

Monthly GK Digest

September 2022



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Dear readers,

This **Monthly GK Digest** is a **complete docket** of important news and events that occurred in the month of '**September-2022**'. This file is important for, **Bank, SSC, and Railway** exams.

Banking & Financial Awareness

1. Athletics Federation of India (AFI) has joined hands with **HSBC Bank** to support women athletes of the country.
Note: Under the partnership, promising girl athletes will be selected from the National Inter District Championships for U-14 and U-16 categories. Special coaching camps would be set up for the selected athletes and nurtured them to perform on the global platform.
2. As per the official data, the Indian economy has grown by **13.5%** in the April-June period 2022.
Note: Reason: Better performance by the agriculture and services sectors. India has also remained the fastest growing major economy as China registered economic growth of 0.4% in the April-June 2022 quarter. As per the data released by the National Statistical Office, the Indian economy has been grown by 20.1% in April-June 2021-22.
3. As of 31st August 2022, as per the RBI data, **\$1.11 billion** of foreign direct investment by the India Inc's has been recorded in July 2022.
Note: The domestic firms had invested over \$2.56 billion on Outward Foreign Direct Investment in July 2021 in the form of equity, loan and issuances of guarantees. The Indian businesses has invested \$579.15 million by equity infusion, \$193.21 million as loans and \$337.49 million infused by issuing guarantees to their overseas ventures
4. Alappuzha has become the fifth fully digital banking district, is located in **Kerala**.
Note: Four Kerala districts: Thrissur, Kottayam, Palakkad and Kasaragod. The project was initiated by the RBI with the support of the State Level Bankers' Committee and respective district administrations as part of the Digital India project. As part of the initiative, at least one digital transaction facility has been enabled.
5. As per the data released by RBI, during the first quarter of 2022-23, the pricing index for homes in India has been grown by **3.5%** year-on-year.
Note: The all-India house price index (HPI) is a quarterly release done by the central bank. This index is based on transaction-level data obtained from the housing registration authorities in 10 major cities in the country. The cities are: Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Jaipur, Kanpur, Kochi, Kolkata, Lucknow, and Mumbai.
6. As per the Reserve Bank India data, the services exports of India has been increased by **20.2%** year-on-year to \$23.26 billion in July 2022.
Note: However, the July exports were lower than June by \$25.29 billion in 2022. As per the monthly data on India's international trade in services for July 2022, the imports surged by 22.3% to \$13.92 billion in July. The exports during April-July 2022-23 stood at \$94.75 billion, and the imports totalled \$58.94 billion during the period.
7. According to Finance Ministry data, the government has collected **₹1,43,612 crore** as the gross GST revenue in the month of August 2022.
Note: CGST is ₹ 24,710 crore, SGST is ₹ 30,951 crore, IGST is ₹ 77,782 crore. It includes ₹ 42,067 crore collected on import of goods and cess is ₹ 10,168 crore (including ₹ 1,018 crore collected on import of goods). The revenues for the month of August 2022 are 28% higher than the GST revenues in the same month in 2021 of ₹ 1,12,020 crore.
8. **SBI Card** has launched 'CASHBACK Card', a cashback focused credit card, to boost the online transactions.
Note: Consumers across country, including tier-2 and 3 cities, can apply for the card on the digital application platform 'SBI Card SPRINT'. CASHBACK SBI Card customers will earn unlimited 1% cashback on all spends, cashback will increase to 5% on all online spends up to maximum of ₹ 10,000 per monthly statement cycle.
9. Financial service company **MuthootFinCorp** has partnered with IME India Pvt Ltd to expand its money remittance services between Indo-Nepal corridor.
Note: Muthoot has been assisting the Nepali community in India in remitting money through their existing partner (Prabhu Money Transfer Pvt Ltd). Now, Muthoot will be able to serve a larger mass of Nepalese diaspora living in India. IDFC First Bank,

India and Global IME Bank Ltd., Nepal are the banking partners to facilitate Indo-Nepal remittance service.

10. **IndusIndBank** has signed an agreement with Asian Development Bank (ADB) to provide support and promote supply chain finance (SCF) solutions in India. **Note:** The bank has entered into a partial guarantee programme with ADB with an initial outlay of USD 70 million (₹560.0 crore). Aim: To grow IndusInd Bank presence in MSME financing. This partnership will further strengthen various initiatives of the bank in this domain.
11. **BOB Financial Solutions Ltd** has joined hands with Snapdeal in association with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and Japan's JCB International Co. Ltd to launch the Credit Card. **Note:** It is co-branded contactless credit card. User will receive up to 5% unlimited cashback (accrued as 20 reward points on every ₹100 spent) on the Snapdeal app and website. It offers 10 Reward points per ₹100 spent on online spends.
12. **RBI** has released new guidelines on digital lending. **Note:** The central bank has given regulated entities (RE) till November 30th to put in place adequate systems and processes to ensure that 'existing digital loans' comply with fresh lending guidelines. The new norms are applicable to both 'existing customers availing fresh loans' and to 'new customers getting onboarded'. These have come into effect from September 1st, 2022 onward.
13. As per the State Bank of India (SBI), **6.8%** would be the GDP growth forecast for India for FY23. **Note:** Earlier, the growth forecast was 7.5%. Reason: Statistical adjustments as the reason for lowering the GDP forecast The revised GDP forecast by SBI has been come after the National Statistical Office (NSO) data for the April-June quarter (Q1) of 2022-23, where the economy showed a growth of 13.5% (lower from 20.1% in Q1 of FY22).
14. As per the official data of RBI, India's foreign exchange (forex) reserves has been declined in the week ending August 26, 2022 by **\$561 billion**. **Note:** India's FER has declined sharply in recent months as the RBI continues to intervene in the currency markets to defend the rupee. The value of gold reserves also fall down by \$271 million to \$39.643 billion during the week ended August 26. The value of India's SDRs with IMF has also declined by \$155 million to \$17.832 billion.
15. The Securities and Exchange Board of India has restructured its panel on cyber security that recommends measures to safeguard the capital markets from such attacks, chaired by **Navin Kumar Singh**. **Note:** Earlier, The committee had only four members but now it has six members. Other members: Sanjay Bahl, H Krishnamurthy, Sandeep Shukla and DebdeepMukhopadhyay, SugataGangopadhyay
16. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has launched a pilot project for end-to-end digitization of KCC lending. **Kisan Credit Card** is the full form of KCC. **Note:** The pilot has been developed by the central bank and its subsidiary Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH). Objective: To make it more efficient and reduce costs for borrowers. States for pilot project: Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu with Union Bank of India and Federal Bank, respectively
17. As per the report of the State Bank of India (Economic Research Department), by the year **2029** India would become the third largest economy in the world. **Note:** India will surpass Germany in 2027 and most likely Japan by 2029 at the current rate of growth. The country has undergone a large structural shift since 2014 and is now the 5th largest economy overtaking the United Kingdom. The report is authored by SoumyaKanti Ghosh, group chief economic adviser, SBI.
18. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the \$4.7 billion acquisition deal between PayU (backed by Prosus) and online payments firm **BillDesk**. **Note:** The commission has cleared the acquisition of 100% of the equity share capital of <http://IndiaIdeas.com> (BillDesk) by PayU Payments. The PayU-BillDesk deal is pegged as the second-largest buyout in the Indian internet sector after Walmart's \$16 billion acquisition of ecommerce major Flipkart in 2018.
19. Public sector banks will open about **300** brick-and-mortar branches in the unbanked areas of various states by December 2022. **Note:** Aim: To cover all remaining unbanked villages. Branches in: Rajasthan (95), followed by Madhya Pradesh (54), Gujarat (38), Maharashtra (33), Jharkhand (32) and Uttar Pradesh (31). Banks have been asked to open branches at allocated locations by the respective State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) by December 2022.
20. IppoPay has acquired **Tutelar**, AI-based risk management company for an undisclosed amount. **Note:** IppoPay is a Chennai-based payment gateway firm, that is backed by Coinbase Global, Better Capital and Blume Founders Fund. Addition of Tutelar makes IppoPay an important constituent in the fight against fraud in the payments space.
21. RBI Deputy Governor, T Rabi Sankar has announced that, government will launch CBDC by the end of 2022. **Central Bank Digital Currency** is the full form of CBDC. **Note:** The RBI will launch digital currency on a pilot basis in 2022. In Budget for 2022-23, the finance minister had said the RBI would roll out a digital equivalent to the rupee. Benefit: CBDC could become a tool for reducing time and cost for cross-border

transactions. Data Security Issue: They are keep working on it on a continuous basis.

22. **HDFC Bank** has introduced a new SMS banking facility for its customers by using 7308080808, to provide a wide range of banking services round-the-clock.

Note: In order to start new SMS banking facility of HDFC Bank, a customer need to complete the registration process. They need to SMS "Register" <Space> "Last 4 digits of customer ID" <Space> "Last 4 digits of A/C No. " and then sent it to 7308080808 from their registered mobile number.

23. RBI has selected HDFC Bank and **Precision Biometric India** for testing their 'on tap' retail payments applications under the regulatory sandbox scheme.

Note: It refers to live testing of new products or services in a controlled/test regulatory environment. For this regulators permit certain relaxations for the limited purpose of the testing. It allows the regulator, innovators, financial service providers and customers to conduct field tests.

24. The Unified Payments Interface (UPI) has recorded **657 crore** transactions in the month of August 2022, a 5% month-on-month growth compared to the previous month.

Note: The transaction volume has crossed Rs 10.72 lakh crore in August. In July 2022, the UPI transactions breached the level of 600 crore. The growth in UPI volumes by nearly 100% year-on-year (YoY) and amounts transacted growing by 75% YoY. NPCI also aims to process 1 billion transactions per day in the next few years.

25. **17** is the present no. of Insurance Ombudsman in different locations of India.

Note: The Insurance ombudsman has disposed of 40,527 complaints against insurance firms across the country during 2021-22 as compared with 30,596 in 2020-21. The complaints relating to health insurance made up a third of the total number cases disposed of by ombudsmen in 2020-21. An alternative mode of settling insurance disputes. It was constituted under rules framed by the finance ministry in 2017.

26. **ESAF Small Finance Bank Ltd** has launched a 'Rainbow Savings Account' for the transgender community.

Note: This bank account offer a host of features, including high savings rate and advanced debit card facilities. In 2015, the Reserve Bank of India has directed banks to include a separate column 'third gender' in all their forms and applications. The savings habit of the marginalised community will contribute heavily to the growth of the economy as a whole.

27. **IDFC First Bank** has signed up as participant in the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC), an initiative of ministry of commerce and industry.

Note: The bank has enabled a platform for buyers, that help them to discover sellers in the ONDC network. The bank has started onboarding small merchants, who are its current account customers, on to a partner app registered with ONDC. The app is expected to help small merchants carry out transactions over ONDC's electronic network.

28. Reliance General Insurance and **Policybazaar** have jointly launched Reliance Health Gain Policy, that gives its customers the freedom to choose and personalise their health policies as per their requirements.

Note: To make accessible to all, the product is being live on digital distribution channel, Policybazaar. This policy is available in - Plus, Power and Prime. This plan will cater to the needs of a small family of 2 as well as a larger one of 12.

29. **Karnataka Bank** has now become the participant of the Treasury Department's Khajane-II (K2) integrated financial management system (IFMS).

Note: Reason: For implementing the Single Nodal Agency (SNA) account system for Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS). The bank will continue to engage and cooperate with the Government of Karnataka in implementing its numerous efforts to benefit the people through its technology and digital-led solutions.

30. Cloud computing division of Google has been partnered with **HDFC ERGO General Insurance** to build a platform that will help digitize the buying and servicing of insurance in India.

Note: HDFC ERGO will launch innovative insurance products. HDFC ERGO aims to fully migrate to the cloud by 2024. At present, nearly 93% of its retail policies are issued digitally and almost 40% of its customer requests are serviced virtually.

31. **HDFC Bank** has unveiled 'Bank on Wheels' service in Gujarat, as a part of Rural Banking service.

Note: Aim: To increase the accessibility of Bank in rural area. Currently, the van is part of the pilot project and more vans are planned to be rolled out in various states. Bank on Wheels: Bank vans will visit remote villages located 10 - 25 km from the nearest branch.

32. **Lord's Mark** has received direct insurance broking licence from the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI).

Note: The insurance firm has received the license for selling life and general insurance products. Lords Mark will collaborate with other insurance firms for launching life and general insurance products on its platform called Policy King. Policy King: Offer its customers facilities to compare all available insurance offers.

33. **WAAREE** Solar Panel manufacturer has signed an agreement with SBI for providing unsecured financing

for solar projects through Surya Shakti Solar Finance Scheme.

Note: The agreement also provide working capital for Channel Partners under EDFs (Electronic dealer finance scheme). WAAREE intended to leverage over Rs 500 Cr of a credit line through Surya Shakti Solar Finance Scheme. WAAREE is the only manufacturer in India to get a 650Wp Solar panel listed in ALMM.

- 34. PayNearby** has partnered with the Axis Bank to aid the private lender in achieving the targets of priority sector lending.

Note: This partnership will be used to set up current and savings accounts for both retail and individual customers in remote areas. As per the Reserve Bank of India guidelines, 40% of net bank credit is to be extended to the priority sector (includes agriculture and micro, small and medium enterprises).

- 35. \$832 billion (Rs 66.36 trillion)** to the Fortune report, what is the collectively worth of the wealth of 142 billionaires based in India.

Note: The maiden list was made in collaboration with wealth management firm, Waterfield Advisors. Fortune and Waterfield collected details of listed and unlisted wealth, additional information regarding investments outside of the listed business: such as stakes in other public companies.

- 36. RBI** has imposed monetary penalty of **Rs 36 lakh** on Industrial Bank of Korea for non-compliance with regulatory norms.

Note: Reason: For non-compliance with certain Know Your Customer (KYC) norms. RBI has also imposed a penalty of Rs 59.10 lakh on Woori Bank for non-compliance on Creation of a Central Repository of Large Common Exposures - Across Banks'. A fine of Rs 12.35 lakh has been imposed on Indiabulls Commercial Credit Limited for contravention of KYC Directions.

- 37. Max Life Insurance Company Ltd** has launched the 'Smart Flexi Protect Solution', that offers health and enhanced life cover, along with market-linked investment returns.

Note: This is a combination of Max Life Flexi Wealth Plus, and Max Life Critical Illness and Disability Secure Rider. This policy is a unique proposition of wealth creation along with comprehensive protection against death, disability and critical illness.

- 38. HSBC** has committed to invest Rs 125 crore over the next five years to support green causes like wetland conservation and energy transition projects in India.

Note: Under the commitment, the HSBC has divided the works into energy transition and nature-based solutions. Nature-based solutions: Projects to protect and revitalise wetlands, mangroves and forests, landscape restoration. Energy transition: Renewables and energy efficiency programmes

- 39. HDFC Bank** has become the first bank in India to issue an Electronic Bank Guarantee (e-BG) in

partnership with National E-Governance Services Limited (NeSL).

Note: The new e-BG will eliminate the paper based and time-consuming process. It can be processed, stamped, verified and delivered instantly with enhanced security. HDFC Bank will migrate to eBG platform completely in order to expedite the issuance of BGs for customers. MD & CEO of NeSL: Debajyoti Ray Chaudhuri

- 40. Axis Bank** has partnered with the Square Yards to launch a joint branded home buyer ecosystem named "Open Door".

Note: Aim: The entire process of finding and purchasing a dream house is hassle-free, effective, and enjoyable for clients. This partnership also ensure that all customers get easy access to home loans. Open Doors is an integrated platform that is created to handle all consumer inquiries around residential real estate.

- 41. HDFC Life** has launched a term insurance plan named Click2Protect Super.

Note: Offers: It enables customisation as per protection needs and only pay for the benefits/plan options that you have chosen. It is a non-linked, non-participating, individual, pure risk premium/ savings life insurance plan. It provides with multiple flexibilities such as changing life cover, extending the policy term, getting coverage for accidental death and terminal illness, etc.

- 42. Canara HSBC Life Insurance** has launched a new life insurance policy named iSelect Guaranteed Future, an individual, non-linked, non-participating, savings and protection plan.

Note: The policy comes in multiple options: iAchieve and Flexi iAchieve option: Pay for a limited period and get a guaranteed sum assured at maturity. iAssure and Flexi iAssure plan: Pay for a limited period, and get the guaranteed lump sum on maturity. Easy iAchieve: Single premium payment term

- 43. DWS Group and Nippon Life India Asset Management** have collaborated to provide portfolio management and investment advisory services to the European-listed Indian Government Bond ETF.

Note: DWS is continuously developing its range of ETFs in order to meet the ever-evolving needs of investors. Through this collaboration, clients can access to the attractive Indian bond market. Nippon Life India brings in its deep knowledge of the Indian Fixed-Income market.

- 44. SBI** has hit the mark of Rs 5-trillion in market capitalization (market cap) for the first time after its shares touched a record high of Rs 564.45, up 1% on the BSE in intra-day trade in an otherwise weak market.

