

Monthly GK Digest

October 2022



Monthly Digest **October-2022**

Dear readers,

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

Banking & Financial Awareness

1. An amount of **Rs 1,47,686 crore** of gross GST revenue has been collected in the month of September 2022.

Note: Central GST: Rs 25,271 crore; State GST: Rs 31,813 crore; Integrated GST: Rs 80,464 crore (including Rs 41,215 crore collected on import of goods) and Cess is Rs 10,137 crore (including Rs 856 crore collected on import of goods) The GST revenues for September 2022 are 26% higher than revenue in same month last year. GST mop-up has been over ₹ 1.40 lakh crore for seven months in a row.

2. **SBI** will adopt 30 remote villages across India under the 4th phase of the 'Gram Seva' program.

Note: This is one of the flagship CSR programs of SBI Foundation. The bank will adopt remote villages across Aspirational Districts in Haryana, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, and West Bengal. Aim: Comprehensive development of villages by active intervention in areas like education, healthcare, livelihoods, and infrastructure.

3. As per the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) Trade and Development Report 2022, **5.7%** would be the expected economic growth of India for 2022.

Note: Reason: Higher financing cost and weaker public expenditures. The organization has also predicted that the GDP of country will further decelerate to 4.7% in 2023. India has experienced an expansion of 8.2 per cent in 2021.

4. As per the WTO, **-2.8% to 4.6%** would be the global trade growth for 2023.

Note: Reason: Sharply higher energy and food prices and rising interest rates curb import demand. As per the report, the merchandise trade would increase by 3.5% in 2022-23, up from its April estimate of 3%. However, for 2023, it sees trade growth of just 1%, compared with a previous forecast of 3.5%. The WTO has provided a band of trade growth expansion of 2% to 4.9% for 2022-23 and of -2.8% to 4.6% for 2023.

5. The investment arm of World Bank, the International Finance Corp. (IFC) has launched financing facility of amount **\$6 billion**.

Note: Aim: To strengthen private sector's ability to respond to the crisis and help support food production. Concern: The Ukraine war and an uneven global recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic have raised the levels of hunger and malnourishment. This crises have already worsened by climate change (damaging harvests and reducing yields).

6. **National Payments Corporation of India** has signed a historic MoU with Central Bank Of Oman to launch the Rupay debit card in Oman.

Note: The MoU was signed during the visit of MoS for External Affairs and Parliamentary Affairs, V. Muraleedharan to Oman. It enables the acceptance of Indian RuPay cards issued by banks in India at all OmanNet network ATMs, POS & E-commerce sites. As a reciprocal, acceptance of Oman cards/MPCSS in the networks of NPCI in India.

7. Nabard has sanctioned Rs 221.99 crore under the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) to **Punjab** government.

Note: Reason: For the construction of 2,328 additional classrooms, 762 labs and 648 playgrounds in rural schools in all 23 districts of Punjab. Presently, there are 632 projects involving the RIDF assistance of Rs 686 crore under varous stages of implementation by the Department of School Education, Punjab.

8. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved amalgamation of **Zee Entertainment Enterprises Limited (ZEE)** and Bangla Entertainment Private Limited (BEPL) with Culver Max Entertainment Private Limited (CME), with certain modifications.

Note: CME: It is an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Sony Group Corporation (SGC), is part of the SGC group (SGC Group). BEPL: It is also an indirect

- wholly owned subsidiary of SGC and a part of the SGC Group.
- 9.** A new 'SupTech' initiative **DAKSH** was launched by the Governor of RBI, Shaktikanta Das.
- Note:** Aim: It will be the advanced supervisory monitoring system of bank. It will help to make the supervisory processes more robust. With the help of this, RBI shall monitor compliance requirements in a more focused manner. This also improves the compliance culture in Supervised Entities (SEs) like Banks, NBFCs, etc.
- 10. HDFC Bank** has launched an one-stop merchant solution app named SmartHub Vyapar Merchant app.
- Note:** It is a comprehensive payments and banking solution. It is designed to fulfill the everyday business needs of merchants. This app would facilitate instant, digital and paperless merchant on-boarding for HDFC Bank customers. It also allow merchants to accept interoperable payments across multiple payment modes which include Cards – Tap & Pay, UPI and QR code.
- 11.** As per the World Bank, **6.5%** would be the GDP growth forecast of India for 2022-23.
- Note:** Reason: The impact of the ongoing war in Ukraine, rising global interest rates and high inflation. The organization has also noted that slowing global demand will impact the country's exports. Recently, RBI has cut the economic growth projection for the current fiscal to 7%. UNCTAD has also declined the India's economic growth will decline to 5.7% for 2022-23.
- 12.** As per the new direction of RBI, regarding the appointment of Internal Ombudsman for all Credit Information Companies (CICs), every CIC must appoint the Internal Ombudsman for a fixed term of **3 to 5 years**.
- Note:** Either a retired or a serving officer. Not below the rank of Deputy GM or equivalent, should have at least seven years of experience in banking sector. Not attain the age of 70 before completion of the proposed term. No reappointment for extension of term in the same CIC.
- 13.** RBI has released a Concept Note on CBDC to create awareness about Digital Rupee. **Central Bank Digital Currency** is the full form of CBDC.
- Note:** This note explains the objectives, choices, benefits, and risks of issuing a digital currency in India. It also discusses issues like technology and design choices, possible uses of the Digital Rupee, issuance mechanisms, and role of RBI in introduction of the CBDT. RBI will soon commence the launch of Digital Rupee on a pilot basis for specific use.
- 14. ICICI** bank has launched a "Smart Wire" to help customers with SWIFT-based inward remittances in a faster and hassle-free manner.
- Note:** ICICI Bank becomes the first bank in the country to launch such a service. The Smart Wire facility will allow both NRIs and resident customers to undertake inward remittance transactions in an online and paperless way. Important features includes: Online submission of details; Digital declarations; Block exchange rates; Online tracking
- 15.** The government and LIC will together divest **60.72** percent of stakes in the IDBI Bank.
- Note:** The Centre will divest a 30.48% stake while LIC will offload 30.24%. For this, the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) has invited expressions of interest (EoIs) from potential bidders. The potential investor should have a minimum net worth of ₹22,500 crore, must report net profit in three out of the past five years, will be eligible for bidding.
- 16. South Indian Bank** has bagged a world record for staging and swinging the highest 101 Oonjals (Jhoolas).
- Note:** The South Indian Bank has organized an event 'Onnichirikkam Oonjaladam'. The World Book of Records team has also presented the award to South Indian Bank officials. Swings were made using wood and rope in the traditional way.
- 17.** SEBI has granted its in-principle approval to **BSE** for introducing a social stock exchange as a separate segment.
- Note:** Social stock exchange will enable the listing of non-profit organisations and for-profit social enterprises that are engaged in 15 broad eligible social activities approved by the market regulator. These social entities can raise funds through equity, issue of zero-coupons zero-principal bonds, MF, social impact funds and development impact bonds.
- 18.** As per the World Economic Outlook 2022 report, **6.8%** would be the GDP growth forecast of India for 2022-23.
- Note:** The IMF has also predicted that India will remain on track to become one of the fastest-growing economies in the world. While, IMF has projected that global growth will slow from 6% in 2021 to 3.2% in 2022 and 2.7% in 2023. IMF has also expected that inflation in India will come down to 4% range next year.
- 19. Pune based Seva Vikas Co-operative Bank** has been cancelled by RBI with effect from October 10, 2022 due to lack of adequate capital and earning prospects.
- Note:** As per the data submitted by the bank, about 99% of the depositors are entitled to receive the full amount of their deposits from DICGC. RBI has also imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 48 lakh on Kerala State Co-operative Bank Ltd, Thiruvananthapuram for non-compliance of 'Gold Loan - Bullet Repayment'.
- 20. IDBI Bank** has signed an MoU with Vayana Network for end-to-end digitalization services.

Note: Aim: To contribute in the growth of the supply chain finance penetration in India, which is less than 1% of gross domestic product (GDP) and contributes only 5% of the outstanding banking assets IDBI Bank has an existing CMS and e-trade platform. With this partnership, the bank aims to provide complete digital solutions to corporate banking and small business clients.

- 21. State Bank of India** has unveiled its next-gen Contact Centre service for an enhanced and more personalized customer experience.

Note: This revamped Contact Centre will set a new industry benchmark by providing 30+ banking solutions in 12 languages, with the availability of 24x7. The bank has introduced easy-to-remember 4-digit toll-free numbers (1800-1234 or 1800-2100) to simplify the process further. The contact centre is also helping in early stage collections.

- 22.** The Reserve Bank has raised the minimum capital requirement for setting up an asset reconstruction company (ARC) to **Rs 300 crore** from Rs 100 crore.

Note: Aim: To strengthen the securitisation sector which plays a vital role in the management of distressed financial assets. RBI has generally requested all ARCs to gradually increase their minimum net-owned fund to Rs200 crore by the end of March 2024 and Rs300 crore by the end of March 2026.

- 23.** RBL Bank and **BookMyShow** have partnered to launch a new credit card named 'Play'.

Note: With this card, RBL Bank will be able to reach BMS's wide base of 200 million monthly customer visits. This card will be available to select customers on BookMyShow and give them access to offers on transactions. While BMS customers can purchase this credit card for an annual fee of Rs 500. Earlier in 2016, RBL Bank had partnered with BMS for the launch of Fun Plus credit card.

- 24.** As per the data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO), **7.41%** is the retail inflation of India in September 2022.

Note: The number retains above the RBI upper tolerance band (2-6 per cent) for the ninth straight month. The food inflation has been surged to a 22-month high of 8.6% while core inflation rose to a 4-month high of 6.3%. Meanwhile, industrial growth has been contracted 0.8% in August as compared to 2.4% in July.

- 25.** The World Bank (WB) has extended an unconditional loan of \$250 million to the SALT project. This project was launched by **Andhra Pradesh**.

Note: SALT refers to Supporting Andhra's Learning Transformation. SALT project aims to improve the quality of learning for students in Andhra Pradesh. The SALT is the first project in the school education sector to be funded by the World Bank without any

precondition. It is a five-year result-oriented programme, for which World Bank release funds after key goals are achieved.

- 26. State Bank of India (SBI)** has become the first bank in the country to achieve Rs 6-trillion Assets Under Management (AUM) in the home loan segment.

Note: SBI has offered a concession of up to 0.25% on Home Loans, 0.15% on Top Up Loans, and 0.30% on Loan Against Property. The bank has also waived off the processing fees on home loans up to January 31. As per the Crisil, the share of bank in the home loan segment has risen to around 62% as of March 2022.

- 27. USD 532.868 billion** of forex reserves of India was recorded on 7th October 2022.

Note: Reason: An increase in the value of gold holdings. Foreign Currency Assets (FCAs) was decreased to USD 471.496 billion. SDRs has been increased by USD 155 million to USD 17.582 billion. Reserve position of India with IMF increased to USD 4.836 billion. Last week, the overall reserves were dropped by USD 4.854 billion to USD 532.664 billion.

- 28. DCB Bank** has been relaunched Suraksha Fixed Deposit (FD) as a festive treat for customers.

Note: The bank offers higher interest rates and free insurance as well as other benefits on this FD. Free life insurance coverage up to Rs 10 lakh if the value of FD is more than Rs. 10 lakh. Interest rate: 7.10% p.a. No insurance premium will be paid by Suraksha FD customer. No medical evaluation is required for life insurance coverage.

- 29. Global Alliance for Mass Entrepreneurship** had signed an MoU with DAY-National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) to enable financial access for the growth of 10 lakh women entrepreneurs over 3 years.

Note: Aim: To strengthen non-farm livelihoods by building the capacity of women entrepreneurs (WEs). Focus: Building capacity of stakeholders and bankers from public sector banks, digitally-led NBFCs and small finance banks.

- 30. The Indian Army** has signed an MoU with **11 banks** for providing banking facilities to Agniveers on enrollment.

Note: 11 Banks: SBI, PNB, Bank of Baroda, IDBI Bank, ICICI Bank, HDFC Bank, Axis Bank, Yes Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, IDFC First Bank and Bandhan Bank. The features and benefits offered under Agniveer salary package are similar to defence salary package. The banks have also offered soft loans to exiting Agniveers to promote and enhance their entrepreneurial skills.

- 31. PM Narendra Modi** has dedicated **75** digital banking units (DBUs) to the nation to promote financial inclusion.

Note: The ceremony was attended by Union Finance Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman and RBI Governor, Shaktikanta Das via virtual mode. The setting up of

75 DBUs in 75 districts of the country was done to commemorate the 75 years of independence of the country. 11 public sector banks, 12 private sector banks and one small finance bank are participating in the endeavour.

32. Karnataka Bank bank has launched a Term Deposit Scheme "KBL Centenary Deposit Scheme" with higher rate of interest.

Note: Aim: To provide an opportunity to bank customers to save and invest for better returns. This deposit will be for a period of 555 days with interest rate of 7.20 % p.a. For Senior Citizens the rate of interest will be 7.60 % p.a. Karnataka Bank MD & CEO: Mahabaleshwara M S; Chairman: P Pradeep Kumar

33. Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) has launched a new scheme 'Dhan Varsha'.

Note: This is a non-linked, non-participating, individual, savings life insurance plan that offers a combination of protection and savings. This is a close ended plan and would be available for sale till March 31, 2023. Premiums can be paid in single (lumpsum) payment mode only. The policy can be surrendered by the policyholder at any time during the policy term.

34. SBI General Insurance company has joined hands with Gupshup to offer a new insurance policy, renew an existing one, intimate claims and more, through WhatsApp.

Note: Customers across the country can buy insurance from SBI General by sending a 'Hi'. The Gupshup's chat bot will guide users through a simple and secure buying process. It also help them to complete the purchase within the WhatsApp chat thread.

35. CASHe has partnered with Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) to provide a 'travel now pay later' (TNPL) payment option on its IRCTC Rail Connect app.

Note: This feature will enable travellers of Indian Railways to book their rail tickets instantly and pay for it later in EMIs, ranging from three to six months. With this option, the booking and paying for rail tickets on the IRCTC travel app, is become easier and hassle-free.

36. World Bank has appointed neutral expert and chairman of the Court of Arbitration regarding the design features of the Kishenganga (330 megawatts) and Ratle (850 megawatts) hydroelectric power plants.

Note: Reason: For disagreements and differences between India and Pakistan over the 1960 Indus Water Treaty (IWT). Michel Lino has been appointed as the Neutral Expert. Sean Murphy has been appointed as Chairman of the Court of Arbitration.

37. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has imposed monetary penalties of more than ₹392 crore on MakeMyTrip (MMT), Goibibo, and **OYO**.

Note: Reason: For alleged unfair business practices. CCI imposed a fine of ₹223.48 crore on Make My Trip-Goibibo (MMT-Go) and ₹168.88 crore on OYO. CCI was investigating the companies since 2019 following allegations by a hotel body that MMT gave special treatment to Oyo on its platform. While, MMT-Go imposed price parity on hotel partners.

38. Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Irdai) has recently approved the launch of **Bima Sugam** portal for all insurance companies can sell life and non-life insurance on a single platform.

Note: The portal will be operationalised from 1 January 2023. Aggregators like PolicyBazaar, brokers, banks and insurance agents will act as facilitators or bridges to sell insurance policies through Bima Sugam to individuals.

39. India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) has joined hands with Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) to enhance the reach of financial solutions to large sections of society across India.

Note: Under the arrangement, both will plan, design and execute innovative products to bridge the gap by bringing digitalised services at the customer's doorstep. RBIH, a wholly-owned subsidiary of RBI, that promotes and facilitates innovation across the financial sector.

40. As per the government data, PM Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) has crossed the **₹1.75 lakh crore** mark on October 5, 2022.

Note: The total number of beneficiaries has reached 47 crore. Women hold a bigger share of 26.16 crore accounts, of which the bulk 31.42 crore accounts were in rural and semi-urban areas. Of the total, PSBs held Rs 1.35 lakh crore, followed by Regional Rural Banks with Rs 34,573 crore. About 18% of total accounts are either dormant or inoperative as on June 2022.

41. Fintech firm, Cyngnet has received in-principle approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to operate as a non-banking financial company (NBFC) account aggregator.

Note: Account Aggregator: It is an open financing data-sharing protocols, regulated by the RBI. It allows consumers to instantly share their financial data with various financial institutions. It also facilitates financial institutions to quick access consumers' consent-based financial data.

42. Mahindra and Mahindra Financial Services Ltd has partnered with **India Post Payments Bank** to enhance credit access to a larger customer base.

