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Important News: World

Salesforce Global Digital Skills Index 2022



- Salesforce, a leading player in Customer Relationship Management (CRM), said that according to its **Global Digital Skills Index 2022**, India leads in digital skills readiness and has the highest readiness score amongst 19 countries it surveyed.
- India had the highest digital readiness score of 63 out of 100.
- The average global readiness score was 33 out of 100.
- According to Salesforce, in India, 72 percent of respondents say they are very actively learning digital skills. 66 percent of respondents in India also said they feel very equipped with resources to learn digital skills.

About Global Digital Skills Index 2022:

- The Index is based on a survey of over 23,500 workers in 19 countries.
- The index measures global employee sentiments and readiness to acquire the key digital skills needed by businesses today and over the next five years.

Source: ET

Important News: India

National Ropeways Development Programme (Parvatmala)



- Union Finance Minister Smt Nirmala Sitharaman, while presenting Union Budget for 2022-23 announced **National Ropeways Development Programme – “Parvatmala”**.

About “Parvatmala” scheme:

- The scheme will be taken up on PPP mode, which will be a preferred ecologically sustainable alternative in place of conventional roads in difficult hilly areas.
- The idea is to improve connectivity and convenience for commuters, besides promoting tourism.

- This may also cover congested urban areas, where conventional mass transit system is not feasible.
- The Finance Minister announced that contracts for 8 ropeway projects for a length of 60 km would be awarded in 2022-23.
- The scheme is being presently started in regions like Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Jammu & Kashmir and the other North Eastern states.

Source: PIB

Powerthon-2022



- Union Minister for Power and MNRE R K Singh launched **Powerthon-2022**, a hackathon competition under RDSS to find technology driven solutions to solve the complex problems in power distribution and to ensure quality and reliable power supply.
- Powerthon-2022 is being launched in line with the aim of **Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS)** introduced by the Ministry of Power, Government of India.
- RDSS is a Reform-based and Result-linked Scheme introduced by the Ministry of Power and the key objectives of RDSS are Reducing AT&C losses to 12-15%, eliminating the ACOS-ARR gap by 2024-25 and improving the quality & reliability of the power supply to build a robust power sector which can amplify the development opportunities in the nation's quest for a thriving economy.
- **Startup India**, the flagship initiative of the Government of India, intended to catalyse startup culture and build a strong and inclusive ecosystem for innovation and entrepreneurship in India is also supporting in wide publicity of **Powerthon-2022**.

Source: PIB

"India Telecom 2022"



- Ashwini Vaishnaw, Union Minister of Communications, Electronics & Information Technology and Railway, inaugurated **'India Telecom 2022'** - an Exclusive International Business Expo.
- The event is being organised by Telecom Equipment and Services Export Promotion Council (TEPC) from February 8th to 10th, 2022 under Market Access Initiative Scheme (MAI) of Department of Commerce, Government of India and with support of Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of External Affairs and Indian missions in different countries.
- Qualified buyers from more than 45 countries are attending the event. Apart from the conference, 40+ Indian telecom companies are showcasing their products and capabilities at the exhibition.
- Event aims to provide opportunities to the Indian telecom stakeholders to meet qualified overseas buyers

Source: PIB

Important News: State

J&K becomes the first Union Territory to be integrated with National Single Window System



- Jammu & Kashmir became the first Union Territory to be integrated with the **National Single Window System (NSWS)**.
- Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha launched the J&K Single Window Clearance System integrated with NSWS.
- NSWS is linked with India Industrial Land Bank (IILB) which hosts 45 industrial parks of J&K. This will help Investors to discover available land parcels in J&K.
- The NSWS, a 2020 budgetary announcement of the Government of India, is a digital platform that serves as a guide for investors to identify and to apply for approvals as per their business requirements.
- The platform was soft launched in September 2021 by the Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal.
- NSWS will eliminate the need for investors to visit multiple platforms/offices to gather information and obtain clearances from different stakeholders.

Source: PIB

Akshay Kumar appointed as Uttarakhand's brand ambassador



- Bollywood actor Akshay Kumar has been appointed as the brand ambassador of Uttarakhand, the Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami announced ahead of Assembly Elections 2022.
- In 2017, Akshay Kumar was appointed as Uttarakhand's brand ambassador for 'Swachhata Abhiyan'.
- He was awarded the Padma Shri by the Government of India in 2009.

Previous Brand Ambassador: In 2021, cricketer Rishabh Pant, who hails from Roorkee, was appointed as Uttarakhand's brand ambassador.

Source: ET

Important News: Sports

Women's Asian Cup 2022 Football Tournament



- **China PR (People's Republic)** defeated South Korea (Korea Republic) to win the AFC Women's Asian Cup India 2022 final title at the D.Y. Patil Stadium in Navi Mumbai, India.
- This is the record-extending 9th AFC Women's Asian Cup title won by China.

AFC Women's Asian Cup 2022:

- The AFC Women's Asian Cup 2022 was the 20th edition of the AFC Women's Asian Cup.
- India was recommended as the host of the tournament by AFC Women's Football Committee and selected as the host in June 2020.

Source: ndtv

Important News: Personality

Mahabharat's Bheem aka Praveen Kumar Sobti passes away



- Praveen Kumar Sobti who played the role of Bheem in BR Chopra's Mahabharat, passed away.
- Sobti was 20 when he joined the Border Security Force (BSF), and later represented the country across various athletic events in hammer and discus throw.
- The Arjuna Awardee was a two-time Olympian (1968 Mexico Games and 1972 Munich Games) and four-time Asian Games medallist (two gold, one silver and one bronze)

Source: TOI