Note: With a market cap of Rs 5.03 trillion, SBI stood at the seventh position in the overall market cap ranking. After, HDFC Bank (market cap of Rs 8.38

- trillion) and ICICI Bank (market cap of Rs 6.33 trillion), SBI has become the third lender in the country.
- 45. ICICI Lombard** has launched an AI-powered digital voice agent in collaboration with an AI-based SaaS voice automation platform named Skit.ai.
Note: Feature: It will assist customers with the status of their insurance claims for health and motor insurance policies. The Digital Voice Agent has already started helping customers to complete the process of receiving updates on the status of their claims in under a minute.
- 46.** RRBs are planning to make an initial public offering to raise capital must have at least **Rs 300 crore** of net worth for the previous three years.
Note: The government has issued a detailed draft of the guidelines for Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) to raise capital and putting the onus for identifying eligible RRBs on their sponsor banks. They should also have their capital adequacy above the regulatory minimum level of 9%.
- 47.** As per the Commerce and Industry Ministry data, what is the wholesale price-based inflation in August 2022 is **12.4%**.
Note: Reason: The WPI inflation fell on easing prices of Manufactured products. The Wholesale inflation was at a record high of 15.88% in May 2022 and stood at 11.64% in August 2022. August is the 17th consecutive month of double-digit wholesale price inflation (WPI).
- 48.** As per the Fitch ratings, **7%** would be the India's gross domestic product (GDP) growth forecast for 2022-23.
Note: Reason: Due to the impact of the global economic slowdown, elevated inflation and tighter monetary policy. The European gas crisis, high inflation and a sharp acceleration in the pace of global monetary policy tightening are taking a heavy toll on economic prospects. The Fitch has predicted the growth to be slowed down to 6.7% in 2023-24 from 7.4%.
- 49. Ministry of Corporate Affairs** has revised the threshold for paid up capital of "small companies" to facilitate the Ease of Doing Business and reduce the compliance burden on small companies.
Note: Thresholds for paid up capital: Increased from Rs 2 crore to 4 crore. Turnover: Increased from Rs 20 crore to Rs 40 Crore. Benefits: No need to prepare cash flow statement; Advantage of preparing and filing an Abridged Annual Return, etc.
- 50. Federal Bank** has become the only Indian bank to be listed by Great Place to Work®, the global authority on workplace culture.
Note: The bank has ranked 63 on the Best Workplaces™ in Asia 2022. This recognition is based on confidential survey data assessing employee experiences of trust, innovation, company values and leadership. Companies are also evaluated on how well they are creating For All™ workplace experience, inclusive of all employees irrespective of position
- 51. Edelweiss General Insurance (EGI)** has tied up with Chennai-based Repco Home Finance Ltd (RHFL) to offer insurance solutions to the home loan customers of the latter.
Note: EGI will offer property insurance cover and loan protection cover to RHFL's customers through their branches spread across India. EGI will offer customized, affordable, and convenient insurance solutions to financially protect loan borrowers.
- 52. Monetary Authority of Singapore's** central bank has signed a FinTech Co-operation Agreement with IFSCA to provide regulatory collaboration and partnership in FinTech technology.
Note: MAS is Singapore's central bank and integrated financial regulator. IFSCA is a unified authority for the development and regulation of financial products in the International Financial Services Centres in India.
- 53. SBI** has collaborated with Remitly to provide safe and simple remittances to India.
Note: The collaboration will enables NRIs to send money through SBI via Remitly to their family members by using mobile and web applications. Depending on the form and amount of transfers, Remitly provides superior exchange rates, immediate credits, and no remittance charge. The US Department of Treasury has certified Remitly as a money services firm.
- 54. SBI** has extended the deadline to invest in its senior citizen FD scheme, SBI WeCare FD, till **March 31, 2023**.
Note: Aim: To secure senior citizens' income by paying additional interest on term deposits. Period of Deposit: 5 to 10 years. Interest Rate: Additional premium of 30 bps (over and above existing premium of 50 bps) over card rate for Public. Interest rate applicable to the FD will be 6.45%. It also provides availability of Loan Facility.
- 55. RBI** has decided to remove **Central Bank of India** from its Prompt Corrective Action Framework (PCAF).
Note: Reason: Improvement in various financial ratios, including minimum regulatory capital. PCA norms: It is a supervisory tool and is imposed on banks, when they breach certain regulatory thresholds on capital to risk weighted assets ratio, net NPAs, and return on assets. The RBI imposed PCA norms on the bank in June 2017 due to its high net NPA and negative RoA.
- 56. Punjab** state government has received a loan of \$150 million (approx Rs 1,200 crore) from the World Bank to help the state better manage its financial resources and improve access to public services.
Note: Punjab at present has a debt of Rs 2.63 lakh crore. The \$150 million loan has a maturity of 15

years including a grace period of 6 months. Punjab government will launch new projects with World Bank's assistance to attain its development goals.

57. CCI has approved the proposed merger of **Jio Cinema OTT** platform with Viacom18 Media to make one of the largest OTT platform.

Note: Under this, Jio Cinema OTT app of Reliance will be transferred to Viacom18. In April 2022, RIL and Viacom18 have announced a strategic partnership with Bodhi Tree Systems (BTS). BTS will invest Rs 13,500 crore in Viacom18 while Reliance Projects & Property Management Services will invest Rs 1,645 crore in the broadcaster. BTS is an investment firm of Uday Shankar (ex-chairman of Star).

58. As per the Asian Development Bank (ADB), **7%** would be the India's economic growth rate for 2022-23.

Note: Reason: Higher inflation and monetary tightening. The economy of India has been grew 13.5% year-on-year (Y-o-Y) in the first quarter of 2022-23, that shows strong growth in services. Report: Second supplement to Asian Development Outlook Report 2022.

59. Kotak Mahindra Bank and **the Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IITM)** have jointly launched the 'Save Energy Mission' to encourage adoption of various energy conservation measures in the micro, small and medium enterprises sector.

Note: Under the CSR initiative of Kotak Mahindra Bank, satellite centres would be set up at IIT-Bombay, IIT-Gandhinagar, IIT-Indore, IIT-Ropar. While the hub of Save Energy Mission would be at the IIT-Madras campus in Chennai.

60. Maharashtra -based **Laxmi Co-operative Bank** license has been canceled by the RB due to lack of adequate capital.

Note: Claim: Every depositor would be entitled to receive a deposit insurance claim amount up to 5 lakh rupees. The Commissioner for Cooperation and Registrar of Cooperative Societies (Maharashtra) has also been asked to wind up the business and appoint a liquidator for the bank. As per the data, 99% of the depositors are entitled to receive the full amount of DICGC.

61. **₹3,000 crore (\$380m)** amount has been invested by the Japanese MUFG Bank to boost the capital of its branches within India.

Note: Reason: As the bank looks to expand its India business. Impact: It will strengthen its financial base in India and better respond to the diverse financing needs of its clients. With this capital injection, the total capital of MUFG Bank in India will rise to ₹5,207 crore. The bank has already expanded its presence by opening a branch at Gujarat International Finance TecCity.

62. **TerraPay** dutch based paymet platform has partnered with NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL), the international arm of National Payments

Corporation of India (NPCI) to allow Indian customers and merchants with an active UPI ID to make and accept cross-border payments.

Note: Both organisations are intend to fortify UPI payments & QR solutions to extract their maximum potential. The partnership will further increase the use of UPI and QR for cross-border merchant payments.

63. **Bharat Vidya** is the name of an online platform for Oriental and South Asian Studies that has been launched by Nirmala Sitaraman.

Note: This platform is designed and developed by the Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute (BORI). This is a first-of-its-kind online platform that offer both free and paid courses covering various aspects of Indology about art, architecture, philosophy, language, and science. BORI will collaborate with Indian and Foreign universities for awarding credits for its courses.

64. **UCO Bank** has received the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI's) approval to open a special vostro account with Gazprombank of Russia for trade settlement in Indian rupees.

Note: This is the first bank to receive RBI's approval after the RBI's decision to allow Indian banks to settle trade in Indian currency in July. Gazprombank of Russia was set up by world's largest gas producer and exporter Gazprom. Aim: To provide banking services for gas industry enterprises

65. SEBI has allowed emerging investment vehicles, Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT) and Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT), to issue **commercial papers**.

Note: Reason: In August 2022, RBI has indicated that InvIT and REIT having net worth of at least Rs 100 crore are eligible to issue commercial paper. Condition: They need to abide by the guidelines prescribed by RBI for issuances of commercial papers and follow the conditions of listing norms prescribed by Sebi.

66. The World Bank has approved **USD 350 million** loan to Gujarat for Systems Reform Endeavors for Transformed Health Achievement in Gujarat (SRESTHA-G).

Note: Reason: For augmenting health services with primary focus on adolescent girls and disease surveillance in the state. Funded by: International Bank of Reconstruction and Development (IBRD). Maturity: 18 years (including a grace period of 5.5 years)

67. In September 2022, RBI has felicitated the bankers of the district to **Leh district** for achieving 100% digitization of banking operations.

Note: Digital Banking: It refers to the electronic banking service provided by a bank for its financial and other transactions through electronic devices online. In 2019, RBI has proposed to make at least one

district of every state in the country have 100% digitization of banking operations. First fully digital banking district of India: Thrissur, Kerala

68. As per the S&P Global Ratings, **7.3%** would be the economic growth projection of India for 2022-23.

Note: S&P has also predicted that inflation is likely to remain above the Reserve Bank of India's upper tolerance threshold of 6% till the end of 2022. Reason: The external environment has soured for economies in the region and higher global interest rates will exert pressure on central banks. While, OECD has projected India's GDP growth rate 6.9% for FY23.

69. **Union Bank of India** has inaugurated 'Ethical Hacking Lab' at the Cyber security Centre of Excellence (CCoE) in Hyderabad.

Note: Aim: To build cyber defence mechanism to safeguard the Bank's Information Systems, Digital Assets, Channels etc against potential cyber threats. The Ethical Hacking Lab was inaugurated by Ms. A. Manimekhalai (MD & CEO, Union Bank of India). Union Bank is adopting various new initiatives to increase Digital Footprints.

70. **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** has announced plans to provide at least \$14 billion to Asia-Pacific for 2022-2025.

Note: Reason: To ease a worsening food crisis and improve long-term food security by strengthening food systems due to climate change. Use of fund: The funding will be channeled through existing and new projects in sectors including farm inputs, food production and distribution, social protection, irrigation, and water resources management.

71. **BSE** has received the final approval from SEBI for introducing the Electronic Gold Receipts (EGRs) on its platform.

Note: Earlier, SEBI has proposed a regulatory framework for setting up a gold exchange. Aim: To help in having a transparent domestic spot price discovery mechanism. EGRs: The instruments representing gold is known as EGRs It will be notified as securities, with trading, clearing and settlement features similar to other securities that are available in India

72. The govt will launch a fund of **\$1 billion** in collaboration with World Bank and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI).

Note: Aim: To provide guarantees against loan default to lenders financing purchase of 2/3 wheelers EV and facilitate faster and easier financing of EVs. The NITI Aayog will be the facilitating agency of the project. Initially a \$300 million fund will be used as a "first loss risk sharing instrument." Implementing institution: SIDBI

73. In September 2022, Yubi (earlier, CredAvenue) has joined hands with **State Bank of India (SBI)** to provide growth in co-lending portfolio of bank.

Note: Yubi Co.Lend is a co-lending marketplace, that facilitate lenders to collaborate with multiple partners and disburse joint loans to the priority sector. Yubi is a unified credit platform with a comprehensive product suite catering to all stages of the debt lifecycle. Founder and CEO, Yubi: Gaurav Kumar

74. In September 2022, **Samsung** has partnered with the Axis Bank to launch a co-branded credit card, that is powered by Visa.

Note: Benefits: Consumers will get 10% cashback across all Samsung products and services round the year. Variants: Visa Signature and Visa Infinite. Signature variant: Cardholders can avail up to ₹10,000 cashback annually, with a monthly cashback limit of ₹2,500. Infinite variant: Cardholders can avail up to ₹20,000 cashback annually, with a monthly cashback limit of ₹5,000

75. As per the World Bank, **3.2%** would be the expected growth in the East Asia and Pacific region for 2022.

Note: The previous year growth of East Asia and Pacific region was 7.2%. Due to sharp slowdown in China that caused by its strict zero-COVID rules. China strict rules have disrupted industrial production, domestic sales and exports. Interest rate hikes that central banks across the world are undertaking to combat soaring inflation.

76. **Bank of Baroda** has launched a festive campaign named "Khushiyon ka Tyohaar" with a range of offers for customers.

Note: BoB Home Loans are available at a competitive interest rate beginning at 7.95% p.a. with no processing charges. BoB Car Loans are being offered at a special rate starting from 7.95% p.a. – a 25 basis points concession. Other benefits: No pre-payment/part payment charges, concessional processing charges, and longer repayment tenure of seven years.

77. **5.9%** is the revised repo rate after the hike of repo rate by a half percent by Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

Note: Accordingly, Standing Deposit Facility stands adjusted to 5.65%, and Marginal Standing Facility and Bank rate stand adjusted to 6.15%. Since May 2022, he RBI has raised the repo rate by 190 basis points The Real GDP for 2022-23 is projected to grow at 7.0%. The RBI has retained its inflation projection at 6.7 per cent for this fiscal year. India's foreign exchange reserves: \$537.5 billion

78. **DBS Bank (India)** has collaboration with HDFC ERGO General Insurance Co Ltd and reinsured by Atradius (trade credit insurance provider) to provide Credit Insurance - Accounts Receivable solution to Tata Metaliks.

Note: This credit insurance deal is amongst the first to leverage Trade Credit Insurance. The revised framework was rolled out by IRDAI in November 2021, that allow banks to participate in this proposition.

79. The Cabinet has increased the dearness allowance (DA) and dearness relief by 4%, effective from **July 1, 2022**.

Note: The additional instalment of DA and dearness relief (DR) is an increase of 4% over the existing rate of 34% of basic pay/pension. The combined impact on

the exchequer on account of both DA and DR would be Rs 12,852.5 crore p.a. The increase in the DA and DR is based on the percentage increase in 12 monthly average of All India CPI for the period ending June, 2022.

Obituaries

- The former Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, who has passed away, had been honoured with the nobel prize in the year **1990**.
Note: He had served as the general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party and de facto leader of the country in 1985. He was the youngest member of the ruling council known as the Politburo.
- Cyrus Mistry, who has passed away, was a former chairman of **Tata Sons**.
Note: He had served as the chairman of the Tata group in 2012, he succeeded Ratan Tata. He was the sixth chairman of the Tata group and second chairman who did not have the Tata surname. He joined the Tata Sons board as a director in 2006.
- TV Sankaranarayan, who has passed away, was a renowned **Carnatic musician**.
Note: He was the touchbearer for Madurai Mani Iyer style of Carnatic music. He had shared several stages with Madurai Mani Iyer. He won the Madras Music Academy's SangeetaKalanidhi Award in 2003 and was honored with the Padma Bhushan in 2003.
- Legendary artist, Ram Chandra Manjhi, has passed away, was known for folk dance **Launda Naach**.
Note: He was an Indian Bhojpuri folk dancer and theatre artist who is known as a Launda Naach performer. He has been felicitated with Sangeet Natak Academy Award (2017), Padma Shri (2021) awardee in the field of Arts.
- The world's longest-ruling monarchs in history, Queen Elizabeth II has passed away, was a monarch of **United Kingdom**.
Note: She was ascended the throne in 1952. She became the UK's longest-serving monarch in 2015, when she surpassed the record of Queen Victoria (1837 to 1901). Charles III (73) has become king of the UK and the head of state of 14 other realms including Australia, Canada and New Zealand.
- Noted archeologist Braj Basi Lal, who led an excavation at the Ramjanmabhoomi site in the mid-1970s, has passed away, was honoured with Padma Vibhushan in **2021**.
Note: Considered India's senior-most archaeologist, Lal was actively involved in archaeological research and writing till the age of 100. He was trained by Sir Mortimer Wheeler at Taxila in 1944, after which he joined the Archaeological Survey of India and served as its Director-General from 1968 to 1972.
- U. Krishnam Raju, who has passed away was a **Former Central Minister and Film Actor**.
Note: He started his film career in 1966 as an actor with Chiluka Gorinka. He has been honoured with the first Nandi Award founded by the State Government for Best Actor. In 1990, he joined BJP and was elected to the 12th and 13th Lok Sabha from Kakinada and Narsapuram constituencies.
- Shankaracharya Swami Swaroopanand Saraswati, who has passed away at Narsinghpur, Madhya Pradesh, was a peeth of **Dwarka peeth**.
Note: He was born as Pothiram Upadhyay in Dighori village in the Seoni district of Madhya Pradesh in 1924. He had left his home in the pursuit of God at the age of nine. He was incarcerated during the freedom struggle. He was the Shankaracharya of Dwarka Sharada Peetham in Gujarat and the Jyotir Math in Badrinath.
- Kamal Narain Singh has passed away, was a **Former Chief Justice of India**.
Note: He was the 22nd Chief Justice of India, with a term from November 25, 1991 to December 12, 1991. He started his career as an Additional Judge of the Allahabad High Court in 1970. He then became a Permanent Judge in August 1972. He got elevated as a Supreme Court judge in 1986.
- Jean-Luc Godard, who has been passed away, was Iconic filmmaker of **France**.
Note: He was known for his debut feature Breathless. He was considered as the father of the French New Wave and one of the most influential filmmakers of the 20th century. His notable movies: My Life to Live; Contempt; Pierrot le Fou; A Woman Is a Woman; Histoire(s) du cinema. He had been awarded the Golden Lion (1983); Golden Bear (1965) and Honorary Academy Award (2010).
- S. Samy Vellu, who has been passed away, was a cabinet minister of **Malaysia**.
Note: He has served as Minister of Works from June 1983 to June 1989 and again from May 1995 to March 2008. He has also hold the post of Minister of Energy, Telecommunications from June 1989 to May 1995. He was the longest-serving MIC president after holding the position for 31 years from 1979.
- Asad Rauf, has been passed away, was former umpire of **Pakistan**.