Note: IPPB will provide lead referral services to Mahindra Finance for passenger vehicles, three-wheeler, tractor and commercial vehicle loan categories. As a pilot, this scheme would launch in

- the IPPB branches of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh. It is expected to spread across other states over the next four-six months.
- 43.** The finance ministry has released the total grant of **Rs 1,764 crore** to Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, and Uttar Pradesh.
- Note:** Andhra Pradesh (Rs 136 crore), Chhattisgarh (Rs 109 crore), Maharashtra (Rs 799 crore) and Uttar Pradesh (Rs 720 crore). The govt has released the grants for Million Plus Cities/ Urban Agglomerations (MPC/UAs) of Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh; Durg Bhilainagar and Raipur in Chhattisgarh; Aurangabad, Greater Mumbai, Nagpur, Nashik, Pune and Vasai-Virar City in Maharashtra.
- 44.** The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has imposed a penalty of over 1,337 crore rupees on **Google**.
- Note:** Reason: For misusing its dominant position in multiple markets. The Commission has also directed Google to modify its conduct within a defined timeline. Google has leveraged its position in the app store market for Android OS to enter as well as protect its position in non-OS specific web browser market through Google Chrome App.
- 45.** **PhonePe** fintech firm has launched its first green data centre in India, leveraging technologies and solutions from Dell Technologies and NTT.
- Note:** This facility has opened up new opportunities in data management with efficient data security, power efficiency, and cloud solutions. This 4.8-megawatt facility will occupy 13740 sqft at Mahape, Navi Mumbai. It is built and designed with advanced alternative cooling technologies like Direct Contact Liquid Cooling and Liquid Immersion Cooling.
- 46.** **HDFC Securities** has opened its the first-ever women-only Digital Centre (DC) in India.
- Note:** The centre, staffed with a team of women, will serve both male and female investors. The DC will be based in Bengaluru and cater to customers from Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. This closely follows the company's announcement regarding the opening of multiple DCs across India to ease access to services and promote digital adoption.
- 47.** **Karnataka Bank** has bagged National Digital Transformation Awards DX 2022 Awards for best practice in digital transformation under BFSI segment.
- Note:** The award was instituted by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). This award was given in recognition of the "Innovative Excellence" in 'KBL HR NxT - Employee Engagement', 'KBL Operations NxT - Operational Excellence' and 'KBL Customer NxT - Customer Experience'. Bank has launched KBL Vikas in 2017, KBL NxT in 2021.
- 48.** **IndusInd Bank** has raised \$150 million loan from the United States International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) to expand its microfinance portfolio.
- Note:** The mains focus of the loan to boost the access to finance for women borrowers, as well as uplifting the livelihoods of these women and their families. The bank will use the proceeds to lend to women borrowers in rural communities of Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, and Bihar. IndusInd Bank MD and CEO: Suman Kathpalia
- 49.** **Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE)** has launched Electronic Gold Receipt (EGR) on its platform.
- Note:** Aim: Efficient and transparent price discovery of the yellow metal. The EGR was introduced in two new products of 995 and 999 purity and trading will be in multiples of 1 gram and deliveries in multiples of 10 gram and 100 gram. This platform will lead to greater assurance in the quality of gold supplied, efficient price discovery, and transparency in transacting.
- 50.** IRDAI has set up a committee of 24-member to develop and suggest an affordable and comprehensive cover for the rural population, which will be headed by **Thomas M Devasia, Member (non-life), IRDAI**.
- Note:** While the proposed cover will be a benefit based / parametric structure, called Bima Vistaar. IRDAI has asked committee to develop and suggest constitution and operation of women centric distribution channel to focus on reaching rural areas and recommend regulatory framework.
- 51.** CRISIL has upgraded its long-term rating on the bank facilities and debt instruments of **Muthoot FinCorp** to 'CRISIL AA-'.
- Note:** It has also upgraded the ratings of Muthoot Microfin Ltd, Muthoot Capital Services Ltd and Muthoot Housing Finance Company Ltd, to A+. These upgrades are driven by improvement in the capitalisation profile and expected improvement in the earnings profile of MPG. Chairman of Muthoot Pappachan Group: Thomas John Muthoot
- 52.** As per the International Monetary Fund (IMF), **4.0%** would be the economic forecasts of Asia for 2022-23.
- Note:** Reason: Global monetary tightening; Rising inflation (due to war in Ukraine); and Sharp slowdown in China The IMF has expected that the growth of China to slow to 3.2% in 2022-23. As per the IMF, the China economy would grow to 4.4% in next year and 4.5% in 2024.
- 53.** **Odisha** state government has launched a common credit portal SAFAL (Simplified Application for Agricultural Loans) for the welfare of farmers.
- Note:** This credit facility will enable farmers and agri-entrepreneurs to access more than 300 term loan products of over 40 banks. This portal has been integrated with Krushak Odisha and will have access

Authority of India Infrastructure Investment Trust-NHAI InvIT.

Note: Minister informed that 25% of Non-Convertible Debentures (NCDs) have been reserved for retail investors with minimum investment slab being just Rs 10,000. NCDs offer an effective yield of 8.05% per annum with highest credibility

54. RBI has lifted ban on **Tamilnad Mercantile Bank (TMB)** after three years, which prevented the banker from opening new branches.

Note: The restrictions was rescinded with effect from October 21, 2022. The restriction was imposed by RBI on TMB in 2019 after the bank's shareholders decided to raise authorized share capital to Rs 500 crore. The central bank objected to the bank not raising its subscribed capital to at least half of the authorized capital as required.

55. **Indian Bank** has launched six new digital initiatives under 'Project WAVE' to enhance customer experience through integrated services on its digital platform.

Note: The bank will provide online vehicle and health insurance through its mobile banking app IndOASIS, in association with Universal Sompo General Insurance. Bank partnered with Rupee Capital to offer jewel loan at doorsteps. The bank has extended pre-approved personal loans to self-employed customers of the bank.

56. IRDAI has set up a 15-member Health Insurance Consultative Committee with an aim to achieve the goal of universalisation of health insurance in the country, that will be headed by **Rakesh Joshi**.

Note: The panel has been set up for two years. He will be responsible for identifying the challenges in carrying out the health insurance business smoothly and make recommendations to facilitate ease of doing business.

57. **IPPB** has launched a group accident insurance plan with an accidental death coverage of Rs 10 lakh.

Note: It has been launched in partnership with TATA AIG and Bajaj Allianz General Insurance companies, will offer the insurance plan at a premium of Rs 399 or Rs 396 p.a. The policy will be issued digitally in five minutes using a smartphone or a fingerprint sensor carried by the postman under e-KYC (Aadhaar based) method. Age between 18 and 65 years can join this insurance plan

58. **Dabur India** FMCG firm has announced that it will acquire 51% stake in Badshah Masala in a Rs 587.52-crore deal.

Note: While the balance 49% of the equity share will be acquired after a period of 5 years. With this acquisition, Dabur India aspires to expand its Foods business to Rs 500 crore in 3 years and expand into new adjacent categories. This also marks Dabur's entry into the over Rs 25,000-crore branded spices and seasoning market in India.

59. **Nitin Gadkari** rang the opening bell at Bombay Stock Exchange to mark the listing of Non-Convertible Debentures of National Highways

60. **Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank** and LIC have renewed their agreement through an MOU for bancassurance tie-up.

Note: Aim: To increase insurance penetration in rural areas and to provide better deal to customers on service and premium The bank will market products of LIC through its 639 branches. Bancassurance: Selling life Insurance products through the bank branches.

61. SEBI has extended the deadline for implementation of the Rs 25 crore-threshold rule for direct ETF transactions with asset management companies to **May 1, 2023**.

Note: This is the second time the Securities and Exchange Board of India. Rule: To enhance liquidity in units of ETFs in stock exchange platforms, direct transactions with AMCs will be facilitated for investors only when the transaction amount is greater than Rs 25 crore.

62. Employee insurance **Healthysure** platform has partnered ManipalCigna Health Insurance to launch India's first flexi top-up insurance plan.

Note: This plan will allows employees to personalize and upgrade their corporate health insurance plans. Employees can upgrade their cover, by paying a nominal add-on premium. With this, they will be able to eliminate the need of buying independent personal health cover and it also save up to 90% of premium spending.

63. BSE Technologies (subsidiary of BSE) has launched of KRA, which maintains KYC records of investors in an electronic form. **KYC Registration Agency** is the full form of KRA.

Note: KRA is a Sebi-regulated intermediary that grants the market participants authorisation for investors' Know Your Client (KYC). KRAs need to independently validate records of those clients (existing as well as new) whose KYC has been completed using Aadhaar as an Officially Valid Document (OVD).

64. Life insurance company **Tata AIA Life Insurance** has tied up with Medix to offer consumers access to a local and global network of accredited medical specialists during serious illnesses.

Note: This service is complementary for policyholders who have purchased eligible life insurance products across term, savings, and pension plans. This partnership would also offer the Personal Medical Care Management facility in India,

bringing world class, healthcare advice to consumers.

- 65. Meghalaya** state government has signed an MoU with the Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGFTMSE), under the Ministry of MSME, to help facilitate flow of credit to MSME borrowers.

Note: Aim: To implement the Meghalaya Credit Guarantee Scheme. Presently, the loans taken by MSME borrowers are covered under CGTMSE against a risk coverage of 75% of the loan amount under various MSME schemes.

Obituaries

- 1. Founder, chairman and MD of Suzlon Group and Suzlon Energy Limited,** Tulsi Tanti passed away.

Note: He was also the chairman of Renewable Energy Council of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). He encouraged the wind revolution in India with the founding of Suzlon Energy in 1995. He operated his business from Ahmedabad and has settled in Pune since 2004.

- 2. Actor, Arun Bali** passed away recently.

Note: He was best known for his work on TV show "Swabhimaan" and "3 Idiots". He has started his acting debut with noted filmmaker Lekh Tandon's TV show "Doosra Keval" and his last film is "Goodbye". He was suffering with Myasthenia gravis, an autoimmune disease. This happens when the communication between the muscles and nerve cells become impaired.

- 3. Mulayam Singh Yadav,** passed away, was a founder of **Samajwadi Party**.

Note: He was born in a small village Saifai in the Etawah district of Uttar Pradesh and was a trained wrestler. His had started his political career in 1967 and formed the Samajwadi Party in 1992. He served for three non-consecutive terms as the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh. He was also served as the Minister of Defence (1996 – 1998) and elected an MLA 10 times and an MP seven times.

- 4. Veteran Kavignar Subbu Arumugam,** who passed away, was an exponent of **Villupaattu**, an ancient form of musical story-telling method.

Note: He was conferred with Padma Shri (fourth highest civilian award of India) in 2021. Other awards: Sangeetha Natak Akademi; Kalaimamani Award and Bharathi Award (By Tamil Nadu govt).

- 5. Padma Shri awardee, Temsula Ao,** who has been passed away, was a **Writer**.

Note: She had also served as the Chairperson of the Nagaland State Commission for Women. She was conferred with the Padma Shri in 2007 and also won Sahitya Akademi Award, Nagaland Governor's Award for Distinction in Literature. Books: 'Books of Songs', 'Poetry Here and There', 'These Hills Called Home', 'The Tombstone in My Garden'

- 6. Actor, Robbie Coltrane** passed away.

Note: He had played Hagrid in "Harry Potter" movies. He was known for his role in a crime-solving psychologist on "Cracker", Bond villain

Valentin Dmitrovich Zukovsky in "Golden Eye" (1995) and "The World is Not Enough" (1999). He was awarded the Order of the British Empire by Queen Elizabeth II in 2006.

- 7. Known as the father of Oral rehydration therapy physician,** Dr. Dilip Mahalanabis passed away.

Note: During the Liberation War in Bangladesh in 1971, he saved thousands of lives with the oral rehydration solution during an outbreak of cholera while serving in a refugee camp at Bangaon in West Bengal. It is a solution used to prevent and treat dehydration.

- 8. Deputy Speaker of Karnataka Assembly** Anand Mamani passed away.

Note: He was the three-time MLA, who has represented Saudatti legislative assembly constituency in Karnataka. In 2020, he was unanimously elected as the deputy speaker of Karnataka legislative assembly. He was the son of Chandrashekhar M Mamani, who also served as the deputy speaker in the 1990s.

- 9. Founder of Formula One racing team Red Bull** Dietrich Mateschitz passed away.

Note: He was also a co-founder of energy drink company Red Bull. He was co-founder of the Wings for Life foundation that supports spinal cord research together with Heinz Kinigadner. He has also initiated the World Stunt Awards, an annual fundraiser to benefit his Taurus Foundation.

- 10. Actor Leslie Jordan** passed away.

Note: He has played roles including Lonnie Garr on Hearts Afire, Beverley Leslie on Will & Grace and American Horror Story. He won the Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Guest Actor in a Comedy Series, Will & Grace, in 2006. He had published his autobiography 'How Y'all Doing?: Misadventures and Mischief from a Life Well Lived' in April 2021.

- 11. Bengali films director** Pinaki Chaudhuri passed away.

Note: He was suffering from lymphoma, a cancer of the lymphatic system. He had been awarded the two national awards for Shanghaath (Conflict) in 1996 and for Ballygunge Court in 2007. His other notable films: 'Kakababu Here Gelen?' (Kakababu defeated?), 'Ek Tukro Chand' (A slice of the moon) and 'Arohan' (Ascension).

- 12. Assamese actor** Nipon Goswami passed away.
Note: He was an alumnus of the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune. He was born in Tezpur, and made his acting debut as a child actor in the Assamese film 'Piyoli Phukan'. He has started his film career as the lead actor of the Assamese movie 'Sangra'. His last Assamese film was 'Lankakanda', directed by Rajani Barman.

- 13. Prominent Artist** Neel Pawan Baruah passed away.
Note: He was a prominent painter and illustrator, who founded the Assam Fine Arts & Craft Society at Guwahati in 1971 to revive the art of Brindabanivastra, famous textile painting associated with Mahapurush Srimanta Sankardev. He was awarded the 'Assam Sourabh' award by the Government of Assam in 2021.

Important Days

- 1.** To encourage pension and retirement planning among Indian residents, PFRDA is marking **1st October** as National Pension System (NPS) Diwas.

Note: The Day was established last year as part of a programme to encourage pension and retirement plans for worry-free and Azad retiring. This initiative is being promoted by PFRDA via its social media channels every year on the said date. PFRDA Chairperson: Supratim Bandyopadhyay

- 2.** The International Day of Older Persons has been observed annually on **October 1** with an aim to honour the contribution of older persons and looking into the problems that they face.

Note: The day was introduced by the United Nations General Assembly. Theme 2022: Resilience of Older Persons in a Changing World. The UNGA has passed a resolution the International Day of Older Persons (resolution 45/106) to designate October 1 as International Day of Older Persons day.

- 3.** The United Nations observes on **first Monday of October** as World Habitat Day.

Note: This year, World Habitat Day will be observed on October 3. Focus: Growing inequalities and challenges in cities and human settlements. The 2022 theme is "Mind the Gap. Leave No One and Place Behind". In 1985 the United Nations has designated the first Monday of October every year as World Habitat Day. This day was first celebrated in 1986, Nairobi (Kenya) was the host city.

- 4.** World Teachers' Day is observed every year on **October 5** to honour teachers for their contributions to their students.

Note: 2022 Theme: The Transformation of Education Begins with Teachers. It is observed all over the world over since 1994 after the UNESCO recommendation. On October 5th, 1966, International Labour Organization (ILO) and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco) have signed a recommendation concerning the "Status of Teachers".

- 5.** **World Space Week (WSW)** is observed every year from October 4 to 10.

Note: 2022 theme is "Space and Sustainability". This day observed to celebrate science and

technology, and their contribution towards the betterment of the human condition. October 4 marks the launch of the first human-made Earth satellite, Sputnik 1. The first time this event was celebrated was in 2000. In 2000, the theme was "Launching the Space Millennium."

- 6.** **66th** edition of Dhammachakra Pravartan Day is being celebrated at DeekshaBhoomi in Nagpur, Maharashtra.

Note: Reason: Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar (Architect of the Indian Constitution) has embraced Buddhism on the day of Viajaydashmi on 14th October 1956 with lakhs of his followers. From that date, the day is celebrated as DhammaChakra pravartan day. Millions of followers have reached Deekshaboomi, to pay their respects to the Central memorial of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar in this day.

- 7.** Every year **Breast Cancer** awareness campaign has been observed in the month of October, from 01 to 31.

Note: Aim: To increase awareness of the disease and to raise funds for research into its cause, prevention, diagnosis, treatment and cure. The pink ribbon is an international symbol of breast cancer awareness.

- 8.** The annual observance of World Day for Farmed Animals (WDFA) on **October 2nd (Gandhi's birthday)**.

Note: The day is organised by the International animal welfare organization, World Animal Protection along with Asia for Animals coalition to show the importance and urgency of farm animal welfare.

- 9.** The International Day of Non-Violence is observed on **2nd October**.

Note: This day marks the birthday anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. The day is observed to spread the message of non-violence through public awareness and education. Mahatma Gandhi was born on October 2, 1869. This year, Gandhi Jayanti will mark the 153rd birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

- 10.** Every year, International Coffee Day is observed on **October 1** to celebrate and promote the use of coffee.

Note: The day is marked to celebrate “the coffee sector’s diversity, quality and passion.” It is an opportunity for coffee lovers to share their love of the beverage and support farmers whose livelihood depends on the aromatic crop.

11. World Cerebral Palsy Day is observed on **October 6**.

Note: Cerebral Palsy is a lifelong disability with no known cure. The Theme for World Cerebral Palsy Day 2022 is “Millions of Reasons”. In 1810, Dr. William John Little, the first person to study Cerebral Palsy was born. Harry Jennings built the first modern folding wheelchair in 1932.

12. World Vegetarian Day is celebrated on **first day of October**.

Note: It also kickstarts Vegetarian Awareness Month. Aim: To encourages people to reduce their consumption of animal products. The day is commemorated to create awareness about the benefits of vegetarianism.

