign Ministers meeting virtually as it holds the chair of the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) for 2022. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar participated along with his counterparts from the five-member bloc. The meeting was chaired by China's State Councillor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- S. Jaishankar – participated in the "BRICS Foreign Ministers Meeting 2022" – hosted by China
- The meeting was chaired by – Wang Yi
- BRICS Member Countries: 5 – Brazil, Russia, India, China & South Africa | Chairmanship in 2022 – China

**31.** Union Minister of Finance & Corporate Affairs and India's Governor for the New Development Bank (NDB), Nirmala Sitharaman chaired the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of Board of Governors of NDB through video-conference in New Delhi. The meeting was also attended by Governors/Alternate Governors of Brazil, China, Russia, South Africa and the newly joined members Bangladesh and the UAE. This year's theme for the Annual Meeting was "NDB: Optimising Development Impact". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nirmala Sitharaman – chaired 7<sup>th</sup> "Annual Meeting of Board of Governors of NDB" virtually from New Delhi
- Theme for the Annual Meeting – "NDB: Optimising Development Impact"
- Nirmala Sitharaman – India's Governor for the New Development Bank
- HQs of NDB – Shanghai, China | President – Marcos Prado Troyjo (established by BRICS Countries - in 2014)

**32.** In May 2022, the 10<sup>th</sup> Session of the India-Oman Joint Commission Meeting (JCM) was held in New Delhi. It was co-chaired by Piyush Goyal & Qais bin Mohammed al Yousef, Minister of Commerce, Industry & Investment Promotion of Oman. A 48-member high level multi-sectoral delegation headed by Mr. Qais had visited India. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- 10<sup>th</sup> Session of the India-Oman Joint Commission Meeting (JCM) was held in New Delhi
- The meeting was co-chaired by Piyush Goyal & Qais bin Mohammed al Yousef
- [Oman – Muscat – Rial](#) | [Sultan – Haitham bin Tariq Al Said](#)

**33.** On May 18, Union Minister of State for External Affairs V. Muraleedharan participated in a High Level Ministerial Meeting on 'Global Food Security-Call to Action' which was chaired by US Secretary of State Antony Blinken in New York. MoS Muraleedharan also led the Indian delegation at the first International Migration Review Forum (IMRF), held by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- V. Muraleedharan – participated in a High Level Ministerial Meeting on 'Global Food Security-Call to Action' in New York
  - The meeting was chaired by – Antony Blinken (US Secretary of State)
  - V. Muraleedharan – also led the Indian delegation at the first 'International Migration Review Forum (IMRF)'
- Reliance Industries – topped in India & 53<sup>rd</sup> globally | SBI – second in India & 105<sup>th</sup> globally

**34.** On May 23, two MoUs were renewed at the 7<sup>th</sup> India-Canada Joint Science & Technology Cooperation Committee (JSTCC) meeting that took place in Ottawa. The MoUs had been signed by the Ministry of Science and Technology with Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) and National Research Council Canada (NRC), respectively. The Joint Committee Meeting was co-chaired by Dr. Srivari Chandrasekhar. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Two MoUs were renewed at 7<sup>th</sup> India-Canada Joint Science & Technology Cooperation Committee Meeting – in Ottawa
- The Joint Committee Meeting was co-chaired by – Dr. Srivari Chandrasekhar
- [Canada – Ottawa – Canadian Dollar](#) | [PM – Justin Trudeau](#)

**35.** The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Ministers Responsible for Trade (MRT) met in Bangkok, Thailand, from 21-22 May 2022, under the chairmanship of H.E. Mr. Jurin Laksanawisit, Thailand's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Commerce. The meeting expressed its concern over the still fragile-recovery from Covid-19 on our region, including global supply chain disruptions, inflation, food and energy crisis on this nascent economic recovery, as well as the achievement of APEC's vision for an open, dynamic, resilient and peaceful Asia-Pacific community. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- The Meeting of "APEC Ministers Responsible for Trade" – hosted by Thailand
- [Thailand – Bangkok – Thai Baht](#) | [PM – Prayut Chan-o-cha](#)
- [HQs of APEC – Singapore](#) | [Chairship for 2022 – Thailand](#)

**36.** The 15<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties (COP15) of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), concluded on May 20, 2022 in Abidjan with a global pledge to boost drought resilience and invest in land restoration for future prosperity. It was hosted by Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast) for the first time. The theme of the session was "Land. Life. Legacy: From scarcity to prosperity". Indian delegation was led by the Union Minister Bhupender Yadav. The UNCCD COP-14, on September 2-13, 2019, was hosted by India. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- COP15 of UNCCD was hosted by – Abidjan, Ivory Coast
- Theme of COP15 – “Land. Life. Legacy: From Scarcity to Prosperity”
- Indian delegation was led by – Union Minister Bhupender Yadav
- Cote d’Ivoire – Yamoussoukro – CFA franc | PM – Patrick Achi | President – Alassane Ouattara

**37.** On May 20, Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs, Nirmala Sitharaman participated in the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Day commemoration of the Competition Commission of India (CCI) as Chief Guest in New Delhi. She also released CCI’s Competition Advocacy Booklets translated into Kannada and Malayalam. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nirmala Sitharaman – participated in the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Day commemoration of the CCI as Chief Guest
- Nirmala Sitharaman – released CCI’s Competition Advocacy Booklets translated into Kannada & Malayalam
- Ministry of Finance: Nirmala Sitharaman | Constituency – Karnataka
- MoS in Ministry of Finance: Pankaj Chaowdhary & Bhagwat Kishanrao Karad

**38.** While addressing the 35<sup>th</sup> board meeting of the Stop TB Partnership, Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya announced that India will introduce a newly approved made in India TB infection skin test called “c-TB”. He also informed that India, under its 2023 Presidency of the G20, will focus on two health issues TB and cervical cancer. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – to introduce a newly approved made in India TB infection skin test called “c-TB”
- Under its 2023 G20 Presidency, India will focus on two health issues – TB & Cervical Cancer
- Harsh Vardhan Shringla – appointed as Chief Coordinator for the G20 Summit | G20 sherpa – Piyush Goyal
- Presidency of G20 Summit: 2022 – Indonesia | 2023 – India | 2024 – Brazil
- Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Mansukh L. Mandaviya | Constituency – Palitana, Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Bharati Pravin Pawar

**39.** The 75<sup>th</sup> World Health Assembly was held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 22-28 May 2022. It was the first in-person Health Assembly since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. The theme of this year’s Health Assembly was “Health for Peace, Peace for Health”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 75<sup>th</sup> World Health Assembly – held in Geneva, Switzerland
- 2022’s Theme – “Health for Peace, Peace for Health”

**40.** In May 2022, External Affairs Minister, Dr. S. Jaishankar, participated in the meeting of BRICS Ministers of Foreign Affairs/International Relations through video conferencing. The meeting was hosted by China & chaired by Minister of Foreign Affairs of China, Mr. Wang Yi. The BRICS countries established the “BRICS Joint Committee on Space Cooperation”. Moreover, Meenakshi Lekhi, Minister of State for Culture and External Affairs, participated in the 7<sup>th</sup> BRICS Culture Ministers’ Meeting which was hosted by China on May 24. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- S. Jaishankar – participated in the ‘Meeting of BRICS Ministers of Foreign Affairs’ – hosted by China
- BRICS countries – established the “BRICS Joint Committee on Space Cooperation”

**41.** In May 2022, PM Narendra Modi attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> in-person Meeting of Quad leaders 2022 in Tokyo, Japan. During the meeting, the Quad leaders decided to invest \$50 billion on infrastructure development in the Indo-Pacific Region over the next 5 years. A Quad Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Package (Q-CHAMP) was announced with two themes - 'mitigation' and 'adaptation'. Moreover, Joe Biden launched the ambitious Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) to strengthen economic partnership. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narendra Modi – attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> in-person Meeting of Quad leaders 2022 in Tokyo, Japan
- 'Q-CHAMP' was announced with two themes – 'Mitigation' & 'Adaptation'
- Q-CHAMP – **Q**uad **C**limate **C**hange **A**daptation and **M**itigation **P**ackage
- Joe Biden – launched the “Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF)” to strengthen economic partnership
- [QUAD countries – 4: India, US, Japan & Australia](#)

**42.** On May 26, President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated the National Women Legislators' Conference 2022 in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. The Conference was hosted by the Kerala Legislative Assembly as part of 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav'. The conference demanded immediate steps to ensure the passage of the long-pending Women's Reservation Bill which envisages 33% reservation for women in the Lok Sabha and State legislatures. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ram Nath Kovind – inaugurated the “National Women Legislators' Conference 2022” in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
- [Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan](#)

**43.** In May 2022, New Delhi hosted the 3rd 'Global Organic Expo 2022' at the Indian Agriculture Research Institute under the theme of “Profitability for Humanity”. The three-day event drew over 30,000 traders and organic enthusiasts. The event stressed the importance of organic farming. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- New Delhi – hosted the 3rd 'Global Organic Expo 2022' at the Indian Agriculture Research Institute
- 2022's Theme – “Profitability for Humanity”

**44.** India and China are likely to work together in space after a Joint Commission on Space Cooperation for the BRICS Bloc was established at a meeting of the top space agencies of the BRICS countries. Two orbiting Indian satellites Resourcesat-2 and 2A will be part of the “virtual constellation of remote sensing satellites”, a data sharing mechanism among the BRICS countries. The BRICS remote sensing constellation will be made up of 6 existing satellites contributed by the space agencies of the BRICS countries, including the CBERS-4, jointly developed by Brazil and China, Russia's Kanopus-V-type and China's Gaofen-6 and Ziyuan III 02. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Two orbiting Indian satellites 'Resourcesat-2' & '2A' will be part of the virtual constellation of remote sensing satellites
- 'CBERS-4' – Brazil & China | 'Kanopus-V' – Russia | 'Gaofen-6' & 'Ziyuan III 02' – China
- [BRICS Member Countries: 5 – Brazil, Russia, India, China & South Africa | Chairmanship in 2022 – China](#)

**45.** On May 26, the 2-day Meet of senior functionaries of Postal Department and India Post payments Bank (IPPB) called “AAROHAN 4.0” started in Shimla. The agenda of the meeting is to discuss and deliberate ways to further deepen Financial Inclusion drive in India and to provide banking solutions to every citizen of the country. The meeting was inaugurated by Alok Sharma, Director General Postal Services. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “AAROHAN 4.0”, a 2-day Meet of senior functionaries of Postal Dept. & IPPB – started in Shimla, Himachal Pradesh
- [Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala](#) | [CM – Jai Ram Thakur](#) | [Governor – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar](#)

**46.** Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal led the Indian delegation of Ministers, Chief Ministers and Business Leaders at the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos, Switzerland from May 22 to 26. The meeting was held under the theme of “Working Together, Restoring Trust”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Piyush Goyal – led the Indian delegation at the 52<sup>nd</sup> ‘Annual Meeting of the WEF’ – in Davos, Switzerland
- Theme of the meeting – “Working Together, Restoring Trust”
- [HQs of WEF – Cologne, Switzerland](#) | [Exe Chairman – Klaus Schwab](#) | [President – Borge Brende](#) | [Founded in – 1971](#)

**47.** On May 27, Union Minister of State for External Affairs Meenakashi Lekhi inaugurated the “India-Hungary Business Forum” in New Delhi, and met Hungarian Foreign Minister Peter Szijjarto. The event was followed by External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar’s signing of an MoU on the International Solar Alliance (ISA) with Foreign Minister Szijjarto. Hungary is the 107<sup>th</sup> country to join the ISA, an initiative launched by India & France. Norway was the 106<sup>th</sup> country to join the ISA. Budapest & Forint are the capital & currency of Hungary. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Meenakashi Lekhi – inaugurated the “India-Hungary Business Forum” in New Delhi
- During the forum, Meenakashi Lekhi – met Peter Szijjarto (Hungarian Foreign Minister)
- Hungary – 107<sup>th</sup> country to join the ISA
- [Hungary – Budapest – Forint](#) | [President – Katalin Novak](#) | [PM – Viktor Orban](#)
- [HQs of ISA – Gurugram, Haryana](#) | [DG – Ajay Mathur](#) | [Signatory Countries – 107](#) | [Member countries – 86](#)

**48.** In May 2022, Minister of State for Steel Fagga Singh Kulaste addressed a Conference in New Delhi on the theme “Indian Metals Industry: Current Outlook, and Future Trends”. It was organised by the ASSOCHAM. India exported 13.5 million tonnes of finished steel, amounting to Rs 1 Lakh Cr, in the year 2021-22, with a record production of over 120 million tonnes of crude steel and 113.6 million tonnes of finished steel as per the provisional estimates. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Fagga Singh Kulaste – addressed a Conference on the theme “Indian Metals Industry: Current Outlook, and Future Trends” in New Delhi – organised by ASSOCHAM
- India exported 13.5 million tonnes of finished steel in 2021-22, amounting to Rs 1 Lakh Cr
- [HQs of ASSOCHAM – New Delhi](#) | [President – Sumant Sinha](#)

