

July 2022 Edition

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shashwat sharma

## CLAT IGNITE- July 2022 (Monthly Current Affairs Magazine)

### Dear Aspirant,

- Since you are aware of the competition level in the various law exams, one thing is clear; the examinations are getting tougher and tougher. And in all the sections of various law entrance exams, the current affairs section is very unpredictable, in which aspirants face major hurdles.
- **Current Affairs** is a very important subject that needs to be covered strategically, and this plays a very important role in all the **Law Related UG Exams**. Thus, maintaining a monthly compilation of current affairs is highly recommended.
- It is extremely important to keep a tab on the major news and happenings that affect us socially and politically. One should be aware of the facts and be able to analyze the news, dissect it, and evaluate it from different dimensions while preparing for the CLAT exam.
- With this view, **BYJU'S Exam Prep** has come up with yet another amazing feature that will make your CLAT preparation easier and more streamlined. Presenting the **“CLAT IGNITE” Monthly Current Affairs Magazine**.

### Features of the CLAT IGNITE, Current Affairs Magazine

- All the important news and views from newspapers that are required for the CLAT and Other Law-Entrance exams.
- It is divided into sections like National News, International Affairs, Science and Technology, Sports, Awards and Honours, etc.
- Each news is analyzed and dissected as per the CLAT exam.
- Magazines are available from July 2021.
- Passage-Based Current Affairs for practice with detailed solutions.
- Important One Liners of the month.
- Available in a convenient PDF format that you can download.

The thorough analysis of our **“CLAT IGNITE MAGAZINE”** and deep study-cum-practice of our **“CLAT IGNITE” Monthly Current Affairs Workbook”** will make you confident enough and exam-battle ready so that no question in the current affairs section of the law entrance exam will trouble you anymore.

*Note: Sources used: TH, HT, IE, SCROLL, MINT, PIB, NOA, DDNEWS & etc.*

**All the Best!!!!**



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## TOP STORY

### 1. Sri Lanka Crisis

#### Background:

- When **Sri Lanka emerged from a 26-year long civil war in 2009**, its post-war GDP growth was reasonably high at **8-9% per annum till 2012**.
- However, its average **GDP growth rate almost halved after 2013 as global commodity prices fell, exports slowed down and imports rose**.
- **Sri Lanka's budget deficits were high during the war and the global financial crisis of 2008** drained its forex reserves which led to the country borrowing a **USD2.6 billion loan from the IMF in 2009**.
- It again approached the **IMF in 2016 for another USD1.5 billion loan**, however the conditionalities of the IMF further deteriorated Sri Lanka's economic health.

#### Economic Factors:

- The **Easter bomb blasts of April 2019 in churches in Colombo** resulting in **253 casualties**, consequently, dropped the **number of tourists sharply** leading to a **decline in foreign exchange reserves**.
- The newly led government by **Gotabaya Rajapaksa in 2019** promised **lower tax rates and wide-ranging SoPs for farmers during their campaign**.
- The quick implementation of **these ill-advised promises further exacerbated the problem**.
- The **Covid-19 pandemic in 2020** made the bad situation worse -
- Exports of **tea, rubber, spices and garments suffered**.
- **Tourism arrivals and revenues fell further**
- Due to a rise in government expenditures, the **fiscal deficit exceeded 10% in 2020-21**, and the debt to GDP ratio rose from **94% in 2019 to 119% in 2021**.
- The **Crisis in Sri Lanka** is triggered due to a **shortage of foreign exchange (forex) reserves**, which have dropped by 70% over the last two years to just **USD 2 billion by the end of February 2022**.
- Meanwhile, the country has **foreign debt obligations** of about **USD 7 billion for 2022**.

#### Sudden Move to Organic Farming:

- **In 2021, all fertiliser imports were completely banned** and it was declared that **Sri Lanka would become a 100% organic farming nation overnight**.
- This **overnight shift to organic fertilisers heavily impacted food production**.
- Consequently, the **Sri Lankan President declared an economic emergency** to contain rising food prices, a depreciating currency, and rapidly depleting forex reserves.