13. Indian Air Force Day is observed every year on **8th October**.

Note: Indian Air Force (IAF) was officially established on 8th October 1932, as an auxiliary air force of the British Empire which honoured India's aviation service during World War II with the prefix Royal. First aircraft of IAF came into being on 1st April 1933 with six RAF-trained officers and 19 Havai Sepoys (air soldiers). IAF is celebrating the 90th foundation day in 2022.

14. World Mental Health Day is observed on **October 10** to draw attention to mental health issues and their effects.

Note: The theme for 2022 is “Make mental health & well-being for all a global priority.” The then World Federation for Mental Health (WFMH) Deputy Secretary General, Richard Hunter had initiated the first celebration of World Mental Health Day on October 10, 1992. WFMH is a non-governmental organisation founded in 1948.

15. October 9 is celebrated as Indian Foreign Service Day.

Note: On 9 October 1946, the Indian government established the Indian Foreign Service for India's diplomatic, consular and commercial representation overseas.

16. World Post Day is celebrated each year on **9 October** to mark the anniversary of the establishment of the Universal Postal Union.

Note: It was established on 9th October 1874 in the Swiss Capital, Bern. It was declared World Post Day by the UPU Congress held in Tokyo, Japan in 1969. The theme for World Post Day 2022 is ‘Post for Planet’.

17. The International Day of the Girl Child is observed annually on **October 11** to raise awareness about the gender inequality faced by girls worldwide.

Note: Theme 2022: 'Our time is now - our rights, our future.' On December 2011, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) has adopted resolution to declare 11th October as this day. This day was first celebrated on October 11, 2012.

18. World Arthritis Day is observed globally on **12th October** every year to raise awareness about the existence and impact of rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases.

Note: The theme for 2022 is “It’s in your hands, take action”. The first World Arthritis Day was observed in 1996, in collaboration with The Arthritis and Rheumatism International Foundation.

19. The International E-Waste Day is held on **14 October** to raise awareness about the impacts of e-waste.

Note: This day was first observed in 2018 by the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment recycling (WEEE) Forum. 2022 Slogan: Recycle it all, no matter how small!. UN had estimated that in 2019, over 22 million tonnes small e-waste were produced worldwide.

20. World Standards Day is observed every year on **October 14** to raise awareness about the importance of using standardised measurements, technologies, and industries.

Note: The theme for World Standards Day 2022 is ‘Shared Vision for a Better World.’

21. Global Handwashing Day is marked on **October 15** with the aim of increasing awareness and understanding about the importance of handwashing with soap.

Note: 2022 theme: Unite for Universal Hand Hygiene. The Global Handwashing Partnership has observed the first Global Handwashing Day in 2008 in Stockholm, Sweden. 2008 was also marked the International Year of Sanitation. Later, the United Nations General Assembly marked it as Global Handwashing Day.

22. The International Day of Rural women is observed across the world on **October 15** to promote gender equality and highlight the important role played by women in rural areas.

Note: The United Nations General Assembly has established this day on December 18, 2007. The theme for 2022 is “Rural Women Cultivating Good Food for All”. As per a UN report, approximately 40% of the total agricultural labour force in developing countries comprises women.

23. World Food Day is observed annually on **16 October** to promote global awareness and action for those who suffer from hunger and to highlight the need to ensure healthy diets for all.

Note: 2022 theme: Leave NO ONE behind. This day is led by Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). UN's FAO was established on 16th October, 1945.

- 24.** International Day for the Eradication of Poverty is observed every year on **October 17**.

Note: Aim: To raise awareness about the global issue of poverty and how it is a violation of human rights and of human dignity. 2022 theme: Dignity For All in Practice. On December 22, 1992, the United Nations General Assembly, through resolution 47/196 declared 17 October as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty.

- 25.** On **October 20th** International Chefs Day is observed to honour the culinary masters who have protected the value of food and are passing on the same message to future generations.

Note: The theme for this year is "Growing A Healthy Future." The idea behind this theme is to ensure a healthy and sustainable planet for future generations.

- 26.** World Statistics Day 2022 is celebrated annually on **October 20th** to recognize the importance of statistics in our daily lives.

Note: The United Nations Statistical Commission has been at the forefront of advocating for the use of statistics to track progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The theme of Statistics Day, 2022 is "Data for Sustainable Development".

- 27.** World osteoporosis day is a global healthcare event observed every year on **20 October**.

Note: The day is observed to promote the early diagnosis of osteoporosis, its treatment and preventive tips for strong bones. This year 2022, the World Osteoporosis Day theme is "Step Up For Bone Health"

- 28.** On **October 17** World Trauma Day is observed to prevent the increasing rate of accidents and injuries causing death and disability across the world.

Note: The day was created in New Delhi, India, in 2011.

- 29.** October 15 is celebrated as World Students' Day to commemorate the birth anniversary of **Dr APJ Abdul Kalam**.

Note: He was an Aerospace scientist and former President of India. The day is marked to acknowledge his efforts toward students and education. Dr Kalam was born on October 15, 1931.

- 30.** World Polio Day 2022 has observed every year on **October 24** to raise awareness about the polio vaccination and eradication of polio.

Note: 2022 theme: World Polio Day 2022 and Beyond: A healthier future for mothers and children. This day was established in 1985 by Rotary International to commemorate the birth of Jonas Salk. Jonas Salk was the lead medical researcher of the team that developed a vaccine against polio.

- 31.** World Day for Audiovisual Heritage is observed on **October 27** every year to promote the importance of such preservation.

Note: Theme 2022: Enlisting documentary heritage to promote inclusive, just and peaceful societies. The Recommendation for the Safeguarding and Preservation of Moving Images was adopted in the 21st General Conference of UNESCO held on October 27, 1980, at Belgrade, Serbia.

New Appointments

- 1.** **S Bharathan** took over as director, of refineries, at HPCL.

Note: He replaced Vinod S Shenoy. HPCL is the 3rd-largest oil refining and fuel marketing company. Bharathan earlier served as executive director, Refineries Coordination, with additional charge of research and development (R&D). Bharathan has wide exposure to the refinery operations of the company and has worked in operations and technical departments of Mumbai and Visakh refinery for over 25 years

- 2.** **Lalit Bhasin** has been appointed as the national president of Indian American Chambers of Commerce (IACC).

Note: A well - known name in business and social circles Bhasin was the executive vice president of IACC. Bhasin is the 54th national president of IACC, which was set up in October 1968 and is headquartered in Mumbai. He is closely associated with India's apex business organizations like CII,

PHD CCI and served as chairman of its legal committees.

- 3.** **N S Rajan** has been unanimously elected as the chairman of the Board of Governors of the Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI).

Note: He has replaced Subhash Kamath. While, Saugata Gupta (Managing Director & CEO, Marico Limited) was elected Vice-Chairman of ASCI. Shashidhar Sinha (CEO at IPG Mediabrands India) was appointed as the Honorary Treasurer of ASCI. ASCI headquarters: Mumbai; Founded: 1985

- 4.** **Sujoy Lal Thaosen** has been appointed as the new director generals of the CRPF.

Note: He has replaced Kuldip Singh (1986-batch), who was retired on 30th September 2022. He is a 1988-batch officer of the Madhya Pradesh cadre. He is currently working as DG of SSB and holding the additional charge of ITBP. While, Anish Dayal Singh has named as director generals of ITBP. He is a 1988-batch officer (Manipur cadre) and currently serving as a special director in IB

- 5. Dr. A K Anil Kumar** has been elected as the Vice President of the International Astronautical Federation (IAF).
Note: He is currently working as Associate Director, ISRO Telemetry, Tracking and Command Network (ISTRAC). It is a recognition of ISRO's space endeavors and helps in promoting international collaboration. The IAF is the world's leading space advocacy body with 433 members in 72 countries. It was founded in 1951.
- 6. The government** has appointed the governor of Arunachal Pradesh, Brig. (Dr.) B.D. Mishra (Retd.) to discharge the functions of the Governor of **Meghalaya**.
Note: Reason: Satya Pal Malik has completed his term on October 3, 2022. Satya Pal Malik had been a governor of Bihar (2017), Jammu and Kashmir (2018) and Goa before becoming the Governor of Meghalaya in August 2020. Meghalaya Capital: Shillong; Chief minister: Conrad Sangma
- 7. The Committee of Cabinet** has approved the appointed **Ajay Bhadoo** as the Deputy Election Commissioner of the Election Commission of India.
Note: He has been appointed as the deputy election commissioner until July 24, 2024. He is a 1999-batch Indian Administrative Officer (IAS) officer of the Gujarat cadre. Prior to this, he was appointed as the Joint Secretary of the President of India. Earlier, he has also served as Gujarat's Vadodara Municipal Commissioner.
- 8. The Reserve Bank of India** has approved the reappointment of **Prashant Kumar** as the MD and CEO of YES Bank for another three years, with effect from 6th October 2022. The appointment will be subject to the approval of shareholders of the private sector lender.
Note: He was appointed as the CEO of the bank after YES Bank was bailed out by a consortium of lenders in March 2020. He has served as the Deputy MD and CFO of State Bank of India.
- 9. US President, Joe Biden** has nominated **Dr Vivek Murthy** to serve as America's representative on the executive board of the World Health Organisation.
Note: He will serve in the new position alongside his continued duties as the US Surgeon General. In March 2021, He was confirmed by the US Senate to serve as the 21st Surgeon General of the country. He also served as the 19th Surgeon General under President Barack Obama.
- 10. Bank of India Investment Managers Private Ltd** has appointed **Mohit Bhatia** as its chief executive officer with effect from 4 October, 2022.
Note: He has over 26 years of professional experience in mutual funds and financial services industry. He served as head-sales and marketing in Canara Robeco Asset Management Company Ltd.

- 11. A Balasubramanian** has been re-elected as the chairman of the Association of Mutual Funds in India (Amfi).
Note: He will also continue as the ex-officio chairman of the AMFI Financial Literacy Committee. While, Radhika Gupta (MD of Edelweiss AMC) has been re-elected as the vice-chairperson of AMFI. Sundeep Sikka (chief of Nippon Life India Asset Management Limited) has been elected as chairman of the Exchange Traded Fund (ETF) committee.
- 12. Gulf Oil Lubricants** has appointed **Indian cricketer, Smriti Mandhana** as its new brand ambassador.
Note: With this association, Gulf Oil became the first company in the lubricant space to appoint a woman cricketer as ambassador. She will join the ranks of current brand ambassadors Mahendra Singh Dhoni and Hardik Pandya.
- 13. SBI General Insurance Company** has appointed **Kishore Kumar Poludasu** as its new Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer.
Note: His appointment was came into effect from 4th October 2022. He was nominated by SBI (parent company). He was associated with SBI since 1991. Prior to this, he was the Deputy Managing Director, Head of State Bank of India, Singapore Operations.
- 14. Ananth Narayan Gopalakrishnan** has assumed charge as Whole Time Member of SEBI.
Note: He has an experience of more than 25 years in banking and financial sector. He served as the Associate Professor, SP Jain Institute of Management & Research, Mumbai. He has completed his post-graduate diploma in Management from IIM, Lucknow and awarded the Director's Gold Medal for standing second in the batch.
- 15. Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey** has been sworn in as the new Chief Justice of the High Court of J&K and Ladakh.
Note: J&K LG, Manoj Sinha has administered the oath of office to Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey. He has replaced Justice, Pankaj Mithal, who has been transferred to the Rajasthan high Court. He started his career as an advocate after completing his law degree from Kashmir University in 1984.
- 16. Aparajita Sarangi** has been elected as a member to the executive committee of Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU).
Note: She is a Lok Sabha member from Bhubaneswar, Odisha. She has bagged 12 votes out of total 18, in the election to the post, held at Kigali, Rwanda. She will represent India at the 15-member executive committee of the union.
- 17. Bandhan Bank** has appointed Sourav Ganguly as its brand ambassador.
Note: He will help amplify the brand message of the Bank and endorse the products and banking services. Bandhan Bank was set up in 2001. Aim:

- Financial inclusion and women empowerment through sustainable livelihood creation
- 18.** Abdul Latif Rashid has been appointed as the president of **Iraq**.
Note: He is a British-educated engineer and served as the Iraqi minister of water resources from 2003-2010. He also served as the senior adviser to the President. He is a member of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) party.
- 19.** President, Murmu has appointed **Dr. Justice Dhananjaya Yashwant Chandrachud** as the 50th Chief Justice of India.
Note: His appointment will come into effect from 9th Nov, 2022 and continue till 10 November 2024. He will replace CJI, Uday Umesh Lalit. He was appointed as the Judge of SC on 13th May 2016. Prior to this, he served as Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court.
- 20.** **Partha Satpathy** has been appointed as India's next ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina.
Note: He is currently as the Ambassador of India to the Republic of Hungary. He served as the Hungarian Ambassador for 11 months and then became the Ambassador of India to Bosnia and Herzegovina. Meanwhile, Dr Adarsh Swaika, joint secretary in MEA, has been appointed India's next Ambassador to Kuwait. Avtar Singh has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Guinea.
- 21.** Yubi (formerly CredAvenue) has appointed **Atanu Chakraborty** as the independent chairman of its board.
Note: He is also currently serving as the chairman of the board of HDFC Bank. He is a 1985 batch officer of the Indian Administrative Service, of the Gujarat cadre. He has served as Economic Affairs Secretary of India till his retirement in April 2020.
- 22.** Paytm Payments Bank has appointed **Deependra Singh Rathore** as the interim chief executive officer (CEO), in addition to his role as chief product & technology officer.
Note: He will replace Satish Gupta, who is presently serving as the bank's CEO and retire in October 2022. The bank has also appointed Sunil Chander Sharma, a former IRS officer as chief operating officer (COO).
- 23.** **Roger Binny** has been appointed as the new president of the Board of Control for Cricket in India.
Note: He has replaced Sourav Ganguly. Jay Shah has been re-inducted as the secretary of the board. Vice President: Rajiv Shukla ; Joint-secretary: Devajit Saikia. Treasurer: Ashish Shelar ; IPL Governing Council Chairman: Arun Singh Dhumal. IPL Governing Council member: Avishek Dalmiya. Apex Council member: M Khairul Jamal Majumdar
- 24.** **Bharati Das** has been appointed as the 27th Controller General of Accounts (CGA).
Note: She has replaced Sonali Singh, who had given the additional charge of CGA, after the superannuation of Dipak Dash. Prior to this, she has served as Principal Chief Controller of Accounts (Pr. CCA), CBDT and Ministries of External Affairs, Home Affairs. CGA is 'the Principal Advisor' on Accounting matters to the Union Government.
- 25.** Adani Airport Holdings has named **Arun Bansal** as its chief executive officer.
Note: He has spent 25 years at the Swedish telecom network company and was most recently its president for Europe and Latin America. The appointment will help strengthen digital transformation and the business growth agenda. Adani's airports account for 25% of airport footfalls and 40% of air cargo in India.
- 26.** **Sanjay Malhotra** has been appointed as the new revenue secretary.
Note: He will replace Tarun Bajaj who will retire on November 30. Road Transport and Highways Secretary, Aramane Giridhar has been named the new defence secretary. He will replace Ajay Kumar. Ministry of Heavy Industries: Kamran Rizvi. Department of Rural Development: Shailesh Kumar Singh. Ministry of Corporate Affairs: Manoj Govil
- 27.** ISRO has named **Dr Sankarasubramanian K** as the Principal Scientist of the 'Aditya-L1' Mission.
Note: He is the head of the Space Astronomy Group (SAG) of ISRO's UR Rao Satellite Centre, Bengaluru. He has contributed to AstroSat, Chandrayaan-1 and Chandrayaan-2 missions of ISRO in several capacities. Aditya-L1: It is the first observatory-class space-based solar mission from India and it is scheduled for launch in 2023.
- 28.** **K.P. Ashwini** has been appointed Special Rapporteur for United Nations Human Rights Commission _____.
Note: She will take over the UNHCR special rapporteur in Geneva on November 1 for a period of six years. She is the first Indian and Asian woman to be appointed to this post. She hails from Kurabarahalli in Kolar district, Karnataka. She has obtained MPhil and PhD from JNU, Delhi.
- 29.** ICICI Bank's board of directors has reappointed **Sandeep Bakshi** as the MD and CEO for a period of 3 years.
Note: He was appointed as the banks's MD and CEO since October 15, 2018. He has served as Wholetime Director and the Chief Operating Officer (COO) of the bank, prior to his appointment as MD and CEO. His reappointment will be effective from October 4, 2023 to October 3, 2026.
- 30.** **Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited** has appointed C S Rajan as an additional and independent director on the bank's board.