**49.** On May 27, India's National Security Adviser Ajit Doval addressed the 4<sup>th</sup> Regional Security Dialogue on Afghanistan, hosted by Tajikistan's capital Dushanbe. The dialogue is aimed at firming up a common approach for practical cooperation in confronting increasing threats of terrorism, radicalisation and drug trafficking following the Taliban's takeover of Kabul in August, 2021. India had hosted the 3<sup>rd</sup> dialogue in November 2021 in New Delhi. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ajit Doval (NSA) – addressed the 4<sup>th</sup> Regional Security Dialogue on Afghanistan – hosted in Dushanbe, Tajikistan
- [Tajikistan – Dushanbe – Somoni](#) | [President – Emomali Rahmon](#)

**50.** On May 28, Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal addressed a Special Plenary session in the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of “NADI (Natural Allies in Development & Interdependence) Dialogue” organised by Asian Confluence in Guwahati, Assam. The minister advocated for an ecologically responsible economic growth in the South east Asian region. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sarbananda Sonowal – addressed a Special Plenary session in the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of “NADI Dialogue”
- The dialogue was organised in Guwahati, Assam – by Asian Confluence ([HQs – Shillong, Meghalaya](#))
- [Assam: Capital – Dispur](#) | [CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma](#) | [Governor – Jagdish Mukhi](#)

**51.** Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur applauded the Indian media for its role during the COVID-19 pandemic at the first-ever virtual 17<sup>th</sup> Asia Media Summit which was hosted by Fiji in May 2022. The theme of the Summit was “Future Forward, Reimagining Media”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Anurag Thakur – attended the first-ever virtual 17<sup>th</sup> Asia Media Summit – hosted by Fiji
- The theme of the Summit – “Future Forward, Reimagining Media”
- [Fiji – Suva – Fijian Dollar](#) | [President – Jioji Konrote](#)

**52.** Indian Council for Cultural Relations' (ICCR) 10-day programme “Gen Next Democracy Network” concluded on May 29. In the closing ceremony, 27 delegates from 6 countries - Ghana, Bangladesh, Peru, Nepal, Brunei and Norway shared their experiences of visiting India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 10-day programme “Gen Next Democracy Network” – organised by ICCR
- [HQs of ICCR – New Delhi](#) | [DG – Kumar Tuhin](#) | [President – Vinay Sahasrabuddhe](#) | [Founded in – 1950](#)

# Ranks, Reports & Surveys

**1.** In the “2022 Special 301 Report”, the United States Trade Representative (USTR) designated seven countries on the Priority Watch List. These are Argentina, Chile, China, India, Indonesia, Russia and Venezuela. India remains one of the most challenging major economies with respect to protection and enforcement of intellectual property. In the pharmaceutical sector, the United States continues to monitor the restriction on patent-eligible subject matter in Section 3(d) of the Indian Patents Act and its impacts. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- USTR ([US](#)) – designated 7 countries on the Priority Watch List in the “2022 Special 301 Report”
- These 7 countries are: Argentina, Chile, China, India, Indonesia, Russia and Venezuela
- [US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar](#) | [46<sup>th</sup> President – Joe Biden](#) | [49<sup>th</sup> VP – Kamala Harris](#)

**2.** The Indian economy is likely to take around 13 years (by FY35) to overcome the COVID-19 losses as India was one of the worst-hit nations during the pandemic, according to the “Report on Currency and Finance (RCF) for the Year 2021-22”, released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The theme of the report is “Revive and Reconstruct” in the context of nurturing a durable recovery post-COVID and raising trend growth in the medium-term. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- “Report on Currency and Finance (RCF) for the Year 2021-22” – released by RBI
- Theme of the report – “Revive and Reconstruct”
- Indian economy is likely to take around 13 years (by FY35) to overcome the COVID-19 losses
- [HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH](#) | [Governor – Shaktikanta Das \(25<sup>th</sup>\)](#) | [Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935](#)

**3.** The Times Higher Education (THE), publisher of the globally recognised THE World University Rankings, released “THE Impact Rankings 2022” (4<sup>th</sup> edition). In a record year, 1,524 universities from 110 countries/regions ranked on work towards the UN’s SDGs across 18 tables - an overall ranking and one for each of the 17 SDGs. In South Asia, India breaks through into the world’s top 50, with Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham claiming 41<sup>st</sup> place in the overall table and 8<sup>th</sup> place for SDG 3 & SDG 5. Lovely Professional University makes the top 100 at joint 74<sup>th</sup> place in the overall table. India is the joint 4<sup>th</sup> most-represented nation across the rankings, with 64 universities featuring in total (the same number as Turkey). Calcutta University has been ranked first among all the central and state-aided public universities in India by ‘THE Impact Rankings 2022’. Australia’s Western Sydney University claims the top spot in the overall ranking, followed by Arizona State University (Tempe) in the US, and Western University in Canada. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- “THE Impact Rankings 2022” (4<sup>th</sup> edition) – released by the Times Higher Education (THE)
- Overall top in the world – Western Sydney University ([Australia](#))
- India – the joint 4<sup>th</sup> most-represented nation in the rankings along with Turkey (64 universities featuring in total)
- Top 50 – Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham (41<sup>st</sup>) | Top 100 – Lovely Professional University (74<sup>th</sup>)



**4.** The world has lost 420 million hectares (mha), approximately 10.34% of the total forest area between 1990 and 2020 due to deforestation, according to the 2022 edition of the “State of the World’s Forests (SOFO)” report, released by the UN’s Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) on May 2, 2022. Forests cover 4.06 billion ha (31%) of the earth’s geographical area. The report stated that annual global consumption of natural resources is likely to increase to 190 billion tonnes in 2060 from 92 billion tonnes in 2017. SOFO 2022 further stated that the world population is projected to reach 9.7 billion people by 2050. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- UN FAO – released “State of the World’s Forests (SOFO)” report
- According to the report:
  - The world lost 420 mha, approximately 10.34% of the total forest area between 1990 & 2020 due to deforestation
  - Forests cover 4.06 billion ha (31%) of the earth’s geographical area
  - Annual global consumption of natural resources may increase to 190 bn tonnes in 2060 from 92 bn tonnes in 2017
  - World population is projected to reach 9.7 billion people by 2050
- HQs of FAO – Rome, Italy | DG – QU Dongyu | Formation – 16<sup>th</sup> October, 1945

**5.** Indian paddler Manika Batra attained a career-high women's singles ranking of 38 with a jump of 10 spots, while G. Sathyan was the best placed Indian male at 34, in the latest “International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) Rankings 2022” published on May 3. While Sharath Kamal (37) and G. Sathyan are the only two Indian male players in the top-100, there are four Indians in the women's category (Manika Batra, Sreeja Akula, Archana Kamath, Reeth Tennison). In the men's doubles, G Sathyan and Harmeet Desai are ranked 28<sup>th</sup>. While in the women's doubles, Manika Batra and Archana Kamath are ranked at 4<sup>th</sup> position. In the mixed doubles, Manika and Sathyan are ranked 6<sup>th</sup>. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) Rankings 2022” – published on May 3
- Women’s Singles (in top 100): Manika Batra (38<sup>th</sup>), Sreeja Akula, Archana Kamath, Reeth Tenniso
- Men’s Singles (in top 100): G. Sathyan (34), Sharath Kamal (37)
- Women’s Doubles: Manika Batra & Archana Kamath – 4<sup>th</sup>
- Men’s Doubles: G Sathyan & Harmeet Desai – 28<sup>th</sup>
- Mixed Doubles: Manika Batra & G Sathyan – 6<sup>th</sup>

**6.** Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka host a large share of India’s threatened and endemic species of amphibians, birds and mammals, according to a new study published in Environmental Research Letters. The three states account for 51% of India’s STAR (Species Threat Abatement & Restoration) Score. A higher STAR score indicates greater presence of threatened species. India’s total national STAR score was 41,817, of which 11,585 was for mammals, 10,843 for birds and 19,389 for amphibians. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kerala, Tamil Nadu & Karnataka – account for 51% of India’s STAR Score (Species Threat Abatement & Restoration)
- India’s total national STAR Score – 41,817



**7.** As on May 2022, India's ranking in the 2022 World Press Freedom Index has fallen to 150 (with a score of 41) out of 180 countries, according to the latest report released by the global media watchdog, Reporters Without Borders (RSF). In last year's report, India was ranked 142. The top three positions for countries with the highest press freedom are - Norway (92.65), Denmark (90.27) and Sweden (88.84). North Korea ranked the last at 180<sup>th</sup> position. Countries are evaluated on five contextual indicators: political context, legal framework, economic context, socio-cultural context, and safety. The report describes India as "one of the world's most dangerous countries for the media". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "2022 World Press Freedom Index" – released by Reporters Without Borders (RSF)
- Rankings: India – 150 | 1<sup>st</sup> – Norway, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Denmark, 3<sup>rd</sup> – Sweden | Last (180<sup>th</sup>) – North Korea

**8.** The world will face around 560 disasters every year by 2030, according to the "Global Assessment Report (GAR 2022)" on disaster risk reduction, released by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR). As per the report, the world has experienced 350-500 medium to large-scale disasters every year over the last 20 years. This is five times higher than the previous three decades. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Global Assessment Report (GAR 2022)" on Disaster Risk Reduction – released by UNDRR
- The world will face around 560 disasters every year by 2030
- HQs of UNDRR – Geneva, Switzerland | Head – Mami Mizutori

**9.** Due to low penetration of insurance products in the fisheries sector, the "World review of capture fisheries and aquaculture insurance 2022" report, released by the Food & Agriculture Organization (FAO), suggested involvement of public and private insurance service providers to undertake proactive measures to turn the tide on fisheries and aquaculture insurance in India. Mariculture, the future source of marine fish, also requires insurance coverage and to be viable in the long run. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "World Review of Capture Fisheries & Aquaculture Insurance 2022" report – released by FAO
- The report suggested insurance service providers to increase penetration of insurance products in the fisheries sector
- HQs of FAO – Rome, Italy | DG – QU Dongyu | Formation – 16<sup>th</sup> October, 1945

**10.** Around 193 million people in 53 countries or territories experienced acute food insecurity at crisis or worse levels in 2021, according to a report titled "Global Report on Food Crises 2022 (GRFC 2022)" by the Global Network Against Food Crises (GNAFC). The report is facilitated by the Food Security Information Network (FSIN). There were three main drivers for the food insecurity according to the report - conflict, weather extremes & economic shocks. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Report "Global Report on Food Crises 2022 (GRFC 2022)" given – by Global Network Against Food Crises (GNAFC)
- Around 193 million people in 53 countries / territories experienced acute food insecurity at crisis or worse levels in 2021
- 3 main drivers for the food insecurity – conflict, weather extremes & economic shocks

**11.** On May 2, India's pharmaceutical exports have registered a growth of 103% since 2013-14, the best export performance of Pharmaceutical Sector ever till 2021-22. The exports have grown by almost USD 10 billion in 8 years - from Rs 90,415 Cr in 2013-14 to Rs 1,83,422 Cr in 2021-22. Almost 60% of the world's vaccines and 20% of generic medicines are being provided by India. The largest number of FDA approved plants outside the US is in India. India's pharmaceutical industry ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> globally in terms of volume (production) and 14<sup>th</sup> in terms of value. The current market size of the Indian pharmaceutical industry is around USD 50 billion. The share of pharmaceuticals and drugs in our global exports is 5.92%. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India's pharmaceutical exports registered a growth of 103% (\$10 billion) since 2013-14 to 2021-22
- The largest number of FDA approved plants outside the US is in – India
- India's pharmaceutical industry ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> globally in terms of volume (production) & 14<sup>th</sup> in terms of value
- The current market size of the Indian pharmaceutical industry is around USD 50 billion (5.92% of our global exports)

**12.** India installed 10 GW of solar capacity in 2021, a 210% growth compared to 3.2 GW in the same period the previous year, according to a report titled "Annual India Solar Market Update Q4 2021" by Mercom Communication India. India's rooftop Solar installation witnessed a growth of 138% to 1.7 GW in 2021. The newly installed solar capacity in 2021 reached a record high, making up 62% of the total power capacity additions in 2021. The Open Access Solar Installations saw growth of 222% compared to the previous year. Fourth Partner Energy was the top open access installer during the year. While Tata Power Solar led the list of rooftop solar installers, accounting for 20% of the total installations. According to the report, utility-scale projects accounted for 83% of the total installations. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Annual India Solar Market Update Q4 2021" – released by Mercom Communication India
- India installed 10 GW of solar capacity in 2021
- India's rooftop Solar installation registered a growth of 138% to 1.7 GW in 2021
- Open Access Solar Installations registered a growth of 222% in 2021
- Top Open Access Installer during 2021 – Fourth Partner Energy | Top Rooftop Solar Installer – Tata Power Solar
- [HQs of Tata Power Solar Systems – Mumbai, Maharashtra](#) | [MD & CEO – Ashish Khanna](#)