#### China's Debt Trap:

- Sri Lanka has borrowed heavily from **Beijing since 2005 for infrastructure projects**, many of which became White Elephants (no longer needed/ useful).
- Sri Lanka also leased its **Hambantota port to a Chinese company in 2017** after it became **unable to service the USD 1.4 billion debt from Beijing used to build it**.
- **Sri Lanka's total debt to China stands at USD 8 billion**, almost one sixth of its total external debt





### Sri Lanka Crisis: Timeline

- **March 31, 2022:** Demonstrators march to President Gotabaya Rajapaksa's private residence to protest over worsening economic conditions.
- **April 3:** Rajapaksa dissolves the cabinet, which includes his younger brother Basil Rajapaksa as finance minister, but elder brother Mahinda Rajapaksa continues as prime minister.
- **April 9:** Protests escalate, with sit-in demonstrations outside Rajapaksa's office calling for the removal of the president to pave the way for political reforms.
- **May 9:** Following widespread clashes between pro- and anti-government protesters, Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa resigns. Countrywide violence leaves nine dead and about 300 injured.
- **July 9:** President Gotabaya Rajapaksa informs the parliamentary speaker that he plans to step down on July 13, after protesters storm into the official presidential residence. Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe says he is willing to resign too.

- **July 13:** President Gotabaya Rajapaksa flees Sri Lanka, initially going to Maldives, before moving on to Singapore.
- **July 14:** Rajapaksa submits a letter of resignation hours after arriving in Singapore, becoming the first Sri Lankan president to quit while in office.
- **July 15:** Parliament accepts Rajapaksa's resignation. Ranil Wickremesinghe, a six-time prime minister, is sworn in as acting president.
- **July 18:** Wickremesinghe declares state of emergency.
- **July 20:** Wickremesinghe wins vote in parliament to become new president. A large section of the public remains unhappy with parliament's choice, because of Wickremesinghe's past association with Rajapaksa.
- **July 22:** Sri Lankan security forces raid a protest camp occupying government ground in the main city of Colombo and cleared out a section of it, arresting nine people. Later the same day, Dinesh Gunawardena is sworn in as prime minister, although he too has been perceived as an ally of Rajapaksa.

## 2. Wimbledon 2022: Novak Djokovic & Elena Rybakina win titles

### Novak Djokovic wins 7th Wimbledon Title

- **Novak Djokovic** won his **7th Wimbledon title**, after defeating Nick Kyrgios in the final by 4–6, 6–3, 6–4, 7–6
- It was also his **21st Grand Slam title**.
- He is a Serbian professional tennis player.
- He became the fifth man in the Open Era (after Björn Borg, Pete Sampras, Roger Federer, and Rafael Nadal) to record a streak of at least four consecutive titles at one major.



### Elena Rybakina won the 2022 Wimbledon Championships



- Elena Rybakina won the **2022 Wimbledon Championships**, after defeating Ons Jabeur by 3–6, 6–2, 6–2.
- It was her maiden major singles title.
- **Rybakina became the first Kazakhstani to win a major title**, and the **third player representing an Asian nation to win a major title after Li Na and Naomi Osaka**.



### 3. Grand Slam Tournaments

These are the four most important annual tennis tournaments.

**They are as follows:**

1. Australian Open (Mid-January)
2. French Open (September and October)
3. Wimbledon (June and July)
4. US Open (August and September)



These tournaments are played on a **different type** of grounds.

**They are:-**

S.No	Tournaments	Playing Area
1	Australian Open	Hard Courts
2	US Open	Hard Courts
3	French Open	Clay
4	Wimbledon	Grass

**These tournaments are played in five categories-**

- (a) Men's singles
- (b) Women's singles
- (c) Men's doubles
- (d) Women's doubles
- (e) Mixed doubles

**All-Time Grand Slam Title Leaders**

1. **Rodger Federer: 20 (Grand Slam Title)**
2. **Rafael Nadal: 22 (Grand Slam Title)**
3. **Novak Djokovic: 21 (Grand Slam Title)**
4. **Pete Sampras: 14 (Grand Slam Title)**
5. **Roy Emerson: 12 (Grand Slam Title)**
6. **Serena Williams: 22 Grand Slams**
7. **Stefi Graf: 22 Grand Slams**

#### Important Keywords



- **Grand Slam:** refers to the achievement of winning all four major championships within a single calendar year within one of the **five categories** (Example: Men's singles, Mixed doubles etc.)
- **Non-Calendar Year Grand Slam:** Winning the four majors in consecutive tournaments but not in the same year.
- **Career Grand Slam:** Winning all four majors at any point during a career.
- **Golden Grand Slam:** Winning the gold medal at the Summer Olympic Games in addition to the four majors in a single calendar year.
- **Super Slams:** Winning the gold medal at the Summer Olympic Games + four majors in single calendar year + ATP Final + WTA Final