- Note:** Rajan's appointment is for a period of five years effective 22 October 2022. Rajan has over 40 years of experience across significant government portfolios. Rajan is currently serving as a non-executive chairman of Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services Limited, appointed by the government of India.
- 31.** The government has appointed **Jaxay Shah** as the Chairman of Quality Council of India (QCI).
- Note:** He was former Chairman of realty developers' body CREDAI and founder Chairman of Savvy Group. He has been appointed for a period of three years with effect from October 21, 2022. He succeeds the former McKinsey India Chief Adil Zainulbhais.
- 32.** Indian Banks' Association has re-elected A K Goel as its new chairman, he is currently serving as the MD and CEO of **Punjab National Bank**.
- Note:** He will serve the association for FY 2022-23. Generally, the senior most MD of a public sector bank is elected as chairman for a period of one year. IBA has also appointed Dinesh Khara (Chairman of SBI), A S Rajeev (MD & CEO of Bank of Maharashtra), and Madhav Nair (CEO of Mashreq Bank) as deputy chairman. Honorary secretary: N Kamakodi (CEO of City Union Bank)
- 33.** **Rishi Sunak** has become the prime minister of United Kingdom.
- Note:** He has replaced former PM Liz Truss, who had resigned from the post just after 44 days. He is also the youngest PM of UK in modern history at the age of 42 years. While, William Pitt the Youngest PM of UK, who became the PM at the age of 24 in 1801. He was born in UK's Southampton area to an Indian family. He became a member of Parliament in 2015 after he got elected from Richmond, Yorkshire.
- 34.** The Cricket Association for the Blind in India (CABI) has appointed **Yuvraj Singh** as their brand ambassador for the 3rd T20 World Cup for the Blind.
- Note:** While, Ajay Kumar Reddy B2 (Andhra Pradesh) will lead the Indian team and Venkateswara Rao Dunna - B2 (Andhra Pradesh) will be the vice-captain. The World Cup matches will be held from December 6 to 17. Participants: India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Australia, South Africa, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.
- 35.** The government of India has appointed **Sangeeta Verma** as the acting chairperson of the Competition Commission of India (CCI).
- Note:** Her appointment came into effect from 26th October 2022. She will remain in office for three months or till appointment of regular Chairperson or till any further orders, whichever is the earliest. She has replaced Ashok Kumar Gupta, who relinquished office after a four-year tenure.
- 36. Shefali Juneja** has been elected as the chairperson of UN specialized aviation agency's Air Transport Committee (ATC).
- Note:** She is a 1992 batch officer of IRS (Income Tax cadre), served as a Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Civil Aviation before joining the ICAO. India has secured this position in ICAO after 28 years when she was unanimously elected to the post. ATC is a standing committee of the ICAO created by the Chicago Convention in 1944
- 37. Navjit Kaur Brar** has become the first turban-wearing Sikh woman to be elected as a city councillor of Brampton in Canada.
- Note:** She is an Indo-Canadian respiratory therapist. She was elected in the recent municipal council polls after she won the race in Wards 2 and 6. She is a former Conservative MP candidate for Brampton West. Elections for municipal government in Canada held every four years on the fourth Monday of October.
- 38.** Hockey India has named **Harmanpreet Singh** as the captain of the 22-member Indian men's hockey team.
- Note:** He has been appointed for the upcoming double-header matches against Spain and New Zealand in the season opener of FIH Hockey Pro League 2022-2023 to be held in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. While, Manpreet Singh has been named as his deputy. All matches will be held at the Kalinga Hockey Stadium, Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
- 39.** The US administration has named **Elizabeth Jones** as the next Charge d'Affaires ad interim in New Delhi.
- Note:** She is the sixth interim US envoy in the last 21 months (since January 2021). She had worked on NATO's role in Europe vis-a-vis Russia as the US Assistant Secretary of State for Europe and Eurasia. Currently, Patricia A Lacina is the Chargé d'Affaires at the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi, who assumed charge on September 9, 2021.
- 40. Mata Amritanandamayi Devi** has been appointed as the Chair of the country's Civil 20 (C20).
- Note:** It is an official engagement group of the Group of 20 (G20). The C20 is its platform for civil-society organisations (CSOs) to bring forth non-government and non-business voices to the G20 leaders. India will hold the Presidency of the G20 from December 1, 2022 to November 30, 2023. G20 Leaders' Summit will take place in New Delhi from September 9 to 10, 2023.
- 41. Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva** has been elected as new president of Brazil after defeating incumbent president, Jair Bolsonaro.
- Note:** He has secured 50.83% of the votes, whereas his opponent, Bolsonaro got 49.17% votes. He was served as the president of Brazil for two terms from 2003 to 2006 and then 2007 to 2011. India has had

excellent relations with Brazil under his government.

- 42. Dr. Rajesh Ranjan** has been appointed as the next Indian Ambassador to the West African nation of Cote d'Ivoire.

Note: Presently, he is serving as the High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Botswana. Prior to this, he has served in the Indian Embassy in Moscow as Second/Third Secretary dealing with Political and Commercial issues. He is expected to take up the assignment shortly.

Important News - India

- 1. PM Narendra Modi** has inaugurated the 6th India Mobile Congress at Pragati Maidan.

Note: He has also launched the 5G telephony services in the country. 5G tech will provide seamless coverage, high data rate, low latency, and highly reliable communications. It will increase energy efficiency, spectrum efficiency and network efficiency. The cumulative economic impact of 5G on India is estimated to reach \$ 450 bn by 2035. The IGI Airport in Delhi is the 1st 5G-ready airport in India.

- 2.** The executive committee of the National Mission for Clean Ganga has approved 14 projects at an estimated cost of **₹1,145 crore rupee**.

Note: The decision was taken at the 45th meeting of the executive committee under the chairmanship of director general G. Ashok Kumar. These include eight projects of sewerage management in five main stem Ganga basin states - Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, and West Bengal.

- 3. Anurag Thakur** has launched month-long nationwide campaign Swachh Bharat 2022 from Prayagraj in UP.

Note: Swachh Bharat 2022 is being organized in 6 Lakh villages of 744 districts across the country. The Department of Youth Affairs has set a target of collecting and disposing of 1 crore kg plastic waste through Swachh Bharat 2022. Swachh Bharat 2022 will be launched with an aim to raise awareness, mobilize people and ensure their participation in making India clean.

- 4.** As per the data released by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), the unemployment rate of India has been dropped drastically to **6.43%** in 2022 September.

Note: Reason: On the back of increase in labour participation in the rural and urban areas. As per the data, unemployment rate was the highest in Rajasthan (23.8), followed by Jammu and Kashmir (23.2%) per cent, Haryana (22.9%), Tripura (17%), Jharkhand (12.2) and Bihar (11.4%).

- 5. Pegatron** has become the third Apple vendor to set up a manufacturing unit in Chennai, India.

Note: The firm will invest around Rs 1,100 crore in the unit and generate around 14,000 jobs. The other two Apple vendors in India are Foxconn and Wistron. Tamil Nadu has also planned to develop

Hosur, Coimbatore and Sriperumbudur as electronics manufacturing hubs. Major players in the state include Samsung, Foxconn, Tata Electronics and Dell among major investors.

- 6.** President, Droupadi Murmu has launched a 'Her Start' start-up platform for women entrepreneurs that was created by **Gujarat University**.

Note: 'Her Start' is an initiative of the varsity for women entrepreneurs. She has also inaugurated or laid foundation stones of various projects related to education and tribal development. She has also inaugurated various projects worth Rs 1,330 crore at a function in Gandhinagar.

- 7.** India has emerged as the world's largest producer and second largest exporter of **sugar**.

Note: In 2021-22, more than five thousand lakh metric tons of sugarcane was produced in the country. Out of this, 35 lakh metric ton sugar was used for ethanol production and 359 lakh metric ton of sugar was produced by sugar mills. The country has registered records highest sugar exports of over 109 lakh metric tons. These exports earned foreign currency of about 40 thousand crore rupees.

- 8. PM Modi** has inaugurated AIIMS at Kothipura in **Bilaspur** district of Himachal Pradesh.

Note: This institution will be built over an area of about 247 acres with the cost of 1471 crore rupees. Other projects: Inaugurated 140 crore rupees Government Hydro Engineering College in Bilaspur. Foundation stones of 350 crore rupees for Medical Devices Park at Nalagarh. Pinjore-Nalagarh four-lane road project under the Bharat Mala project with a cost of 1692 crore rupees.

- 9. Union Home Minister, Amit Shah** has announced Scheduled Tribe (ST) status for **Pahari** community in Jammu and Kashmir.

Note: Justice GD Sharma Commission has recommended reservation for Paharis in his report that was submitted to the government. The reservation will be rolled out after completion of administrative formalities. The minister has inaugurated and laid foundation stone of various developmental works of Kashmir Division.

- 10. Universal Service Obligation Fund**, a body under the Department of Telecommunications, launched

Telecom Technology Development Fund Scheme on October 01st, 2022.

Note: The scheme is aligned with PM Modi's clarion call of adding Jan Anusandhaan in the new phase of Amrit Kaal. TTDF aims to fund R&D in rural-specific communication technology applications and form synergies among academia, start-ups, research institutes, and the industry to build and develop the telecom ecosystem

- 11. Telangana** state government has launched a welfare scheme named 'Asara' pension.

Note: Aim: To ensure secured life for all the poor. Beneficiary: old people, widows, physically disabled and beedi workers. The state government has also distributed the card for the welfare of all. Presently, the state government has sanctioned 10,000 new Asara pensions under Asif Nagar Mandal jurisdiction.

- 12. Andhra Pradesh** government has launched the website of YSR Kalyanamasthu and Shadi Tofa schemes.

Note: Aim: Providing financial assistance for daughter's wedding in poor families. Eligibility: SSC pass a mandatory clause for both bride and groom to get the assistance under this scheme. This will encourage parents to see that their children complete at least high school studies. The scheme would also prevent the child marriages and promote girl education.

- 13. Ministry of Education** has launched YUVA 2.0 - Prime Minister's Scheme for Mentoring Young Authors.

Note: It is a programme to train young and budding authors (below 30 years of age). Aim: To promote reading, writing and book culture in the country. The launch of YUVA 2.0 (Young, Upcoming and Versatile Authors) is in tune with the Prime Minister's vision to encourage the youth to understand and appreciate India's democracy.

- 14. Banaras Hindu University (BHU)** has launched two major schemes to benefit divyang and below poverty line (BPL) students.

Note: Under first scheme, the university will transfer Rs 25,000 every year, into the bank accounts of all the divyang students of BHU. Under the second scheme, BPL card holder students shall be eligible to receive a financial assistance of Rs. 25,000 per annum. This will also be transferred directly into their accounts.

- 15. 15th** edition of International Sufi Rang Festival 2022 began in Ajmer on October 1, 2022.

Note: This event is being organized and planned by Haji Syed Salman, Chairman of Chishty Foundation, an Ajmer Sharif-based organisation. The annual International Sufi Festival India (ISFI) is a commemorative fiesta in honor of the Sufi Saint, Hazrath Khwaja Moinuddin Chishty. The Held

yearly in Ajmer, the ISFI festival, remembers the teachings of Sufi Saint Hazrath Khwaja Moinuddin Chishty.

- 16.** As per the report, Indian Tourism Statistics 2022, the Mamallapuram (Unesco world heritage site), a Tamil Nadu town has beaten the **Taj Mahal** in the number of foreign visitors.

Note: As per the report, 1,44,984 foreign visitors came to Mamallapuram in 2021-22. While the Taj Mahal (Agra) has occupied the second spot with 38,922 foreign visitors. Top five states for domestic tourist visits in 2021: Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra

- 17.** The Department of Financial Services (DFS) has modified the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) for the aviation sector cheaper loan limit from ₹400 crore to **₹1,500 crore**.

Note: Aim: To help the sector tide over cash-flow problems. As per the modified ECLGS, an airline would be eligible for 100% of its fund-based or non-fund-based loan outstanding or ₹1,500 crore, whichever is lower.

- 18.** NTPC Ltd has signed an MoU with **GE Gas Power** industry to explore the feasibility of hydrogen (H₂) co-firing blended with natural gas.

Note: This process will be done in GE's gas turbines installed at NTPC's Kawas gas power plant in Gujarat. NTPC's Kawas plant is powered by four GE gas turbines. It is operating in a combined-cycle mode and has an installed capacity of 645 MW. GE's advance E-class gas turbine portfolio can burn upto 100% by volume of hydrogen when blended with natural gas.

- 19.** The Ministerial dialogue of US-India Strategic Clean Energy Partnership (USISCEP) is being organised in United States from October 7 to 11, 2022, was co-chaired by **Union petroleum ministry**, Hardeep Singh Puri.

Note: The revamped USISCEP was launched in 2021. It is based on the US-India climate and clean energy agenda 2030 partnership that was announced by PM Modi and President Joe Biden at a summit in April 2021.

- 20. Hero MotoCorp** has wrapped off their new electric scooter under the sub-brand, titled as 'Vida'.

Note: Hero Vida V1 is the first electric scooter of the brand, as it looks to catch up with newer firms who have taken the lead in the country's clean mobility push. It was first launched at a starting price of Rs 1.45 lakh (ex-showroom) at Jaipur Centre and would be launched in New Delhi, and Bangalore. It is available in two variants named Vida V1 Plus and Vida V1 Pro.

- 21.** Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), comes under **Ministry of Commerce** that has notified the establishment of Credit Guarantee Scheme for Startups (CGSS).

international organisation with 109 member and signatory countries.

- 27. Ministry of WCD** has organized National Conference on Skilling in Non-Traditional Livelihood for Girls - Betiyan Bane Kushal in New Delhi.

Note: This conference was organized under the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao initiative. Aim: Convergence between Ministries and Departments to ensure the skill development of girls. During the event, MoUs was signed between the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and Ministry of Minority Affairs for Skilling of young Girls.

- 28. Prime Minister, Narendra Modi** has addressed 2nd edition of United Nations World Geospatial International Congress (UNWGIC), which being held in Hyderabad.

Note: The theme of UNWGIC 2022 is Geo-Enabling the Global Village: No one should be left behind. Geospatial technology is used to create intelligent maps and models which help to collect geographically referenced data. It was hosted by the ministry of science and technology of the government of India.

- 29. Centre** has constituted a 9-member task force for monitoring Cheetah introduction in **Kuno National Park** of Madhya Pradesh and other suitable designated areas.

Note: National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) will facilitate the working of Cheetah Task Force and render all necessary help. The task force will include Principal Secretaries, Forests and Tourism of Madhya Pradesh, and Inspector General of NTCA, New Delhi Amit Mallick. Tenure: 2 years.

- 30. Haryana govt delegation, led by Manohar Lal Khattar** has finalized an MoU with the Dubai government for cooperation in various economic activities.

Note: To promote the State as a leading investment destination and for marketing key projects of the state. These economic activities include investment promotion and land development

- 31. All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA)** has signed an MoU with **Japan** the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology.

Note: Aim: For development of capacity, technological cooperation for academic establishment. This MoU will help both nations to advance scientific cooperation and capacity building in the area of the Indian Ayurvedic system of traditional medicine. AIIA is the apex institute of Ayurveda under the Ministry of AYUSH.

- 32. Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd (APSEZ)** has received an approval from the National Company Law Tribunals (NCLT) to acquire the balance of how much stake in Gangavaram Port Limited (GPL).

Note: It will provide credit guarantees to loans extended by Scheduled Commercial Banks, Non-Banking Financial Companies and Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) registered Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs). Credit guarantees cover under the Scheme would be transaction based and umbrella based.

- 22. Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh** state has hosted 81st 'Indian Road Congress' from 8th to 11th October 2022.

Note: It will discuss modern techniques in road construction, and it will have many sessions regarding it. Union Minister, Nitin Gadkari along with UP CM Yogi Adityanath has jointly inaugurated 81st annual session of the Indian roads Congress in Lucknow. Projects worth Rs 5 lakh crore rupees will start in Uttar Pradesh by 2024

- 23. As per the latest demographic sample survey, conducted by the Union Home Ministry, the percentage of girls getting married before attaining maturity is highest in Jharkhand state with 5.8%.**

Note: In Jharkhand, child marriages accounted for 7.3% of marriages in rural areas and 3% in urban areas. In West Bengal, more than half of the women are married before attaining the age of 21 years in the state. The survey was conducted in 2020 and the report was published late last month.

- 24. Nitin Gadkari (Road Transport and Highways Minister)** has launched first of its kind pilot project of car manufacturing company **Toyota** on Flex-Fuel Strong Hybrid Electric Vehicles in India.

Note: The Toyota Corolla Altis FFV-SHEV, which was imported from Toyota Brazil for the pilot project, was unveiled.

Flex-fuel: It is compatible cars, run on more than one type of fuel and also a mixture. These vehicles will run on 100% petrol as well as 20 to 100% blended ethanol and electric power.

- 25. The first conference of the Agni campaign was organized in Leh** on the theme of 'Sustainability and Culture' under LiFE (Lifestyle for environment) mission.

Note: It is organized by Power Foundation of India in association with Vijnana Bharati (VIBHA). It witnessed participation from key stakeholders working in the areas of energy, culture, and sustainability. Agni Tattva is an element that is synonymous with energy and is amongst the five elements of Panchmahaboot.

- 26. Union Minister for Power and New and Renewable Energy, R.K Singh** has unveiled the curtain raiser to the Fifth Assembly of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) along with side events to be held in **New Delhi** from 17th - 20th October, 2022.

Note: India holds the office of the President of the ISA Assembly. The Assembly will be presided over by R.K. Singh. The International Solar Alliance is an

production of value added chemicals. Aggregated estimated cost: Rs.35,000 crores

- 38.** NTPC and **Siemens** organisation have signed an MoU to demonstrate the feasibility for hydrogen co-firing blended with natural gas in V94.2 gas turbines installed at NTPC Faridabad gas power plant.

Note: The total installed capacity of Faridabad gas power plant is 432 MW with two V94.2 gas turbines. Aim: To explore the pathways to reduce CO₂ emissions from Faridabad gas power plant

- 39.** Education and Skill Development Minister, Dharmendra Pradhan has inaugurated IIInvenTiv at **Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi**.