**13.** India's total fertility rate (TFR) has declined from 2.2 children in 2015-16 to 2 children per woman now, according to the latest edition of the "National Family Health Survey (NFHS)" released by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW). The TFR is currently below the replacement level of fertility of 2.1 children per woman. According to the report, the median age at first birth among women aged 25-49 is 21.2 years. The TFR ranges from 1.1 children per woman in Sikkim to 3 children per woman in Bihar. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "National Family Health Survey (NFHS)" – released by the MoHFW
- India's Total Fertility Rate (TFR) has declined from 2.2 children in 2015-16 to 2 children per woman now
- Median age at first birth among women aged 25-49 – 21.2 years

**14.** On May 5, Ladakh (1104) recorded the highest Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB) in India in 2020, followed by Arunachal Pradesh (1011), Andaman & Nicobar Islands (984), Tripura (974) and Kerala (969), according to the annual report on “Vital Statistics based on 2020 Civil Registration System Report (CSR)”. Sex ratio at birth is number of females per thousand males. Lowest sex ratio at birth was reported by Manipur (880). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Vital Statistics based on 2020 Civil Registration System Report (CSR)”:
- Ladakh (1104) recorded the highest Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB) in India in 2020 | Lowest – Manipur (880)

**15.** The Manufacturing Purchasing Managers’ Index (PMI), compiled by S&P Global, improved to 54.7 in April from 54.0 in March. The Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) is a measure of the prevailing direction of economic trends in manufacturing. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Manufacturing Purchasing Managers’ Index” – by S&P Global
- PMI manufacturing improved – to 54.7 in April (from 54.0 in March)

**16.** According to the latest available data compiled by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) for 2020, about 76% of all prison inmates in India were undertrials, of which about 68% were either illiterate or school dropouts. Among the undertrials, about 20% were Muslims, while about 73% were Dalits, tribals or OBCs. Delhi and Jammu & Kashmir were found to have the highest ratio of undertrials in jails at 91%, followed by Bihar and Punjab at 85%, and Odisha at 83%. About 50% of all undertrials were charged with “offences against human body” and about 20% were charged with “offences against property”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NCRB latest data for 2020:
- About 76% of all prison inmates in India were undertrials, of which about 68% were either illiterate or school dropouts
- Highest ratio of undertrials: Delhi and J & K – 91% | Bihar and Punjab – 85% | Odisha at 83%
- HQs of NCRB – New Delhi | Director – Vivek Gogia | Established in – 1986

**17.** On May 6, the National Statistical Office (NSO) released the 13<sup>th</sup> Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS). Unemployment Rate (UR) in urban areas for persons of age 15 years and above decreased to 8.7% in October-December (Q3) 2021 from 10.3% in Q3 2020. During Q3 2021, the UR among females was 10.5% and among males, the UR was 8.3%. Moreover, the Worker Population Ratio (WPR) in CWS (Current Weekly Status) was 43.2% in Q3 2021. While the Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) in CWS was 47.3% in Q3-2021. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NSO – released the 13<sup>th</sup> Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS)
- UR in urban areas for persons of age 15 years & above decreased to 8.7% in Q3 2021 from 10.3% in Q3 2020
- UR among females – 10.5% | UR among males – 8.3%
- Worker Population Ratio (WPR) in CWS (Current Weekly Status) was 43.2% in Q3 2021
- Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) in CWS was 47.3% in Q3-2021
- HQs of NSO – New Delhi | Chairperson – Bimal Kumar Roy

**18.** As on May 2022, Rajasthan became the first state in India to surpass 10 GW of cumulative large-scale solar installations, as per Mercom's "India Solar Project Tracker". The state has a total of 32.5 GW of installed power capacity, with renewables contributing 55%, followed by thermal energy at 43%, and nuclear energy making up for the remaining 2%. According to Mercom's India Solar Project Tracker, Rajasthan has over 16 GW of solar projects under development. Moreover, THDC India recently signed a Letter of Intent (LoI) to build 10 GW solar power projects through a 74:36 joint venture with Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation Limited, entailing an investment of Rs 100 billion. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "India Solar Project Tracker" – by Mercom
- Rajasthan – became the first state in India to surpass 10 GW of cumulative large-scale solar installations
- Rajasthan has a total of 32.5 GW of installed Power Capacity (RE - 55%)
- THDC India + Rajasthan = an LoI to build 10 GW solar power projects with an investment of Rs 100 billion (74:36 JV)
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

**19.** The "2022 Global Gas Flaring Tracker", a leading global and independent indicator of gas flaring, produced by the World Bank's Global Gas Flaring Reduction Partnership (GGFR) finds that the top 10 flaring countries accounted for 75% of all gas flared. The report finds that reductions in both absolute flare volumes and flaring intensity have stalled in the last decade. In 2021, 144 billion cubic meters of gas was needlessly burnt in flares at upstream oil and gas facilities across the globe. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "2022 Global Gas Flaring Tracker" – produced by World Bank
- Top 10 flaring countries accounts for 75% of all gas flared
- 144 billion cubic meters of gas was needlessly burnt in flares across the globe in 2021
- HQs of World Bank – Washington D.C., US | Members – 189 | President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant

**20.** Delimitation Commission for J&K UT, headed by Chairperson Justice (Retd.) Ranjana Prakash Desai, set up by the Centre submitted its final report for the delimitation of Assembly and parliamentary constituencies in Jammu and Kashmir. Delimitation became necessary when the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019 increased the number of seats in the Assembly to 90 seats, besides the 24 reserved for PoK. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Delimitation Commission for J&K – submitted its final report for the delimitation of Assembly and parliamentary constituencies in J & K
- The commission is headed by – Chairperson Justice (Retd) Ranjana Prakash Desai
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha



**21.** In May 2022, the Central government published the “Civil Registration System (CRS) Report 2020” based on birth and death reports. CRS is a universal, continuous, compulsory and permanent recording of birth, death and stillbirth, stated the data. Registration of birth and death is done under a central Act “Registration of Birth and Death Act (RBD), 1969”. According to CRS, death registration has increased by 4.75 lakh in the year 2020 as compared to 2019. Out of the total registered deaths, the share of males and females is 60.2% and 39.8%. According to the data released, the number of claims settled and ex-gratia relief from SDRF (as of 24 March 2022) is 7, 24,279. Bihar saw the maximum increase in the death rate with 18.3%, followed by Maharashtra & Assam. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Central government published the “Civil Registration System (CRS) Report 2020” based on birth & death reports
- Registration of birth and death is done under “Registration of Birth & Death Act (RBD), 1969”
- Death registration increased by 4.75 lakh in 2020
- Bihar – registered the maximum increase in the death rate with 18.3% (followed by - Maharashtra & Assam)

**22.** The State of the World’s Birds found that approximately 48% of existing bird species worldwide are known or suspected to be undergoing population declines. Global bird populations have steadily declined over the last three decades, as per the research. Besides, 39% of species remains stable, just 6% shows increasing population trends, and 7% is still unknown. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- The State of the World’s Birds: approx 48% of existing bird species worldwide are suspected to be undergoing population declines

**23.** A new report titled “Fostering Effective Energy Transition 2022” by the World Economic Forum (WEF) has called for urgent action by both private and public sectors to ensure a resilient energy transition to address the challenges to environmental sustainability, energy security and energy justice and affordability. The report noted that of 34 countries with advanced economies, 11 rely on only three trade partners for over 70% of their fuel imports. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Fostering Effective Energy Transition 2022” – by the WEF
- HQs of WEF – Cologny, Switzerland | Exe Chairman – Klaus Schwab | President – Borge Brende | Founded in – 1971

**24.** On May 5, the occasion of World Hand Hygiene Day, the World Health Organization (WHO) released the first-ever “Global Report on Infection Prevention and Control” which stated that 70% of infections can be prevented if good hand hygiene and other cost-effective practices are followed. The report revealed that out of every 100 patients in acute-care hospitals, seven patients in high-income countries and 15 patients in low- and middle-income countries will acquire at least one healthcare-associated infection (HAI) during their hospital stay. On average, 1 in every 10 affected patients will die from their HAI. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- The first-ever “Global Report on Infection Prevention & Control” – released by the WHO
- Report: 70% of infections can be prevented if good hand hygiene & other cost-effective practices are followed
- On average, 1 in every 10 affected patients will die from their Healthcare-Associated Infection (HAI)
- HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194 | Founded in – 1948

**25.** There is a 50:50 chance of the annual average global temperature temporarily reaching 1.5 °C above the pre-industrial level for at least one of the next 5 years, according to the “Global Annual to Decadal Climate Update” issued by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). The report is produced by the United Kingdom’s Met Office, the WMO lead centre for such predictions. There is a 93% likelihood of at least one year between 2022-2026 becoming the warmest on record and dislodging 2016 from the top ranking. The annual mean global near-surface temperature for each year between 2022 and 2026 is predicted to be between 1.1 °C and 1.7 °C higher than preindustrial levels. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Global Annual to Decadal Climate Update 2022” – issued by WMO & produced by Met Office ([UK](#))
- Annual Average Global Temperature – to reach 1.5°C above the pre-industrial level in at least one of the next 5 years (50% chance)

**26.** “2022 Forbes Global 2000 List” ranked the world’s largest companies using four metrics: sales, profits, assets, and market value. Market turbulence has pushed down the minimum market value to be considered for the 2022 list to \$7.6 billion compared to \$8.26 billion in 2021. The US-based Berkshire Hathaway took the first spot for the first time since Forbes started publishing the Global 2000 in 2003, dethroning the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China, which dropped to second position after 9 consecutive years at the top of the list. The United States has the most with 590 companies, followed by China/Hong Kong (351) and Japan (196). While Reliance Industries Ltd was ranked 53<sup>rd</sup> globally & topped among Indian companies, followed by the State Bank of India in India which ranks 105<sup>th</sup> globally. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Berkshire Hathaway ([US](#)) – topped the “2022 Forbes Global 2000 List” | 2<sup>nd</sup> – Industrial & Commercial Bank of China
- US – has the maximum largest companies (590) | 2<sup>nd</sup> – China/Hong Kong (351), 3<sup>rd</sup> – Japan (196)
- Reliance Industries – topped in India & 53<sup>rd</sup> globally | SBI – second in India & 105<sup>th</sup> globally

**27.** In the “Forbes List of Highest-Paid World Athletes” from May 2021 to May 2022, Argentine playmaker and Paris Saint-Germain star Lionel Messi made it to the top. Messi's total remained stagnant on \$130 million, followed by LeBron James with total income of \$121.2 million & Cristiano Ronaldo with \$115 million. James has become the first active player in NBA history with a net worth of \$1 billion, according to Forbes magazine. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Forbes List of Highest-Paid World Athletes” from May 2021 to May 2022
- 1<sup>st</sup> – Lionel Messi (\$130 million), 2<sup>nd</sup> – LeBron James (\$121.2 million), 3<sup>rd</sup> – Cristiano Ronaldo (\$115 million)

**28.** India’s food production could drop 16% and the number of those at risk for hunger could increase 23% by 2030 due to climate change, according to a “Report on Climate Change and Food Systems” by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). The number of Indians at risk from hunger is expected to be 73.9 million in 2030 and, if the effects of climate change were to be factored in, it would increase to 90.6 million. The aggregate food production index, under similar conditions, would drop from 1.6 to 1.5. Moreover, the average temperature across India is projected to rise by between 2.4°C and 4.4°C by 2100. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- “Report on Climate Change and Food Systems” given by – International Food Policy Research Institute
- According to the report:
  - India’s food production could drop 16% by 2030
  - Number of those at risk for hunger could increase 23% by 2030
  - Average temperature across India is projected to rise by between 2.4°C and 4.4°C by 2100

**29.** The Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs & Petroleum and Natural Gas, Hardeep Singh Puri launched the “BHARAT TAP” initiative at the ‘Plumbex India’ exhibition. This exhibition is aimed for products and services related to the plumbing, water and sanitation industry. The minister said that “AMRUT 2.0” scheme will provide 100% coverage of water supply to all households in around 4,700 ULBs through 2.68 Cr tap connections and 100% coverage of sewerage and septage in 500 cities through 2.64 Cr sewer connections. Hardeep Singh Puri also launched NARDECO MAHI’s ‘Nirmal Jal Prayas’ initiative which will work for saving of 500 Cr litres of water per year. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Hardeep Singh Puri – launched the “BHARAT TAP” initiative at the ‘Plumbex India’ exhibition
- Hardeep Singh Puri – launched NARDECO MAHI’s ‘Nirmal Jal Prayas’ initiative