- Note:** He had made his first appearance as an umpire in international cricket in 2000. He officiated in 64 Tests, 139 ODIs and 28 T20Is and was one of Pakistan's leading umpires in the mid-2000s. He had played 71 first-class matches for National Bank and Railways before taking up umpiring, was appointed in the ICC elite panel in April 2006.
13. Naresh Kumar, who has been passed away recently, was a former player of **Tennis**.
Note: Naresh Kumar went on to become a big name in Indian tennis after Independence. He made news by reaching the final of the Northern Championships (later known as Manchester Open) in England in 1949.
14. Manikrao Gavitt, who has recently passed away was a related to **politics**.
Note: The Congress leader was the home minister of state in the 2004 Manmohan Singh-led government. A nine-time Lok Sabha MP, Gavitt represented the tribal-dominated Nandurbar constituency from 1980 to 2009 and lost the election in 2014. Gavitt's son Bharat joined the BJP after he was denied a ticket by the Congress in 2019.
15. Raju Srivastava, who has been passed away, was a **Comedian**.
Note: He was the chairman of the Film Development Council Uttar Pradesh. He got fame after participating in the first season of the reality stand-up comedy show "The Great Indian Laughter Challenge" in 2005. He played supporting roles in Hindi films such as Maine Pyar Kiya, Baazigar, the remake of Bombay to Goa and Aamdani Atthani Kharcha Rupaiya.
16. Cosmonaut, Vladimirovich Polyakov, who holds the record for the longest single stay in space, has been passed, was a related to **Russia**.
Note: He flew his first mission into space in 1988 and returning in 1989 after eight months. He had lived and worked in space for a record 437 days in one stint, orbiting Earth aboard the Mir space station more than 7,000 times between January 8, 1994 and March 22, 1995. He undertook two space expeditions during his career (678 days and 16 hours).
17. Louise Fletcher, who has been passed away, was a/an **Actress**.
Note: She was awarded the Oscar in 1976 for her role as Nurse Ratched in One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest (1975). She was also a recipient of BAFTA Award, and a Golden Globe Award. She was nominated for two Emmy Awards for her roles in the television series Picket Fences (1996) and Joan of Arcadia (2004).
18. **Dame Hilary Mantel** is author of the best-selling book titled, Wolf Hall, who passed away recently.
Note: She had been honoured with the Booker Prize for Wolf Hall (2009) and Bring Up the Bodies (2012). Her notable works: Fludd; Beyond Black. Her first novel 'Every Day is Mother's Day', was published in 1985. She was also honoured with the Walter Scott Prize (2010, 2021) and Costa Novel Prize (2012).
19. Aryadan Muhammed, who has passed away, was a member of **Congress** political party.
Note: He has won the Nilambur seat (Malappuram district) of Kerala legislative assembly in 1977. He was also a minister in the EK Nayanar cabinet when he was part of the Left Front Group A in 1980. He also held the ministerial post in the AK Antony cabinet and Oommen Chandy cabinet.
20. US rapper Coolio, who has been passed away. **Artis Leon Ivey Jr** is his real name.
Note: He has won 1996 Grammy Awards for Gangsta's Paradise in Best Rap Solo Performance category. He has also received the American Music Awards in 1996. His other albums: It Takes a Thief (1994), My Soul (1997), Fantastic Voyage (1994), 1, 2, 3, 4 (Sumpin' New) (1996), and C U When U Get There (1997)
21. Jayanti Patnaik, who has been passed away, was a **Politician**.
Note: She was also the first chairperson of NCW (1992 to 1995) and second chairperson of All India Mahila Congress. She was elected from Cuttack and Berhampur Lok Sabha constituencies in 1981, 1984 and 1998. She was nominated to Rajya Sabha in 1996. She was also known for her literary skills, translated KM Munshi's Krishnavatara into Odia.

Important Days

- India has observed National Nutrition week every year on **September 1 to September 7**.
Note: Aim: To make people aware about the adequate nutrition in food while enjoying the different flavours of Indian cuisine. The theme of National Nutrition Week 2022 is to 'Celebrate a World of Flavours.'
- World Coconut Day is observed annually on **September 2** to highlight the significance of coconut in our daily lives and how beneficial are they for health.
Note: Theme 2022: Growing coconut for a better future and life. Top exporters of coconuts: Indonesia, India, Philippines, Brazil and Sri Lanka.

3. The International Day of Charity is observed on **September 5**.
Note: September 5 was chosen to celebrate the day because it is Mother Teresa's death anniversary. Mother Teresa received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979 for "work undertaken in the struggle to overcome poverty and distress, which also constitute a threat to peace."
4. National Teachers' Day observed on **5 September** to mark the birthday of the country's first Vice President and second President of India, Dr Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan.
Note: He was born on September 5 in the year 1888. The first Teachers' Day in India was celebrated in 1962.
5. **Ministry of Women and Child Development** is celebrating the 5th Rashtriya Poshan Maah 2022 across the nation from 1st September till 30th September.
Note: Rashtriya Poshan Maah serves as a platform to bring focus to the discourse of nutrition and good health. The Central Theme of Poshan Maah 2022 is "Mahila aur Swasthya" and "Bachaur Shiksha".
6. **The Air We Share** is the theme of the third International Day of Clean Air For Blue Skies 2022 is observed annually on 7 September to raise awareness about the importance of clean air for health.
Note: On November 26, 2019, the Second Committee of the 74th session of UNGA adopted a resolution to designate the 7 September as the "International Day of Clean Air for blue skies". This day commemorates by the United Nations by hosting summits with member states.
7. International Literacy Day is celebrated annually on **September 8** to create importance about the literacy for individuals and societies.
Note: Theme 2022: Transforming Literacy Learning Spaces. The 14th session, General Conference of UNESCO on October 26, 1966 has declared September 8 as International Literacy Day. Since 1967, this day celebrations have taken place annually around the world.
8. World Suicide Prevention Day (WSPD) is observed annually on **10 September** to raise awareness about suicide prevention worldwide.
Note: The day is organized by the International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP) and endorsed by the World Health Organization (WHO). Theme 2022: Creating hope through action; it is the triennial theme for this day from 2021 to 2023.
9. World First Aid Day is celebrated every year on **Second Saturday** of September.
Note: This year, World First Aid Day falls on September 10. Aim: To raise public awareness of how First Aid can save thousands of lives in everyday crisis. The theme for World First Aid Day 2022 is 'Lifelong First Aid.'
10. The United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation is observed annually on **September 12** to highlight the importance of cooperation among people and countries in the global South.
Note: The day also aims at spreading awareness on the social, economic, and political developments made in the Southern region.
11. National Forest Martyrs Day is observed on **September 11** to pay tribute to those who sacrificed their lives to protect forests and wildlife.
Note: It is marked by several events aimed at creating awareness about protecting forests and the environment at large. The day holds a lot of significance in the present scenario when depleting green cover is among the greatest challenges in front of the world.
12. World EV Day 2022 is observed on **9th of September**.
Note: Aim: To emphasize the importance of e-mobility. World EV day helps to spread awareness about sustainable transport facilities to the people. Air pollution is mainly caused by transportation, and EVs are one of the major alternatives to decrease air pollution.
13. The International Day to Protect Education from Attack is observed on **September 9**.
Note: The purpose of the day is to raise awareness regarding the importance of safeguarding schools as places of protection and safety for students and educators and the need to keep education at the top of the public agenda.
14. To promote the Hindi language and its usage across the nation, India observed Hindi Diwas annually on **September 14**.
Note: The day is also marks the birthday anniversary (September 14, 1916) of Beohar Rajendra Simha who played a crucial role in getting Hindi in Devanagari script. On September 14, 1949, the Constituent Assembly accepted Hindi in the Devanagari script as the official language of India. The first Hindi Day was celebrated on September 14, 1953.
15. India observes National Engineer's Day on **September 15** every year to recognise the contribution of engineers in the development of the nation.
Note: This day commemorates the birth anniversary of Sir Moksha Gundam Visvesvaraya, who is considered one of the greatest engineers of India. MV was the Chief Engineer of Krishna Raja Sagar dam in the north-west suburb of Mysuru city. Along with India, Sri Lanka and Tanzania also celebrate Engineers Day on September 15, 2022.
16. **Indian Swachhata League** has started Swachh Amrit Mahotsav, fortnight of activities to galvanize

action around swachhata from 17th September 2022, Seva Diwas, till 2nd October 2022, Gandhi Jayanti.

Note: It began with whole-hearted participation and the presence of highly motivated youth teams carrying with pride their own team identity. It is an inter-city competition played on the parameters of swachhata powered by the youth of the city.

17. World Patient Safety Day is observed every year on 17th September to create awareness about different safety measures that should be taken to ensure patient safety.

Note: It is one of the WHO's global public health days. It was established in 2019 by the 72nd World Health Assembly through the adoption of resolution WHA72.6 – Global action on patient safety. Theme of Patient Safety Day 2022: Medication without Harm.

18. The International Week of the Deaf (IWD) is observed on the full week ending on **last Sunday** of September.

Note: In 2022, IWD is being observed from September 19 to 25 September 2022. The theme of the 2022: Building Inclusive Communities for All. It is an initiative of the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) and was first launched in 1958 in Rome, Italy to commemorate the month when the first World Congress of the WFD was held.

19. World Bamboo Day 2022 is observed on **September 18** in order to raise awareness about the conservation of this extremely useful plant.

Note: This day has been conceptualised by the World Bamboo Organisation (WBO). This day also promotes the bamboo industry by highlighting its concerns. WBD was officially declared by the World Bamboo Organization on September 18 at the 8th World Bamboo Congress held in Bangkok in 2009.

20. International Equal Pay Day, celebrated on **18 September** to represent the longstanding efforts towards the achievement of equal pay for work of equal value.

Note: International Equal Pay Day was first observed back in 1996 by the National Committee on Pay Equity. The goal was to achieve pay equity. It was not until 2019 that the Equal Pay International Coalition began officially marking it as a day to raise awareness.

21. World Patient Safety Day is observed every year on **17 September** to create awareness about different safety measures that should be taken to ensure patient safety.

Note: Theme: Medication Safety along with the slogan 'Medication Without Harm' with a call to action to 'Know, Check & Ask'.

22. World Ozone Day or the International Day for the preservation of the Ozone Layer is observed on **16th of September**.

Note: The day aims to create awareness about the importance and need of the Ozone layer which is the single protection on Earth against UV rays coming out from the sun. Theme: Global Cooperation Protecting Life on Earth.

23. World Lymphoma Awareness Day (WLAD) is held on **September 15** every year to raise the awareness of lymphoma, an increasingly common form of cancer.

Note: It is a global initiative hosted by the Lymphoma Coalition.

24. International Day of Democracy is observed on **September 15**.

Note: This year, this day marks the 15th anniversary of the International Day of Democracy. This year, the day is focused on the "importance of media freedom to democracy, peace, and delivering on the Sustainable Development Goals". The International Day of Democracy was established after a resolution was passed by the United Nations General Assembly in 2007.

25. World Alzheimer's Day is observed every year on **September 21** to raise awareness about neurological disorders.

Note: The theme 2022: know dementia, know Alzheimer's. Alzheimer's disease: It is the most common form of dementia. It destroys the brain cells which causes memory loss, memory changes, erratic behaviour, and loss of body functions.

26. The International Day of Peace is observed globally on **September 21** to promote ideals of peace among nations and people by observing non-violence and ceasefire for 24 hours.

Note: Theme for the International Day of Peace 2022 is "End racism. Build peace." The day was established in 1981 by the United Nations General Assembly.

27. World Rhino Day is observed every year on **22nd September** to spread awareness about the different Rhinoceros species.

Note: This day also celebrates all five rhino species namely the Sumatran, Black, Greater One-horned, Javan, and White rhino species. The theme 2022: "Five Rhino Species Forever". The announcement of this day was done in 2010 by WWF-South Africa. This day was first observed in 2011 and since then it has been observed worldwide.

28. The United Nations has declared **23rd September** as the International Day of Sign Languages to spread the awareness about the importance of sign language in the realization of the human rights of people who are deaf.

Note: Theme 2022: Sign Languages Unite us. The first International Day of Sign Languages was celebrated in 2018 as part of the International Week of the Deaf. Indian govt conduct Sign

Language Day event, in which Indian Sign Language Dictionary App launched.

29. The World Pharmacists Day is observed every year on **September 25** to highlight the role of pharmacists and pay them a tribute.

Note: This day was introduced in 2009 by the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) council in Istanbul. Theme 2022: Pharmacy united in action for a healthier world. This date was selected to observe World Pharmacists Day as the International Pharmaceutical Federation was established on this day in 1912.

30. World Tourism Day 2022 is observed annually on **27 September** to promote tourism in various parts of the world.

Note: The theme of World Tourism Day 2022 is 'Rethinking Tourism'. This day was initiated by the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) in 1979. This date was selected by UNWTO, because the date marks the anniversary of the adoption of the Statutes of UNWTO. In 1997, UNWTO decided that the day would be celebrated in different host countries each year.

31. World River Day 2022 is observed on **September 25** to raise awareness regarding water bodies and to promote their conservation.

Note: It is observed every year on the fourth Sunday of September. This day highlights the values of rivers and strives to increase public awareness and encourages the improved supervision of rivers around the world. The theme for this year's World Rivers Day is 'The importance of Rivers to Biodiversity'.

32. World Environmental Health Day is observed on **September 26** every year.

Note: Aim: To increase public awareness of the environment's condition and encourage people to take the required steps to stop it from getting worse. The theme for this year's World Environment Health Day is "Strengthening Environmental Health Systems for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals".

33. International Daughter's Day is observed every year on **Fourth Sunday of September**.

Note: This year, the day is being celebrated on September 25. To mark this day, people across the globe celebrate by spending some quality time with their daughters and doing something special for them.

34. World Contraception Day is marked on **September 26** to raise awareness about contraceptive knowledge and family planning.

Note: According to the World Health Organisation, the significance of World Contraception Day is captured in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

35. The United Nations observes on **26 September** every year as the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons.

Note: Aim: To enhance public awareness about the threat posed to humanity by nuclear weapons and the necessity for their total elimination. It provides an opportunity to educate the public and their leaders about the real benefits of eliminating such weapons, and the social and economic costs of perpetuating them.

36. Antyodaya Diwas is celebrated annually on **25th September** in India.

Note: It marks the birth anniversary of Indian leader Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya and is celebrated in his honour to remember his life and legacy. In 2022, the Antyodaya Diwas marks the 105th birth anniversary of Upadhyaya. He was the co-founder of Bharatiya Jana Sangh (BJS) and a Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) thinker.

37. World Rabies Day is celebrated each year on **September 28** to promote the fight against Rabies and raise awareness of its prevention.

Note: As per the World Health Organisation, the theme of World Rabies Day 2022 is 'Rabies: One Health, Zero Deaths.' This day was first observed in 2007 to raise awareness about the world's deadliest infectious disease. The campaign was started as a partnership between many organizations including the Alliance for Rabies Control.

38. The International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI) is observed on **September 28** every year to raise awareness regarding the need to expand laws related to information.

Note: Aim: To support the idea that everyone has the right to seek, receive, and distribute information. The theme of the Global Conference in 2022 is "Artificial Intelligence, e-Governance and Access to Information". On 17 November 2015, UNESCO has declared September 28 is date as IDUAI.

39. World Heart Day is observed every year on **September 29** to raise awareness about the cardiovascular issues and illnesses.

Note: Theme 2022: Use Heart for Every Heart. This day was created in the collaboration of the World Health Organization and the World Heart Federation (WHF). The President of WHF, Antoni Bayes de Luna, who served in the position from 1997 to 1999, had come up with this idea. Earlier, this day was originally celebrated on September 24, 2000.

40. The International Maritime Organization (IMO) observes World Maritime Day on **last Thursday** of September.

Note: This year, it was observed on September 29. Focus: Draw public attention to maritime safety and the marine environment. 2022 Theme: New

technologies for greener shipping. World Maritime Day was celebrated for the first time on March 17,

1978. The IMO was founded in 1948 to oversee the shipping sector.

New Appointments

1. ONGC has appointed **Rajesh Kumar Srivastava** as the interim chairman for a period of 4 months with effect from September 1, 2022, to December 31, 2022.
Note: He is the senior-most director on the ONGC board. He has been given additional charge of chairman and managing director after current acting head Alka Mittal has been superannuated.
2. **Nagesh Singh** has been appointed as next ambassador of India to Thailand.
Note: He is presently Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs. He will replace ambassador, Suchitra Durai and is expected to take up the assignment shortly. Nagesh Singh is a 1995 batch officer of the Indian Foreign Service (IFS) who has served as Consul General of India in Atlanta.
3. Starbucks has appointed **Laxman Narasimhan** as the next chief executive officer and a member of the Starbucks Board of Directors.
Note: He will work closely with the interim CEO, Howard Schultz, before taking charge as CEO role. Howard Schultz will continue as interim CEO until April 1, 2023.
4. The President of India, Draupadi Murmu has nominated **Justice DY Chandrachud** as new executive chairperson of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA).
Note: He has replaced Justice U.U. Lalit, who was elevated as the 49th Chief Justice of India. He was the former Chief Justice of the Allahabad HC and a former judge of Bombay HC. NALSA has been constituted under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 to provide free Legal Services to the weaker sections.
5. **Kalyan Chaubey** has been elected as the president of All India Football Federation (AIFF).
Note: He has defeated India's football team captain, Bhaichung Bhutia by 33-1. In the 85-year history of federation, this was the first time a former player was elected president.
6. **MV Iyer** has been given an additional charge of additional charge as the Chairman and Managing Director of the GAIL.
Note: He has succeeded the current CMD, Manoj Jain, who superannuated on August 31. He has been appointed to the post for a period of three months with effect from September 1, 2022, or until further orders, whichever is the earlier.
7. **Yamuna Kumar Chaubey** has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director of NHPC for three months, with effect from September 1st 2022.
Note: He has replaced Abhay Kumar Singh, who retired on August 31, 2022. He is a graduate in Civil Engineering from IIT, Kharagpur. He joined NHPC Limited in 1985 as a Probationary Executive (Civil) at 540 MW Chamera Hydro-Electric Project, now Chamera-I Power Station, Himachal Pradesh.
8. Leader of the Conservative Party, Liz Truss has been elected as the 56th prime minister of **United Kingdom**.
Note: She has succeeded present PM Boris Johnson, who will tender his resignation to Queen Elizabeth II. She has been served as the foreign secretary since 2021. She has defeated rival Rishi Sunak with 57 per cent of the vote. She will be third female prime minister to lead the country.
9. The Board of Directors of Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Ltd has approved the appointment of **Krishnan Sankarasubramaniam** as the Managing Director & CEO with effect from 4th September 2022 for a term of 3 years.
Note: He has replaced present MD & CEO, K V Rama Moorthy, whose tenure ended on 3rd September 2022. Earlier, he was the MD & CEO of Punjab and Sind Bank from 4th September 2020 to 31st May 2022.
10. **Capt. B. K. Tyagi** has assumed charge as chairman & MD of the Shipping Corporation of India Ltd (SCI) on 3rd September, 2022.
Note: Prior to this, he was the director, who was looking after the liner and passenger services division at SCI. He started his career as a trainee nautical officer and sailed on board various ships in different ranks including as master in SCI in 1990. SCI is a Navratna CPSE under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways (MoPSW).
11. **Sanjay Kumar Verma** has been appointed as India's next high commissioner to Canada.
Note: He is a 1988 batch officer of the Indian Foreign Service and is currently the ambassador of India to Japan. He has been served in Indian missions in Hong Kong, China, Vietnam and Turkey. He has also served as Consul General of India in Milan, Italy. While Amit Kumar, who is currently Consul General of India in Chicago, has been named as the next ambassador to the Republic of Korea.
12. President Draupadi Murmu has appointed **Justice M Duraiswamy** as the Chief Justice of the Madras High Court with effect from September 13, 2022.
Note: Prior to this, he was the senior judge of the Madras High Court. He has replaced Chief Justice of the Madras High Court Justice Munishwar Nath Bhandari.

He got enrolled as an Advocate in the Bar Council of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry in 1987.

13. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres appointed **Volker Turk** of Austria as the next UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Note: The new High Commissioner is currently coordinating global policy work as an Under-Secretary-General in the UN's Executive Office. From 2019 to 2021, Turk served as Assistant Secretary-General for Strategic Coordination in the UN chief's Executive Office.

14. **King Charles** will officially be proclaimed as Britain's new monarch in a ceremony followed by gun salutes and the reading of proclamations.

Note: Charles, 73, succeeded his mother immediately, but an Accession Council made up of hundreds of politicians, bishops and senior civil servants will proclaim his succession at a ceremony. Charles is king and head of state of the United Kingdom and 14 other realms including Australia, Canada, Jamaica, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea.

15. American Express Banking Corp has appointed **Sanjay Khanna** as the chief executive officer and country manager for India.

Note: Responsibilities: For increasing growth across the organization's consumer and commercial businesses. Prior to this role, Khanna has held many leadership positions in the company including head of global financial operations, India centre lead for finance and chairman of the American Express India Pvt Ltd (AEIPL) legal entity board.

16. The Kerala Assembly has elected **AN Shamseer** as the 24th Speaker of the Kerala Legislature.

Note: He defeated UDF MLA Anwar Sadath by 56 votes in the election. UDF candidate and Aluva MLA Anwar Sadath secured 40 votes against the LDF nominee who received 96 votes. Deputy Speaker Chittayam Gopakumar headed the election procedures.

17. Nayara Energy has appointed **Prasad K Panicker** as the Chairman of the company with effect from October 3, 2022.

Note: He will take on this role from Charles Anthony (Tony) Fountain who has served the company for five years. In his new role, he will deploy his technological experience and knowledge of the local Indian market to lead Nayara Energy.

18. The Centre appoints **Chief Justice of Madras High Court, Justice Munishwar Nath Bhandari** the Chairman of the Appellate Tribunal under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act.

Note: The post of the Chairperson of the Tribunal was vacant since September 2019. The order was issued by the Department of Revenue under the Ministry of Finance. The Tribunal for Forfeiture of Property under the SAFEMA and the PMLA Appellate

Tribunal were merged in 2016 through the Finance Act, 2016.

19. The Ministry of External Affairs has appointed Senior diplomat, **Sibi George** as the next Indian ambassador to Japan.

Note: He will replace Sanjay Kumar Verma as India's envoy to Japan, has recently appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to Canada. He is a 1993-batch Indian Foreign Service officer and is currently serving as the Ambassador of India to Kuwait. India and Japan share very strong Strategic and Global Partnership.

20. The US President Joe Biden has appointed **Dr Renee Wegrzyn** as the inaugural director of the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H) for five years.

Note: Purpose of the ARPA-H: To seek innovative solutions to biomedical problems. She is a biologist and former government scientist. Dr. Renee Wegrzyn is currently serving as the vice president of business development at Ginkgo Bioworks and Head of Innovation at Concentric by Ginkgo.

21. **BharatPe** has appointed the two independent directors are BP Kanungo (former Deputy Governor of RBI) and Kaushik Dutta (Chairman and Independent Director at Zomato).

Note: B P Kanungo: He served as the Deputy Governor of the RBI from 2017 to 2021 and here, he will be responsible to build a profitable business. Kaushik Dutta: He previously held leadership positions at PwC.

22. **Mukul Rohatgi** will be the 14th Attorney General for India again after KK Venugopal vacates the post.

Note: Mukul Rohatgi has served as AG between June 2014 and June 2017. At the end of June this year, AG Venugopal's tenure was extended for a period of three months or "until further orders". This extension is set to expire on September 30.

23. The Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) has elected **Vinod Aggarwal (MD & CEO of Volvo Eicher Commercial Vehicles)** as its president for 2022-23.

Note: He succeeded Kenichi Ayukawa, Executive Vice Chairman & Whole Time Director, Maruti Suzuki India. Earlier, he was served as the vice president of SIAM. The SIAM has also elected MD of Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles and Tata Passenger Electric Mobility, Shailesh Chandra as the vice president for 2022-23.

24. IndusInd Bank has approved the re-appointment of **Sumant Kathpalia** as managing director and chief executive officer (MD & CEO) for three years with effect from March 24, 2023.

Note: He was appointed as MD & CEO of IndusInd Bank in March 2020. Prior to joining IndusInd Bank, he had stints with Citibank, Bank of America and ABN Amro.

- 25. Ugandan climate activist, Vanessa Nakate** has been appointed as the newest UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador.
Note: Her collaboration with the organisation and recognising her outstanding global advocacy for climate justice for current and future generations. She started her activism in January 2019 with a protest with her siblings and cousins on the streets of Kampala, inspired by Greta Thunberg.
- 26. The Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB)** has selected **Prasanna Kumar Motupalli** as the Chairman and Managing Director of NLC India Limited.
Note: He is currently serving as the Executive Director of NTPC limited. He is a gold medalist in Mechanical Engineering and Master of Business Management in Operation Management, HR Management, Marketing, and Financial Management.
- 27. Senior bureaucrat, Vijoy Kumar Singh** has been assumed charge as Ex-Servicemen Welfare Secretary.
Note: He is a 1990-batch IAS officer of Punjab cadre and has an experience of more than 32 years in administration. He recently served as special secretary in Ministry of Textiles.
- 28. Arun Kumar Mishra** has been elected as a member of the Governance Committee of the Asia Pacific Forum (APF).
Note: He has also been elected as a member of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) Bureau at the 27th Annual General Meeting of the APF. The GANHRI is one of the largest human rights networks worldwide.
- 29. The Reserve Bank of India** has approved the appointment of whom as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of CSB Bank for three years.
Note: He was the Deputy Managing Director of the bank since February 17, 2022. He was subsequently appointed as interim MD & CEO with effect from April 1, 2022. Prior to joining CSB Bank, Mondal was Executive Director and Head, of Retail Banking at Axis Bank.
- 30. BVR Subrahmanyam (IAS)** has been appointed as the new Chairman & Managing Director of the India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO).
Note: He will be replacing LC Goyal. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approved the appointment of Subrahmanyam on September 15. A 1987 batch Indian Administrative Services officer of Chhattisgarh cadre, he is currently working as the Secretary, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- 31. Sanjay Kumar Rakesh** has been named managing director of the CSC e-Governance India SPV, which is run by the central government.
Note: The appointment follows Dinesh Tyagi's resignation from the position, who was instrumental in increasing the number of CSCs from 60,000 in 2014 to over 5 lakh at the moment.
- 32. Burjeel Holdings**, a private healthcare services provider in the MENA region has signed Bollywood actor **Shah Rukh Khan** as its new brand ambassador.
Note: The company is owned by UAE-based Indian entrepreneur Shamsheer Vayalil. The actor will appear in a multi-platform advertising campaign in the region for the group that will be unveiled in the coming weeks.
- 33. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has given its approval to the appointment of **Rama Subramaniam Gandhi** as the Non-Executive (Part-time) Chairman of Yes Bank with effect from September 20, for a tenure of 3 years.
Note: He is currently serving as a financial sector policy expert and adviser. He served as an RBI deputy governor for three years from 2014 to 2017. He also served as a director of Institute for Development and Research in Banking Technology (IDRBT), Hyderabad.
- 34. Along with KT Thomas** (former SC judge) and Kariya Munda (former Deputy Speaker), **Ratan Tata (Tata Sons chairman)** has been appointed as the trustees of the PM CARES Fund.
Note: The Trust further decided to nominate other eminent persons for the constitution of Advisory Board to the PM CARES Fund. Advisory Board: Rajiv Mehrishi, Sudha Murthy, and Anand Shah (Former CEO of Piramal Foundation).
- 35. Reserve Bank of India** has approved the reappointment of **PR Ravi Mohan** as the Chairman of ESAF Small Finance Bank for a further period of three years from December 21, 2022.
Note: He is a certified associate of the Indian Institute of Bankers. Previously, He was employed as a chief general manager in the department of banking supervision of the Reserve Bank of India. He was a resident advisor in financial sector supervision with IMF, AFRITAC South, Mauritius.
- 36. Justice L Nageswara Rao** has been appointed the head of committee for amending constitution of Indian Olympic Association.
Note: Responsibility: To prepare a road map for amending the constitution and holding elections by December 15, 2022. Background: IOC had issued a final warning to IOA to resolve its governance issues and hold elections by December. Impact: If failed to do so, then the world sports body will ban India.
- 37. Max Life Insurance** company has appointed Indian men's cricket team captain, Rohit Sharma and his wife, Ritika Sajdeh as their new brand ambassadors for two years.
Note: The core message of Max Life Insurance is to be prepared mentally, physically, and financially for emerging challenges. Aim: To promote the Max Life

brand ethos of valuing the 'self' to determine the right financial value to protect themselves and their family.

- 38.** The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has approved the re-appointment of **Dilip Asbe** as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer for a period of five years with effect from January 8, 2023.

Note: He took charge as MD & CEO of NPCI in January 2018. Prior to this, he was the chief operating officer of NPCI for 5 years. NPCI was founded in 2008. It is an umbrella organisation which operates the country's retail payment and settlement systems.

- 39.** **Dilip Tirkey** was unanimously elected as president of Hockey India (HI).

Note: He was member of the gold medal-winning team at the 1998 Asian Games. He has a record 412 international matches as a defender in his career spanning more than 15 years. He represented India at the Olympic Games in Atlanta in 1996, Sydney in 2000, and Athens in 2004. Bhola Nath Singh was elected the secretary general.

- 40.** **Sanjai Kumar** has been appointed as the Chairman & Managing Director of RailTel.

Note: He was currently working as director of networking, planning & marketing at the company. He is an officer of the Indian Railway Service of Signal Engineers (IRSSE1). RailTel is a "Mini Ratna (Category-I)" Central Public Sector Enterprise is an information and communications technology (ICT) provider. As on 30 June 2022, the Government of India holds 72.84% stake in the company.

- 41.** The Central government has appointed **Dr Rajiv Bahl** as a Director General of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) cum- Secretary Department of Health Research (DHR) for three years.

Note: Presently, He is serving as a head of the research on maternal, newborn child and adolescent health cum-newborn unit at WHO, Geneva. He has replaced Dr Balram Bhargav, whose tenure has been ended in July 2022.

- 42.** **Giorgia Meloni** has become the first woman prime minister of Italy, after defeating, Mario Draghi by a huge margin.

Note: She has joined politics at age 15 in 1992, joining the neo-fascist Social Movement. She has also served as a youth minister in Berlusconi's 2008-2011 government before founding the Brothers of Italy in 2012. Three prominent political leaders Meloni, La Russa, and Crosetto founded a new political movement Brothers of Italy in 2012.

- 43.** **Bandaru Wilsonbabu** has been appointed as the next ambassador of India to the Republic of Madagascar.

Note: He is presently serving as the joint secretary in the ministry of external affairs. He will be replacing ambassador Abhay Kumar. He has also served as the joint Secretary in the Eurasia division.

- 44.** **Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman** has been appointed the prime minister of Saudi Arabia by the King Salman bin Abdulaziz.

Note: He is already de facto ruler of the Saudi Arabia. Previously, he has served as the deputy prime minister as well as defence minister. He is being replaced as defence minister by his younger brother, Khalid bin Salman, who was deputy defence minister.

- 45.** IAS officer of TN cadre, 1992-batch, Rajendra Kumar has been appointed the director general of **ESIC**.

Note: He is currently an additional secretary in the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology. T Natarajan has been appointed as an additional secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs. V Hekali Zhimomi has been appointed as additional secretary in the Department of Health and Family Welfare.

- 46.** Government has appointed **Lt General Anil Chauhan (retired)** as the second Chief of Defense Staff (CDS) of India.

Note: He had retired as the Eastern Army Commander in May 2021 and was serving as the Military Advisor to the National Security Council. He was commissioned into the 11 Gorkha Rifles of the Indian Army in 1981. He is an alumnus of the NDA (Khadakwasla) and Indian Military Academy, Dehradun. He has also served as a United Nations mission to Angola.

- 47.** **R Venkataramani** has been named as the 14th Attorney General of India for a period of three years w.e.f. 1st October 2022.

Note: He will replace current Attorney General, KK Venugopal whose term ends on September 30, 2022. He was registered as a lawyer with the Bar Council of TN in 1977. In 1997, SC has designated him as Senior Advocate.

- 48.** Data Security Council of India (DSCI) has appointed **Vinayak Godse** as the new CEO of the organization.

Note: Prior to this, he was serving as the senior vice president of organisation. He will succeed Rama Vedashree, who served DSCI for nearly six years. Vedashree has also served on the Justice BN Srikrishna committee, which was charged with developing a model for the nation's Personal Data Protection Bill.

- 49.** Britannia Industries has appointed **Rajneet Kohli** as executive director and chief executive officer effective September 26, 2022.

Note: He has a 25-years long experience in Asian Paints and Coca-Cola and Britannia. He joined Britannia from food services company Jubilant FoodWorks. Under his leadership, Jubilant

FoodWorks has delivered sustained profitable

growth and emerged as the largest QSR chain.

Important News – India

1. The Central Railways has set up atmospheric water generators (AWG), Meghdoot in six railway stations in **Mumbai, Maharashtra**.
Note: With the help this, machine can directly harvest water from the air and the commuters can refill their bottles for Rs 12 per litre and Rs 8 for 500 ml. The Railways has already installed 17 kiosks across six major stations, including five each at CSMT and Dadar, four at Thane, and one each at Kurla, Ghatkopar and Vikhroli.
2. As per the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy data, the unemployment rate of India has surged to **8.3%** one-year high in August 2022.
Note: In August, the urban unemployment rate has been increased to 9.6% and rural unemployment rate also increased to 7.7%. In July 2022, the unemployment rate was at 6.8% and the employment was 397 million. In August, the unemployment was the highest in Haryana (37.3%).
3. As per the Boeing report, by **2040** the air traffic of India will grow by an average of 7% per year.
Note: While the air traffic of India will grow 6.9% till 2040, the south-east Asian market will grow at an average annual rate of 5.5%. The Chinese, African and the Latin American market will grow at an average annual rate of 5.4%, 5.4% and 4.8% respectively, till 2040.
4. Union Minister of Science and Technology Jitendra Singh has launched India's first indigenously developed quadrivalent Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) vaccine for the prevention of cervical cancer. The name of the vaccine is **CERVAVAC**.
Note: DCGI had granted market authorisation to Serum Institute of India to manufacture an indigenously-developed vaccine against cervical cancer. Cervical cancer in India ranks as the second most frequent cancer among women between 15 and 44 years of age.
5. Cabinet has approved anMoU with **Nepal** on biodiversity conservation to strengthen and enhance coordination and cooperation in the field of forests, biodiversity conservation, and climate change in September 2022.
Note: This MoU also aims the restoration of corridors and interlinking areas and sharing of knowledge and best practices, between the two countries.
6. The All-India Council for Technical Education has partnered with **Adobe** software organisation to accelerate digital creativity skills across the country.
Note: As per the agreement, Adobe will offer courses and expertise for upskilling educators, and integrate digital creativity into the curriculum, to prepare students with the essential creative and digital literacy skills. Aim: To empower educators across higher education institutions with essential digital creativity skills by 2024.
7. **Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)** has signed anMoU with Smiths Detection for offering advanced, high-energy scanning systems to the Indian market.
Note: The MoU will leverage the high-end, technological capabilities of both the firms to meet India's domestic security needs. The MoU was signed in line with the Indian Government's 'Make in India' initiative.
8. **Home Minister, Amit Shah** has inaugurated 6th All India Prison Duty Meet in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
Note: It is a biennial event, organised by the Bureau of Police Research and Development. The event was attended by Gujarat Chief Minister, Bhupendra Patel and Minister of State for Home, Harsh Sanghavi. AIPDM was last organised in Ahmedabad in 2007, It was the second ever meeting. He has also participated in the closing ceremony of 11th KhelMahakumbh at TransStadia, Kankaria
9. The first edition of "World Health Summit for Pride of Homoeopathy" was held in **Dubai, UAE** with the theme "Diseases caused by climate change and global warming".
Note: Aim: To educate and promote a homoeopathic system of medicine, drugs, and practices. The summit was organised by Burnett Homoeopathy Pvt Ltd. Burnett Homoeopathy Pvt Limited deals with homoeopathic dilutions, mother tincture, lower trituration tablets and various other homoeopathic medicines.
10. **Hardeep Singh Puri (Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister)** has attended the Gastech Milan-2022 that scheduled to be held in Milan, Italy.
Note: The Minister will chair the "India Spotlight: Powering India's energy industry - new avenues for a sustainable future" panel discussion. He will also participate in the select Ministerial Panel of the Opening Ceremony along with Egyptian Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources and State Secretary of Energy of Portugal.
11. The Centre has decided to rename Rajpath and Centre Vista lawns stretching from the Rashtrapati Bhavan to India Gate as **Kartavya Path**.
Note: PM Modi, will inaugurate the entire stretch on September 8, 2022, that has been renovated under the government's ambitious Central Vista

redevelopment project. The New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) has convened a special meeting on September 7 and the proposal will be placed before it. Rajpath was known as Kingsway during British Rule.

- 12. State run organisation Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)** has topped all Ministries/Departments for resolving Public Grievances in the ranking in August 2022.

Note: Report published by: Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances. UIDAI has been a top performer in resolution of cases received through Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System. Its robust grievance redressal mechanism is able to resolve around 92% of CRM Grievances within 7 days.

- 13. The external debt of India has increased by 8.2%** per cent from USD 573 billion (March 2021) to over USD 620 billion (March 2022).

Note: Report title: 28th edition, Status Report on India's External Debt 2021-22. Released by: Department of Economic Affairs. The External debt as a ratio to GDP fell marginally to 19.9% (2022) from 21.2% (2021). The Commercial borrowings, NRIs deposits, short-term trade credit and multilateral loans together accounted for 90% of the total external debt

- 14. 14,500** schools across the country, will be developed and upgraded under the Pradhan Mantri Schools For Rising India (PM-SHRI) Yojana.

Note: These PM-SHRI schools will become model schools which will summarize the full spirit of National Education Policy (NEP). These schools will provide modern infrastructure including latest technology, smart classrooms, sports and more.

- 15. Bharat Biotech International Limited (BBIL)** organisation has received a formal approval from the Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) for its intranasal COVID19 vaccine iNCOVACC (BBV154).

Note: This is the second Bharat Biotech coronavirus vaccine to get the nod after Covaxin. iNCOVACC is a recombinant replication deficient adenovirus vectored vaccine with a pre-fusion stabilized spike protein. This nasal vaccine iNCOVACC is stable at 2-8°C for easy storage and distribution.