## NATIONAL NEWS

### 1. Ban on Single Use Plastic comes into force in the country from July 1, 2022

- The government of India has banned the **single-use plastic from July 1, 2022.**
- As per the notification on August 12, 2021, the government has prohibited the manufacture, import, stocking, distribution, sale, and use of **all identified single-use plastic items, which have low utility and high littering potential with effect from July 1, 2022.**
- Currently, **Polyethylene terephthalate (PET) bottles do not fall under this category.**
- **Single-use plastic** has among the highest shares of plastic manufactured and used — from packaging of items, to bottles (shampoo, detergents, cosmetics), polythene bags, face masks, coffee cups, cling film, trash bags, food packaging etc
- The report found that **India** features in the **top 100 countries of single-use plastic waste generation** – at **rank 94 (the top three being Singapore, Australia and Oman).**
- With domestic production of **11.8 million metric tonnes annually**, and **import of 2.9 MMT**, India's net generation of single-use plastic waste is **5.6 MMT**, and **per capita generation is 4 kg.**
- **Single-use plastic** could account for **5-10% of greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.**
- **Ministry of Environment:** Bhupender Yadav



INDIA TODAY GROUP

## ITEMS THAT COME UNDER SINGLE-USE PLASTIC BAN

- Plastic carry bags (less than 75 micron in thickness) 
- Earbuds with plastic sticks 
- Plastic sticks for balloons 
- Plastic flags 
- Candy sticks 
- Ice-cream sticks 
- Polystyrene (thermocool) for decoration 
- Disposable crockery – plates, cups, glasses, cutlery such as forks, spoons, knives, straws, trays 
- Wrapping or packing films around sweet boxes 
- Invitation cards and cigarette packets 
- Plastic or PVC banners less than 100 micron, stirrers 

Image courtesy: indiatoday



### Why were these items banned?

- Ban was based on the **difficulty of collection, and therefore recycling.**
- **Plastic remains in the environment for long periods of time and does not decay.**

- It turns into microplastics – first entering our **food sources** and then the **human body, and this is extremely harmful.**
- As much as **95% of single use** belonging to this **“PACKAGING”** category – from toothpaste to shaving cream to frozen foods.

### Implementation:

The ban will be monitored by the **Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)** from the Centre, and by the **State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)** that will report to the Centre regularly.

### Penalty:

Those found violating the ban can be penalised under the **Environment Protection Act 1986** – which allows for **imprisonment up to 5 years, or a penalty up to Rs 1 lakh, or both.**

### Countries which already Ban Plastic:

- **Bangladesh became the first country to ban thin plastic bags in 2002.**
- **New Zealand became the latest country to ban plastic bags in July 2019.**
- **China issued a ban on plastic bags in 2020** with phased implementation.
- Eight states in the US have banned single-use plastic bags, beginning with **California in 2014. Seattle became the first major US city to ban plastic straws in 2018.**
- **In July, 2021, the Directive on Single-Use Plastics** took effect in the **European Union (EU).**

- **In 2022, 124 countries,** parties to the **United Nations Environment Assembly,** including **India,** signed a **resolution to draw up an agreement** which will in the future make it **legally binding for the signatories to address the full life of plastics from production to disposal, to end plastic pollution.**
- **As of July 2019, 68 countries have plastic bag bans with varying degrees of enforcement.**

*Source: IndianExpress*

## 2. NMCG creates Namami Gange Amrit Vatika at Kalindi Kunj Ghat



- **National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG)** has **planted 75 sapling** under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav to **create Namami Gange Amrit Vatika at Kalindi Kunj Ghat on River Yamuna in New Delhi.**
- This activity was carried out under the **initiative Yamuna Ghat par Vriksharopan.**
- NMCG has also conducted the Cleanliness drive on River Yamuna in Delhi is a regular activity organized on the 4th Saturday of every month.