**30.** According to the data released by the National Horticulture Board, Bihar is at number one position in mushroom production for 2021-22. National Horticulture Board data shows that in 2021-22, a total of 28000 metric tonnes of mushroom was produced in Bihar, which is 10.82% of the total mushroom produced in India. Maharashtra (9.89%) is the second largest producer of mushroom, followed by Odisha (9.6%). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bihar – is at number one position in mushroom production for 2021-22, according to data released by NHB
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Maharashtra | 3<sup>rd</sup> – Odisha
- Bihar: Capital – Patna | CM – Nitish Kumar | Governor – Phagu Chauhan

**31.** Saudi Aramco overtook Apple Inc, to become the world’s most valuable company due to the recent surge in oil prices. Aramco is now worth about USD 2.43 trillion, compared with Apple’s USD 2.37 trillion. This year, oil prices have soared to record highs, particularly on concerns about disruptions of supply from Russia since its invasion of Ukraine. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Saudi Aramco – overtook Apple Inc & became the world’s most valuable company
- HQs of Saudi Aramco – Dhahran, Saudi Arabia | CEO – Amin H. Nasser | Chairman – Yasir Al-Rumayyan

**32.** Indigenous and non-descript cattle comprise 73% of the total cattle population of 19.35 Cr whereas the exotic and crossbred animals constitute more than 26%. These findings are part of Breed-wise Data collected during 20<sup>th</sup> Livestock Census of 2018-19. The report was released by the Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Parshottam Rupala. The report has covered 184 recognized indigenous/exotic and crossbred breeds of 19 selected species that are registered by the National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources (NBAGR). As per the Census, 36.04% of the livestock population belong to cattle. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- Parshottam Rupala – released 20<sup>th</sup> ‘Livestock Census report of 2018-19’
- According to report:
  - Indigenous & non-descript cattle comprise 73% of the total cattle population of 19.35 Cr
  - Exotic & Crossbred Animals constitute more than 26%
  - 36.04% of the livestock population belong to cattle
- Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying: Parshottam Rupala | Constituency – Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying: Sanjeev Kumar Balyan & L. Murugan

**33.** According to the latest numbers sourced from the Organisation Internationale des Constructeurs d’Automobiles (OICA), India sold 37,59,398 vehicles in 2021, compared to 29,73,319 vehicles sold in Germany. With this, India overtook Germany to become 4<sup>th</sup> largest vehicle market. India is the only country to report a double-digit growth amongst the top 5 global markets. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – overtook Germany to become 4<sup>th</sup> largest vehicle market
- India – sold 3,759,398 vehicles in 2021, compared to 2,973,319 vehicles sold in Germany (according to OICA report)
- Germany – Berlin – Euro | President – Frank-Walter Steinmeier

**34.** India has emerged as the largest remittance receiving country in 2021, followed by Mexico & China, according to the “Migration and Development Brief” report of the World Bank. India received remittances worth over \$89 billion in 2021, 8% higher than the \$82.73 billion in 2020. In total, remittance flows to low and middle-income countries are expected to increase by 4.2% to reach \$630 billion in 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Migration & Development Brief” report – released by World Bank
- India – emerged as the largest remittance receiving country in 2021 | 2<sup>nd</sup> – Mexico | 3<sup>rd</sup> – China
- India – received remittances worth over \$89 billion in 2021 (8% higher than \$82.73 billion in 2020)
- Remittance flows to low & middle-income countries are expected to increase by 4.2% – to reach \$630 billion in 2022
- HQs of World Bank – Washington D.C., US | Members – 189 | President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant

**35.** A project called the India Hypertension Control Initiative (IHCI) found that nearly 23% out of 2.1 million Indians have uncontrolled blood pressure. India has committed to a “25 by 25” goal, which aims to reduce premature mortality due to non-communicable diseases (NCDs) by 25% by 2025. One of the nine voluntary targets includes reducing the prevalence of high blood pressure by 25% by 2025. The programme was launched in November 2017. While 21.3% of women and 24% of men aged above 15 have hypertension in India, the prevalence is the highest in Kerala where 32.8% men and 30.9% women have been diagnosed with hypertension. About one-fourth of women and men aged 40 to 49 years have hypertension. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IHCI – found that nearly 23% out of 2.1 million Indians have uncontrolled blood pressure
- India – committed to a “25 by 25” goal to reduce premature mortality due to NCDs by 25% by 2025
- 21.3% of women and 24% of men aged above 15 have hypertension in India (Highest in Kerala)

**36.** On May 17, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, released the findings of a 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Assessment of Ayushman Bharat - Health and Wellness Centres (AB-HWC) in 18 states of India. The report will act as a ‘Guiding Principle’ to plan better in the future. The 18 states were selected to cover the spectrum of epidemiological transition levels as defined by the Global Burden of Disease India study with a higher focus on North-Eastern states. The assessment of AB-HWCs in 18 states has been done in two phases by non-governmental entities namely - Grassroots Research and Advocacy Movement (GRAAM) and Johns Hopkins Program for International Education in Gynaecology and Obstetrics (JHPIEGO) along with the AIIMS, New Delhi from the Government Sector for the year 2020-21. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya – released the findings of a 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Assessment of ‘AB-HWC’ in 18 states
- The assessment of AB-HWCs in 18 states is done in two phases by GRAAM, JHPIEGO & AIIMS

**37.** On May 18, the World Health Organisation (WHO) and United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) have jointly launched the first Global Report on Assistive Technology (GReAT). This report is the culmination of the 71<sup>st</sup> World Health Assembly resolution in 2018 to prepare a global report on effective access to assistive technology. An analysis of 35 countries revealed that Access to Assistive Technology varies from 3% in poorer nations to 90% in wealthy countries. The report notes that the number of people in need of one or more assistive products is likely to rise to 3.5 billion by 2050, due to populations ageing and the prevalence of noncommunicable diseases rising across the world. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- WHO + UNICEF = launched the first ‘Global Report on Assistive Technology (GReAT)’
- Access to Assistive Technology varies from 3% in poorer nations to 90% in wealthy countries
- Number of people in need of one or more assistive products is likely to rise to 3.5 billion by 2050
- HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194 | Founded in – 1948
- HQs of UNICEF – New York, US | Executive Director – Catherine Russell | Established in – 1946

**38.** “The State of Inequality in India” report was released by Dr. Bibek Debroy, Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM). The report was prepared by the Institute for Competitiveness and presented a holistic analysis of the depth and nature of inequality in India. The report compiled information on inequities across sectors of health, education, household characteristics and the labour market. The country’s unemployment rate was 4.8% in 2019-20, and the worker population ratio was 46.8%. The share of the top 1% accounts for 6-7% of the total incomes earned, while the top 10% accounts for one-third of all incomes earned. In the area of health infrastructure, total health centers in India in 2020 stood at 1,85,505, from 1,72,608 health centers in 2005. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dr. Bibek Debroy (Chairman of EAC-PM) – released “The State of Inequality in India” report
- Unemployment rate in 2019-20 – 4.8% | Worker population ratio – 46.8%
- Health centers in India in 2020 stood at 1,85,505, from 1,72,608 health centers in 2005
- The EAC-PM is chaired by – Dr. Bibek Debroy

**39.** The number of Indians suffering from cancer is projected to increase to 29.8 million in 2025 from 26.7 million in 2021. Men will contribute to 14.7 million Years of Life Lost (YLLs), 0.72 million Years Lived with Disability (YLDs) and 15.5 million Disability Adjusted Life Years (DALYs) in 2025. The highest incidence last year was in the North (2,408 patients per 1,00,000) and the Northeast (2,177 per 1,00,000). According to a report by the Indian Council for Medical Research on the 'Burden of cancers in India', seven types of Cancer accounted for more than 40% of the total disease burden, with the highest cases of lung cancer (10.6%). Mizoram, Delhi and Meghalaya had the highest cancer DALYs and the most vulnerable demographic are people in the 65-69-year age group. The findings of the report have been published in BMC Cancer Journal. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ICMR released a report on the 'Burden of cancers in India'
- Indians suffering from cancer is projected to increase to 29.8 million in 2025 from 26.7 million in 2021
- Highest cases of Cancer – Lung cancer (10.6%)
- Most vulnerable demographic – people in the 65-69-year age group
- [HQs of ICMR – New Delhi, India](#) | [Director General – Balram Bhargava](#) | [Established in – 1911](#)

**40.** A pan-India one-day bird estimation exercise, "Himalayan Bird Count", revealed that Uttarakhand had the highest number of avian species count, at 294, among all states, followed by West Bengal (284), and Arunachal Pradesh (234). The one-day survey was conducted by Bird Count India, Bird Conservation Nepal and Bhutan-based Royal Society for Protection of Nature on May 14, which is also observed as Endemic Bird Day. Uttarakhand also had the highest number of birdwatchers in the Himalayan region. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- May 14 – Endemic Bird Day
- "Himalayan Bird Count" - a one-day bird estimation exercise was conducted by – Bird Count India, Bird Conservation Nepal & Royal Society for Protection of Nature (Bhutan)
- Highest number of avian species count – Uttarakhand (294), West Bengal (284), & Arunachal Pradesh (234)
- [Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain](#) | [CM – Pushkar Singh Dhami](#) | [Governor – Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh](#)

**41.** Air pollution was responsible for 16.7 lakh deaths in India in 2019, or 17.8% of all deaths in India that year. This is the largest number of air-pollution-related deaths of any country, according to a recent report on Pollution and Health published in the Lancet Planetary Health. Globally, air pollution alone contributes to 66.7 lakh deaths, according to the report. Overall, pollution was responsible for an estimated 90 lakh deaths in 2019, a number that has remained unchanged since the 2015 analysis. According to the report, air pollution is most severe in the Indo-Gangetic Plain. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 'Report on Pollution & Health' – published in the Lancet Planetary Health
- India topped the air pollution death toll in 2019 = 16.7 lakh deaths (17.8% of all Deaths in India in 2019)
- Overall, pollution was responsible for an estimated 90 lakh deaths in 2019 (air pollution – 66.7 lakh deaths)

**42.** Indian government registered low score in World Bank's World Governance Indicators (WGI). The WGI provides a ranking of 215 countries territories based on 6 dimensions of governance: 'Voice and Accountability'; 'Political Stability and Absence of Violence'; 'Government Effectiveness'; 'Regulatory Quality'; 'Rule of Law' and 'Control of Corruption'. India's scores were much below its peers on all six indicators. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- World Bank – provides World Governance Indicators (WGI) based on 6 dimensions of governance
- Indian government registered low score in World Bank's WGI
- HQs of World Bank – Washington D.C., US | Members – 189 | President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant

**43.** The “Drought In Numbers, 2022” report was released to mark Drought Day at UNCCD's 15<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties (COP15) held during May 9-20 in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire. The report, an authoritative compendium of drought-related information and data, helps inform negotiations of one of several decisions by UNCCD's 196 member states, issued on 20 May at the conclusion of COP15. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Drought In Numbers, 2022” report – released to mark Drought Day at UNCCD's 15<sup>th</sup> COP15 held in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire
- HQs of UNCCD – Bonn, Germany | Executive Secretary – Ibrahim Thiaw

**44.** The report titled “Circular Economy in Municipal Solid and Liquid Waste” prepared by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs has recommended complete ban on disposal of recyclable garbage. It has also recommended that the government reduce the GST and other taxes on products made from recycled materials to 5% to encourage recycling of waste. The report has estimated that proper treatment of municipal solid, wet and construction wastes can generate nearly Rs 30,000 Cr revenue per annum and create employment opportunities for more than 1 Cr people by 2025. Currently, India generates approximately 1.4 lakh tonnes of solid waste daily and 35% of this is dry waste. A major share of the dry wastes is plastic. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Circular Economy in Municipal Solid and Liquid Waste” report – prepared by Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs
- Report recommended the Govt. reduce the GST & other taxes on products made from recycled materials to 5%
- Proper treatment of municipal wastes can generate Rs 30,000 Cr revenue per annum & create employment for over 1 Cr people by 2025
- Currently, India generates approx 1.4 lakh tonnes of solid waste daily

**45.** India has 57,72,472 children below 5 years affected by severe wasting, the most in the world, according to a child alert titled “Severe Wasting: An Overlooked Child Survival Emergency” released by the UNICEF. ‘Severe Wasting’, also known as ‘Severe Acute Malnutrition’, is defined as low weight-for-height. Indonesia ranked second with 812,564 children suffering from severe wasting. Severe wasting in a child can increase the risk of dying by pneumonia by 11 times. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- UNICEF – released “Severe Wasting: An Overlooked Child Survival Emergency” report
- India has largest number of children below 5 years affected by ‘Severe Acute Malnutrition’ | 2<sup>nd</sup> – Indonesia
- Indonesia – Jakarta – Rupiah | President – Joko Widodo
- HQs of UNICEF – New York, US | Executive Director – Catherine Russell | Established in – 1946