- 16. While addressing the 14th CII Global MedTech Summit, Science and Technology Minister, Dr Jitendra Singh** has announced that Healthcare sector in India is expected grow to 50 billion dollar by **2025**.

Note: India aims to achieve 10 to 12% of the global market share of the medical devices sector. The Indian healthcare system has become more focused on innovation and technology. The govt also aiming to increase their investment in digital healthcare tools in coming five years.

- 17. India aims to eliminate TB by the year 2025.**

Note: President, Droupadi Murmu has virtually launched two initiatives - Pradhan Mantri TB Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan and Ni-kshay Mitra initiative. Pradhan Mantri TB Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan: This initiative was launched in the presence of Union Health Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya. Ni-kshay Mitra: A platform for donors to provide various forms of support to those undergoing TB treatment.

- 18. Agribazaar** agribusiness has introduced the 'Kisan Safalta Card to help farmers to meet their pre and post-harvest farm requirements and allied expenses.

Note: Farmers can use this card to obtain financing to purchase farm inputs. The card's limit, the financing scale, and maintenance costs are determined by the crop yield of each farmer. The card amount is adjustable for marginal farmers from Rs 10,000 to Rs 50,000. Repayment period: 12-month

- 19. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)'s Startup Hub** has collaborated with Meta to launch a programme to support and accelerate XR technology startups across India.

Note: The programme was launched by the Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology, Rajeev Chandrasekhar. The MeitY Startup Hub is a national platform that focuses on promoting technology innovation, start-ups, and the creation of intellectual properties.

- 20. Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways** is building the National Maritime Heritage Complex at **Lothal in Gujarat**.

Note: Cost: 3500 crores rupees. The first-of-its-kind complex in India, this centre will showcase India's rich and diverse maritime heritage. The foundation stone for the NMHC project was laid by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the consent for the master plan was given in March 2019.

- 21. NITI Aayog and World Resources Institute (WRI)** have launched India's first National Electric Freight Platform- E-FAST India (Electric Freight Accelerator for Sustainable Transport-India).

Note: The National Electric Freight Platform brings different stakeholders together with the support of the World Economic Forum, CALSTART, and RMI India. Aim: To raise awareness of freight electrification bolstered by an on-ground demonstration pilot and evidence-based research.

- 22. The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) Centre for Citizen Services,** was inaugurated by **Chief Justice of India Uday Umesh Lalit**.

Note: Place: Jaisalmer House. It was provided to NALSA would be utilised for the establishment of Legal Assistance Centre for Citizens, Legal Assistance Centre for NRIs, Training Centre, and

Digital Command Centre for providing futuristic legal services across the country.

23. India's first Regional Rapid Transit System, would incorporate an automatic fare collection (AFC) system and tickets with QR codes for riders, is connect **Delhi-Meerut**.

Note: In order to purchase the AFC system, the National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) recently announced that it has requested bids in accordance with the Modi administration's "Make In India" standards.

24. **Ministry of Education** ministry has launched Shikshak Parv, that was launched by Union Ministers Annapurna Devi and Rajkumar Ranjan Singh to honour teachers and advance the new National Education Policy (NEP).

Note: An inaugural colloquium hosted by the Ministry of Education, CBSE, AICTE, and the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship marked the beginning of Shikshak Parv.

25. Union Health Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya will launch a countrywide mega drive 'Raktdaan Amrit Mahotsav' for voluntary blood donation from 17th September to 1st October 2022. 1st October observed as **National Voluntary Blood Donation Day**.

Note: The special drive is a part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. The registrations for the Raktdaan Amrit Mahotsav have been started on the E-Raktkosh portal and Aarogya Setu app.

26. The Finance Ministry has set up a six-member, high-level panel to look into issues being faced by venture capital (VC) and private equity (PE) investors. The panel is headed by **Former SEBI chairman, M Damodaran**.

Note: The committee will suggest steps for scaling up investment by VC and PE funds. Members: G Mahalingam (former member Sebi); D P Nagendra Kumar (former member CBIC); Ashish Verma (former Principal Commissioner Income Tax) Poonam Gupta, and P R Acharya.

27. **Telangana** state legislative assembly has approved the University of Forestry (UOF) Act 2022.

Note: The 'University of Forestry (UOF) will be the first of its kind in the country. With only Russia and China having forest universities in the world, globally, this will be the third university of forestry. The Government of Telangana has decided to expand Forest College and Research Institute (FCRI) in Hyderabad into a full-fledged university.

28. **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change** has recently released the Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE-ZOO) report 2022.

Note: The report was created on the survey of zoos across India. India has 147 recognized zoos {large (17), medium (23), small (33), mini-zoos (60) and

rescue centres (14)}. Top performers 'Zoo' in different categories:

- Large: Vandalur Zoo, TN
- Medium: Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, WB
- Planning element: Vandalur Zoo

29. NCPCR has revamped the online portal E-Baal Nidan. **National Commission for Protection of Child Rights** is the full form of NCPCR.

Note: Aim: For timebound redressal of grievances against violation of child rights. Feature: It include bifurcation of complaints based on the nature of the complaint into their subject matters like Juvenile Justice, POCSO, Labour and Education. It will be beneficial for the complainants as well as the commission while dealing with complaints.

30. Narikoravan and Kurivikkaran community of belongs to **Tamil Nadu**.

Note: The Cabinet has cleared the proposal to notify several tribal communities under the ST category in Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Uttar Pradesh. Betta-Kuruba community as a synonym of Kadu Kuruba of Karnataka. Gonds, along with its five sub-castes, in Bhadohi district of Uttar Pradesh. Hatti community living in Himachal's Sirmour area. Brijjia community and 11 other tribes from Chhattisgarh

31. **PM Narendra Modi** has launched National Logistics Policy at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

Note: The policy ensures quick last mile delivery, end transport-related challenges, save time and money of the manufacturers, prevent wastage of the agro-products. PM also launched Unified Logistics Interface Platform (ULIP) that will bring all the digital services of transportation sector into a single portal. Under this, Ease of logistics Services -E-Logs has also been started.

32. PM Narendra Modi has released **eight** wild Cheetahs in Kuno National Park, Madhya Pradesh, which has been brought from Namibi.

Note: Cheetah was declared extinct from India in 1952. Cheetahs are being introduced in India under Project Cheetah, which is world's first inter-continental large wild carnivore translocation project. Out of the eight Cheetahs, there are 5 female and 3 male Cheetahs.

33. **Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)** has organizing Hackathon 3.0 titled 'KRITAGYA' on promoting 'speed breeding for crop improvement'.

Note: It will provide an opportunity for Students and others to showcase innovative approaches and technology solutions to promote innovation for crop improvement. Registration for this event is open till 26th September 2022.

34. **Union Science and Technology Minister, Jitendra Singh** has presented 'INSPIRE' awards to 60 Start-Ups and financial support to over 53,000 students.

Note: It is instituted by Department of Science and Technology and these innovators will be extended complete incubation support for entrepreneurship journey. Annual INSPIRE Awards-MANAK (Million Minds Augmenting National Aspiration and Knowledge) competition attracted an unprecedented 6.53 Lakh ideas and innovations from all States

35. As per the analysis firm Chainalysis, India has been ranked **Fourth** in the 2022 Global Crypto Adoption Index.

Note: The index is led by Vietnam for the second consecutive year, emerging as the country that is most eager to embrace cryptocurrency adoption. Aim: To track countries adopting cryptocurrencies or investing in the digital assets. India has categorised cryptocurrency as virtual digital assets (VDA) and profits generated from crypto fall under the 30% tax bracket.

36. **Saudi Arabia** has emerged as the second-biggest oil supplier to India after a three-month gap.

Note: Saudi Arabia has overtaken the Russia by a thin margin, while Iraq retained the top spot in August 2022. India is the world's third biggest oil importer and consumer, shipped in 863,950 barrels per day (bpd) of crude from Saudi Arabia (up 4.8% from the previous month). UAE has ranked four, while Kazakhstan replaced Kuwait to become fifth oil supplier to India, followed by US.

37. **Uttar Pradesh** has accounts for more than 70% of the 13.81 lakh pending trials in fast-track courts in cases of heinous crimes against women, children and senior citizens.

Note: More than 9.33 lakh cases are pending in the fast-track courts of Uttar Pradesh, followed by over 1.4 lakh cases in Maharashtra, 1.06 lakh cases in Tamil Nadu, 71,260 cases in West Bengal and 12,538 cases in Telangana. As many as 3,28,556 cases are pending in the FTSCs across 28 states and Union territories.

38. Jal Shakti Minister, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat has declared **Andaman and Nicobar Islands** as India's first Swachh Sujal Pradesh.

Note: He handed over the certificate to A&N's LG Admiral DK Joshi. All the villages of Andaman and Nicobar Island have been certified as Har Ghar Jal and verified as open defecation free - ODF plus. On World Water Day (22 March 2021) A&N Islands were declared to have achieved 100% coverage of rural households with tap water connection.

39. Union Minister for Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Dharmendra Pradhan has launched Ramakrishna Mission's 'Awakening' Programme for students of classes **I to V**.

Note: The NEP 2020 is inspired by the philosophy of Swami Vivekananda. Ramkrishna Mission has a legacy of imparting applied education. NEP 2020

has emphasized on creating value-based educational programs for 9th and 12th in addition to creating programs for classes I to VIII.

40. **National Sports Development Fund (NSDF)** has signed an MoU with National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) and Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) for the development of sports in India.

Note: NTPC and REC have been provided financial support of 215 crore rupees for the development of sports. NTPC: Contributed an amount of Rs115 crore for Archery (5 years). REC: Committed an amount of Rs 100 crore to support Women's Hockey, Athletics and Boxing (3 years).

41. The government of India has decided to invite Bangladesh, Egypt, Mauritius, Netherlands, Nigeria, Oman, Singapore, Spain and UAE as Guest Countries to take part in **G20** meeting during its Presidency.

Note: International Organisations: UN, IMF, World Bank, WHO, WTO, ILO, FSB, OECD and AU, AUDA-NEPAD and ASEAN, ISA, CDRI and ADB. This is a part of the G20 tradition of inviting some Guest Countries and International Organisations (IO) to its meetings and summit.

42. PM Narendra Modi was on two-day visit of **Samarkand in Uzbekistan** from September 15 to attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Summit.

Note: Mr. Modi has received an invitation from Uzbekistan President Shavkat Mirziyoyev. Agenda: To review the grouping's activities over the past two decades and discuss the prospects of multilateral cooperation. The SCO is an inter-governmental organisation founded in Shanghai in June 2001

43. Who will lead the Joint Indian Ministerial official delegation in the Global Clean Energy Action Forum
Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh.

Note: The coveted joint convening of the Clean Energy Ministerial CEM13 and Mission Innovation MI-7 will take place from 21st to 23rd of September at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, USA. Aim: To bring together thousands of clean energy leaders from across the world to accelerate clean energy innovation and deployment.

44. **Adani group** group has overtaken the Tata-led conglomerate with an overall market capitalization on the BSE at over ₹ 22 lakh crore makes it the most valued in India.

Note: The combined consolidated revenues and net profit of listed companies of Tata Group were Rs 8.6 trillion and Rs 74,523 crore in FY22 respectively. Mukesh Ambani's group of nine companies stood third on the list with a market capitalisation of more than ₹ 17 lakh crore.

45. PM Narendra Modi has received a copy of the Braille version of Dictionary Hemkosh from Jayanta

Baruah in New Delhi, was originally written in **Assamese** language.

Note: The Braille version of 'Hemkosh' has been conceptualized and published by the Editor of Asomiya Pratidin, Jayanta Baruah. Hemkosh is South-East Asia's first Braille dictionary in Assamese. It was also the first Assamese dictionary which was edited by Hemchandra Baruah in the 19th century. This edition of 'Hemkosh' comprises of approx 10,000 pages,

46. The government has launched a joint convergence portal for different schemes run by Food Processing and **Agriculture** ministry.

Note: Schemes include: Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF), Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) scheme and Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY). The portal was launched in the presence of Union Agriculture Minister, Narendra Singh Tomar and Minister of State for Agriculture Kailash Choudhary.

47. **VP, Jagdeep Dhankhar** has inaugurated 3rd edition of the Lok Manthan programme at Srimanta Sankardeva Kalakshetra in Guwahati.

Note: Theme of 2022 biennale is Lokparampara (Lok traditions). Kerala Governor, Arif Muhammad Khan will be the Chief Guest at the concluding session (24th September). Lokmanthan: It is an occasion where artists, intellectuals, and academicians are come from different parts of the country converge and brainstorm on the questions that haunt the society.

48. India will receive its first flex-fuel vehicle that run on ethanol blended petrol and battery in October 2022 from **Brazil**.

Note: The Flex Fuel Strong Hybrid Electric Vehicles (FFV-SHEV) will be imported from Brazil to use as a pilot. Aim: To assess its performance in terms of reduced carbon emissions. The road transport ministry has notified the guidelines regarding FFV and FFV-SHEV. The automobile manufacturers are advised to manufacture vehicles complying with BS-6 standards.

49. **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)** has launched the Swachh Toycathon as a part of the Swachh Amrit Mahotsav.

Note: It is a unique competition to make toys from dry waste. Aim: To explore innovative solutions for the use of dry waste in manufacturing toys. The knowledge partner for the initiative is the Center for Creative Learning, IIT Gandhinagar and the competition will be hosted on the MyGov portal.

50. President Droupadi Murmu has inaugurated the Integrated Cryogenic Engines Manufacturing Facility of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) in **Bengaluru**.

Note: The Cryogenic engines are used by ISRO for its satellite launch operations. The President has

also laid the foundation stone of the South Zonal Institute of Virology virtually at HAL. She has also inaugurated the St. Joseph University and attended a Civic reception hosted by the State Government in her honour.

51. CEC of LAHDC, Feroz Ahmad Khan has inaugurated the first ever Mega Kissan Mela at Indoor Stadium of **Kargil** district of Ladakh.

Note: This event was organised by Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST) Kashmir. Stalls were established by scores of progressive farmers, KVK Centre, & Research Centre from across UT Ladakh and J&K. Aim: Experts will educate the farmers about latest techniques and use of high yielding varieties for satiable agriculture.

52. **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change** has launched a Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan for implementing City Action Plans prepared as part of National Clean Air Programme.

Note: Aim: To reduce air pollution upto 40% by 2025-26. This survey has categorized 131 cities into three groups based on population. First group: Population more than 10 lakh (47 cities). Second group: Population between 3 to 10 lakh (44 cities). Third group: Population less than 3 lakh (40 cities)

53. **National Cadet Corps (NCC)** has signed an MoU with United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to tackle the issue of plastic pollution and achieve the universal goal of clean water bodies through Puneet Sagar Abhiyan and Tide Turners Plastic Challenge programme.

Note: The MoU was signed in the presence of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh. Puneet Sagar Abhiyan, was launched by the NCC on 1st December 2021.

54. **Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd** has signed an MoU with Petrobras to diversify its crude oil sourcing.

Note: The MoU was signed by Arun Kumar Singh (Chairman BPCL) and Caio Paes de Andrade (CEO Petrobras) in Brazil. Aim: To strengthen future crude oil trade relations between the two companies and explore potential crude import opportunities by BPCL. Petrobras operates in an integrated and specialized manner in the oil, natural gas and energy industry.

55. The Govt has launched a Scheme Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment for fiscal year **2022-23**.

Note: Aim: Provide financial aid to the States Govts in the form of 50-year interest free loan for capital investment projects. Under the Part-V of scheme, Rs 3000 Crore is earmarked and will be available to States for capital projects on OFC network. Dept of Expenditure has approved 50 Cr, 84 Cr, 65 Cr and

156 Cr to Uttarakhand, Jharkhand, Haryana and Karnataka respectively.

56. Sign Learn is the name of an Indian Sign Language (ISL) dictionary mobile application that has been launched by the government of India.

Note: It contains 10,000 words. The app was launched by Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment, Pratima Bhoumik. This mobile app is based on the Indian sign language dictionary of the Indian Sign Language Research And Training Centre (ISLRTC). All the words in the ISL dictionary can be searched through Hindi or English medium.

57. Health Minister, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya has inaugurated Arogya Manthan 2022 to celebrate the four years of implementation of Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri - Jan Arogya Yojana and one year of Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission.

Note: The scheme provides a health cover of five lakh rupees annually to vulnerable families. The Minister has also launched several new initiatives including Health Claims Exchange (HCX), National e-Rupi Portal and Roadmap for Digitization.

58. PM Narendra Modi has inaugurated the National Conference of Environment Ministers in **Gujarat** state through video conferencing on 23rd September.

Note: Agenda: To create synergy amongst the Central and State govt in formulating better policies. The two-day Conference will have six thematic sessions: (1) LiFE, (2) Combating Climate Change, (3) PARIVESH, (4) Forestry Management, (5) Prevention and Control of Pollution, (6) Wildlife Management and Plastics and Waste Management.

59. EAM, Dr. S Jaishankar has hosted the G-4 meeting of Foreign Ministers during the 77th Session of UNGA.

Note: The summit was attended by Ministers Foreign Ministers - Carlos França (Brazil); Yoshimasa Hayashi (Japanese); Annalena Baerbock (German). He is on visit USA from 18-28 September 2022. He led India delegation for the High Level Week at the 77th Session of UNGA. 77th UNGA theme: Watershed Moment: Transformative Solutions to Interlocking Challenges

60. Ayush Minister, Sarbananda Sonowal has inaugurated the international conference on Consciousness at NIMHANS in **Bengaluru**.

Note: Theme 2022: Exploring Consciousness- From Non- Locality to Non- Duality: The Man- Machine Debate. The conference was organized by India Foundation and NIMHANS and supported by Ministry of Ayush. He has also inaugurated the Centre of Excellence project in the Department of Integrative Medicine at NIMHANS, Bengaluru as part of Ayurwashya Yojana.

61. Union Minister, G. Kishan Reddy has launched Virtual Conference 'SymphoNE' to boost Tourism Sector in North East India.

Note: SymphoNE is the start of a series of dialogues on North Eastern Region's Development Conference comprised of a broad range of Policy Thinkers, Stakeholders & Influencers. The Virtual Conference is being organized on 24th - 27th September 2022, by Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region on the occasion of World Tourism Day(27 September).