- **Director General of NMCG: G. Asok Kumar**

### National Mission for Clean Ganga

- The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) was implemented by the National Council for Rejuvenation, Protection and Management of River Ganga also known as the National Ganga Council. This mission was established in 12th August 2011 under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 as a registered society. The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) under National Ganga Council is supported by the State level Programme Management Groups (SPMGs) in the state of Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Bihar, Jharkhand, and West Bengal. It is an initiative taken by the Government of India to address the pollution of the river Ganga by providing financial and technical assistance.



### Initiatives towards Clean Ganga

- A lot of initiatives were taken before the establishment of the **Clean Ganga Mission** that targeted towards the **reduction of pollution and cleaning of the river Ganga**. Some of the major initiatives taken by the Government of India before the implementation of this mission are discussed below:
- **Ganga Action Plan:** It was announced in 1985 by the Ministry of Environment & Forests. This was the first River Action Plan that was introduced for the improvement of water quality through interception, diversion and

treatment of domestic sewage. The plan aimed in preventing the entry of toxic and industrial chemical wastes to the river.

- **National River Conservation Plan:** This conservation plan was developed as an extension for the Ganga Action Plan with an aim to cover all the major rivers of India.
- **National River Ganga Basin Authority (NRGBA):** Controlled by the Prime Minister of India, the National River Ganga Basin Authority was formed under Section-3 of the Environment Protection Act, 1986 by the Central Government in 2009. It declared the Ganga as 'the National River' of India.

### Namami Gange:

- The **Namami Gange Yojana** is implemented by the **National Mission for Clean Ganga** along with its **State Programme Management Groups (SPMGs)**. Late former **Union Finance Minister, Arun Jaitley** announced the implementation of **Namami Gange on 10 July 2014**.
- This programme was established as a conservation mission with a budget of **Rs. 20,000 crore**.
- **Namami Gange** aims at **reducing the pollution of the river Ganga** along with the **conservation and rejuvenation of the river banks**.
- It is a flagship programme under the Union Government. The main pillars of the Namami Gange have been discussed below:
  - **Sewerage Treatment Infrastructure & Industrial Effluent Monitoring.**
  - **Development of river-front as well as river-surface cleaning.**
  - **Bio-Diversity & Afforestation.**
  - **Public Awareness.**

SOURCE: PIB

### 3. PM Modi inaugurates first smart campus of Bosch India in Bengaluru

- Prime Minister, Narendra Modi has virtually **inaugurated Bosch India's first smart campus in Bengaluru**, it was built at a cost of **Rs 800 crore**.
- The **76-acre, Spark.NXT campus** facilitates multiple smart solutions based on security, sustainability, and user experience for associates, visitors, and facility management.
- At present, Bosch has **16 manufacturing sites** and seven development and application centres in India.
- At the ceremony, **Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai** applauded the work done by Bosch India, especially in Karnataka.
- **MD, Bosch Limited India: Soumitra Bhattacharya**



Source: BS



#### 4. PM Narendra Modi inaugurated Digital India Week 2022 at Gandhinagar



- PM Narendra Modi has inaugurated the **Digital India Week 2022 at Gandhinagar in Gujarat on July 4, 2022.**
- **Theme 2022 is : “Catalyzing New India’s Techade.”**
- He will also **launch ‘Digital India GENESIS’** - a National Deep-tech Startup Platform, to discover, support, grow and make successful startups in Tier-II and Tier-III cities of India.
- He will launch **‘Indiastack.global’; ‘MyScheme’** - a service discovery platform facilitating access to Government Schemes.

- The Digital India Week 2022 programme demonstrated the digital platforms like **Aadhaar, UPI, Cowin and Digilocker** among others which have provided ease of life to the citizens.
- Startups, government leaders and industry and academia experts will participate in this programme.
- An exhibition with more **than 200 stalls has been set up at Mahatma Mandir by Indian unicorns and startups.** Prime Minister Modi also visited this exhibition and interacted with the people connected with startups and unicorns.
- Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, Union Minister of Communications, Electronics & Information Technology and Railways Ashwini Vaishnaw and Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and Electronics and Information Technology Rajeev Chandrasekhar were also present during the occasion.