**46.** India is the top performer in South Asia in travel and tourism sector, according to the World Economic Forum's (WEF) latest study titled "Travel & Tourism Development Index 2021". The index is based on the theme "Rebuilding for a Sustainable and Resilient Future". India grabbed the 54<sup>th</sup> spot in the overall rankings with a score of 4.1, down from 46<sup>th</sup> in 2019. The index assessed a total of 117 countries for the study. Japan topped the index, followed by the US & Spain. Chad was at the bottom of the list. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Travel & Tourism Development Index 2021" – by WEF
- India – ranked 54<sup>th</sup> in overall rankings with a score of 4.1 | 1<sup>st</sup> – Japan, 2<sup>nd</sup> – US, 3<sup>rd</sup> – Spain | Last – Chad
- HQs of WEF – Cologny, Switzerland | Exe Chairman – Klaus Schwab | President – Borge Brende | Founded in – 1971

**47.** According to the 9<sup>th</sup> edition of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) Monitor on World of Work, the number of hours worked globally dropped in the first quarter of 2022, to 3.8% below the employment situation before the pandemic. About 11.2 Cr people in the world lost their jobs in the first quarter of 2022, according to the report. For every 100 women at work prior to the pandemic, 12.3 women would have lost their job as an average through the entire period. In contrast, for every 100 men, the equivalent figure would have been 7.5. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- According to the 9<sup>th</sup> edition of the ILO Monitor on 'World of Work':
  - Number of hours worked globally dropped to 3.8% in the first quarter of 2022
  - About 11.2 Cr people in the world lost their jobs in the first quarter of 2022
- HQs of ILO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG –Guy Ryder | DG – Gilbert Houngbo (from Oct 1, 2022) | Founded in – 1919

**48.** In May 2022, the World Directory of Modern Military Aircraft (WDMMA) published the "Global Air Powers Ranking of 2022". The Indian Air Force (IAF) has been placed at the 3<sup>rd</sup> position on the World Air Power Index in terms of the total fighting strength of the various air services of different nations of the world. The WDMMA annual ranking utilizes a formula that produces the 'TrueValueRating' (TvR) helping to definitively separate each country. The highest attainable TvR score is 242.9 held by the United States Air Force (USAF). In terms of 'TvR', the IAF ranked 6<sup>th</sup> globally with TvR score of 69.4. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Global Air Powers Ranking of 2022" – published by World Directory of Modern Military Aircraft (WDMMA)
- IAF (India) – ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in terms of 'Total Fighting Strength'
- IAF (India) – ranked 6<sup>th</sup> in terms of 'TvR score' | Top – United States Air Force
- HQs of IAF – New Delhi | Chief – Air Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari | Vice Chief – Air Marshal Sandeep Singh

**49.** The Covid-19 pandemic has seen a new billionaire every 30 hours, while a million people slept into extreme poverty at the same pace during this period, according to a report "Profiting from Pain" by Oxfam International, released at the World Economic Forum, Davos. The total wealth of the world's billionaires is now equivalent to 13.9% of global GDP. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Profiting from Pain" report – released by Oxfam International ([Nairobi, Kenya](#))
- Total wealth of the world's billionaires is now equivalent to 13.9% of global GDP

**50.** As per the provisional Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) released by the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation for FY20, Gross Fixed Capital Formation (GFCF) was Rs 4.15 lakh Cr compared to Rs 3.44 lakh Cr in FY19. There was a 1.7% increase in the number of factories in India. Manufacturing sector investments grew 20% in FY 2019-20 over the previous fiscal. Employment in the corporate sector increased 5.5% to 97.03 lakh in FY 2019-20. The number of workers rose 2.02% to 1.3 Cr, according to the survey report. The survey was conducted during April 2021 to January 2022 through ASI Web Portal. ASI, the principal source of industrial statistics in India, is the most comprehensive data on organised manufacturing. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Annual Survey of Industries (for FY20)” – released by Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation
- Gross Fixed Capital Formation (GFCF) was Rs 4.15 lakh Cr in FY20 (in FY19 - Rs 3.44 lakh Cr)
- Manufacturing Sector investments grew – 20% | Employment in Corporate Sector increased – 5.5% to 97.03 lakh
- MoS I/C of Ministry of Statistics & Program Implementation: Rao Inderjit Singh | Constituency – Gurgaon, Haryana

**51.** Starting with a \$10.5 billion dent in 2023, India’s economy could take a nearly \$99 billion hit by 2030, which will be 3.19% reduction in GDP from the baseline growth trends, according to the paper on ‘Potential Economic Impact of COVID-19 related School Closures’ released by the Asian Development Bank (ADB). Thus, India may account for over 10% of the global GDP decline of \$943 billion estimated by the ADB. India has the highest number of children at 255.74 million, enrolled in primary and secondary education, among the Asian economies covered in the paper. The number of students in tertiary education was second only to China at 36.39 million. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Potential Economic Impact of COVID-19 related School Closures” – released by ADB
- India’s economy may take a nearly \$99 billion hit by 2030 (3.19% reduction in GDP) starting with \$10.5 billion hit in 2023
- India may account for over 10% of the global GDP decline of \$943 billion estimated by the ADB
- HQs of ADB – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | Members – 68 | Established in – 1966

**52.** On May 26, Forbes announced its 7<sup>th</sup> annual “30 Under 30 Asia” list, featuring 300 young entrepreneurs, leaders and trailblazers across the Asia-Pacific region, all under the age of 30. The ‘Forbes 30 Under 30 Asia Class of 2022’ features 30 notable honorees selected for each of the 10 categories. India topped the list in terms of the ‘number of entries’ with 61, followed by Singapore (34), Japan (33). The average age of the 2022 list is 26.8. Japanese Olympics skateboarding gold-medalist, Momiji Nishiya, 14-year old, is the youngest honouree on the list. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Forbes 7<sup>th</sup> Annual “30 Under 30 Asia” List – featured 30 notable honorees selected for each of the 10 categories
- India (61) – topped the list in terms of the ‘number of entries’ | 2<sup>nd</sup> – Singapore (34), 3<sup>rd</sup> – Japan (33)

**53.** As on May 30, the US surpassed China to become India’s top trading partner in 2021-22, reflecting growth in Economic ties between the two countries. According to the data of the commerce ministry, in 2021-22, the bilateral trade between the US and India stood at \$119.42 billion as against \$80.51 billion in 2020-21. Exports to the US increased to \$76.11 billion in 2021-22, while imports rose to \$43.31 billion in 2021-22. China with \$115.42 billion, and the UAE with \$72.9 billion, were India's second & third largest trading partners, respectively. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- US – surpassed China to become India's top trading partner in 2021-22
- 1<sup>st</sup> – US (\$119.42 billion) | 2<sup>nd</sup> – China (\$115.42 billion) | 3<sup>rd</sup> – UAE (\$72.9 billion)

**54.** In May 2022, American firm Coinbase has become the first crypto company to enter the prestigious “Fortune 500” list. After posting revenue of over \$7.8 billion (Rs 60,728 Cr) in fiscal 2021, it has grabbed the 437<sup>th</sup> position in the recently released list. Retail giant Walmart topped the ranking for the 10<sup>th</sup> straight year, with revenue of around \$573 billion, followed by Amazon and Apple, with figures of almost \$470 billion and \$365 billion, respectively. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Coinbase (\$7.8 billion) – became the first crypto company to enter the prestigious “Fortune 500” List (437<sup>th</sup> position)
- 1<sup>st</sup> – Walmart (\$573 billion) | 2<sup>nd</sup> – Amazon (\$470 billion) | 3<sup>rd</sup> – Apple (\$365 billion)

**55.** In May 2022, the “State of the Global Climate 2021” report was released by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). WMO's flagship annual report gives details of climate indicators such as temperatures, ocean heat, ocean acidification, sea level rise, sea ice glaciers and extreme weather. Due to extreme weather, the world has witnessed hundreds of billions of dollars worth of economic losses. The report has confirmed that the past 7 years are the warmest 7 years that have been recorded. In 2021, the average global temperature was around 1.11 ( $\pm 0.13$ ) °C above the pre-industrial level. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “State of the Global Climate 2021” report – released by the WMO
- Average global temperature was around 1.11 ( $\pm 0.13$ ) °C above the pre-industrial level in 2021
- HQs of WMO – Geneva, Switzerland | SG – Petteri Taalas | President – Gerhard Adrian | Established in – 1950

**56.** As on May 31, the Indian Women's Hockey Team moved up to 6<sup>th</sup> position in the “FIH World Hockey Rankings 2022”, for the first time, with 2029.396 points. The women's rankings are topped by Netherlands, followed by Argentina & Australia. Janneke Schopman is chief coach of Indian Women's Hockey Team. While Indian Men's Hockey Team went down to 4<sup>th</sup> rank in the “FIH World Hockey Rankings 2022”. The men's rankings are topped by Australia, followed by Belgium & Netherlands. Graham Reid is chief coach of Indian Men's Hockey Team. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “FIH World Hockey Rankings 2022” – released in May, 2022
- Indian Women's Hockey Team – ranked 6<sup>th</sup> | Top – Netherlands
- Indian Men's Hockey Team – ranked 4<sup>th</sup> | Top – Australia
- Chief Coach of Indian Women's Hockey Team – Janneke Schopman | Chief Coach of Men's Team – Graham Reid
- HQs of FIH – Lausanne, Switzerland | President – Narinder Batra | CEO – Thierry Weil | Founded in – 1924
- HQs of Hockey India – New Delhi | President – Gyanendro Ningombam



# Amount & Agreements

**1.** On May 11, India contributed USD 8,00,000 to the United Nations as part of the initiative to enhance public outreach of the organisation in Hindi. As part of these efforts, “Hindi@UN” project was launched in 2018, in collaboration with the UN Department of Public Information. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- India contributed \$8,00,000 to promote Hindi at the UN
- “Hindi@UN” project was launched in 2018
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Secretary-General – Antonio Guterres | Formed in – October 24, 1945

**2.** In May 2022, Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) signed an agreement with the SBM (Mauritius) Infrastructure Development Company Ltd (SBMIDCL), for providing the latter with Government of India-supported Line of Credit (LoC) of USD 190 million. It is given for implementing the ongoing Metro Express Project and other infrastructure projects in Mauritius. The Credit facility is an additional tranche to the existing Credit of USD 500 million. Under the LoC, the terminal utilization period is 60 months from the scheduled completion date of the project. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Exim Bank + SBMIDCL = an agreement to provide the latter with Gol’s LoC of \$190 million
- HQs of EXIM Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD – Harsha Bangari | Founded in – 1982
- Mauritius – Port Louis – Mauritian rupee | PM – Pravind Kumar Jugnauth

**3.** On May 14, a team from the World Bank arrived in Gujarat to hold preparatory meetings for the implementation of the Systems Reform Endeavours for Transformed Health Achievement in Gujarat (SRESTHA-G). The ‘SRESTHA-G’ project will be a \$500 million project with \$350 million support coming from the World Bank. The project will include transforming key health delivery systems in the state. The SRESTHA-G project was approved by CM Bhupendra Patel, after which the proposal was sent to the Finance Ministry. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- World Bank – provides a support of \$350 million to \$500 million ‘SRESTHA-G’ project
- SRESTHA-G – Systems Reform Endeavours for Transformed Health Achievement in Gujarat
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat
- HQs of World Bank – Washington D.C., US | Members – 189 | President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant

**4.** On May 25, the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) signed two quadripartite agreements for development of sewage infrastructure, including a 35 MLD STP, for Maheshtala in West Bengal under Hybrid Annuity Mode at a total cost of Rs 273.52 Cr. One agreement is an Escrow Agreement between NMCG, Kolkata Metropolitan Development Authority (KMDA), M/s. Maheshtala Waste Water Management Private Limited (MWWMPL) and Union Bank of India. The other agreement is a Substitution Agreement between NMCG, KMDA, MWWMPL and Development Bank of Austria. Maheshtala is situated on the east bank of River Ganga. This project aims to stop the flow of sewerage into River Ganga from the town. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NMCG – signed two quadripartite agreements for development of Sewage Infrastructure
- 1<sup>st</sup> agreement: NMCG + Kolkata Metropolitan Development Authority + Maheshtala Waste Water Management + UBI
- 2<sup>nd</sup> agreement: NMCG + KMDA + MWWMPL + Development Bank of Austria
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar
- NMCG functions under – Ministry of Jal Shakti | DG – G. Asok Kumar



## **Ordinance, Bills & Acts**

**1.** On May 25, the Supreme Court recognised sex work as a “Profession” by invoking special powers under ‘Article 142’ of the Constitution. The Supreme Court directed that police should neither interfere nor take criminal action against adult and consenting sex workers. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Supreme Court – recognised sex work as a “Profession” by invoking special powers under ‘Article 142’ of the IC
- [Present Chief of Justice of the Supreme Court of India – Justice N. V. Ramana \(48<sup>th</sup>\)](#)