62. Indian Oil has become the first oil marketing company (OMC) to produce and market, AVGAS 100 LL.

Note: In an event, hosted by IndianOil at Hindon Airforce Station, Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Housing and Urban, Affairs Hardeep Singh Puri has launched AVGAS 100 LL. AVGAS 100 LL: It is a special aviation fuel meant for piston engine aircrafts and unmanned aerial vehicles. Currently India is importing AVGAS 100 LL from European countries.

63. New Delhi, Ahmedabad and Mumbai CSMT has been approved by the Union Cabinet for the re-development.

Note: This re-development project involves an investment of approximately ₹10,000 crore. Re-development project includes:

- Installation of CCTV and access control.
- Spacious roof plaza with all passenger amenities (spaces for retail, cafeterias, recreational facilities).
- Divyang friendly facilities, etc.

64. Bhupender Yadav has released the report on 4th round of quarterly employment survey (January to March 2022).

Note: It indicates that the overall employment has increased in the last four quarterly survey. The estimated employment has increased from 3.14 crore of the third quarter to 3.18 crore of 4th Quarter. It provides quarterly estimates about the employment and related variables of establishments in both organized and unorganized segments.

65. Hitachi Astemo firm has installed its India's first solar power plant at Jalgaon manufacturing plant in Maharashtra.

Note: Hitachi is working to reduce its carbon emissions and become carbon neutral by 2050. With the set up of 3 MW solar power plant, the company would be able to eliminate close to 4000 tons of CO2 emissions each year. At its Jalgaon plant, Hitachi Astemo is responsible for making high quality brake systems for vehicles.

66. Fagga Singh Kulaste has launched the JALDOOT App and e-brochure.

Note: Developed by: Ministry of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj. Use: To capture the water level of selected 2-3 wells in a village. The manual monitoring of water levels in open wells will be measured twice in a year (pre-monsoon and post-monsoon level for the same well). Assigned officers will measure the water levels and upload the geo-tagged photographs.

67. The All India Football Federation has launched grassroots football development (GFD) scheme in **Arunachal Pradesh**.

Note: Aim: Tap, select and nurture football talents in the age group of 6 to 12 years. GFD committee chairman, Shantanu Pujari has launched this scheme in the presence of CM Pema Khandu and AIFF President, Kalyan Chaubey. The state government would begin this scheme in 100 schools, and physical training teachers of selected schools would be trained by AIFF experts

68. **Education minister, Dharmendra Pradhan** has inaugurated the 13th FICCI Global Skills Summit 2022 in New Delhi.

Note: Theme 2022: Education to Employability - Making It Happen. The Summit would look through the NEP lens and focus on how India can become the "Skill Capital of the World," using the UN SDG4 as an underlying theme. The two day Summit was conclude with an event "VIRASAT" The Heritage which honours the exquisite craft of the Indian artisans.

69. Government of Maldives has signed an MoU with **JMC Projects** for Maldives Hanimaadhoo International Airport Development Project.

Note: The worth of project is about USD \$136.6 million. It was confirmed that the project will be financed by India's Exim Bank. The Maldives govt is expected to build a 2.46 kilometer runway in addition to a terminal that can serve 1.3 million passengers annually. The construction work is expected to be fully operational by the year 2024.

Important News – State

1. **Delhi** has launched the India's first Virtual School.

Note: The school will be for classes IX to XII and will be affiliated to the Delhi Board of School Education. The platform was created by two globally recognised organisations, Google and Schoolnet India. Virtual school teachers have received special training to conduct online classes.

2. **Rajasthan** has launched loan scheme 'MahilaNidhi' with an aim to ensure easy loans for women in business.

Note: The scheme also aims the social and economic development of women through credit. CM Ashok Gehlot has announced in the budget 2022-23 about the 'MahilaNidhi' scheme through Rajasthan Rural Livelihood Development Council. The scheme will disburse loans of up to Rs 40,000 within 48 hours, and above Rs 40,000 within 15 days.

3. **Meghalaya** has launched "Rural Backyard Piggery Scheme" with an aim to ensure that the farmers earn a sustainable livelihood through different livestock farming activities _____.

Note: Under the phase 1 of this Scheme, the govt has earmarked Rs 15.18 crore under which four high-yielding improved varieties will be distributed to 6000 families. The additional Rs 25 crore will be earmarked to roll out the second phase of the programme.

4. The Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has organized an in-store export promotion programme of Manipur's pineapples in **Dubai, UAE**.

Note: Aim: To promote locally produced agricultural products in the international markets. Manipur Organic Mission Agency (MOMA) has supported the sourcing of organic certified Kwe variety of pineapples. Top five importing countries of Indian pineapples: UAE, Nepal, Qatar, Maldives, USA

5. **Karnataka** government has launched a Global Startup Challenge named VentuRISE.

Note: Aim: To support growth stage startups in manufacturing and sustainability-related sectors. VentuRISE, it will be a part of the Global Investors Meet - Invest Karnataka 2022 that will be held from 2 - 4 November in Bengaluru. Cash prize: \$ 100,000. The global challenge will help entrepreneurs to showcase their innovative products or solutions and connect with potential investors.

6. **Kannada actor, Sudeep** has been appointed as the brand ambassador for Karnataka govt scheme "PunyakotiDattuYojana", a cattle adoption scheme.

Note: Aim of scheme: Encouraging adoption by the public for the purpose of rearing cattle in 'goshalas' (cow shelters). The actor has decided not to charge for being the ambassador of the scheme. The scheme was launched in July and any individual or an organization can adopt a cow by paying a total of Rs 11,000 for one year.

7. Chhattisgarh CM, BhupeshBaghel has inaugurated Mohla-Manpur-AmbagarhChowki as the **29th** district of the state.

Note: It has been carved out of Rajnandgaon district. Rajnandgaon district had a large area and people spend their entire day to reach the

headquarters. This has been reduced to 70 kilometres with the inauguration of the new district. He is scheduled to inaugurate Sarangarh-Bilaigarh and Khairagarh-Chhuikhadan-Gandai as the 30th and 31st districts of the state.

- 8. Bhartaulvillage** village in Bareilly district of Uttar Pradesh has become the first village in the state to have RO water in every household.

Note: The achievement comes under the Adarsh Gram Panchayat initiative. Till now, four RO plants have been set up in the village with an aim to make clean drinking water available to all. It will save people from water-borne diseases. The village head PraveshKumari is in charge and has been taking care of the RO plants in the village.

- 9. Tamil Nadu** state has launched the 'Pudhumai Penn' (modern woman) scheme for state's girl student.

Note: Under this scheme, all girl students, who studied from Classes 6 to 12 in government schools, will get Rs 1,000 per month to pursue higher education. The money will be directly transferred to the bank accounts of students. Aim: Reduce child marriages and make women independent. The government has also launched 26 Schools of Excellence and 15 Model Schools.

- 10. Uttarakhand** education department has launched an e-governance portal named "Samarth" with an aim to provide all administrative and educational updates.

Note: It includes information about entrance exams, salary structures, appointments from five state universities and public schools. Aim: To make the education system more transparent in the state. Around 200 assistant professors of science subjects will be sent to IISc, Bengaluru for special training.

- 11. Uttar Pradesh** government will provide a unique farm ID that is similar to Aadhar number to the farmers.

Note: This unique ID will be linked with Aadhar to provide them benefits of all government schemes. With the help of this initiative, the government will bring those families into the ambit of this scheme who are not getting any kind of benefits till now. With the help of Aadhar, UP Government has given the benefit of the government schemes to maximum number of people.

- 12. Meghalaya** government launched the online portal of the Meghalaya Residents Safety and Security Act (MRSSA). **Conrad K Sangm** is the chief minister of the state.

Note: It will be beneficial for monitoring and better implementation of other services and programmes of the government, especially in critical areas such as health care. The digitisation process will connect more than 6,000 villages in the state to the online system.

- 13. West Bengal** state govt in collaboration with UNICEF will form child-friendly sanghas', comprising members of SHGs, to curb child marriage and teenage pregnancy in the state.

Note: To stop these twin menaces, the state govt and UNICEF have planned, as a pilot project, to form 110 child-friendly sanghas' in the next six months in 87 blocks in all 23 districts of the state. WB is at the top in cases of child marriage and teenage pregnancy, according to a NFHS report.

- 14. Gujarat CM, Bhupendra Patel** has unveiled the state's first Cinematic Tourism Policy at an event in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

Note: During the launch the govt has signed MoUs worth ₹1,020 crore with organisations and individuals with the department for the development of film infrastructure and film production. The policy offers various financial and non-financial incentives for film infrastructure development projects and for film-making projects.

- 15. Bihar** Chief Minister, Nitish Kumar has inaugurated India's longest rubber dam 'Gayaji Dam' on the **Falgu River in Gaya**.

Note: The dam has been built at an estimated cost of Rs 324 crore. Experts from IIT (Roorkee) were involved with the project. There will be enough water in the dam round the year for the convenience of pilgrims. At least two feet of water will be available in the Falgu River near Vishnupad Ghat throughout the year for the devotees who come here to do Pind Daan.

- 16. Rajasthan** government launched an ambitious scheme to provide 100 days of employment to needy families in urban areas on the lines of the rural employment guarantee scheme MGNREGA.

Note: More than 2.25 lakh families have already registered for the Indira Gandhi Urban Employment Scheme which was proposed by chief minister Ashok Gehlot in the state budget this year.

- 17. As of September 2022, 33** is the total number of districts in Chhattisgarh.

Note: Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh, Bhupesh Baghel inaugurated the 32nd and 33rd districts of the State. Manendragarh-Chirmiri-Bharatpur and Sakti were announced as the 32nd and 33rd districts of Chhattisgarh. Sakti is carved out from Janjgir-Champa, and Manendragarh-Chirmiri-Bharatpur is carved out from the Koriya district.

- 18. Vedanta and Foxconn** have signed an MoU with the **Gujarat** state government to set up a semiconductor and display manufacturing unit in the state.

Note: Benefits: To create a huge ecosystem for ancillary industries and help our MSMEs. Total Investment: Rs 1.54 lakh crore. Display Fab Unit: This unit will set up with an investment of Rs 94,500 crore. The Integrated Semiconductor Fab

Unit and OSAT (Outsourced semiconductor assembly and test) facility with an investment of Rs 60,000 crore.

- 19. Indore (MP)** has implemented a fully digital addressing system that makes Indore the first city in India to do so.

Note: For this smart city initiative, an MoU was signed with the firm Pataa Navigations. Pataa: This organisation has developed patented technology and is working with ISRO to develop a digital addressing system for the nation. Users of the Pataa App can upload images of their homes, landmarks, etc, along with their addresses in the full text.

- 20. Jharkhand** state has launched Sports Policy 2022 with an aim to reduce bottlenecks from the path of sportspersons in excelling at national and international events.

Note: Aim: To create the country's first sports digital database for all the players of the state, establishment of a sports university, reservation for sportspersons in jobs and educational institutions. The sports policy has been made for a period of five years.

- 21.** The Delhi and **Punjab** state governments have joined hands to use Pusa bio-decomposer on 5,000 acres of land in the agrarian state to prevent stubble burning which is a major cause of air pollution.

Note: Pusa bio-decomposer is a microbial solution that can decompose paddy straw in 15 to 20 days. In 2022, the total area under paddy cultivation in Punjab is pegged at 29-30 lakh hectares. The state on an average generates around 20 million tons of paddy straw annually.

- 22. Manipur** state government has launched a web portal named 'CM Da Haisi' (Inform to CM).

Note: Aim: To receive complaints and grievances from the general public. The public can raise their grievances in the web portal by logging on to www.cmdahaisi.mn.gov.in. With the help of this portal, the complainants can also check the status of their complaints. This portal will be used by the Public Grievances Redressal and Anti-Corruption Cell stationed at CM Secretariat.

- 23. Bihar** state government is ready to introduce a 'no-bag day' rule in schools and a mandatory games period at least once a week to reduce the burden on students.

Note: Aim: To engage students in various activities which can positively impact their learning. As per the notification, the weekly "no-bag day" will have task-based practical classes. At least once a week, students will come to school only with their lunch boxes. They do not need to carry books.

- 24. Odisha state government** has approved Rs 261 crore for regeneration of coastal ecosystem and to enhance climate resilience among people living on the coast.

Note: The government has decided to implement this livelihood action plan from the current year till 2026-27. The main coastal landscapes to be treated under the project and would include areas like Bhitarkanika in Kendrapara district, Bahuda and Chilika in Ganjam district, and Devi Mouth, Chilika in Puri district.

- 25. Assam** state government has decided to use the air pressure machine named 'SAANS' to provide lifesaving breathing support to infants in hospital settings as well as during travel.

Note: 'SAANS' is a portable neonatal Continuous Positive Air Pressure (CPAP) system. It is developed by a Bangalore-based start-up, InnAccel Technologies. For the development of the machine, InnAccel Technologies has joined hands with the SAMRIDH Healthcare Blended Finance Facility.

- 26. Nagaland** state government to launch its own health insurance scheme called the Chief Minister's Health Insurance Scheme (CMHIS) on 1st of October.

Note: Aim: To reduce out-of-pocket expenditure on hospital care for all bonafide citizens of the state. It provides free health insurance coverage of up to five lakh rupees per family per year. It will cover State government employees and pensioners and all the Indigenous and or Permanent residents of the State.

- 27. Chhattisgarh** state government will launch a special campaign called 'Hamar Beti - Hamar Maan' (our daughters, our honour).

Note: Aim: For protection and safety of girls and women and provide them essential services. Implementation: Women police personnel will visit schools and colleges in all districts and educate girls about their legal rights. Govt will soon launch a helpline number for complaints about misbehaviour, molestation and other crimes against women.

- 28. Himachal Pradesh** state cabinet has given their nod to the 'Early childhood care and education tutor scheme-2022' for children in the age group of 3 to 6.

Note: Aim: To provide an appropriate care and stimulation of the brain in early years to ensure healthy development and growth. The govt will be paid a sum of ₹9,000 a month to those candidates who have done a one-year diploma in nursery teacher, so that they can bridge courses to make them eligible.

Important News - World

1. India has surpassed **UK** to become the world's 5th biggest economy.
Note: The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has forecasted that India is overtaking the UK in terms on an annual basis this year. Top four: The US, China, Japan and Germany. The calculation is based in US dollars and India has extended its lead in the first quarter. By contrast, the Indian economy is forecast to grow more than 7% in 2022-23.
2. Data Protection Commission (DPC) of **Ireland** has imposed fined on Instagram of USD 402 million (405 million euro) for breaching regulations on the handling of children's data.
Note: The DPC has launched an investigation in late 2020. Reason: How the Instagram platform handles children's personal data. Findings: The platform had operated a user registration system whereby the accounts of 13-17-year-old users were set to "public" by default.
3. **Australian** parliament has passed government legislation to reduce carbon emissions by 43% by 2030 and further bring it to zero by 2050.
Note: The legislation needs royal assent before it officially becomes law. To achieve this target, the government bodies such as clean energy and infrastructure financing agencies, requires to take emissions targets into account in their decisions. Minister for Climate Change and Energy of Australia: Chris Bowen
4. As per the United Nations Development Program report, India has ranked **132nd** among 191 countries and territories on the 2021 Human Development Index.
Note: India had ranked 131st among 189 countries in 2020 report. Findings: The data show that the performance of the country has declined due to fall in life expectancy. Top five: Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, Hong Kong, Australia Last four: Central African Republic (188), Niger (189), Chad (190), South Sudan (191)
5. As per the US Embassy, the United States has issued a record of 82,000 student visas to **India** in 2022 that is highest than any country.
Note: This is also the highest number of visas given to Indian students ever by the US Mission in India. The Open Doors report in 2021 stated that there were 167,582 students from India in the 2020-2021 academic year. Indian students comprise nearly 20% of all international students studying in the United States.
6. The first Indian Defence Minister to visit Mongolia, Rajnath Singh was gifted a majestic horse **Tejas** by President Ukhnaagiin Khurelsukh.
Note: Seven years after Prime Minister Narendra Modi received a similar gift from the leadership of this country. In 2015, Prime Minister Modi received a special gift a brown racehorse from his then Mongolian counterpart Chimed Saikhanbileg during his historic visit to this country. The horse was named Kanthaka'.
7. **Suella Braverman** is UK's new Home Secretary.
Note: Priti Patel, who is of Indian descent, will be replaced in the position by Suella Braverman. Suella Braverman, Conservative Party member from Fareham in southeast England, previously worked for the Boris Johnson administration as the attorney general.
8. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is all set to travel to **Samarkand in Uzbekistan** for the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit, to be conducted on September 15 and 16.
Note: This will be the first in-person summit after June 2019 when the SCO summit was held in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.
9. Mastercard Lighthouse MASSIV has partnered with **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** to amplifying the private sector's role in creating a significant positive impact on people.
Note: It is a free-of-charge startup partnership program dedicated to helping one billion people live more prosperous and secure lives by 2025. Purpose: To support the impact tech companies on their impact measurement and management and connect them to the broader UN initiatives.
10. India has launched a joint whitepaper on 'Urban Wastewater Scenario in India' with **Denmark** at World Water Congress and Exhibition 2022.
Note: Aim: Capturing the current status of wastewater treatment in India and potential pathways for future treatment structures, co-creation, and collaborations. The event was attended by Jal Shakti Minister, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat along with Danish Environment Minister Lea Wermelin.
11. In the declaration, the rotational presidency of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) has been handed over to India at Samarkand, Uzbekistan.
Note: India will hold the presidency of SCO for a year until September 2023 and also host the SCO summit in 2023. The leaders of SCO Member States have signed the Samarkand Declaration in the meeting of the Council of Heads of State. Member of States has highlighted the impacts of global climate change.
12. India has overtaken **China** to emerge as the largest bilateral lender for Sri Lanka.
Note: India has provided a total of 968 million US dollars in loans to Sri Lanka in four months of 2022. In the past five years from 2017-2021, China has been the largest bilateral lender to Sri Lanka. Asian Development Bank (ADB) has been the largest multilateral lender in the past five years and disbursed funds amounting to 610 million dollars in 2021.

13. According to **Bloomberg Billionaires Index**, **Gautam Adani** has become the second richest person in the world, after surpassing Amazon founder Jeff Bezos.

Note: As of 17th September 2022, the net worth of Adani is \$147 billion and Tesla's founder Elon Musk who has net worth of \$264 billion. Bezos' net worth has declined \$45.5 billion so far this year while Adani's wealth has jumped by \$70.3 billion. Ambani has been ranked tenth on the list with net worth of \$88.7 billion.