Source: Newsonair

#### 5. NTPC commissions India's largest floating solar project in Telangana

- India’s largest **floating solar plant** is now fully operational at **Ramagundam, Peddapalli district of Telangana.**
- **Capacity : 100MW**
- This floating solar power photovoltaic project was **commissioned by the NTPC.**
- **As of July 1, the total commercial operation of floating solar capacity in the southern region has risen to 217 MW.**
- At **Ramagundam**, the solar modules are placed **across 500 acres** on floaters.
- It will **reduce the evaporation rate and thereby help water conservation.**



#### About NTPC:

- **NTPC Limited, formerly known as National Thermal Power Corporation Limited**, is an Indian public sector undertaking which is **engaged in generation of electricity and allied activities.**
- NTPC currently operates **55 power stations (24 Coal, 7 combined cycle gas/liquid fuel, 2 Hydro, 1 Wind, and 11 solar projects).** Further, it has 9 coal and 1 gas station, owned by joint ventures or subsidiaries.
- Founded on: **7 November 1975**
- Headquarters: **New Delhi, India**
- Chairman & MD: **Gurdeep Singh**



### How is the project unique?

- This project is unique because all the **electrical equipment from the inverter, transformer, high-tension panel to supervisory control and data acquisition** are also set up on **floating ferro-cement platforms**.
- According to the NTPC, the entire floating system is **anchored through special high-modulus polyethylene ropes to the dead weights (concrete blocks) placed in the balancing reservoir bed**. The generated power is evacuated up to the existing switch yard through **33KV underground cables**.

Source Indian Express

## 6. NHA join hands with IRDAI to develop National Health Claims Exchange

- **National Health Authority (NHA) and IRDAI** will jointly develop a **National Health Claims Exchange as a digital platform to settle health claims**.
- The **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India** is a regulatory body under the jurisdiction of **Ministry of Finance**, Government of India and is tasked with **regulating and licensing the insurance and re-insurance industries in India**.
- **Debasish Panda (Chairman of IRDAI)** has proposed for creation of a working group with representation from industry.
- This group will decide how to make the **largest segment of general insurance** in India attract more people to **buy health insurance**.
- **CEO of NHA: R S Sharma**
- **The National Health Authority or the NHA is responsible for implementing India's flagship public health insurance/assurance scheme Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana**.
- **IRDAI Headquarters: Hyderabad**

## 7. Gujarat becomes best performer for 3rd time in States' Start-up Ranking 2021

- **Gujarat has been selected as the 'Best Performer State' for the third time in the States' Startup Ranking 2021**.
- The ranking has categorized the states under two categories - category A and category B - based on their size.

### Top performers:

- A category: **Kerala, Maharashtra, Odisha, and Telangana**
- B category: **Jammu & Kashmir**

### Start-up leaders:

- Category A: **Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Assam**
- Category B: **Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Andaman and Nicobar Islands**.

### DPIIT launched State Start-up Ranking Framework in 2018

- **DPIIT launched the State Start-up Ranking Framework in 2018** to support innovation and entrepreneurship and strengthen the ecosystem in the states. **The Prime Minister of India launched the "Start-up India" initiative on January 16, 2016**, with the aim

of building a strong startup and entrepreneurial ecosystem, promoting sustainable economic growth and generating massive employment opportunities.

- **India is the world's third largest start-up ecosystem.**



- Today, India has become the **third largest start-up ecosystem in the world, with over 72,000 recognized start-ups and over 100 unicorns.** Recognizing the contribution of

start-ups to the economy of India, the **Prime Minister announced 16 January as National Start-up Day.**

## 8. Rajasthan govt will introduce India's first right-to-health Bill



- **The Rajasthan government** will soon introduce in the Assembly the **Right to Health Bill**, the first of its kind in India.
  - **Aim: To provide quality and affordable health care services through government and private health care providers.**
  - Earlier, the government had prepared a draft bill that defines the rights of patients, attendants and health care providers.
  - The draft also defines a system for addressing grievances of the stakeholders.
- The right to health bill is part of the Rajasthan government's bid to expand and strengthen medical services in the state. Recently, the chief minister approved **Rs 117 crore towards expansion of the facilities in Mahila Chikitsalaya (women's hospital) at Sanganeri Gate in Jaipur.**
  - The state has also ensured health security of every family by providing free treatment up to **Rs 10 lakh** to the people through **Mukhyamantri Chiranjeevi Swasthya Bima Yojana.** Along with this, an accident insurance of up to **Rs 5 lakh** is being given to the families registered in the scheme.
  - **Rajasthan CM: Ashok Gehlot**