# Acquisitions & Mergers

**1.** In May 2022, the Boards of Directors of Mindtree and Larsen & Toubro Infotech (LTI) approved the amalgamation of both these independently listed IT services companies under the Larsen & Toubro Group. The name of the combined entity will be 'LTIMindtree' and will be led by Debashis Chatterjee. Upon the scheme becoming effective, all shareholders of Mindtree will be issued shares of LTI at the ratio of 73 shares of LTI for every 100 shares of Mindtree. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Boards of Directors of Mindtree & L&T – approved the amalgamation under the Larsen & Toubro Group
- Newly formed entity will be called – 'LTIMindtree' | Head – Debashis Chatterjee
- HQs of L&T – Mumbai, MH | CEO & MD – S. N. Subrahmanyam

**2.** On May 16, Adani Group announced to acquire Swiss cement major Holcim's stake in two of India's leading cement companies - Ambuja Cements and its subsidiary ACC, for \$10.5 billion (around Rs 81,361 Cr), including the open offers. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Adani Group – to acquire Holcim's stake in Ambuja Cements & its subsidiary ACC for \$10.5 billion
- HQs of Adani Group – Ahmedabad, Gujarat | Chairman – Gautam Adani | MD – Rajesh Adani

**3.** On May 14, the UAE-based Emirates Telecommunications Group Company PJSC "e&" (Etisalat Group) announced the acquisition of approximately 2,766 million shares (9.8%) in Vodafone Group Plc for \$4.4 billion. The transaction is in line with e&'s ambition to be a global player in telecom and technology and to increase its exposure to international markets. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Etisalat Group or e& (UAE) – announced acquisition of 9.8% shares in Vodafone Group Plc for \$4.4 billion
- HQs of Vi Ltd – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Ravinder Takkar | Non-Executive Chairman – Himanshu Kapania
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan

**4.** On May 19, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved merger by absorption of Covidshield Technologies Pvt Ltd (CTPL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Serum Institute of Life Sciences, into Biocon Biologics in consideration for acquisition of approximately 15% stake of Biocon Biologics by Serum Institute Life Sciences. Covidshield Technologies will be merged into Biocon Biologics and the acquirer Serum Institute Life Sciences Pvt Ltd will have about 15% stake in Biocon Biologics Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- CCI – approved acquisition of approximately 15% stake of Biocon Biologics by Serum Institute Life Sciences
- Covidshield Technologies will be merged into Biocon Biologics
- HQs of CCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta | Established in – 2003
- HQs of Biocon Biologics – Bengaluru, Karnataka | MD – Arun Chandavarkar
- HQs of SII – Pune, MH | Chairman – Cyrus S. Poonawalla | CEO – Adar C. Poonawalla | Founded in – 1966



**5.** On May 18, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the proposed acquisition of 55.39% stake in Magma HDI General Insurance Company Ltd by Sanoti Properties LLP. It would involve buying shares of Magma HDI held by certain shareholders like Poonawalla Fincorp Ltd and Serum Institute of India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- CCI – approved the acquisition of 55.39% stake in Magma HDI General Insurance – by Sanoti Properties LLP
- HQs of CCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta | Established in – 2003

**6.** On May 19, edible oil major Ruchi Soya announced to acquire the food business of Patanjali Ayurved for around Rs 690 Cr. The name of Ruchi Soya Industries Ltd will be changed to Patanjali Foods Ltd after regulatory approvals. The acquired food business consists of 21 products. Ruchi Soya will pay an annual royalty to Patanjali Ayurved, estimated at 1% of the gross turnover. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ruchi Soya – announced to acquire the food business of ‘Patanjali Ayurved’ for around Rs 690 Cr
- Name of Ruchi Soya Industries Ltd – will be changed to ‘Patanjali Foods Ltd’

**7.** On May 19, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the acquisition of a majority stake in SMW Ispat by OFB Tech Private Limited (OFB Tech). OFB Tech is engaged in the business of wholesale trading of bulk raw materials. While SMW Ispat is engaged in the business of manufacturing products such as TMT steel bars and steel billets. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- CCI – approved the acquisition of a majority stake in SMW Ispat – by OFB Tech
- HQs of CCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta | Established in – 2003

**8.** On May 18, PhonePe, part of the Walmart Inc-controlled Flipkart group, is acquiring two investment technology platforms - WealthDesk and OpenQ - for a total enterprise value of \$75 million (WealthDesk for \$50 million & OpenQ for \$25 million). Moreover, Bengaluru-based credit card bill payment platform, Cred, was in talks to acquire Amazon-backed investment platform “Smallcase”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- PhonePe – acquired two investment technology platforms – WealthDesk (\$50 million) & OpenQ (\$25 million)
- Cred – to acquire Amazon-backed investment platform “Smallcase”
- HQs of PhonePe – Bangalore, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Sameer Nigam | Founded in – 2015

**9.** On May 25, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved the sale of government’s 29.5% stake in Hindustan Zinc Ltd (HZL), to accelerate its disinvestment drive. This sale would raise around Rs 38,000 Cr at the current market price. The Centre has budgeted ₹65,000 Cr from PSU disinvestment and strategic sale. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- CCEA – approved the sale of government’s 29.5% stake in Hindustan Zinc Ltd (HZL) to accelerate its disinvestment drive
- This sale would raise around Rs 38,000 Cr
- Centre’s target from PSU disinvestment & strategic sale for FY23 – Rs 65,000 Cr
- HQs of Hindustan Zinc Limited – Udaipur, Rajasthan | CEO – Arun Misra

**10.** On May 25, Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail Ltd (ABFRL) announced to sell a 7.5% stake to GIC, Singapore's sovereign wealth fund, to raise up to ₹2,195 Cr to expand its presence in the branded apparel market. Once the investment is completed, Aditya Birla Group will hold a 51.9% stake in ABFRL. In the apparel market, ABFRL competes with the likes of Arvind Fashions Ltd and Reliance Retail, as well as fast fashion retailers such as H&M and Zara. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Aditya Birla Fashion & Retail Ltd – to sell a 7.5% stake to GIC (Singapore)
- After the investment, Aditya Birla Group will hold a 51.9% stake in ABFRL
- HQs of Aditya Birla Group – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Kumar Mangalam Birla | CEO – Ajay Srinivasan

**11.** On May 28, Adani Defence Systems and Technologies, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Adani Enterprises, signed a definitive agreement to acquire a 50% stake in Bengaluru-based commercial drone maker General Aeronautics Pvt Ltd. The company will be leveraging its military drone and AI/ML capabilities and work with General Aeronautics to provide solutions for the domestic agricultural sector. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Adani Defence Systems & Technologies (Ahmedabad) – to acquire a 50% stake in General Aeronautics (Bengaluru)

**12.** On May 26, State-owned Coal India Ltd (CIL) plans to divest 25% stake in its unlisted arm Bharat Coking Coal Ltd (BCCL) and will go for the subsequent listing of the subsidiary on stock exchanges after obtaining further clearances. Coal India accounts for over 80% of domestic coal output. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Coal India Ltd – to divest 25% stake in its unlisted arm Bharat Coking Coal Ltd (BCCL)
- Coal India accounts for over 80% of domestic coal output
- HQs of CIL – Kolkata, West Bengal | CMD – Pramod Agrawal



# MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

**1.** Google signed an MoU with the Telangana government to bring benefits of digital economy to the youth and women entrepreneurs in the state, and started the ground-up development of its 3 million square foot building in the city. Under the new initiative, Google will collaborate with the government through its various arms to extend scholarships for Google Career Certificates to Telangana's youth, support women entrepreneurs through digital, business and financial skills training, and strengthen the government's school modernisation efforts with digital teaching and learning tools and solutions. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Google + Telangana = an MoU to bring benefits of digital economy to the youth & women entrepreneurs in the state
- HQs of Google – California, US | CEO – Sundar Pichai | Founded in – 1998
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

**2.** World Bank approved a \$47 million project to support the Government of India's "Mission Karmayogi", a national program to build civil service capacity. There are nearly 18 million civil servants employed across India, with approximately two-thirds at the state government and local authority level. The Project is aligned with the "India Country Partnership Framework (CPF) FY18-22" which includes strengthening public sector institutions as one of the 4 areas of engagement for the World Bank in India. The \$47 million loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) has a final maturity of 11 years, including a grace period of 4.5 years. The National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building ('NPCSCB') - "Mission Karmayogi" was launched in September 2020. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- World Bank approved a \$47 million project to support the Government of India's "Mission Karmayogi" or "NPCSCB"
- \$47 million loan from the IBRD (an arm of World Bank) has a final maturity of 11 years | Grace period – 4.5 years
- HQs of World Bank – Washington D.C., US | Members – 189 | President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant

**3.** Oil India Limited (OIL) signed an MoU with Digboi Forest Division, Assam Forest Department for a project on Carbon Sequestration and Restoration of Degraded Forest Land in Upper Dihing Reserved Forest (west block) under Digboi Forest Division. The initiative has been undertaken under OIL's CSR project Vasundhara. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- OIL + Digboi Forest Division = an MoU for a project on Carbon Sequestration & Restoration of Degraded Forest Land
- 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

**4.** On May 3, a Tripartite Park & Biodiversity Partnership MoU was signed between Government of Assam, Agence Francaise de Developpement (AFD) and Office National des Forets International (ONFI) for exchanging of expertise and sharing of knowledge between the partners on various aspects of wildlife protection management. The AFD had granted Rs 2.50 Cr in kind to the state government to carry out an exchange programme for forest officials of France and Assam to similar landscapes and increase the abilities of forest officials in wildlife management. [{Read more}](#)





**Key Points:**

- Assam + AFD + ONFI = a Tripartite Park & Biodiversity Partnership MoU for wildlife protection
- AFD had granted Rs 2.50 Cr to Assam to carry out an exchange programme for forest officials
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

**5.** On May 2, IIT Bombay signed a Letter of Agreement with India Meteorological Department (IMD) to develop climate solutions. This collaboration is likely to work on the development of Sensors and Drone-based Smart Monitoring systems, Climate-smart agriculture technology for water and food security, Intelligent and automated early warning systems, and Smart power grid management. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IIT Bombay + IMD = signed a Letter of Agreement (LoA) to develop climate solutions
- Director of IIT Bombay – Prof. Subhasis Chaudhuri
- HQs of IMD – New Delhi | Director General – Dr. Mrutyunjay Mohapatra | Founded in – 1875

**6.** On May 2, the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) and Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) have signed an MoU at the SemiconIndia 2022 event to boost indigenous technological design and development in telecom and ICT. India's first Semicon conference was inaugurated virtually by PM Narendra Modi in Bengaluru. The theme of the conference was 'Catalyzing India's Semiconductor Ecosystem'. Both research centers have agreed to collaborate in identification and development of activities in the areas of 4G/5G, broadband, IOT/M2M, packet core, computing etc. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- C-DOT + C-DAC = an MoU to boost indigenous technological design & development in telecom & ICT
- India's first Semicon conference – inaugurated virtually by PM Narendra Modi in Bengaluru
- Theme of the conference – "Catalyzing India's Semiconductor Ecosystem"
- HQs of C-DAC – Pune, Maharashtra | Senior Director – Mahesh Kulkarni (functions under MeitY)
- HQs of C-DoT – New Delhi | Executive Director – Rajkumar Upadhyay
- C-DoT functions under – Ministry of Communications

**7.** NTPC GE Power Services Ltd (NGSL) signed a Memorandum of Engagement (MoE) with the Lake Region Economic Bloc (LREB) & Procorp Enertech Private Ltd (PEPL) to explore business opportunities in the renewable sector in Africa. They will work towards the development of ground-mounted and floating solar PV projects in the Lake region of Kenya. The MoE was signed during the visit of a 20-member high-level delegation from LREB, Kenya. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NGSL + LREB + PEPL = an MoE to explore business opportunities in the renewable sector in Africa
- Kenya – Nairobi – Kenyan Shilling | President – Uhuru Kenyatta

**8.** On May 1, Red Shield Division of Indian Army under the aegis of Spear Corps signed a tripartite agreement with State Bank of India Foundation (SBIF) and National Integrity and Educational Development Organization (NIEDO) to establish 'Red Shield Centre for Excellence and Wellness' in Manipur's Bishnupur district. The project 'Manipur Super 50' is expected to be fully functional for the first batch of 50 students by the first week of July, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Red Shield Division of Indian Army + SBIF + NIEDO = an agreement for project 'Manipur Super 50'
- 'Red Shield Centre for Excellence & Wellness' – to be established in Manipur's Bishnupur district
- Manipur: Capital – Imphal | CM – N. Biren Singh | Governor – La. Ganesan
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande | Vice Chief – Lt. General Baggavalli

Somashekar Raju

**9.** Maharashtra government's Medical Education and Drugs Department (MEDD) and International Finance Corporation (IFC) collaborated to prioritise health care projects with emphasis on Medical Education under the public-private partnership (PPP) model in Maharashtra. IFC will be the transaction advisor for the PPPs to develop super-specialty hospitals and medical education facilities across the state. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Maharashtra + IFC = collaborated to prioritise health care projects with emphasis on Medical Education
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