Note: He has also launched a brochure for IIInvenTiv. It is the first-ever all-IITs Research and Development Showcase. This R&D Fair was organized under the supervision of a Steering Committee. The event marks the coming together of all 23 IITs under one umbrella to showcase their respective research and innovation expertise.

- 40.** As per the Logistics Ease Across Different States (LEADS) 2022 report, **15** states and Union Territories (UTs) have come out as 'achievers' category.

Note: The report has been released by the Minister of Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal. Achievers: Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, UP, TN, Uttarakhand, Telangana, Punjab, Odisha, Karnataka, HP, Assam, Delhi, Chandigarh, and Haryana. Fast movers: Kerala, Sikkim, Madhya Pradesh, Tripura, Puducherry, and Rajasthan

- 41.** Union Minister for Railways, Ashwini Vaishnaw has inaugurated India's First Aluminum Freight Rake - 61 BOBRNALHSM1 at **Bhubaneswar, Odisha**.

Note: It was fully designed and developed indigenously in collaboration with RDSO, HINDALCO and Besco Wagon. Aim: To reduce carbon footprint due to lower consumption of fuel. A single rake can reduce 14,500 tonnes Carbon dioxide emissions during its lifetime.

- 42.** Union Education Minister, Dharmendra Pradhan has launched the implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 in higher education for the session 2022-23 in **Uttarakhand**.

Note: The event was attended by CM, Pushkar Singh Dhami. Under the NEP, children will be linked to formal education for three years initially. Under this policy, Bal Vatika has been started. After learning for three years under the Bal Vatika scheme the child will enter the first class.

- 43.** According to the Public Affairs Index 2022, **Haryana** has emerged as the best-governed among 18 big states of the country.

Note: Followed by Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Chhattisgarh, Punjab and Karnataka. This report was prepared by a Bengaluru-based think tank. The

Note: Earlier, APSEZ had acquired 31.5% in the company from Warburg Pincus and 10.4% from Andhra Pradesh government. GPL is an all-weather deep-water multipurpose port. APSEZ is the flagship transportation arm of the diversified Adani group. The deal prices GPL at around Rs 6,200 crore.

- 33.** **Google** giant IT firm has launched its global rewards programme named 'Play Points' in India.

Note: Aim: To allow users to earn points and rewards for using Google Play Store billing for in-app purchases, subscriptions and buying apps, games, movies, and ebooks. This programme was first launched in 2018 and available in 28 other countries. This programme is fully funded by Google.

- 34.** The present five-year Indo-US Vaccine Action Programme (VAP) Joint Statement has been extended till **2027**.

Note: It is a unique bilateral programme. It is implementing by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), India, and National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), National Institutes of Health (NIH), USA since July 1987. Aim: To improvise the current knowledge of vaccine science to strengthen the scientific basis for future vaccine design.

- 35.** The Union Cabinet has approved PM-DeVINE scheme to fund the infrastructure projects in the northeastern states. **Rs 6,600-crore** is the total outlay of this scheme.

Note: PM-DeVINE refers to the Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North East Region. It will be applicable for the next four years of the 15th Finance Commission from 2022-23 to 2025-26. This is a 100% central funding scheme and will be implemented by the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER).

- 36.** **HIMCAD** the scheme that has been launched by the Himachal Pradesh government to provide irrigation facilities to farmers.

Note: As per the data, about 80% of the agricultural area of Himachal Pradesh is rain-fed. This scheme will provide end-to-end connectivity of farmers' fields for better water conservation, crop diversification and integrated farming. It is planned to provide command area development activities to 23,344 hectares of cultivable command area by March 2024.

- 37.** **Coal India Ltd (CIL)** run organisation has signed MoUs with Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL), Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) and GAIL (India) for setting up four Surface Coal Gasification (SCG) projects.

Note: Aim: To convert coal converted into syngas that can be subsequently processed for downstream

- states have been divided into two categories - large and small. Union Territories are not a part of the report. Sikkim has topped in the category of 10 smaller states.
- 44.** Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Hardeep Singh Puri has inaugurated Asia's largest Compressed Bio Gas (CBG) plant in **Lehragaga, Sangrur, Punjab.**
- Note:** The plant has been commissioned with FDI of approximately Rs. 220 crores by Verbio AG (German bioenergy company). The present production of plant is about six tonnes per day. Soon, it will process 300 tonnes of paddy straw per day to produce 33 TPD of CBG by using eight digesters of 10,000 cubic meters.
- 45. 90th** edition of General Assembly of the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) held from 18th - 21st October, 2022 in New Delhi.
- Note:** The General Assembly is taking place in India after 1997. The move was proposed by HM, Amit Shah to Interpol secretary general, Jurgen Stock in August 2019. India joined the INTERPOL in 1949. Aim of INTERPOL: To promote possible assistance between all criminal police authorities in the prevention and suppression of ordinary law crimes.
- 46. PM Narendra Modi** has inaugurated the PM Kisan Samman Sammelan 2022 at Indian Agricultural Research Institute in New Delhi.
- Note:** The conference was participated by more than 13 thousand farmers and around 1,500 Agri Startups. PM has also released the 12th installment amount of 16,000 crore rupees under the PM Kisan Samman Nidhi through DBT. Under the scheme, eligible farmer families are provided a benefit of 6,000 rupees per year in three equal installments.
- 47. Goa** will host 9th World Ayurveda Congress & Arogya Expo from December 8 to 11.
- Note:** The expo will be organised by World Ayurveda Foundation, an initiative of Vijnana Bharti. Aims: To create an accessible and affordable healthcare system that is in harmony with modern medical practices. The expo would provide a transformational push to ayurveda to bring it into global focus.
- 48.** Global Youth Climate Summit 2022 has been inaugurated in **Khulna, Bangladesh.**
- Note:** Aim: To bring together 650 youth in a hybrid format with 150 youth participating in person and 500 online. The youth will explore how they can lead the fight against climate change. The mission of GYLC is to build the knowledge of youth about climate science.
- 49. 14th** edition of World Spice Congress (WSC) will be held on 16-18 February at CIDCO Exhibition and Convention Centre, Maharashtra.
- Note:** The summit will be organized by Spices Board India in association with various trade and export farmers. Theme: Vision 2030: SPICES (Sustainability- Productivity - Innovation - Collaboration- Excellence and Safety). It will be organized as a G20 event, after India takes up the presidency from Dec 2022 to Nov 2023.
- 50.** Prime Minister, Narendra Modi has started the distribution of PMJAY-MA Ayushman cards in Gujarat through video conferencing. **Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana - Mukhyamantri Amrutam** is the fullform of **PMJAY-MA**.
- Note:** Fifty lakh Ayushman cards was distributed to all the beneficiaries across Gujarat, at their doorstep. In 2012, then CM of Gujarat, Modi had started the Mukhyamantri Amrutam scheme to protect poor citizens from the catastrophic costs of medical treatment and illness.
- 51.** PM Narendra Modi has launched the 'One Nation, One Fertiliser' scheme (or PM Bhartiya Jan Urvarak Pariyojana) at the PM Kisan Samman Sammelan 2022 at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute.
- Note:** He has also launched an e-magazine on fertilisers, called Indian Edge. Under this scheme, the all type of fertilisers, whether it is DAP, NPK or urea will be sold under the brand name of 'Bharat'. This will ensure affordable quality fertiliser of Bharat brand to the farmers.
- 52. Union Minister, Jitendra Singh** has launched an Integrated Pensioners' Portal at the Anubhav Awards Ceremony that was organised by the Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare in New Delhi.
- Note:** This portal provides a single window to address the needs of pensioners. SBI has become the first pension disbursing bank which has integrated its portal with the portal of DoPPW. Anubhav portal provides a platform to retiring government employees for sharing their experiences.
- 53.** REC Limited and Power Finance Corporation Limited (PFC) have signed an MoU with **SJVN Thermal Private Ltd (STPL)** to finance the 2x660 MW coal based Buxar Thermal Power Plant (BTPP).
- Note:** The total estimated project cost is ₹12,172.74 crores, with debt requirement of ₹8520.92 crores. As per the agreement, the debt requirement will be financed by REC and Power Finance. It is a green field project designed on supercritical technology.
- 54.** The first conference on Akash Tatva - Akash for Life, will be held from 5th to 7th November, 2022 in **Dehradun.**
- Note:** This event will showcase the blend of traditional and modern knowledge through an extended integration of all schools of thought. Aim: To expose the youth of India to the wisdoms of ancient science along with modern scientific

- advancements. The campaign 'Sumangalam' is being organised across the country for finding the solutions to the environmental problems.
- 55.** PM Modi laid the foundation stone of various development projects worth more than Rs. 3400 crore for the state at a program organized in **Mana Village** of Uttarakhand.
Note: These projects include two road widening projects from Mana to Mana Pass (NH 07) and Joshi math to Malari (NH107B), including two new ropeway projects at Gaurikund-Kedarnath and Govindghat-Hemkund Sahib. The Kedarnath ropeway will be around 9.7 km long, connecting Gaurikund with Kedarnath
- 56.** PM Modi has launched Mission LiFE in the presence of UN Secretary General, Antonio Guterres at the Statue of Unity, Ekta Nagar, Kevadia, Gujarat. **Lifestyle for Environment** is full form of Mission Life.
Note: Aim: To protect and preserve the environment. This global movement will showcase sustainable goals and climate actions taken by countries and individuals around the world. The UN Secretary-General and PM Modi have also launched booklet, logo, and tagline of Mission LiFE.
- 57.** The first 'Migration Monitoring System' of India has been launched in **Mumbai** city with an aim to provide updated information on migrant pregnant women, lactating mothers and children instantly on a single system.
Note: The system was launched by the Maharashtra Women and Child Development Minister, Mangalprabhat Lodha. The system was developed by the Department of WCD. It will track the movements of vulnerable seasonal migrant beneficiaries through unique identification numbers.
- 58.** The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has imposed penalty of **Rs. 936.44 crore** on Google for abusing its dominant position with respect to its Play Store policies.
Note: Google dominance in the markets for licensable OS for smart mobile devices & market for app stores for Android smart mobile OS, in India. Earlier, CCI had imposed a penalty of ₹1,337.76 crore on Google for abusing its dominant position in multiple markets in the Android Mobile ecosystem.
- 59.** **Thundi and Kadmat** two beaches of Lakshadweep have received the Blue Flag certification and were added to the list of the cleanest beaches in the world.
Note: This has taken India's tally of 'Blue Beaches' to 12. Golden Beach of Puri is also Asia's first Blue Flag certified beach. Blue Flag Certification: It is awarded by a non-profit organisation known as Foundation for Environmental Education. It is an eco-label given to the cleanest beaches in the world.
- 60.** Grievance Appellate Committees will be set up within 3 months by the government for resolving **social media users grievances**.
Note: For this, gazette notification was issued by Ministry Of Electronics And Information Technology recently to amend the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021. Each Grievance Appellate Committee will consist of a chairperson and 2 whole time members appointed by the Central Government.
- 61.** **Jakson Group** company has signed a pact with the Rajasthan government to set up a green hydrogen and green ammonia project in the state at an investment of ₹ 22,400 crore.
Note: Jakson Green will set up a 3,65,000 tons per annum green hydrogen and green ammonia plant along with an integrated hybrid renewable power complex in phases. The project is expected to generate over 32,000 direct and indirect employment opportunities.
- 62.** Dutch arm of **Tata Steel** has signed an MoU with the Ford in Europe to supply "green" steel after 2030.
Note: Tata has planned to produce green steel (steel made without using fossil fuels) in 2030 at its plant in IJmuiden, Netherlands. Ford has also signed supply MOUs with Tata, ThyssenKrupp (Germany) and Salzgitter (Germany) to supply "low carbon" steel for use in manufacturing the new electric crossover model. It would help to meet a target of having zero emissions by 2035.
- 63.** The Technology Development and Acceleration Cell of the Naval Innovation Indigenisation Organisation under the Indian Navy has signed an MoU with **Drone Federation of India** for promoting indigenous development, manufacturing and testing of a drone, counter-drone, and associated technologies for the Navy.
Note: This collaboration will increase the Navy-industry-academia synergy, and source technology development challenges towards component indigenisation.
- 64.** State-run **Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)** has signed MoU with Airport Authority of India (AAI), to facilitate commercial operations at Rourkela Airport under the RCS UDAN scheme.
Note: UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik): regional airport development and "Regional Connectivity Scheme" (RCS) of the Union Government. Implementing Ministry: Ministry of Civil Aviation
- 65.** PM Narendra Modi participated via video conference in **Griha Pravesh**, that was organised for more than 4.5 lakh PMAY-G beneficiaries.
Note: On the occasion of Dhanteras, he dedicated homes constructed under the PM Awas Yojana (Gramin) from Satna, MP. Under the PMAY-G, in the last 8 years, more than 3.5 crore poor families have

got new houses. The Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana is a ground-breaking social welfare programme that the Indian government introduced in 2015.

- 66. Delhi LG, Vinai Kumar Saxena** has announced a one-time property tax amnesty scheme named Strengthening & Augmentation of Municipal Revenue for Infrastructure Development in Delhi (SAMRIDH) 2022-23 scheme.

Note: With this scheme, the NCR people will be able to pay only the principal amount of the current and pending tax of past five years for residential properties. The people can also get a waiver on all pending dues, including penalty and interest through this scheme.

- 67. The 91st General Assembly of INTERPOL** will take place in **Vienna, Austria**.

Note: The 90th INTERPOL General Assembly was held in New Delhi from October 18-21, 2022. The General Assembly of INTERPOL is a supreme governing body and meets once a year to take key decisions related to its functioning. The Assembly meeting held in India after a gap of 25 years.

- 68. The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Counter-Terrorism Committee** has hosted in **Mumbai and Delhi** on 28th and 29th of October.

Note: 2022 Theme: Countering the use of new and emerging technologies for terrorist purposes. The

special meeting in India will also be attended by UK foreign secretary, James Cleverly. Focus of meet: Internet (including social media), new payment technologies and fundraising methods, and unmanned aerial systems (including drones)

- 69. Election Commission of India (ECI)** has hosted a two-day international conference beginning 31st October in **New Delhi**.

Note: Theme: Role, Framework & Capacity of Election Management Bodies. It will be inaugurated by Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar and concluding session will be chaired by Election Commissioner Anup Chandra Pandey. ECI leads the Cohort on Election Integrity, which was established as a follow on to the 'Summit for Democracy' held in December 2021.

- 70. Petroleum minister** has attended the opening ceremony of the Abu Dhabi International Petroleum Exhibition & Conference (ADIPEC-2022), held in UAE. **Hardeep Singh Puri** is the current petroleum minister.

Note: He was invited by Suhail Mohamed Faraj Al Mazrouei (Minister of Energy and Infrastructure) and Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber (Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology). He will also inaugurate the India Pavilion which is jointly set up by the Federation of Indian Petroleum Industry and CII.

Important News - State

- 1. PM Modi** has launched various projects worth more than 6,900 crore rupees including Taranga Hill-Ambaji-Abu Rail line in **Ambaji, Gujarat**.

Note: Taranga Hill-Ambaji-Abu Rail line: It will boost tourism activities and benefit the marble industries of the region. The PM has also laid the foundation stone for more than 60 thousand houses under various housing scheme and new Ambaji Bypass Road. PM also launched the CM Gau Vansh Poshan Yojana and inaugurated the Mitha-Tharad-Deesa-Lakhni road.

- 2. World's largest jungle safari park** to be developed in **Gurugram, Haryana**.

Note: It is spread across an area of 10000 acres in the Aravalli Mountain Range of Gurugram and Nuh District. Aim: To boost tourism and provide employment opportunities to local residents. At present, Sharjah is home to the largest curated safari park outside Africa, was opened in February 2022. The Sharjah Safari covers an area of about 2,000 acres.

- 3. Himachal Pradesh** state government has launched the 'Satya Nishtha' app that will help state police to investigate and control criminal activities.

Note: The app will help police to prepare a database of criminals. It also study the various offences that take place under different police stations in the

district. The app was designed under the guidance of Kangra Superintendent of Police Kushal Sharma. The data available in the app from be accessed from anywhere and at anytime

- 4. Chhattisgarh** state government has launched a 'Mahatma Gandhi Rural Industrial Parks' (MGRIP) scheme.

Note: Under this scheme, 'gauthans' (cow shelters in villages) will be developed as 'rural industrial parks'. In the first phase of this scheme, 300 such facilities are being developed across the state. The state government has set up gauthans in over 8,000 villages under its flagship scheme Suraji Gaon Yojana (village good governance scheme).

- 5. Gujarat** state government has launched an incentive scheme for industries to attract Rs 12.5 lakh crore of investments to the state in the next 10 years.

Note: He has unveiled the "Aatmanirbhar Gujarat Schemes 2022 for assistance to Industries". This scheme will remain in force for MSMES, Large and Mega industrial units. The incentive schemes also include EPF and SGST reimbursements. A similar incentive scheme was launched in 2016.

- 6. Union Minister for Science and Technology, Jitendra Singh** has inaugurated Science Museum in **Chamba, Himachal Pradesh**.