14. **India** has the current presidency of Asia-Pacific Institute of Broadcasting Development (AIBD).

Note: The decision was taken unanimously by the AIBD member countries at the two-day General Conference held in New Delhi. Currently, CEO of Prasar Bharati and DG of Doordarshan, Mayank Kumar Agrawal is the President of AIBD. The conference was inaugurated by Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Singh Thakur.

15. SBI Foundation has partnered with **WWF India** to generate fine-scale information on Red Panda species at a transboundary level and engage with communities in safeguarding them in the Khangchendzonga landscape of Sikkim and West Bengal.

Note: The event was organised at the Himalayan Zoological Park in Gangtok. International Red Panda Day is celebrated every year on the third Saturday of September to support Red Panda conservation. SBI Foundation is the CSR arm of SBI.

16. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has announced to provide financial assistance of **USD 1.27 billion** to address poverty and social inequalities.

Note: As per the annual Goalkeepers report, that every indicator of the UN SDGs are off track for achieving them by 2030. 2022 Goalkeepers awards:

- **Global Goalkeeper Award:** Ursula von der Leyen (Germany)
- **Campaign Award:** Vanessa Nakate (Uganda)
- **Changemaker Award:** Zahra Joya (Afghanistan)
- **Progress Award:** Dr. Radhika Batra (India)

17. **QUAD group** of nations have signed the Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) partnership guidelines during a ministerial

meeting hosted by the US on the sidelines of UNGA in New York.

Note: The partnership was announced during the Quad Leaders' Tokyo Summit 2022 as part of the grouping's shared vision of free and open Indo-Pacific. These guidelines aim to respond to disasters occurring in the Indo-Pacific region.

18. As per the IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List 2022, **Gautam Adani** has topped the list with an estimated wealth of Rs. 10,94,400 crore.

Note: While, Mukesh Ambani has been named as the 2nd richest in India with an estimated wealth of Rs. 7,94,700 crore. Nykaa Founder & CEO, Falguni Nayar became India's richest self-made woman, surpassed Biocon chief, Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw in net worth. She is also the richest female in India, followed by Rekha Jhunjhunwala of Rare Enterprises.

19. **Vitamin Angels India** has partnered with the UNICEF India for Poshan Maah 2022.

Note: Aim: To implement a comprehensive, unified outreach and awareness programme to enhance nutritional content, delivery, outreach, and immunity to disease and undernutrition. This partnership also includes the launch of the Poshan Innovation Platform (PIP) in January 2023. A phase-wise approach will be followed to assemble the PIP between September 2022 and December 2026.

20. As per the 2022 Global Innovation Index of World Intellectual Property Organization, the rank of India is **40th**.

Note: India was at 46th position in 2021 and at 81st rank in 2015. Switzerland with the score of 64.6, has emerged as the world's most innovative economy for the 12th consecutive year. The second position was secured by the US followed by Sweden, and UK. Other countries: China (11th); Lithuania (39th); Latvia (41st); Bangladesh (102nd); Guinea (132nd, last)

21. **Zerodha's founder, Nikhil Kamath** has topped a self-made rich list of individuals under 40 years, released by the IIFL Wealth Hurun India 40 & Under Self-Made Rich List 2022.

Note: Ola Electric CEO, Bhavish Aggarwal, with a wealth of Rs 11,700 crore has been placed second in the list, followed by Divyank Turakhia (Media Network, with Rs 11,200 crore). The Hurun India rich list has 53 entrepreneurs under 40 years of age.

Honor & Awards

1. **Sothea Chhim, Bernadette Madrid, Tadashi Hattori, Gary Benchehib** have been conferred with the 2022 Ramon Magsaysay Awards by the Ramon Magsaysay Awards Foundation.

Note: Sothea Chhim (Cambodia): For mental Health; **Bernadette Madrid** (Philippines): For

effort in child protection; **Tadashi Hattori** (Japan): For training local doctors who have treated Vietnamese; **Gary Benchehib** (Indonesia): For fight against marine plastic pollution; Ramon Magsaysay Award was established in April 1957

2. For the documentary **Our Great National Parks** of Netflix, the former President of the US, Barack Obama has won Emmy Award for his narration.
Note: The documentary has been released in five-parts, and produced by Barack and Michelle Obama's production company "Higher Ground". He has already won two Grammys and is now halfway to an EGOT- the achievement i.e. an Emmy, a Grammy, an Oscar, and a Tony. Barack Obama is 2nd US President to win Emmy, after Dwight D Eisenhower.
3. **Warangal (Telangana), Thrissur (Kerala) and Nilambur (Kerala),** the three cities have joined the Global Network of Learning Cities (GNLC) of UNESCO.
Note: Reason: For their outstanding efforts to make lifelong learning a reality for all at the local level. These three cities are among the 77 cities from 44 countries which have joined this network of the world body. The 77 new members bring the total number of cities to 294 in 76 countries.
4. President of Singapore, Halimah Yacob has conferred the prestigious military award of Singapore, the Pingat Jasa Gemilang (Tentera) or Meritorious Service Medal (Military) to **Sunil Lanba** former India Chief of Naval Staff.
Note: Reason: For enhancing the strong and long-standing bilateral defence relationship between the Indian Navy and Singapore Navy. The award has been presented by Defence minister of Singapore, Ng Eng Hen.
5. **Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS)** has been conferred with the highest global recognition on Literacy- UNESCO International Literacy Prize 2022.
Note: This award has been given at a global award ceremony organised by UNESCO in Côte d'Ivoire on 8 September 2022. KISS is the fifth recipient from India and the first and only institute from Odisha to receive this International honour. It was founded by Dr Samanta, a well-known Educationist and Social Activist.
6. **Lee Jung-jae, Actor of Squid Game (Netflix)** has won the 74th Emmy Award for Male lead actor, at the Microsoft Theater, LA, California.
Note: Zendaya has won the 74th Emmy Award for best lead actress in a drama Series for her best performance in Euphoria (HBO)
 - Best Drama Series: Succession (HBO)
 - Best Comedy Series: Ted Lasso (Apple TV)
 - Best Limited or Anthology Series: The White Lotus (HBO)
 - Best Writing for a Drama Series: Succession - All The Bells Say (HBO)
7. **Pushpa: The Rise** has won the Tenth SIIMA Awards in the category of best movie in Telugu Cinema.

- Note:** While the Allu Arjun won the SIIMA Award in the category of best male lead role for his performance in 'Pushpa: The Rise' (Telugu Cinema)
- Best Actor: Late Puneeth Rajkumar for Yuvarathnaa (Kannada)
 - Best Director: Sukumar for 'Pushpa: The Rise'
 - Best Actor (Critics Choice): Naveen Polishetty for Jathi Ratnalu
 - Best Actress: Pooja Hegde for 'Most Eligible Bachelor'

8. **CEO of Haqdarshak, Aniket Doegar** has been honoured with the 13th Social Entrepreneur of the Year (SEOY) Award-India.
Note: The award has been established by Jubilant Bhartia Foundation and Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship. Haqdarshak is a tech platform that connects citizens with their eligible government welfare schemes. The award has been presented by Anurag Singh Thakur, Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting.
9. Science magazine 'Vigyan Pragati' has received National Rajbhasha Kirti Award at the Second All India Rajbhasha Sammelan held during 14th-15th September 2022 in the Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay Indoor Stadium, Surat. This magazine has been published by **CSIR**.
Note: It was organized by Department of Official Language, Ministry of Home Affairs. Vigyan Pragati is one of India's best popular science magazines and was started by Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) in 1952.
10. **TRaiCEInc** startup has won the NASSCOM-NIPP GCC Fintech Challenge in the 'Predictive Analytics for Customer Retention' category.
Note: Reason: By showcasing how the platform uses predictive AI to help lenders improve operational efficiencies for faster and safer financing. TRaiCEInc is a no-code AI-augmented Early Warning and Business Risk Monitoring System. The NIPP GCC Fintech Challenge is a competition where startups can pitch solutions that address in financial services sector.
11. **Dr Swati Piramal** has been conferred the top civilian honour of France 'Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur or Knight of the Legion of Honour' by Catherine Colonna (France's Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs).
Note: She has been honoured for her contributions in the fields of business and industry, science, medicine, and towards strengthening Indo-French ties. She is the vice-chairperson of the Piramal Group. She has also received the Padma Shri in 2012.
12. **Chhello Show (Last Film Show)** Gujarati Film has been selected as the India's submission to the Best

International Feature Film category at the 95th Academy Awards.

Note: This movie was directed by Pan Nalin. This movie was honoured the Golden Spike at the 66th Valladolid International Film Festival in 2021. This movie was premiered at Tribeca Film Festival in 2021.

13. India Hypertension Control Initiative (IHCI)

Indian initiative has won the '2022 UN Interagency Task Force and WHO Special Programme on Primary Health Care Award' at the UN General Assembly, held at New York in USA.

Note: Reason: For its initiative to control and prevent hypertension under the government's National Health Mission. This initiative was launched in 2017 and expanded in a phased manner to cover more than 130 districts across 23 states.

14. Daniel A. Spielman has been honoured with the 2023 Breakthrough Prize in Mathematics for multiple discoveries in theoretical computer science and mathematics.

Note: In Fundamental Physics: Charles H. Bennett, Gilles Brassard, David Deutsch and Peter Shor.

Reason: Discovering the fundamental physics that underlie quantum computation. **Life Sciences:**

Clifford Brangwynne and Anthony Hyman; Demis Hassabis and John Jumper; Emmanuel Mignot and Masashi Yanagisawa

15. Meena Kandasamy has been named as the recipient of the Hermann Kesten Prize by the PEN Centre in Germany's Darmstadt.

Note: The Hermann Kesten Prize honours to those personalities who are in the spirit of the charter of the PEN association and stand up for the rights of persecuted authors and journalists. Her notable works: The Gypsy Goddess (2014), When I Hit You: Or, A Portrait of the Writer as a Young Wife (2017), and Ms Militancy (2010).

16. Cochin International Airport Ltd (CIAL) has received the Airport Service Quality award-2022 for its meticulous implementation of a programme 'Mission Safeguarding' in 2021-22.

Note: This programme has ensured seamless traffic and reinforced passenger satisfaction in the aftermath of the pandemic. Category: 5-15 million passenger category of airports operating in the Asia-Pacific region. The award was instituted by Airport Council International (ACI).

17. Suella Braverman (UK Home Secretary) has been honoured with the first-ever Queen Elizabeth II Woman of the Year award in 20th Asian Achievers Awards, held at London.

Note: In 2022, she has replaced Priti Patel for the position of Home Secretary. Art and Culture: Namit Malhotra (Chairman of DNEG). Business Person of the Year: Shamil and Kavi Thakrar (Founders of Dishoom). Community Service: Dr Zareen Roohi Ahmed (CEO of Gift Wellness)

18. Kumar Sanu has been honoured with the National Lata Mangeshkar Award for 2021.

Note: Kumar Sanu and Shailendra Singh (Playback singers) and Anand-Milind (music-composer duo) will be conferred with the National Lata Mangeshkar Award for different years. The prestigious award will be presented on September 28 (birth anniversary of the late legendary singer) at her birthplace Indore. Shailendra Singh will be given the Lata Mangeshkar Award for 2019. While Anand-Milind will be conferred with the honour for 2020.

19. Asha Parekh has been awarded the highest recognition in the field of Indian cinema, Dada Saheb Phalke award for 2020.

Note: She will receive the award from President Droupadi Murmu at the 68th National Film Awards on September 30. She was conferred the Padma Shri in 1992. She also became the first women to head the Central Board of Film Certification from 1998-2001. The Dadasaheb Phalke Award was instituted in 1969 and it was first presented to Devika Rani.

20. Uttarakhand state has received the first prize for the best adventure tourism destination and all-around development of tourism from the Ministry of Tourism.

Note: The State's Tourism and Culture minister, Satpal Maharaj has received the awards from Vice President Jagdeep Dhankar during the presentation of the National Tourism Awards 2018-19 in New Delhi. Uttarakhand Governor: Gurmit Singh; Chief minister: Pushkar Singh Dhami

21. Indian women's rights activist, Srishti Bakshi was honoured with the 'Changemaker' award at UN SDG Action Awards.

Note: Reason: For confronting gender-based violence and advocating for safe access to public spaces. This is a flagship of the UN SDG Action Campaign that 'Mobilise, Inspire and Connect' people to drive action towards a more sustainable future on a healthy planet. Other categories awards:

- Mobilise: SUPvivors say NO MORE
- Inspire: Masungi Story
- Connect: CyprusInno

1. Colin de Grandhomme, who has announced his retirement from international cricket, was a player of **New Zealand**.
Note: He has played 29 Test matches scoring 1432 runs at 38.70, including centuries against the West Indies and South Africa. His best score was 120 not out. He has also registered 49 wickets in the format at an average of 32.95, including six for 41 on debut against Pakistan.
2. **Apeksha Fernandes** becomes the first Indian woman to reach the final of the World Junior Swimming Championships.
Note: She has finished eighth in the 200m women's butterfly summit clash in Lima, Peru. She clocked 2:19.14 to finish last in the eight-swimmer final. Her previous best was 2:18.39 set in June which is awaiting ratification by the Swimming Federation of India.
3. **Pallathuruthy boat club** team has won the 68th edition of Nehru Trophy for a boat race, was organised on Punnamadlake, Alappuzha district of Kerala.
Note: 'MahadevikkaduKattilThekkethil' by Pallathuruthy boat club won the trophy. While NCDL Boat club's 'Nadubhagam' of Kumarakam has secured the second place in the race. The boat of Pallathuruthy boat club has won the title by clearing the distance of 1.15 km in 4.30.77 minutes.
4. **Red Bull driver, Max Verstappen** has lifted the 2022 Formula One Dutch Grand Prix auto race, at the Zandvoort racetrack, in Zandvoort, Netherlands.
Note: Mercedes driver, George Russell of Britain has secured second place while the Ferrari driver, Charles Leclerc of Monaco has secured third place in the race. Mercedes's driver, Lewis Hamilton has placed fourth.
5. **AnishkaBiyani** has won the gold medal in the Malaysian Age Group Rapid Chess Championship at Kuala Lumpur.
Note: She is a first-grade student of DhirubhaiAmbaniSchool and achieved the feat in the Under-6 Open category. She has also qualified as one of the best under-7 players in the All India FIDE rating chess tournament held in Yousufguda, Hyderabad.
6. Union Home Minister, Amit Shah has launched the mascot and the anthem for **36th** edition of the National Games at Trans Stadia in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
Note: Mascot: Savaj (means cub in Gujarati); Anthem is based on the theme of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat. The National Games will be organised in six cities of the state namely Ahmedabad, Gandhinagar, Surat, Vadodara, Rajkot and Bhavnagar. He has also launched the official website -www.nationalgamesgujarat.in and the mobile App NGGujarat.
7. Mushfiqur Rahim, who has recently announced his retirement from Twenty20 international cricket, is associated **Bangladesh**.
Note: He would continue to take part in the Bangladesh Premier League, other two formats of the game (Test and ODI) and other Twenty20 franchise tournaments. His decision came after Bangladesh lost their Group B matches in the Asia Cup against Afghanistan and Sri Lanka in UAE. He has played in 102 T20 matches for Bangladesh and scored 1,500 runs at 19.48.
8. Indian Cricketer who is fondly known as Mr. IPL, has announced his retirement from all formats of cricket, is **Suresh Raina**.
Note: Suresh Raina has represented India in 18 tests, 226 ODIs and 78 T20s in his 13 years of international cricket career. He has 5615 runs from 226 ODIs and 1605 from 78 T20Is for India. He was part of the Indian cricket team that has won the 2011 World Cup and 2013 Champions Trophy under Dhoni's leadership.
9. **Mastercard** has become the title sponsor for all international matches (both women and men) held on home ground, domestic cricket matches held in India for the 2022-23 season.
Note: Aim: At enhancing Mastercard's connection with cricket lovers across the country. Mastercard CEO: Michael Miebach; HQs: New York, United States.
10. Gold medallist javelin thrower, Neeraj Chopra has become the first Indian to win the prestigious Zurich Diamond League Final 2022 in Switzerland with best throw of **88.44m**.
Note: While, Olympic silver medallist, Jakub Vadlejch of Czech Republic has finished second with a best throw of 86.94m. Julian Weber of Germany was third with a best of 83.73metre. He was also awarded a USD 30,000 prize money and a wild card for the 2023 World Athletics Championships in Hungary.
11. In the 15th edition of the Asia Cup, **Sri Lanka** has lifted 6th Asia Cup title after defeating Pakistan by 23 runs at the Dubai International Stadium, UAE.
Note: Sri Lanka all-rounder, Wanindu Hasaranga has been selected as the Player of the Series. While Bhanuka Rajapaksa (Sri Lankan) has been named the Player of the Match for his batting performance in the final. International Cricket Council (ICC) HQ: Dubai, UAE; Chairman: Greg Barclay
12. Aaron Finch has announced his retirement from one-day international cricket following the final

game of a three-match series against New Zealand, was former captain of **Australia captain**.

Note: He had an impressive record that includes over 5400 runs with 17 centuries under his name. He has made his debut against Sri Lanka at the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG) in 2013 and smashed his maiden hundred against Scotland, scoring 148 runs.

13. Spanish, Carlos Alcaraz has defeated **Casper Ruud** to secure his maiden Men's Singles title at the 2022 US Open tennis.

Note: He is the youngest men's Grand Slam champion since Rafael Nadal won the French Open in 2005. Women's singles: Iga Świątek (Poland). Men's doubles: Rajeev Ram (US) / Joe Salisbury (UK); Women's doubles: Barbora Krejčíková (Czech Republic) / Kateřina Siniaková (Czech Republic); Mixed doubles: Storm Sanders / John Peers (Australia)

14. Sikkim will host Ranji trophy matches for the first time in December 2022 at **Mining Cricket Ground near Rangpo**.

Note: The state will welcome three northeast teams i.e. Mizoram, Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh. The decision was taken by BCCI that will act as a game-changer in cricket's promotion in Sikkim. Along with Ranji Trophy matches, Sikkim will also play two Cooch Behar Trophy matches, and three Col CK Nayudu Trophy matches at Mining Cricket Ground.

15. **Max Verstappen** has secured title of Formula One Italian Grand Prix 2022.