**10.** Ayana Renewable Power Pvt Ltd and Greenstat Hydrogen India Pvt Ltd collaborated for the development of Green Hydrogen projects powered by renewable energy in India. The first pilot project will come up in Karnataka. Ayana Renewable Power is backed by National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) and Greenstat Hydrogen India is a subsidiary of Norway-based Greenstat ASA. This partnership supports the National Hydrogen Mission with an aim to make India a global hub for production, and export of green hydrogen. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ayana Renewable Power + Greenstat Hydrogen India = collaborated for the development of Green Hydrogen projects
- The first pilot project will come up in – Karnataka
- Greenstat Hydrogen India – a subsidiary of Greenstat ASA (Norway)
- Norway – Oslo – Krone | PM – Jonas Gahr Store

**11.** On May 3, Germany committed to provide additional support worth euro 10 billion to India by 2030 to support green growth initiatives. The commitment came during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Germany. Both sides launched Indo-Germany partnership on green and sustainable development. Moreover, India and Germany also decided to launch a Green Hydrogen Taskforce. The countries also decided to negotiate a bilateral agreement on a comprehensive Migration and Mobility Partnership. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Germany – to provide additional support of euro 10 billion to India by 2030 to support Green Growth Initiatives
- India + Germany = decided to launch a 'Green Hydrogen Taskforce'
- Germany – Berlin – Euro | President – Frank-Walter Steinmeier

**12.** ReNew Power signed 5 power purchase agreements (PPAs) with Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) and Punjab State Power Corporation Ltd (PSPCL) for the supply of around 1,500 MW electricity generated from solar plants. Four solar PPAs have been signed with SECI and one with PSPCL. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- ReNew Power – signed 5 PPAs with SECI & PSPCL for the supply of around 1,500 MW Solar Energy
- HQs of ReNew Power – Gurugram, Haryana | MD & Chairman – Sumant Sinha
- HQs of SECI – New Delhi | Chairman – Jatindra Nath Swain | MD – Suman Sharma | Founded on – Sep 9, 2011

**13.** The India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), the biggest bilateral trade pact between the two major economies, came into force on May 1, 2022. The agreement was signed on February 18, 2022 between the two sides. Secretary, Department of Commerce, B.V.R. Subrahmanyam flagged off the first consignment of goods consisting of jewellery items from India to the UAE under the India-UAE CEPA. Under the new customs system, the consignment will attract zero customs duty. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narendra Modi – attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> “India-Nordic Summit” in Copenhagen, Denmark
- The first ‘India-Nordic Summit’ was held in Stockholm in 2018
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan

**14.** On May 4, Tata Power Community Development Trust (TPCDT) partnered with the Center for Autism and other Disabilities Rehabilitation Research and Education (CADRRE) to launch ‘Pay Attention - A different mind is a gifted mind’, India’s first bridgital Autism support network. Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a neuro-developmental disorder of variable severity. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- TPCDT + CADRRE = to launch ‘Pay Attention - A different mind is a gifted mind’- India’s 1<sup>st</sup> Autism support network

**15.** Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) signs an MoU with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) to upskill the technical staff of the Department of Space in the ISRO. The MoU was signed by Shri Rajesh Aggarwal, Secretary MSDE and Shri S. Somanath, Secretary Department of Space/ Chairman ISRO. More than 4000 ISRO technical employees will be trained in the programme over the course of the next 5 years. The location of the training will be the National Skill Training Institutes (NSTI), Mumbai. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MSDE + ISRO = an MoU to upskill more than 4000 technical staff of the Dept. of Space in the ISRO at NSTI, Mumbai
- Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship: Dharmendra Pradhan | Constituency – Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship: Rajeev Chandrasekhar
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – S. Somanath | Formed on – August 15, 1969

**16.** On May 5, Telangana government in collaboration with Dr Reddy’s Laboratories and Laurus Labs as well as academia has set up a one-of-its-kind Flow Chemistry Technology Hub (FCTH) at the Dr Reddy’s Institute of Life Sciences (DRILS) in Hyderabad. The FCTH is expected to boost adoption of flow chemistry from laboratory to manufacturing, and transition to more modern approaches to pharmaceutical manufacturing. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Telangana + Dr Reddy’s Lab + Laurus = set up a “Flow Chemistry Technology Hub (FCTH)” in Hyderabad
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

**17.** Air Works Group, an Indian maintenance, repair, and overhaul (MRO) company, partnered with the Boeing India to undertake heavy maintenance checks on three Indian Navy P-8I long-range maritime patrol aircrafts simultaneously at Hosur, Tamil Nadu. Established in 1951, Air Works Group is India's biggest independent MRO with a pan-Indian presence across 27 cities. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Air Works Group + Boeing India = partnered to undertake heavy maintenance checks on 3 Indian Navy 'P-8I' long-range maritime patrol aircrafts
- Air Works Group – India's biggest independent MRO
- HQs of Boeing – Chicago, US | CEO – Dave Calhoun | Founded in – 1916

**18.** Ministry of Home Affairs and Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) signed an MoU to undertake the Solar Rooftop Photovoltaic (PV) power plants in the campuses of the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) and National Security Guard (NSG). The MoU will support MHA in implementing rooftop solar plants under RESCO model. SECI is also the designated implementing agency for many Government Renewable Energy schemes like - VGF schemes, ISTS schemes, CPSU schemes etc. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MHA + SECI = an MoU to undertake Solar Rooftop PV power plants in the campuses of CAPF & NSG under RESCO model
- Ministry of External Affairs: S. Jaishankar | Constituency – Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of External Affairs: Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, V. Muraleedharan & Meenakshi Lekhi
- HQs of SECI – New Delhi | Chairman – Jatindra Nath Swain | MD – Suman Sharma | Founded on – Sep 9, 2011

**19.** On May 7, Railway Protection Force (RPF) signed an MoU with Association for Voluntary Action (AVA) to work on the project to end human trafficking through railways in India. The AVA, which is also known by the name Bachpan Bachao Andolan, is associated with Nobel laureate Kailash Satyarthi's Children Foundation. More than 50,000 children have been rescued by the RPF under "Operation Nanhe Frishte" from across India since 2018 working with different stakeholders. RPF has recently also launched a nationwide drive against trafficking, called "Operation AAHT (Action against Human Trafficking)" to take stringent action against human trafficking through rail. Besides all this, the RPF has also set up Anti Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs) at more than 740 locations across India. The Indian Railway is the primary transporter for the nation and therefore is a major route for human traffickers. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RPF + AVA = an MoU to work on the project to end human trafficking through railways in India
- AVA – also known as 'Bachpan Bachao Andolan' which is associated with Kailash Satyarthi's Children Foundation
- RPF – launched a nationwide drive against trafficking called "Operation AAHT (Action against Human Trafficking)"
- RPF – set up Anti Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs) at more than 740 locations across India
- 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 May 5, Union Home and Cooperation Minister, Amit Shah, on the first day of his two-day visit to West Bengal, inaugurated the Narmada, Sutlej and Cauvery Floating Border Outposts (BOP) on the Indo-Bangladesh border to protect inaccessible areas of Sundarbans. Amit Shah flagged off the Floating Boat Ambulance, laid the foundation stone of Maitri Sangrahalaya and addressed the 'Seema Prahari Sammelan' at Haridaspur BOP on the Indo-Bangladesh Border. Three floating BOPs Sutlej, Kaveri and Narmada have been built by Kochi Shipyard Ltd. The cost of each BOP is Rs 38 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Amit Shah – inaugurated the Narmada, Sutlej & Cauvery Floating Border Outposts (BOP) on Indo-Bangladesh border
- Three floating BOPs built by – Kochi Shipyard Ltd (Cost – Rs 38 Cr)

**21.** On May 9, the Railways Ministry and Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) signed an MoU for replacing foreign technology gears being used in Indian Railways. The C-DOT will provide locally-developed technology solutions worth over Rs 2,114 Cr to Indian Railways to help the latter reduce dependence on foreign technology. The synergy between C-DOT and Ministry of Railways will strengthen the national networks and boost seamless connectivity which will bolster the foundation of "Atmanirbhar Bharat". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Railways + C-DOT = MoU for replacing foreign technology gears being used in Indian Railways
- 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

**22.** The World Economic Forum (WEF), in partnership with NITI Aayog, is focusing on putting emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT), blockchain and drones, to better use to ensure they benefit farmers, particularly small and marginal. The WEF had established Center for the Fourth Industrial Revolution (C4IR) in 2018 to help core sectors such as agriculture, health, urban transformation, urban space and environment using the fourth industrial revolution (4IR). Currently, the WEF sees 3 buckets of challenges that need to be solved to improve the economy of small farmers. The challenges are - Inclusivity, Sustainability & Efficiency. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- WEF + NITI Aayog = partnered to focus on emerging technologies such as AI, IoT, blockchain & drones to benefit farmers
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Suman Bery
- HQs of WEF – Cologny, Switzerland | Exe Chairman – Klaus Schwab | President – Borge Brende | Founded in – 1971

**23.** On May 9, the Catalyst Group, in collaboration with the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA) to the Government of India, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and the Rockefeller Foundation, announced the launch of the Green Health Alliance (GHA) in New Delhi. The Alliance is set to focus on identifying and scaling up solutions to help reduce the carbon footprint of the health system and thereby minimise the negative health impacts of climate change. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Catalyst Group + PSA to GoI + USAID + Rockefeller Foundation = launched “Green Health Alliance (GHA)” in New Delhi
- The alliance will find solutions to reduce the carbon footprint of the health system

**24.** On May 9, Etsy, a US e-commerce firm for handmade or vintage items, partnered with the North Eastern Handicrafts and Handloom Development Corporation (NEHHDC) to support small sellers, weavers and artisans by providing them market access and enablement support. The idea would be to equip artisans, creators and small entrepreneurs in the Indian handicrafts sector with important tools and resources to start and manage online businesses. Artisans from all eight northeastern states will be onboarded onto Etsy. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Etsy (US) + NEHHDC (India) = partnership to support small sellers, weavers & artisans
- Location of NEHHDC – Guwahati, Assam

**25.** On May 12, India’s public broadcaster Prasar Bharati signed an MoU with Madagascar’s official ORTM (Office de la Radio et de la Television) for cooperation and collaboration in broadcasting. The MoU was signed by Indian Ambassador Abhay Kumar and Director General of ORTM Jean Yves. The MoU aims at exchange of programmes, exploring co-production of programmes and training and exchange of personnel. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Prasar Bharati + Madagascar’s official ORTM = an MoU for cooperation & collaboration in broadcasting
- HQs of Prasar Bharati – New Delhi | CEO – Shashi Shekhar Vempati
- Madagascar – Antananarivo – Malagasy Ariary | President – Andry Rajoelina

**26.** On May 9, OMC Power signed a long-term relationship agreement with the Indian Renewable Energy Dev Agency Ltd (IREDA) to work towards building a Rural renewable energy ecosystem. OMC Power plans to expand its footprint to 1000 sites to drastically reduce the Carbon footprint in rural India. OMC will be getting economic support for setting up Renewable energy plants to provide sustainable energy in the villages of Uttar Pradesh. Under IREDA’s “Access to Energy” scheme, this partnership will look to achieve long-term sustainability by supplying green and clean energy in rural areas. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- OMC Power + IREDA = an agreement to work towards building a Rural Renewable Energy ecosystem
- “Access to Energy” scheme – belongs to IREDA
- Location of OMC Power – Gurgaon, Haryana
- HQs of IREDA – New Delhi | CMD – Pradip Kumar Das

**27.** On May 9, Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Hyderabad, signed an MoU with the Indian Navy to provide training services and support to the School of Naval Oceanology and Meteorology (SNOM) for conduct of various courses related to operational oceanography. SNOM is the ‘Centre of Excellence’ in atmospheric sciences recognised by Cochin University of Science and Technology. The agreement was signed for the services to be provided through the state-of-the-art International Training Centre for Operational Oceanography (ITCOO), the training arm of INCOIS, setup in 2013. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- INCOIS (Hyd) + Indian Navy = an MoU to provide training services to the School of Naval Oceanology & Meteorology
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral R. Hari Kumar | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26th Jan, 1950

**28.** On May 12, an MoU was signed between Ministry of Rural Development and Amazon Seller Services Private Limited (Amazon) at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi. This alliance will enable SHG entrepreneurs under 'Deen Dayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM)' to offer their products to the buyers across India through Amazon Saheli Storefront and help SHG women achieve good price for their varied products. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Rural Development + Amazon = an MoU for online marketing of SHG products
- HQs of Amazon – Seattle, US | CEO – Andy Jassy | Incorporated in – 1994
- HQs of Amazon India – Hyderabad, Telangana | Country Head – Amit Agarwal