- Note:** It is termed as 'DBT-NIPGR-Pandit Jaiwant Ram Upmanyu Science Museum'. This state-of-art institution will inspire young children to discover their potentials and use their innovative skills to find a source of livelihood in later life. It is set up by the National Institute of Plant Genome Research at Government Boys Senior Secondary School (GBSSS)
7. Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, Anurag Singh Thakur has inaugurated a Water Sports Center in **Koldam Barmana, Bilaspur, Himachal Pradesh.**
- Note:** This centre has been dedicated for training of athletes in water sports like Rowing, Canoeing and Kayaking. It is a joint initiative of the Sports Authority of India (SAI) and National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC). During the event, the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was also exchanged between SAI and NTPC.
8. Delhi Lieutenant Governor, VK Saxena has granted an approval to e-commerce website, **Amazon India** to operate 24/7 in New Delhi.
- Note:** The application was submitted by the company around three years back. Now Amazon's products can be delivered round-the-clock in New Delhi. Boost employment generation, promote a positive and a favourable business environment.
9. PM Narendra Modi has declared **Modhera** village in Gujarat as the country's first 24x7 solar-powered village.
- Note:** Modhera, is famous for Sun temple that was built during the Chalukya. The village has a ground-mounted solar power plant, and over 1,300 rooftop solar systems with 1kW capacity have been installed on houses to generate electricity. Both the central and state governments have invested over ₹80 crore in this project in two phases.
10. 'Football for All' an initiative, launched by **Odisha** state government in partnership with FIFA.
- Note:** Aim to promote football among school children. The programme has been initiated by FIFA in partnership with the Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT) and the Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS). 2022 FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup host: Kalinga Stadium, Bhubaneswar, Odisha/ Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, Margao, Goa/ DY Patil Stadium, Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra
11. **TN govt** state will set up the first Indian sanctuary for Slender Loris, by merging the Karur and Dindigul districts.
- Note:** They will create the Kadavur Slender Loris Sanctuary. They will be protected under Schedule I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. They are endangered species. Survival: Depends on its habitat improvement.
12. **Madhya Pradesh** state Wildlife Board has approved a 2,339 Sq km new tiger reserve, will be known as Durgavati Tiger Reserve.
- Note:** The new tiger reserve will be spread across Narisinghpur, Damoh and Sagar districts of MP. The Board's meeting was chaired by Madhya Pradesh chief minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, who has approved a proposal to notify 1,414 sq km area as core area and 925 sq km as a buffer in the new tiger reserve. The proposal will be sent to NTCA for final approval.
13. **Google** has signed an MoU with the Assam government to promote digital growth and development in the State.
- Note:** Under this new initiative, Google will collaborate with the Skill, Employment & Entrepreneurship Department (SEED) of Assam. Aim: To strengthen the school digitization efforts of state with digital learning tools and solution. Google will also provide scholarships for Google Career Certificates to youth in collaboration with Assam Skill Development Mission.
14. **Delhi government** has launched anti-firecracker campaign named 'Diya Jalao, Patake Nahi'.
- Note:** Aim: To promote a pollution-free festival of Diwali. As per the order, those who will be found indulging in storage, production and sale of crackers will have to pay a fine of 5000 rupees and imprisonment of three years as well. Those who will be found bursting of firecrackers, will be imposed a fine of 200 rupees and imprisonment for six months.
15. **Ladakh** MP, Jamyang Tsiring Namgyal has launched "Main Bhi Subhash" campaign.
- Note:** This event was organised in collaboration with Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose-INA Trust and the Ministry of Culture on the occasion of Netaji's 125th Birth Anniversary on 23rd January, 2023. He has also inaugurated an exhibition on Netaji at Boys Higher Secondary School in Leh. Aim: To create awareness of Netaji's contribution in the freedom fight.
16. "Honesty shops" has been launched in **Ernakulam district** of Kerala for students up to Class 12.
- Note:** This initiative was launched by the Student police cadet. Aim: To cultivate valuable lessons on trust, truth and integrity for students. There will be no salesperson in these shops and neither will they have a shopkeeper present. Students can choose items they need and drop the money for each item inside the collection box kept on a table.
17. Kerala Chief Minister, Pinarayi Vijayan has launched **Kunjapp** mobile application to prevent cyber crimes against children in the state.
- Note:** He has also inaugurated the training for the newly appointed Child Welfare Committee (CWC) and Juvenile Justice Board (JJB) members at

- Kovalam. The duty of the CWC and JJB members is to ensure the safety and security of the children.
- 18.** Bestu Varas has been celebrated a day after Diwali on the Pratipada Tithi in the month of Kartik. **Gujarat** state observed this day as new year.
- Note:** The day is also called Varsha Pratipada or Padwa. In 2022, Gujaratis celebrated their New Year on October 25. Significance: Gujarati businessmen and traders start new books of account and close the old ones.
- 19.** Upper Bhadra lift irrigation scheme will be the first national project of **Karnataka**.
- Note:** It will revive the drought-prone districts of Chitradurga, Chikkamagaluru, Davanagere and Tumakuru, as it is expected to irrigate about 2.3 lakh hectares by drawing water from the Tunga and Bhadra rivers. He has also announced that the Tumakuru-Davanagere railway line has been reviewed.
- 20.** **Assam** state government has launched the “trees outside forests in India (TOFI)” programme in collaboration with US Agency for International Development (USAID).
- Note:** Aim: To bring farmers, companies, and private institutions together to expand the tree

coverage outside of traditional forests in the State. The new programme will enhance carbon sequestration, support local communities, and strengthen the climate resilience of agriculture.

- 21.** **Kerala** state govt has launched a ‘women-friendly tourism’ project named State Responsible Tourism Mission (RT Mission).
- Note:** Aim: To establish women-friendly tourism centres and empower women. The project will be implemented to ensure the participation of women from all sections of society. Under the project, it will create a network of women’s units and tourism centres manned by women.
- 22.** The Union ministry of forest, environment and climate change (MoFEC) has given its nod to establish the Terai Elephant Reserve (TER) in **Uttar Pradesh**.
- Note:** The area of reserve will be spread in a 3,049 sq km area, which include Dudhwa Tiger Reserve (DTR) and Pilibhit Tiger Reserve (PTR). It will be the second elephant reserve in UP and 33rd in India. Project Elephant: It is a centrally sponsored scheme and was launched in February 1992 for the protection of elephants.

Important News – World

- 1.** A majestic new Hindu Temple has been inaugurated in Jebel Ali Village, that is located in **Dubai**.
- Note:** Design: Indian and Arabic architectural designs. The temple is located in a neighborhood that is generally known as the ‘Worship Village’ of UAE. The temple was inaugurated by the Minister of Tolerance and Coexistence Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan and Ambassador Sunjay Sudhir.
- 2.** In year **2029** Saudi Arabia will host the Asian Winter Games at a planned Mountain Resort in the Gulf Arab State.
- Note:** The Asian Games will be held at a \$500 billion futuristic megacity in the desert that will feature a year-round winter sports complex. The deserts and mountains of Saudi Arabia will be turned into a playground for winter sports.
- 3.** At the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) general session in Vienna, **China** has withdrawn a draught resolution criticising the AUKUS alliance.
- Note:** In order to prevent the draught resolution that claimed the AUKUS proposal breached Australia's, the UK's, and the US' obligations under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). India has also collaborated closely with numerous IAEA member nations.
- 4.** Kazakhstan's president has restored the former name of the country's capital, Astana. **Kassym-Jomart Tokayev** is the president of Kazakhstan.

- Note:** Kazakhstan's president has signed a law limiting presidential terms and reverting to the old name of the Central Asian country's capital. The bill also reinstated the capital's name to Astana.
- 5.** The UN's International Civil Aviation Organization has adopted an aspirational goal of making carbon emissions from air travel net zero by the year **2050**.
- Note:** Reason: To reduce the pollution caused by airlines. This move could encourage the production of more sustainable aviation fuel. Presently, Aviation is a relatively small contributor to climate-changing emissions, but its share is expected to grow
- 6.** **European** parliament has passed the new rule to introduce single charging port for electronic gadgets by 2024.
- Note:** As per the law, it mandates that every manufacturing companies of smartphone, laptop and camera, have to adopt a standard charger rule in Europe. As per the new rules, consumers do not need to buy a different charger every time, when they purchase a new device. Reason: To minimise e-waste and empower customers to make more sustainable choices.

- 7.** **123rd** is the rank of India in the Commitment to Reducing Inequality Index 2022.
- Note:** Findings: India has reduced inequality but continues to be among the lowest performers in health spending. Top three: Norway, Germany and

- Australia. Prepared by: Oxfam International and Development Finance International (DFI).
- 8. JSW Steel** Indian steel industry has joined as the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) network, world's largest voluntary corporate sustainability initiative.
- Note:** JSW Steel is the fifth Indian company in the "Industrial Mining and Manufacturing" category. Aim: To conduct business responsibly by aligning their operations and strategies with the UN's Ten Principles.
- 9.** As per the WWF's Living Planet Report 2022, the Wildlife populations have been declined by **69%** between 1970 and 2018.
- Note:** Latin America and Caribbean regions have seen the largest decline (94%) of monitored wildlife populations globally. Wildlife populations have dipped by 66% in Africa and 5% in Asia Pacific. While, Freshwater populations have declined by 83% on average as compared to other species groups.
- 10. Indian institute of Science (IISc)** has topped the 2023 Times Higher Education (THE) rankings among 75 Indian institutes.
- Note:** IISc Bengaluru is the only Indian university in the top 300 list. India has become the 6th most represented country in the list, with featuring 75 institutes in THE's 2023 ranking. Other Indian Institute: IIT Ropar (501-600), IIT Indore (601-800), IIT Gandhinagar ((801-1000).
- 11.** As per the 2022 Global Hunger Index (GHI), **107th** is the rank of India.
- Note:** The report was published by the Concern Worldwide (Ireland) and Welt Hunger Hilfe (Germany). Four indicators of GHI: Undernourishment, Child stunting, Child wasting, and Child mortality. Top 5: Belarus, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Chile, China and Croatia. Bottom 5: Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Madagascar, Central African Republic and Yemen
- 12.** According to a new Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI), the number of people living below the poverty line in India decreased by 415 million between 2005-06 and **2019-21**.
- Note:** The index was released jointly by UNDP and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI). As per the index, India still has the world's highest number of poor at 228.9 million, followed by Nigeria. 90% of India's poor people live in rural areas and 10% in urban areas.
- 13.** As per the Mercer CFS Global Pension Index 2022, **41** is the rank of India.
- Note:** Findings: India needs to strengthen its regulatory framework and boost the coverage under private pension arrangements. The MCGPI is a comprehensive study of 44 global pension systems, which accounts 65% of the world's population. The survey was topped by Iceland, followed by the Netherlands and Denmark.
- 14.** As per the report, international investment migration advisory firm Henley & Partners, **Third** is the rank of India in the world's first-ever global study on the rise of centi-millionaires with assets of more than Rs 830 cr (\$100 million).
- Note:** The list is topped by USA, followed by China. India will overtake China as the fastest growing market for centi-millionaires by 2032. Top Cities for Centi-Millionaires: New York, followed by San Francisco Bay Area, London, and Mumbai (15).
- 15.** The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) has excluded **Pakistan** from the grey list of the global watchdog on terror financing and money laundering after four years.
- Note:** Pakistan was put in 2018 for its failure to check the risk of money laundering. Inclusion to the grey list leads to the inability of Islamabad to get financial aid from IMF, World Bank, ADB & the EU.
- 16.** Name the Chinese-American movie star in Hollywood, **Anna May Wong** will be the first Asian-American to feature in US currency.
- Note:** This will be the fifth coin in the American Women Quarters (AWQ) Program and its circulation would start on October 24, 2022. AWQ program: It is four-year program that honors the achievements of women in the United States from 2022 to 2025.
- 17.** Financial Action Task Force (FATF) has added **Myanmar** to the list of high-risk countries, which is known as 'Black List'.
- Note:** Reason: Strategic deficiencies in regimes to counter money laundering, terrorist financing, and proliferation financing. Myanmar is the third country to be added in this list along with North Korea and Iran, which have been on the high-risk list since 2020.
- 18.** One Health Joint Plan of Action was launched by Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), World Health Organization (WHO), and **World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH)**.
- Note:** Aim: To create a framework to integrate systems and capacity to collectively better prevent, and respond to health threats. This plan will be applicable from 2022 to 2026 to reduce the health issues at the international, regional, and national levels
- 19.** Pakistan and China have decided to launch **3** new corridors besides the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).
- Note:** China-Pakistan Green Corridor (CPGC): It will focus on agricultural environment, food security and green development. China-Pakistan Health Corridor (CPHC): It will help get efficiency in the

- medical field. China-Pakistan Digital Corridor (CPDC): It will boost Pakistan's IT industry.
- 20. Microsoft** tech giant has launched the Windows Dev Kit 2023, a new personal computer designed for developers using the ARM chip design.
Note: It is available in eight countries; Australia, Canada, China, France, Germany, Japan, U.K., and U.S. It is a part of 'Project Volterra', that was started in May 2022. With the help of this new device, developers can build, run, and test Windows apps for Arm on a single compact device.
- 21.** Competition authority of **Turkey** has imposed monetary penalty of 346.72 million lira (\$18.63 million) on Meta Platforms (Facebook).
Note: Reason: For violating competition law. The firm has obstructed its competitors operating in social network services and online advertising markets as it merged data collected through Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp.
- 22. Poland** has selected US firm, Westinghouse to build its first nuclear power plant.
Note: Reason: Poland's efforts to burn less coal and gain greater energy independence. Poland would use the technology of the Westinghouse Electric Company for the plant in Pomerania province near the Baltic Sea coast. The country has also planned to spend 40 billion dollars for the building of two nuclear power plants with three reactors each.
- 23.** External Affairs Minister, S Jaishankar has announced that India will contribute **USD 500,000** to the United Nations Trust Fund for Counter Terrorism this year.
- 24.** As per the report of aviation analytics firm OAG, **Indira Gandhi International airport (Delhi)** has emerged as world's 10th busiest airport in October 2022.
Note: Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (Georgia) was the busiest in the world. Dubai and Tokyo Haneda airports are at the 2nd and 3rd positions, respectively. The rankings by OAG are based on scheduled airline capacity in the current month and compared to the equivalent month in 2019, pre-pandemic.
- 25. WHO** has released the Global TB Report 2022 that notes the impact of the COVID-19 on the diagnosis, treatment, and burden of disease for TB all over the world.
Note: As per the report, India's TB incidence for 2021 is 210 per 100,000 population, compared to the baseline year of 2015 (incidence was 256 per lakh of population in India); there has been an 18% decline which is 7% points better than global average of 11%. India is placed at 36th position in terms of incidence rates.

Honor & Awards

- 1.** **Indore** city has been adjudged as India's cleanest city, followed by Surat and Navi Mumbai.
Note: The President of India, Droupadi Murmu, presented the Swachh Survekshan Awards 2022. Madhya Pradesh has secured the first position, followed by Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra in the category of best performing states in 'Swachh Survekshan Awards 2022'. Tripura topped among the states having fewer than 100 urban local bodies. Maharashtra's Deolali was adjudged cleanest Cantonment Board.
- 2.** Swedish geneticist, Svante Paabo (67) has won the 2022 Nobel Prize in Medicine for the discovery of **Human evolution**.
Note: This discovery provides understanding of how modern day humans evolved from extinct ancestors. He performed his prize-winning studies in Germany at the University of Munich and at the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Leipzig. Paabo is the son of Sune Bergstrom, who won the Nobel Prize in medicine in 1982.
- 3. Yunqing Tang** has been awarded the SASTRA Ramanujan Prize for 2022.
Note: She was born in China and completed her B.Sc in Peking University in 2011. She completed her Ph.D in 2016 at Harvard under the supervision of Mark Kisin. The award was instituted by the Shanmugha Arts, Science, Technology & Research Academy (SASTRA) in 2005. This award is presented annually to individuals aged 32 and below.
- 4. Dr. Vivek Lall** has been honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award by US President, Joe Biden with citation of 'With Grateful Recognition'.
Note: He is an industry leader and CEO of General Atomics. The company is a global leader in the specialised fields of nuclear technology and has developed state-of-the-art Unmanned Aerial Vehicles like the Predator, Reaper, and Guardian drones. The citation was given to Dr. Lall by the AmeriCorps, which is a part of the US Government
- 5.** The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences has awarded the 2022 Nobel Prize in Physics to Alain Aspect (France), John F. Clauser (USA) and Anton

Zeilinger (Austria) for the discovery of **Entangled quantum states**.

Note: Reason: For experiments with entangled photons, establishing the violation of Bell inequalities and pioneering quantum information science. While John Clauser developed John Bell's ideas, Alain Aspect has developed the setup, and Anton Zeilinger, using refined tools and a long series of experiments.

6. KK Birla Foundation has confirmed that the 32nd Bihar Puraskar will be awarded to writer **Dr Madhav Hada**.
- Note:** Reason: For his 2015 literary criticism book 'Pachrang Chola Pahar Sakhi Ri'. He has written extensively on literature, media, culture and history. He has also been a member of the general council of the Sahitya Akademi and the Hindi Advisory Board. He was also a recipient of the Bhartendu Harishchandra Award and the Devraj Upadhyay Award.

7. **Angela Merkel** has won the 2022 United Nations refugee agency's prestigious Nansen Refugee Award.
- Note:** Reason: For her determination to protect asylum seekers while in office. In 2015 and 2016, Germany had welcomed the more than 1.2 million refugees and asylum seekers of migrant crisis. Nansen Award was established: 1954. This award was created to honour of the first UNHCR, Norwegian Arctic explorer and humanitarian Fridtjof Nansen.