Note: Ferrari Driver, Charles Leclerc has secured second spot in the Grand Prix, while George Russell (Mercedes) placed third in the event. Lewis Hamilton (Seven times world champion) has also raced and finished in the fifth position, while Nyck de Vries finished ninth in his F1 debut.

16. **India** has secured the **South Asian Football Federation (SAFF)** U-17 Championship title after defeating Nepal by 4-0 in the final in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Note: India has played well to lift the title for the fourth time (2013, 2017, 2019, 2022). India captain, Vanlalpeka Guite has named the **Most Valuable Player** of the Tournament, while goalkeeper, Sahil won the Best Goalkeeper awards. SAFF members: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka

17. Indian woman wrestler **Vinesh Phogat** has clinched a bronze in 53-kilogram category at the World Championships, in Belgrade, Serbia.

Note: She becomes the first Indian woman wrestler to win two medals at the World Championships. She

has defeated reigning European champion, Emma Malmgren of Sweden. This is her second bronze medal at the Championships.

18. Roger Federer has announced his retirement, is associated with **Tennis**.

Note: He has played more than 1500 matches over 24 years the Marvel of Tennis exponent Federer. He has played his first junior match in 1996 at the age of 14 at a grade 2 tournament in Switzerland. He won his first grand slam championship at Wimbledon in 2003 at 21.

19. Rachael Haynes, who has announced her retirement from international cricket at the age of 35, is belong to **Australian**.

Note: But, she would play one more season for Sydney Thunder in the Women's Big Bash League. The left-hand batter has scored 3,818 runs in more than 150 internationals over all three formats since her debut in 2009. She has won six global titles with Australia and became the vice-captain in 2018.

20. **Pranav Anand** has become the 76th Grandmaster of India in the ongoing World Youth Chess Championship in Mamaia, Romania.

Note: He has crossed the 2,500 Elo mark in the ongoing event in Romania. He has already met the other requirements that are necessary for a GM title. Eligibility to become GM: A player need to secure three GM norms and cross the live rating of 2,500 Elo points. He had scored the third and final GM norm at the 55th Biel Chess in Switzerland.

21. **Linda Fruhvirtova (Czech)** has secured the 2022 WTA Chennai Open after beating third seed, Magda Linette (Poland) by 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 at the SDAT Stadium, Chennai.

Note: At 17 years and 141 days old, she is the youngest titlist of the season on the WTA Tour so far. She is the youngest singles champion on tour since Coco Gauff won Parma last year at 17 years, 70 days old. Doubles WTS Chennai Open: Gabriela Dabrowski and Luisa Stefani.

22. In men's wrestling, **Bajrang Punia** has secured bronze medal in the men's 65 kg category at World Wrestling Championships.

Note: He defeated Sebastian C Rivera from Puerto Rico by 11-9. This is Punia's fourth medal at the Championships, starting his journey with bronze in 2013. This is India's second medal at the ongoing edition of the World Wrestling Championships.

23. **Bengaluru FC** team has defeated Indian Super League (ISL) giants Mumbai City FC by 2-1 to clinch the 131st edition of the Durand Cup at the Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan in Kolkata.

Note: The goal by Alan Costa in 61st minute gave Bengaluru FC the winning lead against Mumbai. The first edition of the competition was played in 1888.

24. **Bangladesh** country has secured the maiden SAFF Women's Championship title at the Dashrath Rangshala Stadium in Kathmandu, Nepal.

Note: The Bangladesh has defeated hosts Nepal by 3-1 in the finals. Sabina Khatun (Bangladesh skipper) has become the top scorer of the tournament with 8 goals in 5 matches. She was also named as the Most Valuable Player of the tournament for her extraordinary game.

25. Veteran Assamese swimmer, **Elvis Ali Hazarika** has become the first from the North East to cross the North Channel.

Note: The North Channel is the strait between north-eastern Northern Ireland and south-western Scotland. Elvis and his team clocked a timing of 14 hours 38 minutes to achieve this feat. With this, Elvis has become the oldest Indian swimmer to cross the North Channel.

26. **India** will host its maiden MotoGP World Championships race in 2023.

Note: MotoGP commercial rights owner, Dorna has signed an MoU with the Noida-based race promoters, Fairstreet Sports to host the premier two-wheel racing event in India for next seven years. MotoGP has plans to also introduce MotoE into the Indian racing scenario that will not only be a first in Asia but a green initiative with net zero carbon emission.

27. **Eliud Kipchoge (Kenya)** has shattered his own world record by lowering the mark to 2:01:09 (new record) to win at the Berlin Marathon.

Note: His previous best in an official 42.2km race was 2:01:39 set on the same course in 2018. He has long been dubbed the world's best marathon runner. He was the first athlete to run a marathon distance in under two hours in Vienna in 2019. Tigist Assefa (Ethiopia) has won the women's race in a course record of 2:15:37.

Books and Authors

1. **Saumya Saxena** is the writer of the book 'Divorce and Democracy: A History of Personal Law in Post-Independence India'.

Note: A new book on divorce laws and various religions in the post-colonial era was released at the India International Centre. She is a British Academy Fellow at the faculty of History, University of Cambridge, the book talks about the Indian state's difficult dialogue with divorce, which reconciles largely through religion.

2. **Dr Munjpara Mahendra bhai Kalubhai** is the writer of book titled "Science Behind Surya Namaskar".

Note: The book is a collection of evidence-based research on one of the most well-known Yoga asanas at the AIIA. The book was released during the Continuing Medical Education (CME) Programme 2022 organised by the departments of Swasthavritta, Panchakarma, and Darvyaguna in association with Rashtriya Ayurveda Vidyapeeth (RAV), New Delhi.

3. A book titled, 'Forging Mettle: Nrupender Rao and the Pennar Story' has been authored by **Pavan C. Lall**.

Note: In this book, the senior journalist Pavan C. Lall tells the story of Nrupender Rao and his entrepreneurial journey. It is a unique story of how a business built with ethics, social and environmental concern at the core of its values can indeed be profitable and sustainable. This book was published by Harper Business.

4. **Sjoerd Marijne** has authored "Will Power" in which writer shares the inside story of the team's incredible turnaround at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

Note: The book will be published by HarperCollins India and released on September 21. Marijne was appointed as the chief coach of the women's team in 2017. He has played for The Netherlands, and guided the Dutch Under-21 women's side to a World Cup title.

5. **Former President Ram Nath Kovind** has released a book titled "Ambedkar and Modi: Reformer's Ideas Performer's Implementation" in New Delhi.

Note: It illustrates life, works and achievements of Dr. B.R Ambedkar and presents a convergence between the ideals of Dr. Ambedkar and New India's development journey. It has been compiled in 12 chapters by Bluekraft Digital Foundation and has a foreword by music composer and Rajya Sabha member Ilaiyaraaja.

6. Noted Film Actor, Manoj Bajpayee has released a book titled Muskurate Chand Lamhe aur Kuchh Khamoshiyan, was authored by **Jiwesh Nandan**.

Note: The book has been released in presence of Information and Broadcasting Secretary Apurva Chandra in New Delhi. The book offers a collection of poems. The book has been published by Shobit Arya, the founder and publisher of Wisdom Tree, an Indian publishing organisation.

7. The book titled, She Is-Women in STEAM, has been unveiled by Prof. Ajay Sood (Principal Scientific Adviser to GoI) and Alex Ellis (British High

Commissioner), was compiled by **ElsaMarie D'Silva**.

Note: The book has honoured 75 women in STEAM (fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) celebrating gender, leadership, and sustainable development in the fields of STEAM. The book has been illustrated by Supreet K Singh.

8. **Former VP, Venkaiah Naidu** has released a book titled "Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas Sabka Vishwas" at Akashvani Bhawan in New Delhi.
Note: The book was released in the presence of Kerala Governor, Arif Mohammad Khan at an event, organised by Ministry of Information and

Broadcasting. The book is a collection of PM Modi selected speeches between May 2019 and May 2020. The book focuses on 86 speeches of PM on various subjects. The book was published in Hindi and English.

9. **Ira Pande** has translated the award-winning book "Lata: Sur-Gatha" in English that will be released in January 2023.
Note: The announcement has been made by Penguin Random House India (PRHI). This book was originally written in Hindi by writer-poet, Yatindra Mishra. The book has also won the 64th National Film Award and the MAMI Award for Best Writing on Cinema (2016–17).

Science sand Defence

1. Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) has collaborated with the Cyber Security Agency of **Singapore** to design and conduct the Cyber Security Exercise "Synergy" for 13 Countries.
Note: It was a part of the International Counter Ransomware Initiative- Resilience Working Group. The Group is being led by India under the leadership of National Security Council Secretariat. Theme: "Building Network Resiliency to counter Ransomware Attacks".
2. **HM, Amit Shah** has launched the Central Armed Police Forces' eAwas web-portal to operationalise the revised policy of allotment and bring transparency to the allotment process.
Note: The web-portal will enable online registration and allotment of residential quarters to eligible personnel of CAPFs and Assam Rifles. CAPF has been classified into three major categories: Border Guarding Forces; Forces for Internal Security; and Special Task Force
3. The Cabinet Committee on Security has approved the project **Tejas Mark-2** and sanctioned 6,500 crore rupees for designing and developing fighter jet with prototypes, flight testing, and certification.
Note: The allocation comes in addition to the existing 2500 crore rupees sanctioned to HAL. Tejas 2.0 will be equipped with more powerful GE- F414 engines in the 98 Kilonewton thrust class and carry additional payload and weapons as compared to the existing version.
4. **Australia** has signed six space industry MoU with India's based organisation at the Bengaluru Space Expo (BSX) 2022.
Note: HEX20 - Skyroot Aerospace: For launch services, spacecraft avionics and components for Australian space initiatives. QL Space - Skyroot Aerospace: To develop launch facilities in Australia and support joint mineral exploration missions in space. QL Space - GalaxEye: To develop a hybrid optic and radar payload. QL Space - SatSure: To build satellite and AI-based solutions
5. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully demonstrated a new technology with Inflatable Aerodynamic Decelerator (IAD), was designed and developed by **Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC)**.
Note: IAD is a game-changer with multiple applications for future missions including to Mars and Venus. The IAD was successfully test flown in a 'Rohini' sounding rocket from Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station.
6. National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) of India and the UK Government in collaboration with **BAE Systems** to conduct the Cyber Security Exercise for 26 Countries.
Note: Aim: To simulate a large, wide-spread cyber security incident affecting organisations within a country. It is a part of the International Counter Ransomware Initiative- Resilience Working Group. This initiative is being led by India under the leadership of NCSC.
7. The MOXIE has been successfully producing oxygen from Mars carbon dioxide-rich atmosphere since February 2021. **Mars oxygen in-situ resource utilisation experiment** is the full form of MOXIE.
Note: MOXIE, is a lunchbox-sized gadget that generated breathable oxygen on Mars which is equivalent to the effort of a tiny tree. MOXIE was landed on the Mars surface as part of Nasa's Perseverance rover mission. The MOXIE has met its objective of producing 6g of oxygen per hour in each run.
8. NASA has selected **Axiom Space** to develop a moonwalking system for the Artemis III.
Note: Artemis will put humans back on the surface of the Moon for the first time in 50 years. The contract, with a base value of \$228.5 million is a task order to develop the next-generation Artemis

spacesuit. The space agency used its 50 years of spacesuit experience to define the technical and safety requirements for the next generation of spacesuits.

9. IIT-Madras and **University of Sydney** have entered into a research partnership to help address the energy challenges facing nations across the world.
Note: The partnership will see each of the institutions investing AU\$50,000 a year in joint funding for up to four research projects. The partnership will see experts from the two institutions working together to develop research and advanced technology in fields related to energy.
10. DRDO and which armed force have successfully conducted six flight-tests of Quick Reaction Surface to Air Missile (QRSAM) system from Integrated Test Range, Chandipur off the Odisha coast _____.
Note: Aim: To check the pin-point accuracy of the weapon system with state-of-the-art guidance and control algorithms
11. Army's Kharga Corps and **Indian Air Force** conducted a joint exercise to showcase the might and prowess of the armed forces.
Note: Termed "Gagan Strike", the exercise was conducted over a period of four days in several areas of Punjab, bordering Ambala in Haryana. The force multiplier effect of combining these machines with ground operations has enhanced the combat superiority of our forces.
12. **Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd (MDL)** shipbuilder has launched the third Stealth Frigate of Project 17A 'Taragiri'.
Note: The vessel has an approximate launch weight of 3510 Tons. Designed by: Bureau of Naval Design, in-house design of Indian Navy. The ship is 149.02 M long & 17.8 M wide, is propelled by a CODOG combination of two Gas Turbines and 02 Main Diesel Engines. The keel of Taragiri was laid on the 10th of September 2020 and the ship is expected to be delivered by August 2025.
13. Indian Army has been collaborated with **HPCL** to provide a learning platform to less-privileged girl students of Kargil Region in UT Ladakh.
Note: The platform named 'Kargil Ignited Minds', which provide coaching and mentoring to the aspiring girl students. Aim: To prepare 50 girl students for various National-level Engineering & Medical entrance examinations. Focus: To empower the underprivileged girls with limited resources, residing in extreme weather conditions.
14. The navies of India and Japan are carrying out the sixth edition of Japan-India Maritime Exercise (JIMEX 22) hosted by the Indian Navy at **Bay of Bengal**.
Note: Aim: To enhance operational understanding. The Japan Maritime Self Defence Force (JMSDF) has deployed Izumo (helicopter carrier) and Takanami (guided missile destroyer) for this exercise. The Indian Navy has represented by multi-purpose stealth frigate Sahyadri and anti-submarine warfare corvettes Kadmat.
15. **China's space agency** has agreed to join hands with UAE's Mohammed Bin Rashid Space Centre to land a rover on the Moon aboard a lander developed by the latter.
Note: Presently, the UAE is working on launching a rover to the Moon later 2022, under the Emirates Lunar Mission in a lander. The lander has been developed by a Japanese company named ispace. Rover named Rashid, is the robotic rover weighing 10 kg will be carried to the Moon inside the HAKUTO-R (lander).
16. The first female camel riding squad of BSF is ready to be deployed along the India-Pakistan border in Rajasthan and **Gujarat**.
Note: The squad will also participate for the first time in the BSF Raising Day Parade on 1st December. This Squad will be the first of its kind in the world. This squad has received intensive training at the Bikaner Regional Headquarters of BSF under the supervision of skilled trainers.
17. Indian Navy has decommissioned **INS Ajay** after rendering 32 years of glorious service to the nation at Naval Dockyard, Mumbai.
Note: It was commissioned on January 24, 1990 at Poti, Georgia in the erstwhile USSR. It was a part of the 23rd Patrol Vessel Squadron under the operational control of Flag Officer Commanding, Maharashtra Naval Area. Participation: Op Talwar during Kargil War and Op Parakram in 2001
18. ENC Yachting Championship was conducted by INWTC, INS Circas under the aegis of HQENC at **Vishakhapatnam**.
Note: The Prize distribution and closing ceremony were facilitated by the Chief Guest, Cmde Sumantra Hazarika, Director MWC (V). In total 38 races were conducted in Enterprise Dinghly, ILCA 6, ILCA 7 classes, and BicNova Wind Surfer. A total of 46 yachtsmen and 8 yacht women took part in the ENC Yachting Championship.
19. **Israel's** Heron drones would be equipped with strike capabilities as part of the Indian Air Force's Project Cheetah under the Make in India programme.
Note: The Project Cheetah aims to improve the Indian Air Force's fleet of Israeli-made Heron unmanned aerial vehicles with stronger communication capabilities and long-range missiles that can hit enemy sites.
20. **36** satellites of OneWeb, the Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellite Communications Company has been arrived at Satish Dhawan Space Centre ahead of a planned launch from Sriharikota.

Note: The satellites will be launched by the heaviest ISRO rocket, the GSLV-MkIII. OneWeb has partnered with NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) to facilitate the launch. NSIL is the commercial arm of national space agency Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

21. The researchers of **China** have discovered a rare lunar crystal and nuclear power source on near side of the moon.

Note: Changesite-(Y): It is a small, transparent crystal (Diamond shape). It was named after the Chinese moon goddess Chang'e. It is as wide as a human hair. Chang'e-5 Mission: It is China's first lunar sample-return mission and fifth lunar exploration mission.

22. **ISRO's Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre** has developed an intelligent artificial limb, under an MoU with National Institute for Locomotor Disabilities, Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya National Institute for Persons with Physical Disabilities (Divyangjan).

Note: Weight: 1.6 kg; It has enabled an amputee to walk about 100 metres in the corridor with minimum support. It is a microprocessor-controlled knees (MPKs) that offers extended capabilities for the amputee.

23. The Defence Ministry has signed an MoU with Bank of Baroda and **HDFC Bank** under the SPARSH (System for Pension Administration).

Note: Aim: To cover pension of seventeen lakh defence pensioners across the country. The Defence Secretary, Dr Ajay Kumar has announced that the average time in pension settlement has come down significantly to about 16 days. Till now, the SPARSH initiative has crossed one million pensioners onboard mark and disbursed 11,600 crore rupees in the 2021-22

24. An Indo-US coast guard joint exercise called Abhyas-01/22 held was conducted in **Chennai coast**.

Note: Aim: Search and rescue, anti-piracy operation and coordinated joint boarding of vessels Anti-piracy demonstration: A scenario of pirates hijacking a ship was created and the coast guard personnel of both the countries carried out a coordinated interdiction of the vessel. Search and rescue operation involves activities and external fire-fighting to salvage burning ships.

25. **Israeli Navy** has completed a complex test of the Gabriel V anti-ship missile system from the new Sa'ar 6 corvette.

Note: The missile was manufactured by Israel Aerospace Industries, IAI. Range: over 200 km

26. The Ministry of Defence has signed an agreement with BrahMos Aerospace Pvt. Ltd. (BAPL) for acquisition of additional dual-role capable Surface to Surface BrahMos missiles for **₹1700 Crore (approx)** under "Buy-Indian" Category.

Note: The Induction of these dual-role capable Missiles will enhance the operational capability of Indian Navy fleet assets. BrahMos variants can be launched from land, air and sea, and all three variants are in service in the Indian armed forces.

27. **DRDO** has conducted successful test flights of Very Short Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS) missiles at the Integrated Test Range, Chandipur, Odisha.

Note: It is a Man Portable Air Defence System that is designed and developed by DRDO's Research Centre Imarat, Hyderabad in collaboration with other DRDO facilities. Use: To neutralize low-altitude aerial threats at short ranges. The design of the missile including the launcher has been highly optimized to ensure easy portability

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