### About Right to Health:

- The **Right to health**, as with other rights, includes **both freedoms and entitlements:**
- **Freedoms include the right to control one's health and body** (for example, sexual and reproductive rights) and to be **free from interference** (for example, free from torture and non-consensual medical treatment and experimentation).
- **Entitlements include the right to a system of health protection that gives everyone an equal opportunity to enjoy the highest attainable level of health.**

### Nat. & Intl. Provisions:

- **India is a signatory of the Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) by the United Nations** that grants the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being to humans including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services.
- **Article 21 of the Constitution of India** guarantees a fundamental right to life & personal liberty. The right to health is inherent to a life with dignity.
- **Articles 38, 39, 42, 43, & 47 (DPSP)** put the obligation on the state in order to **ensure the effective realization of the right to health.**

## 9. India's first testbed for autonomous navigation launches at IIT-Hyderabad

- Minister of State for Science, **Jitendra Singh** has launched the **TiHAN, a Testbed for Autonomous Navigation for both ground and aerial vehicle testing,** at IIT Hyderabad.
- **Aim:** to promote collaborative research between academia, industry and R&D labs.





- **TiHAN** refers to **Technology Innovation Hub on Autonomous Navigation**.
- **TiHAN** has been recognised as a **Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (SIRO)** by the **Department of Scientific and Industrial Research**.

#### About TiHAN?

- It is a **multidisciplinary initiative**, which aims at making **India a global player in the futuristic and next-generation “Smart Mobility” technology**.
- The **multi-departmental initiative** includes researchers from **electrical, computer science, mechanical and aerospace, civil, mathematics**.
- At present, there is no such testbed facility in **India to evaluate the autonomous**

**navigation of vehicles**. Therefore, it is envisioned to address this gap by developing a **fully functional and exemplary testbed facility dedicated to Connected Autonomous Vehicles (CAVs)**.

- Connected vehicles use technology to either communicate with each other, connect with traffic signals, signs, and other road items, or obtain data from a cloud. This information exchange helps with safety and improves traffic flow.

### 10. Indian American, Jayshree V Ullal on Forbes list of richest self-made women



- **Jayshree V Ullal**, the **president and CEO of Arista Networks**, a computer networking firm has been named on the **eighth edition of Forbes’ list of America’s richest self-made women**.
- She has been heading **Arista Networks** since 2018.
- She is also on the board of directors of **Snowflake**, a cloud computing company.
- She is the recipient of numerous awards, including **E&Y’s “Entrepreneur of the Year” in 2015**, **Barron’s “World’s Best CEOs” in 2018** and one of **Fortune’s “Top 20 Business persons” in 2019**.
- **Other Indian American: Neerja Sethi, Neha Narkhede, Indra Nooyi, Reshma Shetty**
- **Diane Hendricks**, co-founder and chairman of **ABC Supply** has **topped the list**.

Source: ThePrint

### 11. MoD approves three private sector banks for overseas procurement

- The **defence ministry has allowed three private sector banks - HDFC Bank Ltd, ICICI Bank, and Axis Bank**, to provide **financial services to it for overseas procurement of military hardware**.
- Earlier, only authorised public sector banks were allowed to provide services **such as issuance of letters of credit and DBT to the ministry**.
- For one year on concurrent basis, the selected banks may be allocated with **LC business of Rs 2,000 crore**, each on the capital and revenue side.



Source: IE



## 12. Google announces Startup School India initiative



- **Google** has announced the launch of **Start-up School India (SSI)** as part of the **Google for Startups** initiative.
- Through this platform, the Google will bring together investors, successful entrepreneurs and programmers.
- **Aim: To reach out to at least 10,000 start-ups with this programme.**
- This is a nine-week program, which will be delivered virtually.
- **India is the third largest start-ups ecosystem** in the world.