8. The 2022 Nobel Prize in Chemistry has been awarded to Carolyn Bertozzi (American), Morton Meldal (Danish) and Barry Sharpless (American) for the discovery of **Click chemistry**.

Note: Reason: For their work on snipping molecules together which is known as click chemistry. Click chemistry: It is about linking together molecules like those in living cells. Use: To explore cells and track biological processes; can be applied in cancer treatment drugs. Before this, Barry Sharples has won Nobel in 2001 for chemistry.

9. **Annie Ernaux (French writer)** has been awarded the 2022 Nobel Prize in literature.

Note: Reason: For the courage and clinical acuity with which she uncovers the roots, estrangements and collective restraints of personal memory. She is known for works that blur the line between memoir and fiction. She becomes the 17th female writer to have won the prize. Her notable books: Cleaned Out; The Years; and Simple Passion.

10. **Memorial and Centre for Civil Liberties** has been awarded the 2022 Nobel Peace Prize.

Note: Belarusian human rights advocate Ales Bialiatski, Russian human rights organization 'Memorial', and Ukrainian human rights organization 'Centre for Civil Liberties' have been jointly awarded 2022 Nobel Peace Prize. This award was announced

by the Norwegian Nobel Committee for promoting the right to criticize power and protecting the fundamental rights of citizens.

11. **Harmanpreet Singh** has been voted the 2021/22 FIH Player of the Year for the second year running.
- Note:** He becomes the fourth player to win the Player of the Year award in men's category in consecutive years. He joined an elite list, that includes Teun De Nooijer (Netherlands), Jamie Dwyer (Australia) and Arthur van Doren (Belgium). Felice Albers of Netherlands has been named 2021/22 FIH Player of the Year in women's category.
12. **Harmanpreet Kaur** has won the ICC Player of the Month awards for September 2022 in women's category.
- Note:** She beat her deputy, Smriti Mandhana and Bangladesh counterpart, Nigar Sultana. This was India's first series win in England since 1999. While in men's category, Pakistan wicketkeeper batter, Mohammad Rizwan won the ICC Player of the Month awards for September 2022.
13. The 2022 Nobel Prize for Economics has been awarded to Ben S. Bernanke (USA), Douglas W. Diamond (USA) and Philip H. Dybvig (USA) for **Research on banks and financial crises**.
- Note:** Their research has significantly improved the understanding of the role of banks in the economy, particularly during financial crises. Diamond has demonstrated that how banks perform another societally important function. While, Ben Bernanke has analysed the Great Depression of the 1930s.
14. **Hyderabad city of Telangana** has been awarded 'World Green City Award 2022' at the AIPH World Green City Awards 2022 held in Jeju, South Korea.
- Note:** Hyderabad was awarded in the category of "Living Green for Economic Recovery and Inclusive Growth" for Green Garland to the State of Telangana. Mexico City's Environmental and Climate Change Program of Mexico City was also awarded in Living Green for Climate Change. Living Green for Social Cohesion: OASIS Schoolyard Project, Paris
15. Sri Lankan author, Shehan Karunatilaka has won the prestigious Booker Prize for fiction, for his book **The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida**.
- Note:** The book is about a war photographer murdered in the country's civil war. He received a trophy from Queen Consort Camilla at a ceremony on in London. He is the second Sri Lankan to win the award, after Michael Ondaatje's victory in 1992 for The English Patient. He has also received a 50,000 pound (\$56,700) prize.
16. **Prof. Barbara Metcalf** has been awarded the Sir Syed Excellence Award 2022 by the Aligarh Muslim University (AMU).
- Note:** The award ceremony was held on the 205th birth anniversary of the founder of AMU, Sir Syed Ahmad Khan. She has written extensively on the

history of the Muslim population of India and Pakistan. Sir Syed Ahmad Khan established the Muhammadan Anglo-Oriental (MAO) College in 1875, later known as Aligarh Muslim University (AMU).

- 17. Real Madrid's Karim Benzema** has won the 2022 Ballon d'Or trophy at the 66th Ballon d'Or ceremony, held at Theatre du Chatelet Paris, France.

Note: While, Barcelona's Alexia Putellas won the women's Ballon d'Or. Kopa Award: Barcelona's Gavi (best-performing player under the age of 21). Gerd Muller: FC Barcelona's Robert Lewandowski. Socrates Award: Bayern Munich's Sadio Mane. Club of the Year Award: Manchester City. Yachine Award: Thibaut Courtois (Real Madrid)

- 18. European Parliament** has awarded the people of Ukraine its annual Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought to honour their fight against Russia's invasion.

Note: The prize money of 50,000 euros (\$49,100), will be distributed to representatives of Ukrainian civil society. The prize was named after the late Soviet dissident Andrei Sakharov. This awarded annually since 1988 to individuals and organizations defending human rights and freedoms.

- 19. The masterpiece of Satyajit Ray, Pather Panchali** has been declared the best Indian film of all time by the Indian chapter of the International Federation of Film Critics (FIPRESCI).

Note: Pather Panchali, an adaptation of Bibhutibhushan Bandyopadhyay's Bengali novel of the same name, is widely regarded as one of the greatest films ever made. This film is the first film in Ray's Apu trilogy, which is followed by Aparajito and Apur Sansar.

- 20. Hyderabadi Haleem of Telangana** has won the 'Most Popular GI' award after defeating other food items including Rasgulla, Bikaneri Bhujia, and Ratlami Sev.

Note: GI tag: It is given to products to ensure that authorised users can only use the popular product name. Hyderabadi Haleem has received the GI status in 2010. It was expired in December 2019. However, later, the registrar of Geographical Indicator renewed the tag for 10 years.

- 21. The first prize of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Urban Awards 2021** has been awarded to **Uttar Pradesh**.

Note: Followed by Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu. Gujarat has been honoured with 5 'Special Category' awards for performance related to Affordable Rental Housing Complexes and 'Convergence with other Missions'. J&K and Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu have been adjudged 'Best performing UT'.

- 22. RRR movie** has won the Best International Film award at the 2022 Saturn Awards.

Note: The movie has been directed by SS Rajamouli. Prior to this, SS Rajamouli had received Saturn Awards for Baahubali: The Conclusion.

- 23. IIT-Madras** has been awarded the national intellectual property award for 2021 and 2022.

Note: This award was instituted by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The criteria for evaluation was patent applications, grants and commercialisation. The award was presented by Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal

- 24. West Bengal** state was awarded the prestigious SKOCH award for its 'Lakshmir Bhandar' scheme under the women and child development category.

Note: Lakshmir Bhandar: This scheme was launched the scheme in August 2021. Aim: To provide financial support to a woman head of a family. Age group: 25-60 years. Rs 500 per month is being given to general category and around Rs 1,000 per month to SC and ST categories.

Sports News

- 1. Antim Panghal** has secured her gold medal in women's 53kg wrestling at the National Games 2022.

Note: She has defeated Priyanshi Prajapati of Madhya Pradesh to clinch the title. She hails from Haryana. While, Hina Khalifa (Gujarat) and Swati Sanjay (Maharashtra) won the bronze medals in the women's 53kg. Olympian gymnast, Pranati Nayak has won two gold medals at the Sama Indoor Sports Complex in Vadodara.

- 2. The government** has launched Fit India Freedom Run 3.0 has launched at **Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium** in New Delhi on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti.

Note: The third edition was jointly launched with a Fit India Plog Run by Kiren Rijiju (Law and Justice Minister) and Anurag Singh Thakur (Youth Affairs and Sports Minister). This event will go on till 31st of October, 2022. PM, Narendra Modi had launched the Fit India movement in 2019.

- 3. Who have clinched the 2022 ATP 250 Tel Aviv Watergen Open men's doubles title _____.**

Note:

- They defeated the third seeded Mexican-Argentine pair of Santiago Gonzalez and Andres Molteni by 6-2, 6-4.
- It was Bopanna's third ATP title of the season and 22nd overall.

- Meanwhile, Novak Djokovic has lifted the Tel Aviv Watergen Open men's singles title after beating Marin Cilic.
- It was his third title of the season and 89th overall.
- 4. Sergio Perez(Red Bull driver)** has secured the 2022 Singapore F1 Grand Prix, held at Marina Bay Street Circuit, Singapore.
- Note:** Ferrari drivers, Charles Leclerc and Carlos Sainz Jr. have secured second and third place, respectively, in the race. While, Max Verstappen has finished seventh in the race and Hamilton secured ninth.
 Other F1 GP: Belgian 2022; Dutch Grand Prix 2022; Italian Grand Prix 2022; Hungarian Grand Prix 2022 – Max Verstappen (Netherlands)
- 5. PR Sreejesh** has been voted the 2022 FIH goalkeeper of the year title in the men's categories.
- Note:** He is the third player to win this title in a row. Earlier, David Harte (Ireland) won the prize twice in 2015 and 2016, while Vincent Vanasch (Belgium) won it three times in a row from 2017 to 2019. While, Savita Punia (captain) was voted the FIH Women's Goalkeeper of the Year. She is the third athlete to win this title in Women category for three years in a row.
- 6.** The National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) has suspended **Shivpal Singh (Uttar Pradesh)** from competing till October 2025.
- Note:** Reason: Due to a doping violation. The ban comes into effect from October 21, 2021. He has been subsequently tested positive for the banned substance methandienone that is a performance-enhancing steroid.
- 7. Pankaj Advani** has secured his 25th gold medal after winning the 2022 IBSF World Billiards Championship in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- Note:** He has defeated Sourav Kothari by 4-0 to defend the title for the fifth time in a row. He had won his last world title in Qatar 6Reds World Cup 2021, where he won the IBSF 6-Red Snooker World Cup. Pankaj Advani has been awarded Arjuna Award (2004), Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna (2006), Padma Shri (2009) and Padma Bhushan (2018).
- 8. Red Bull, Max Verstappen** has declared Formula One world champion after winning a 2022 Japanese Grand Prix.
- Note:** Sergio Pérez (Red Bulls) finished second in the list, while, the second-place finisher, Charles Leclerc was given a five-second penalty, dropping him to third. Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes) placed fifth.
- 9. Novak Djokovic** has clinched his 90th ATP title after defeating Greek, Stefanos Tsitsipas by 6-3, 6-4 in the final of Astana Open in Kazakhstan.
- Note:** He joined Rafael Nadal and Roger Federer in the list of players in Open Era with 90 or more ATP titles. In men's doubles, Nikola Mektic and Mate Pavic have captured their fifth tour-level title of the season and beat Adrian Mannarino and Fabrice Martin by 6-4, 6-2.
- 10.** The Indian Olympic Association has announced that the 37th edition of the National Games will be hosted by **Goa** in October 2023.
- Note:** The date of the 37th National Games will be decided while keeping in view of the dates of 19th Asian Games that will be held from 23rd September to 8th October, 2022 in Hangzhou, China. Goa had received the rights to host the National Games in 2008, failed to host them, due to different reasons.
- 11.** The medal tally of 36th National Games has been topped by **Services** team with a total of 128 medals (61 Gold, 35 silver, and 32 bronze).
- Note:** Followed by Maharashtra and Haryana. Best female player: Harshika Ramchandran (Karnataka); Best Male player: Sajan Prakash (Kerala)
- 12.** The 6th Senior Asian Pencak Silat Championship that is being held in **Srinagar**.
- Note:** J&K LG, Manoj Sinha has inaugurated 6th Senior Asian Pencak Silat Championship that is being held in Srinagar. Pencak Silat is relatively new to India and was introduced in 2014. The event brings together over 150 athletes from different countries. Pencak silat: It is an umbrella term for a class of related Indonesian martial arts.
- 13. India'** s women team has clinched the Women's Asia Cup 2022 title, after defeating Sri Lanka by eight wickets in the final, held at Sylhet International Cricket Stadium, Bangladesh.
- Note:** India has defeated Sri Lanka for the fifth time in an Asia Cup final. This is India's record seventh Women's Asia Cup title. Deepti Sharma has been adjudged Player of the Tournament. While, Renuka Singh adjudged Player of the Match.
- 14. Rudrankksh Balasaheb Patil** the India shooter who won the gold medal in men's 10m air rifle event at ISSF World Championship held in Cairo, Egypt.
- Note:** He defeated Danilo Dennis Sollazzo from Italy by 17-15. This win helped him to secure 2024 Paris Olympics quota for the country. He is only the second Indian to achieve this feat, after Olympic champion Abhinav Bindra, who had won the gold in 2006 in Zagreb, Croatia.

15. Jyothi Yarraj has created history by becoming the first Indian woman to clock a legal sub-13 second time in 100-meter hurdles.

Note: She has smashed her own record at the 61st National Open Athletics Championships at the Sree Kanteerava Stadium, Bengaluru. Her record of 12.82s made her amongst the top 10 fastest in Asian athletics history. She had won the same event in the National Games in Gandhinagar in a time of 12.79 seconds.

16. The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Executive Committee has confirmed the Qatar Football Association (QFA) as the host association for **2023 AFC Asian Cup**.

Note: The AFC Executive Committee has also shortlisted the All India Football Federation (AIFF) and the Saudi Arabian Football Federation (SAFF) as the final two bidders for the AFC Asian Cup 2027. Australia withdrew from the AFC Asian Cup 2023™ bidding process on September 1, 2022.

17. India's junior women's 10m air pistol team has won Gold medal at the ISSF Rifle/Pistol World Championship 2022 in Cairo, Egypt. **Note:** The team comprising Esha Singh, Shikha Narwal and Varsha Singh. The Indian women team beat China's Zhao Nan, Wang Siyu and Shen Yiyo by a 16-6. This was sixth gold medal of India at the ISSF Rifle/Pistol World Championship 2022. Presently, China top the list with 32 medals, which include 17 golds, while, India placed second with 15 medals.

18. Indian javelin thrower, **DP Manu** has won Gold medal in the men's javelin with the throw of 81.23m at the National Open Athletics Championships in Bengaluru.

Note: No other athlete could cross the 80 m mark in the final. Former national champion, Rohit Yadav has clinched Silver medal with throw of 79.80 metre, and Kishore Kumar Jena has settled for bronze. Manu, who represents Services, had won gold at the National Games 2022 with throw of 80.32m.

19. India shooter, **Ramita Jindal** has won gold in the 10-meter Air Rifle Women Junior event at ISSF World Championship Rifle/Pistol in Cairo, Egypt.

Note: She defeated Ying Shen from China by 16-12. In the 50-meter Pistol Women Junior event, India's Divanshi has won gold, Varsha Singh settled for silver and Tiyana won bronze. Rhythm Sangwan won a silver in the 25m Standard Pistol Women. India's Abhinav Choudhary has secured silver in the 50-meter Pistol Men Junior event.

20. Penguin Tazuni is the official mascot of 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup.

Note: The event will be held in Australia and New Zealand. The design is based on the Eudyptula minor species that found in both host countries. "Tazuni" is the combination of Tasman Sea and the word unity. The 9th edition of FIFA Women's World Cup is due to be held from July 20 to August 20, 2023. FIFA President: Gianni Infantino. Headquarters: Zürich, Switzerland

21. Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, Anurag Singh Thakur has announced that the 5th Khelo India Youth Games 2022 will be organised in **Madhya Pradesh** from 31st Jan to 11th Feb, 2023.

Note: The Khelo India Youth Games will be held at eight locations. The sports event would be participated by more than 8,500 athletes and sportspersons. This event was started in 2016, to provide a platform to the youth of the country to showcase their performance and talents in sports.

22. Indian shooter, **Swapnil Kusale** has secured the third Paris 2024 Olympics quota for India at the ongoing ISSF World Championship in Cairo, Egypt.

Note: He finished at the fourth position in the men's 50 meter rifle 3 positions event. Other two Paris 2024 quota: Rudrankksh Patil (men's 10 meter air rifle), Bhowneesh Mendiratta.

23. Western Air Command of IAF has won the Air Force Lawn Tennis Championship 2022-23, held at Head Quarter MC, Vayusena Nagar, Nagpur.

Note: The team has defeated Training Command in the finals. While, the final of the open singles was played between Corporal Pradeep (Training Command) and Sergeant Manolin (Western Air Command), where, Corporal Pradeep emerged as the winner.

24. Max Verstappen won the 2022 United States F1 Grand Prix title, held at the Circuit of the Americas, Texas, USA.

Note: Hamilton (Mercedes driver) has finished second and Charles Leclerc (Ferrari driver) came third in the 2022 United States F1 Grand Prix.

25. Shi Yuqi (China) has secured the men's singles title in 2022 Denmark Open after defeating Indonesia's Lee Zii Jia by 21-18, 16-21, 21-12.

Note: Chinese, He Bingjiao has clinched the women's singles title after defeating Chen Yufei by 22-20, 12-21, 21-10. Men's doubles: Fajar Alfian (Indonesia), Muhammad Rian Ardianto (Indonesia). Women's doubles: Chen Qingchen(China), Jia Yifan(China). Mixed doubles: Zheng Siwei (China), Huang Yaqiong (China)

26. Indian wrestler, **Aman Sehrawat** has become the first Indian wrestler to win a gold medal at the U-23

World Wrestling Championships in Pontevedra, Spain.

Note: He has defeated Ahmet Duman of Turkey by 12-4 in the finals. India has finished with six medals - one gold, one silver, and four bronze at the U-23 World Wrestling Championships 2022.