**29.** On May 12, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (MoAFW) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) signed an MoU for strategic partnership on Agriculture, Crop Insurance and Credit wherein UNDP will provide technical support towards Centre's aspirational Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) scheme & Kisan Credit Card - Modified Interest Subvention Scheme. The MoU was signed in the presence of Union Minister of Agriculture Narendra Singh Tomar. The farmers paid Rs 21000 Cr premium under PMFBY, for which they have received more than Rs 1.15 lakh Cr as compensation. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MoAFW + UNDP = an MoU for strategic partnership on Agriculture, Crop Insurance & Credit
- HQs of UNDP – New York, US | Administrator – Achim Steiner | Founded in – 1965
- Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare: Narendra Singh Tomar | Constituency – Morena, Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare: Shobha Karandlaje & Kailash Choudhary

**30.** On May 12, NSDC International (NSDCI) and the Indian unit of DP World, Hindustan Ports Private Limited signed an MoU to develop a "Skill India International Centre" at Varanasi and to skill Indian youth for pursuing overseas employment opportunities in logistics, port operations and allied areas. The MoU will further strengthen the relationship between UAE and India and help enhance workforce productivity. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NSDCI + Hindustan Ports Private Limited = an MoU to develop a "Skill India International Centre" at Varanasi
- HQs of NSDC – New Delhi | CEO – Ved Mani Tiwar | Chairman – A. M. Naik (works under MoSDE)

**31.** A high-level delegation led by Chemical & Fertilisers Minister Mansukh Mandaviya, visited Jordan from May 13-15 for enhanced cooperation in the fertilizer sector amid a global fertilizers crisis. India has signed a 5-year agreement with Jordan-based companies for supply of fertilisers, including 2.5 lakh metric tonnes (MT) of DAP (di-ammonium phosphate) and 2.75 lakh metric tonnes (MT) of MOP (muriate of potash). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India + Jordan = a 5-year agreement for supply of fertilisers (including 2.5 lakh MT of DAP & 2.75 lakh MT of MOP)
- Jordan – Amman – Jordanian Dinar | Prime Minister – Bisher Al-Khasawneh



**32.** Ministry of Heavy Industries (MHI) signed an MoU with National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) for undertaking various activities for smooth implementation of the 'Scheme for Enhancement of Competitiveness in the Indian Capital Goods Sector'. Aim of this MoU is to make India a global hub for the manufacturing of capital goods. The scheme has a financial outlay of Rs 1207 Cr with Budgetary support of Rs 975 Cr and Industry Contribution of Rs 232 Cr to expand and enlarge the impact created by Phase I of Capital Goods scheme. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Heavy Industries + NRDC = an MoU for smooth implementation of the 'Scheme for Enhancement of Competitiveness in the Indian Capital Goods Sector'
- Financial outlay of the scheme – Rs 1207 Cr | Budgetary support – Rs 975 Cr | Industry Contribution – Rs 232 Cr
- Ministry of Heavy Industries: Mahendra Nath Pandey | Constituency – Chandauli, Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Heavy Industries: Krishan Pal

**33.** On May 17, the occasion of "World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD)", the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) and Vodafone Idea Limited signed an MoU to develop and deploy IoT/M2M solutions in India for addressing the challenges in IoT implementation. The C-DOT is the premier R&D centre of the Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- C-DOT + Vi Ltd = an MoU to develop & deploy IoT/M2M solutions in India to address IoT related challenges
- HQs of C-DoT – New Delhi | Executive Director – Rajkumar Upadhyay
- C-DoT functions under – Ministry of Communications
- HQs of Vi Ltd – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Ravinder Takkar | Non-Executive Chairman – Himanshu Kapania

**34.** On May 18, the Government e-Marketplace (GeM), CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd (CSC-SPV) and Department of Posts, signed an MoU for the advocacy, outreach, mobilization and capacity-building of last-mile government buyers, sellers and service providers in public procurement. More than 4.5 lakh Common Service Centers (CSC) and more than 1.5 lakh India Post offices across India will be trained. Vernacular language-based Training Curriculum in print and digital media for CSCs and India Post staff based on the requirement of the participants was developed by GeM in consultation with CSC-SPV and Department of Posts. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- GeM + CSC-SPV + Department of Posts = an MoU for the advocacy, outreach, mobilization & capacity-building of last-mile government buyers, sellers & service providers
- More than 4.5 lakh CSCs & more than 1.5 lakh India Post offices across India will be trained
- HQs of CSC – New Delhi | Chairman – Ajay Prakash Sawhney | MD – Dinesh Kumar Tyagi (set up by MeitY)
- Secretary in Department of Posts – Vineet Pandey

**35.** On May 12, Tata Technologies Ltd partnered with Assam government to transform 34 state polytechnics and 43 Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) into futuristic Centres of Excellence (CoEs), entailing an investment of about Rs 2,390 Cr. The company signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with the Assam government for a period of 10 years for the purpose. These COEs will not only cater to the advanced skill requirements of students aligned to the key industries in Assam, but also act as a technology and industrial hub for MSMEs and support entrepreneurship. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tata Technologies + Assam = partnered to transform 34 state polytechnics & 43 ITIs into futuristic CoEs
- Investment – Rs 2,390 Cr
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi
- HQs of Tata Technologies – Pune, Maharashtra | Chairman – S. Ramadorai | MD & CEO – Warren Harris

**36.** On May 19, Government eMarketplace (GeM) and Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA) signed an MoU for the advocacy, outreach, mobilization and capacity-building of last-mile women-led micro and small enterprises. The MoU was signed by Shri PK Singh, CEO, GeM, and Ms. Rehana Riyawala, Vice-President, SEWA in New Delhi. GeM is a Section 8 company setup under the administrative control of the Department of Commerce. While SEWA is the premier Women's organization in India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- GeM + SEWA = an MoU for the advocacy, outreach, mobilization & capacity-building of last-mile women-led MSEs
- GeM – a 'Section 8' company setup under Department of Commerce

**37.** On May 20, Just Transition Research Centre (JTRC) at IIT Kanpur joined the Energy Security and Climate Change Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), Washington D.C., to work on just energy transition globally including in India. Through an MoU, IIT Kanpur and CSIS will co-organize a series of workshops and bilateral meetings between senior officials and other key stakeholders from coal-dependent states/provinces in India, the United States, and South Africa. Among Indian states, IIT-CSIS collaboration will engage with Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, and Telangana. The first workshop will be held in June in Ranchi, Jharkhand. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- JTRC (at IIT Kanpur) + CSIS (Washington D.C.) = partnership to work on Energy Transition globally
- Director of IIT Kanpur – Abhay Karandikar

**38.** On May 20, Uttarakhand Government signed an MoU with Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) for the development of new and renewable energy projects in the state. This step will take forward the state by balancing both, Energy & Tourism, the two major pillars of the state's development. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Uttarakhand + BPCL = MoU for the development of new and renewable energy projects in the state
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Pushkar Singh Dhami | Governor – Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh
- HQs of BPCL – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman & MD – Arun Kumar Singh | Founded in – 1952

**39.** On May 23, the Government of India and the Government of the United States of America signed an Investment Incentive Agreement (IIA) at Tokyo, Japan. The IIA was signed by Vinay Kwatra, Foreign Secretary, Government of India. This IIA supersedes the Investment Incentive Agreement signed between India & the US in 1997. The Agreement is the legal requirement for DFC, to continue providing investment support in India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India + US = signed an Investment Incentive Agreement (IIA) at Tokyo, Japan
- This 'IIA' supersedes the 'Investment Incentive Agreement' signed between India & the US in 1997
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Fumio Kishida

**40.** On May 24, Agritech firm Fasal signed an MoU with the India Meteorological Department (IMD) for a research collaboration. As part of the agreement, Fasal and IMD will work closely on exchange of hourly short-range models for rainfall probability, rainfall amount, temperature, and humidity. The regions that are in the purview of this agreement for R&D include: five districts in Karnataka, five districts in Maharashtra, one district in Telangana and two districts in Andhra Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Fasal + IMD = an MoU for a research collaboration to exchange hourly short-range models for rainfall probability
- HQs of IMD – New Delhi | Director General – Dr. Mrutyunjay Mohapatra | Founded in – 1875

**41.** At the World Economic Forum’s annual meet in Davos, Andhra Pradesh Government signed an MoU with Adani Green Energy regarding an investment of Rs 60,000 Cr in the state. The initiative includes a 3,700-MW Hydro Storage project and a 10,000-MW Solar Energy project. The MoU was signed by special chief secretary Karikal Valaven on behalf of the state. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- World Economic Forum’s Annual Meet – held in Davos
- Andhra Pradesh + Adani Green Energy = an MoU regarding an investment of Rs 60,000 Cr in the state
- HQs of WEF – Cologny, Switzerland | Exe Chairman – Klaus Schwab | President – Borge Brende | Founded in – 1971
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati | CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

**42.** On May 25, an MoU was signed between Ministry of AYUSH and Department of Biotechnology, Government of India for mutual collaboration to explore the possibility of cooperation, convergence and synergy to bring out the expertise under one platform towards evidence based biotechnological interventions in Ayush sector. Biotechnological R & D and Ayush Interventions will improve quality of life as well as life span (Vayahsthaapana Rasayana) and bring down the associated morbidity pertaining to chronic diseases. This Inter Ministerial cooperation between Ministry of Ayush and DBT is expected to generate knowledge and new means of intervention strategies for difficult to treat diseases. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- AYUSH Mini. + Dept. of Biotechnology = MoU for collaboration towards biotechnological interventions in Ayush sector
- Ministry of AYUSH: Sarbananda Sonowal | Constituency – Majuli, Assam
- MoS in Ministry of AYUSH: Munjapara Mahendrabha

**43.** On May 23, the World Economic Forum (WEF) launched a metaverse called “Global Collaboration Village” as the virtual future of public-private cooperation, in collaboration with Accenture and Microsoft. It will bring together key global stakeholders to address critical global issues. It will be an extension of the WEF’s public private platforms and in-person meetings. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- WEF + Accenture + Microsoft = launched a metaverse called “Global Collaboration Village”
- HQs of WEF – Cologny, Switzerland | Exe Chairman – Klaus Schwab | President – Borge Brende | Founded in – 1971
- HQs of Microsoft – Washington, US | Chairman & CEO – Satya Nadella | Founded in – 1975
- HQs of Accenture – Dublin, Ireland | CEO – Julie Sweet | MD (in India) – Rekha Menon

**44.** In May 2022, the Centre for Cellular & Molecular Platforms (C-CAMP), India's premier bio-innovation hub signed an MoU with the Centre for Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI) to foster innovation in agriculture. The agreement will initiate a joint effort in nurturing deep-science innovation in agriculture, food technology, and allied areas toward sustainability and food security in India's agriculture sector. The MoU was signed by Taslimarif Saiyed, CEO and Director of C-CAMP and Sridevi Annapurna Singh, Director of CFTRI. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- C-CAMP + CFTRI = an MoU to foster innovation in Agriculture, Food Technology & Allied Areas
- C-CAMP – an initiative of the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of S & T

**45.** In May 2022, Andhra Pradesh signed renewables investment pacts worth a total of around \$16 billion with companies including Adani Green Energy, Greenko, Singapore's GIC sovereign wealth fund, and Aurobindo Realty & Infrastructure during the "World Economic Forum (WEF) Annual Meeting 2022" at Davos. During the meeting, Maharashtra signed 23 MoUs worth \$4 billion (Rs 30,379 Cr) with companies, including investments in sectors such as pharmaceuticals and medical device. Of these, over 55% investments are FDI, it stated in the 10<sup>th</sup> edition of its "Magnetic Maharashtra 2.0" program at Maharashtra Pavilion in WEF 2022. Moreover, ReNew Power signed an MoU with the Karnataka government for an investment of Rs 50,000 Cr over the next 7 years. The Telangana government signed an MoU with Mastercard to formalise a Digital State Partnership aimed at delivering world-class solutions that contribute to the rapid digitisation of the state's citizen services. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- During the "WEF Annual Meeting 2022" at Davos:
  - Andhra Pradesh – signed RE pacts of \$16 bn with Adani Green Energy, Greenko, GIC, Aurobindo Realty & Infra
  - Maharashtra – signed 23 MoUs worth \$4 billion (Rs 30,379 Cr) with companies
  - Karnataka + ReNew Power = an MoU worth Rs 50,000 Cr for over next 7 years
  - Telangana + Mastercard = an MoU to formalise a Digital State Partnership

**46.** On May 31, the Tamil Nadu government signed an MoU with the India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) for obtaining life certificate from pensioners through doorstep services of the Postal Department. As per the agreement, the IPPB would render the doorstep services at a cost of Rs 70 per digital life certificate. Over 7.15 lakh State government pensioners/ family pensioners submit their life certificate during July, August and September every year for annual mustering. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tamil Nadu + IPPB = an MoU for obtaining life certificate from pensioners through doorstep services of Postal Dept.
- IPPB would render the doorstep services at a cost of Rs 70 per digital life certificate
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi
- HQs of IPPB – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Venkatram Jayanthi | Established on – 1st Sep, 2018





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