### India and Start-ups:

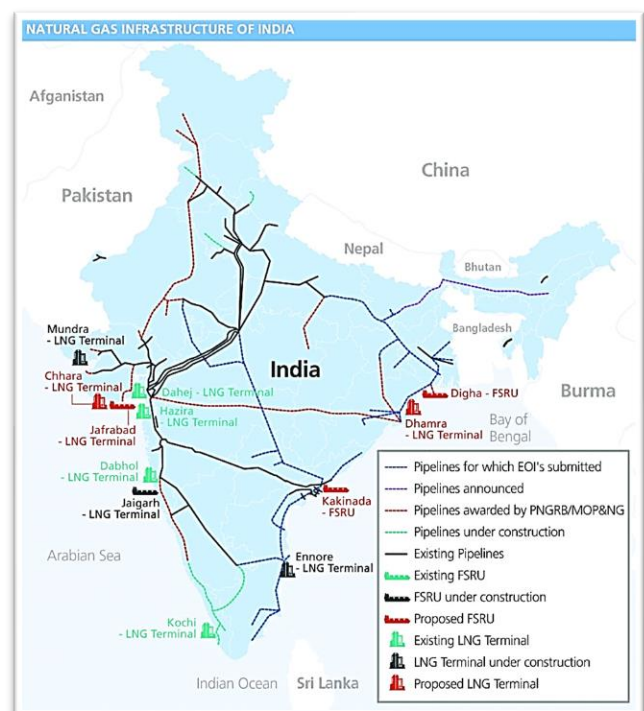
- The term **'Unicorn'** refers to the rarest of the rare startups who become **Unicorns attaining a valuation of more than USD 1 billion.**
- **Start-up India initiative** on **16th January 2016.**
- The wave of Unicorns in India has soared to new heights as the country witnessed the birth of its **100th Unicorn on 2nd May 2022.**
- With close to **70,000 startups**, India is the third largest birthing ground for startups in the world.
- **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)** recognized startups

across 647 Indian districts encompassing all 36 States and Union Territories.

- Innovation in India is not just limited to certain sectors; we have recognized startups solving problems in **56 diverse sectors with 13% from IT services, 9% healthcare and life sciences, 7% education, 5% professional and commercial services, 5% agriculture, and 5% food & beverages.**
- **Open**, a **neo-banking fin-tech portal** recently raised capital to push up its value over a billion dollars and became **India's 100th unicorn. Open, a five-year-old Bengaluru-based neo-bank, raised USD 50 mn recently.** Earlier, Google, Temasek, Visa, and Japan's SoftBank invested USD 100 million in the startup.

## 13. India's first floating LNG terminal likely to operationalise in 2022

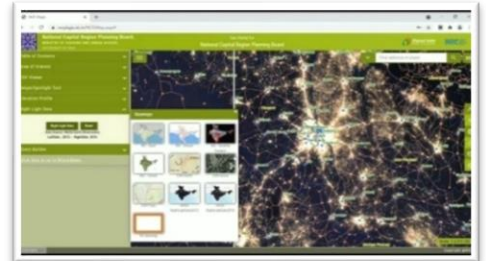
- **First floating terminal of India for liquefied natural gas (LNG) at Jaigarh in Maharashtra** is expected to be operational in the **second half of 2022.**
- **Floating storage and regasification units (FSRUs)** of H-Energy Gateway at **Jaigarh** and the Swan Energy-led terminal at **Jafrabad** are cumulatively expected to add 11 million tonnes per annum of regasification capacity.
- The sixth LNG import terminals was **Mundra LNG in 2020.**
- All LNG import terminals in India except one are located on the **west coast along the Arabian Sea.** The first two terminals in operation—**Dahej** (2.3 Bcf/d capacity) and **Hazira** (0.7 Bcf/d capacity)—were placed in service in 2004 and 2005, respectively.



- These two terminals are the most utilized LNG facilities in India, operating at nearly 100% capacity utilization. In 2013, the Konkan terminal (formerly called Dabhol LNG, 0.3 Bcf/d capacity), located south of Mumbai, and **Kochi LNG** (0.7 Bcf/d), located adjacent to the Kochi refinery in southern India, were placed in service.
- Last year, India commissioned its first terminal on the southeast coast—**Ennore LNG** (0.7 Bcf/d)—primarily to serve customers in the Chennai area.

#### 14. Geo-Portal for NCR made public 'PARIMAN' launched

- **National Informatics Centre (NIC)** has developed web geo-portal for NCR, known as '**PARIMAN**' for the purpose of effective utilization of Remote Sensing and GIS technology
- It will be initially used by **NCR Participating states** and Office of **National Capital Region Planning Board (NCRPB)**
- It will help to improve decentralized planning and management in NCR region.
- National Capital Region (NCR) is presently spread over 55,083 Sq. Kms and has four participating states (24 Districts and entire NCT of Delhi) as its constituent area.
- The Portal consists of around 179 Layers presented as Line, Point & Polygon feature covering details of various sectors like Land Use, Transport, Industries, Water, Power, Health, Shelter, Heritage & Tourism, Disaster Management, etc.
- It can be accessed through NCRPB website <https://ncrpb.nic.in/> and also through weblink <https://ncrpbgis.nic.in/>.