27. BCCI has announced the implementation of a pay equity policy for contracted Indian women cricketers, which means the the match fee for both, Men and Women Cricketers will be the same. ₹15 lakh is the fee of test cricket match.

Note: One Day International (ODI) match: ₹6 lakh T20 match: ₹3 lakh, Aim: To promote gender equality in sports; Recently, the Indian women's cricket team won the Asia Cup in Bangladesh, beating the Sri Lankan.

28. **Doda district** administration has started Chenab White Water Rafting Festival under 'Back to Village Phase-4' to promote adventure tourism round the year.

Note: It was inaugurated by Deputy Commissioner Doda Vishesh Paul Mahajan and SSP Doda Abdul Qayoom at Shibly area of Prem Nagar, 35 km from Doda town. The first day of the festival witnessed more than 1,000 people's participation especially the youth and about 200 participated in the Rafting trip and ATB Ride.

29. Spain has clinched the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup 2022 after defeating Colombia by 1-0 victory in the finals, held at the D Y Patil Sports Stadium, Mumbai, Maharashtra.

Note: Vicky Lopez from Spain was adjudged as the player of the tournament. While, Spain goalkeeper,

Sofia Fuente has won the award for best goalkeeping. Earlier, Nigeria beat Germany by 3-2 in a shootout and remained at third placed in the match.

30. An MOU was signed between FIFA, AIFF and **Ministry For Education** for Football For Schools program in Navi Mumbai in Maharashtra.

Note: This program will be run by FIFA and UNESCO, with an aim to contribute to the development, education and empowerment of children worldwide. Union education minister Dharmendra Pradhan and FIFA president Gianni Infantino signed the agreement. Under the program, 700 Navoday Vidyalayas will be the nodal agency for football in India.

31. In Badminton, **Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy** have won the men's doubles final of the French Open 2022 in Paris.

Note: The Indian duo has defeated Chinese Taipei's Lu Ching Yao and Yang Po Han in finals.

- Men's singles: Viktor Axelsen (Denmark)
- Women's singles: He Bingjiao (China)
- Women's doubles: Pearly Tan and Thinaah Muralitharan (Malaysia)
- Mixed doubles: Zheng Siwei and Huang Yaqiong (China)

32. India 's Under 21 men's hockey team has won the 10th edition of Sultan of Johor Cup title, after defeating Australia in 2022 final, held in Johor Bahru, Malaysia from 22 to 29 October 2022.

Note: Earlier, India has won two titles in 2013 and 2014. The top-scorer of tournament was Sharda Nand Tiwari from India, with seven goals to his name. The Player of the Match: Sudeep Chirmako

Books and Authors

1. Tagore & Gandhi: Walking Alone, Walking Together has won the best books of the year at the 2022 'Valley of Words Book Awards', was written by **Rudrangshu Mukherjee**.

Note: Anees Salim's The Odd Book of Baby Names and Neelakshi Singh's 'Khela' were adjudged the best in English and Hindi, respectively, in the fiction category. The PFC-VoW Book Awards is considered one of the most comprehensive independent literary award programmes in India.

2. The book titled "The Last Heroes" that is scheduled to release on November 21, 2022, has been authored by **P Sainath**.

Note: The book has been published by the Penguin Random House India (PRHI). This book is an attempt to recognition those freedom fighter stories, who are truly deserve, but were never

granted. He is also an author of the acclaimed book, Everybody Loves a Good Drought. P Sainath was awarded the 2007 Ramon Magsaysay Award.

3. External Affairs Minister, Dr S Jaishankar has participated in the Kiwi Indian Hall of Fame Awards 2022, where he launched the book **Modi@20: Dreams Meet Delivery** in Auckland.

Note: The event was also attended by the New Zealand Prime Minister, Jacinda Ardern. The event felicitated members of the Indian community in New Zealand for their exceptional achievements and contributions. The book originally launched on 11th May 2022.

4. Odisha CM, Naveen Patnaik has released a book titled 'Pandemic Disruptions and Odisha's Lessons in Governance'.

- Note:** This book was written by Rajya Sabha MP, Amar Patnaik. The book is a collection of the various essays on pertinent contemporary issues that emerged in India during the pandemic years of 2020-21 and 2021-2022. The book also highlights the achievements of Odisha's 5-T framework of governance. 5-T: Team work, technology, transparency, transformation and time limit
5. A book titled 'The Philosophy of Modern Song', written by **Bob Dylan**.
Note: The book will be published by Simon and Schuster. This book is a collection of essays, is his

Science and Defence

1. The Indian Mars Orbiter Craft, Mangalyaan has runs out of fuel and battery after completing **8 years**.
Note: ISRO has launched the Mars Orbiter Mission (MoM) on November 3, 2013. The spacecraft entered the Martian orbit on September 24, 2014. It helped to study the Martian landscape including surface geology, morphology, atmospheric processes, surface temperature, and atmospheric escape process. India is the first nation in the world to reach Mars on a Maiden attempt.
2. Indian Air Force has decommissioned 51 Squadron, which is also known as **Swordarms**.
Note: It was raised at Chandigarh on February 1, 1985 under the command of Wg Cdr VK Chawla. The Squadron moved to its present location at Srinagar on May 1, 1986. The Squadron operation has been stopped from 30 June 2022. Now, IAF has three only MiG squadrons remaining now. This aircraft was flown by Wing Commander, Abhinandan Varthaman had shot down a Pakistan Air Force's F-16.
3. Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh has formally inducted the indigenously-developed LCH **Prachanda** in the Indian Air Force at Air Force Station, Jodhpur in Rajasthan.
Note: It would be inducted into the 143 Helicopter Unit. It was developed by Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL). This helicopter is powered by two Shakti engines and equipped with stealth features, all-weather combat capability, and armour protection.
4. Indian Navy has signed an agreement with **Royal New Zealand Navy** country on White Shipping Information Exchange.
Note: Aim: To promote greater transparency in the Maritime Domain. The agreement was signed between Navy chief Admiral, R Hari Kumar and Rear Admiral, David Proctor, Chief of Royal New Zealand Navy (RNZN). The white shipping information refers to the exchange of prior information on the movement and identity of commercial non-military merchant vessels.
5. SpaceX has launched group of four astronauts to the International Space Station (ISS) as part of **Crew-5 mission** from Launch Complex 39A, Kennedy Space Center, Florida.
Note: This is the first time that the SpaceX has launched a Russian cosmonaut on its vehicle, which comes as part of an exchange deal between Nasa and Roscosmos. The Crew-5 flight carried Nasa astronauts Nicole Mann and Josh Cassada, Koichi Wakata (JAXA), and Anna Kikina (Roscosmos cosmonaut).
6. According to the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), the X-ray spectrometer 'CLASS' on the Chandrayaan-2 orbiter has mapped an abundance of **Sodium** chemical compound on the moon for the first time.
Note: Chandrayaan-1's X-ray Fluorescence Spectrometer (C1XS) has detected sodium from its characteristic line in X-rays. CLASS was built at the U R Rao Satellite Centre of ISRO in Bengaluru. It provides clean signatures of the sodium line due to its high sensitivity and performance.
7. **Asteria Aerospace Limited** has received India's first micro category drone type certification for its indigenously designed A200 drone from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).
Note: The A200 drone was found to be fully compliant with the Certification Scheme for Unmanned Aircraft Systems. Asteria's A200 drone has been developed for surveying and mapping applications in GIS, agriculture, construction, mining and other industries.
8. **Russia** has launched a GLONASS-K navigation system from northern cosmodrome.
Note: This system was carried by Soyuz-2.1b medium-class launch vehicle. GLONASS-K is a navigation satellite intended as a part of the Russian GLONASS radio-based satellite navigation system. Russia has spent billions of dollars in the past two decades on developing the GLONASS system.

9. **Mahendra Singh Dhoni** has launched a 'made-in-India camera drone named 'Droni' with advanced features.
- Note:** This drone was manufactured by Garuda Aerospace. The new drone is useful for surveillance and will be available for purchase towards the end of 2022. During the event, it was also announced the launch of Kisan Drone, a battery-powered device, aimed at farmers who want to spray pesticides.
10. As per the report, 'Developing the Space Ecosystem in India: Focusing on Inclusive Growth', India's space economy is expected to touch \$12.8 billion by the year **2025**.
- Note:** The report was released by the Indian Space Association (ISPA) and Ernst and Young. Reason: Increasing private participation, increased demand for small satellites. It was also noted that, India has over 100 space tech start-ups with investments in the segment touching \$68 million in 2021.
11. **National Security Guard (NSG)** has organised the multinational Joint Anti-Terror Exercise (JATE), "Manesar Anti-Terror 2022" at Manesar Garrison.
- Note:** The exercises were conducted under the framework of SCO Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS). It is the second stage of the exercise, as the Stage-1 was conducted from July 27 to August 1 by the National Counter Terrorist Forces of SCO Member Countries in their respective territories.
12. NASA has announced that DART spacecraft has successfully managed to change the motion of the asteroid 'Dimorphos'. **Double Asteroid Redirection Test** is the full form of DART.
- Note:** This is the first demonstration of the "kinetic impactor" method of asteroid mitigation. It was launched in November 2021 and crashed into the space rock on September 26, 2022. Prior, it took Dimorphos 11 hours and 55 minutes to orbit its asteroid Didymos, now it changed the moonlet asteroid's orbit by 32 minutes.
13. **Convergence Energy Services Ltd (CESL)** has set up a solar-powered charging station for electric vehicles in Ladakh region.
- Note:** The integrated carport was inaugurated by LG of Ladakh, R K Mathur in Leh. He also handed over customised electric cars that were manufactured by Hyundai Motor Company. The EV carport constitutes 100 kW solar PV panels with a 860 kW/hour lithium-ion battery storage system.
14. The President of India, Droupadi Murmu has inaugurated 'PARAM KAMRUPA' Supercomputer facility at **IIT Guwahati**.
- Note:** This facility will be provided to conduct advanced research in various scientific fields such as weather and climate, bioinformatics, computational, AI, etc. This is a state-of-the-art supercomputer, set up under the National Supercomputing Mission (NSM).
15. Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) in association with **Power-CSIRTS** have conducted Cyber Security Exercise named "PowerEX" for 193 power sector utilities.
- Note:** Aim: To recognize, analyze & respond to Cyber Incident in IT & OT Systems. 2022 Theme: Defending Cyber induced disruption in IT & OT infrastructure
16. Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh has launched **Maa Bharati Ke Sapoot** website on October 14, 2022 to enable citizens to contribute for the Armed Forces Battle Casualties Welfare Fund (AFBCWF).
- Note:** It is a Tri service fund that will be utilised for grant of immediate financial assistance of ex-gratia, to the Next of Kin and dependents of Battle Casualties. The government appoints veteran actor, Amitabh Bachchan as the Goodwill Ambassador.
17. **Eastern Naval Command** has conducted an offshore security exercise, 'Prasthan' in the Krishna Godavari Basin Offshore Development Area (ODA) on October 11 and 12.
- Note:** The exercise is conducted every six months. It aims to integrate the efforts of all maritime stakeholders involved in offshore defence. The exercise resulted in refining the standard operating procedures (SOPs) and response actions to several contingencies in the Offshore Defence Area, off Kakinada.
18. **INS Arihant**, the nuclear-powered submarine of India has carried out a successful launch of a submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM) in the Bay of Bengal.
- Note:** Reason: To validate the operational and technological parameters of the weapon system. INS Arihant: It is a 6,000-tonne submarine. It is a lead ship of India's Arihant class of nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarines. It is India's first indigenous nuclear submarine that has been inducted in the Indian Navy.
19. 7th edition of IBSAMAR, a joint multinational maritime exercise was organised Port Elizabeth, South Africa from 10 - 12 Oct 22.
- Note:** In the exercise, Indian Navy has represented the Teg class guided missile frigate, INS Tarkash, Chetak helicopter and personnel from the Marine Commando Force. The harbour phase of 7th edition includes professional exchanges such as damage control and fire-fighting drills, VBSS/cross boarding lectures and interaction among Special Forces.
20. The 12th edition of biennial DefExpo is being organised in Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar, Gujarat from 18th - 22nd, Oct, 2022. '**Path to Pride**' is the theme of 12th DefExpo.
- Note:** Agenda: Live demonstrations showcasing the equipment and skill set of the Armed Forces, DPSUs

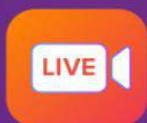
- and Industry. This also provide an opportunity to showcase their equipment and platforms and to explore the capabilities of the expanse of Indian Defence industry for forging business partnerships.
21. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) will launch its third mission to the moon, Chandrayaan-3 in **June 2023**.
- Note:** The launch of Chandrayaan-3 (C-3) will be onboard from the Launch Vehicle Mark-3 (LVM3). It will be launched with more robust lunar rover onboard which is crucial for future inter-planetary explorations. Chandrayaan-3 is the successor to the Chandrayaan-2 mission. ISRO also plans to fly Indian astronauts into orbit by the end of 2024.
22. **Ola** cab orgnaisation has officially launched 'S1 Air', its most affordable electric scooter in the country.
- Note:** The price of the new electric scooter is set at ₹85,000. The new Ola electric scooter will compete against Honda Activa, TVS Jupiter, Suzuki Access and Yamaha Fascino. The electric scooter comes equipped with the company's latest MoveOS 3 and is said to have a range of 76km. The all-new Ola S1 Air packs 2.5KWh lithium-ion battery and takes about 4.5 hours to charge fully.
23. **Indian Institute of Technology-Madras** and NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory researchers have studied the interactions between microbes in the International Space Station (ISS).
- Note:** Finding: A microbe that resides on the ISS, was found to be beneficial to various other microorganisms but hampered the growth of a fungus. This study would help devise strategies for the disinfection of space stations to minimise any potential impact of microbes on the health of astronauts.
24. The ISRO is set to launch **36** broadband communication satellites on board its biggest rocket, the LVM3-M2 at Sriharikota spaceport in AP.
- Note:** The LVM3-M2 mission was created specifically for a foreign client, OneWeb, by NewSpace India Limited (NSIL). It is the first multi-satellite mission, carrying 36 OneWeb satellites to LEO as the largest payload ever for LVM3 (5,796 kg). The LVM3-M2 mission represents NewSpace India Ltd's 1st dedicated commercial mission.
25. ISRO has renamed the Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) Mark -III as **Launch Vehicle Mark-III**.
- Note:** Reason: To identify its task of placing satellites into a variety of orbits. The rocket is no longer to the geosynchronous orbit. This rocket can go anywhere - GEO (Geosynchronous Earth Orbit), MEO (Medium Earth Orbit), LEO (Low Earth Orbit). It will be used for India's maiden human space flight, Gaganyaan, which is tentatively scheduled for late 2024.
26. The Indian and **US military** force have conducted a three-day joint humanitarian assistance exercise, "Tiger Triumph" exercise at Eastern Naval Command in Visakhapatnam.
- Note:** Aim: To build strategic cooperation between the two countries. Focus: Staff planning, with an emphasis on processes for streamlining diplomatic, operational, and logistical coordination. This exercise is the second collaboration between the Indian and US militaries to coordinate disaster relief in the region.
27. Prime Minister, Narendra Modi will lay the foundation stone of the facility for the aircraft manufacturing unit in **Vadodara** on 30th October 2022.
- Note:** The new plant will manufacture C-295 transport aircraft that are on order by IAF under a ₹21,935 crore deal inked in 2021. Airbus (European aviation major) and India's TATA group will jointly manufacture at least 40 C-295 transport aircraft in India.
28. Indian Navy is hosting **29th** edition of Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX) from 26th to 30th October 2022 at Visakhapatnam.
- Note:** It is being conducted in two phases: Harbour Phase at Visakhapatnam from 26 to 27 October 2022 followed by Sea Phase in Bay of Bengal from 28 to 30 October 2022. SIMBEX exercise began in 1994 and were initially known as Exercise Lion King. RSS Stalwart and RSS Vigilance (Victory Class Corvette) from Singapore will join the exercise.
29. Indian Air Force (IAF) and **French Air and Space Force (FASF)** have jointly conducting a bilateral exercise named 'Garuda VII' at Air Force Station Jodhpur from 26 October to 12 November 2022.
- Note:** In the exercise, FASF has participated in with Rafale fighter aircrafts, A-330 Multi Role Tanker Transport aircraft and a contingent of 220 personnel. While the IAF has participated with Su-30 MKI, Rafale, LCA Tejas and Jaguar fighter aircraft, as well as LCH and Mi-17 helicopters.
30. **India** has participated in the first edition of India-Mozambique-Tanzania Trilateral Exercise (IMT TRILAT) commenced at Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania on 27 October.
- Note:** Indian Navy has represented the guided missile frigate, INS Tarkash, a Chetak helicopter and MARCOS (Special Forces). Objectives: (1) Capability development to address common threats through training and sharing of best practices, (2) Enhancing interoperability, and strengthening maritime cooperation
31. India successfully test-fired 'Agni Prime', a new generation of ballistic missiles from **Odisha**.
- Note:** The 'Agni Prime', or 'Agni-P', is a nuclear-capable new-gen advanced variant of the Agni class of missiles. It is a two-stage canisterised missile

with a maximum range of 2,000 km. It weighs 50% less than the Agni 3 missile and has new guidance

and propulsion systems. In addition, since it is canisterised, it can be launched from rail or road.

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