SOURCE: PIB

#### 15. Maharashtra leads states with 13,541 govt-recognized start-ups

- **Maharashtra** has the maximum number of government-recognized startups, followed by **Karnataka** and **Delhi**, as per **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)** data.
- As many as **13,541 active DPIIT recognized startups** were from Maharashtra, out of the total **73,205** govt-approved new age companies.
- **Maharashtra has a share of 18%** with respect to the total number of startups.
- **Karnataka has 8,902 startups and Delhi is home to 8,670 enterprises** as of 5th July.
- These startups have created **more than 750,000 jobs** with an average of **11 jobs per enterprise**.
- Fifty per cent of startups are from small towns. Over **45 per cent** have at least **one-woman director**.
- A look into the **sector-wise data** shows India has maximum startups in **IT services (9,041)**, followed by **healthcare & life sciences and education at 6,839, and 4,848, respectively**.
- under the government's **Fund of Funds scheme**, over **Rs 7,300 crore** has been committed to 86 alternative investment funds (AIFs). This has seen over **Rs 9,500 crore** being invested in about **600 startups**.
- The government had launched the **Seed Fund Scheme** last year for **new-age firms** to ensure **adequate availability of funds, especially for startups with good ideas across fields**. It aims to offer financial assistance to startups for proof of concept, prototype development, product trials, market entry and commercialisation. The total corpus for providing seed funding to eligible startups via incubators is **945 crore**.

Source: BS





## 16. Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri launches SVANidhi Mahotsav



- Housing and Urban Affairs Minister, **Hardeep Singh Puri** has launched 'SVANidhi' Mahotsav to celebrate the success of **PM SVANidhi Scheme**.
- This festival is organised by the **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** from **9th -31st of July 2022**.
- **PM SVANidhi (Prime Minister Street Vendors AtmaNirbhar Nidhi)** scheme was launched on **June 1, 2020** to provide the working capital loans to street vendors so they can restart their businesses which were impacted by COVID-19 pandemic.

## 17. West Bengal gets Internet Exchange Points at Durgapur and Bardhaman

- **Rajeev Chandrasekhar, Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology** has inaugurated two new **Internet Exchange Points (IXP)** of NIXI at **Durgapur and Bardhaman** to improve internet connectivity in West Bengal.
- It is under the **1000-day plan** of the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology**.
- The **first Internet Exchange at Kolkata** is also run by NIXI.
- The internet service providers can connect at these points and provide benefit to their end-users.

### About the National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI):

- **NIXI** is a **not-for-profit organization (section 8 of the Companies Act 2013)** working since 2003 for spreading the internet infrastructure to the citizens of India through the following activities:
  - Internet Exchanges through which the internet data is exchanged amongst **Internet Service Providers (ISP's), Data Centers and Content Delivery Network (CDNs)**.
  - **.IN Registry**, managing and operation of **.IN country code domain** and **.BHARAT IDN (Internationalized Domain Name) domain** for India.
  - **Indian Registry for Internet Names and Numbers (IRINN)**, managing and operating **Internet Protocol (IPv4/IPv6)**.

## 18. PM Modi unveils National Emblem cast on new Parliament Building

- **PM Narendra Modi** has unveiled the **6.5 metre-tall National Emblem** on top of the new Parliament building (under-construction).
- The emblem made of **bronze, weighs 9,500 kg**.
- A supporting steel structure of 6,500 kg was made to support the emblem.
- The emblem was created by **Sunil Deore (Aurangabad)** and **Laxman Vyas from (Jaipur)**.
- **Bimal Patel of HCP Designs, Ahmedabad**, is the architect in charge of the building (new Parliament).
- The building is being built by **Tata Projects**.
- **National Emblem of India** is a representative seal of the Republic of India that is adapted from the **Lion Capital of Ashoka Pillar (based in Sarnath, Uttar Pradesh.)**
- India adopted it as the State Emblem on **26th January 1950**.



- The motto of the Indian National Emblem is '*Satyamev Jayate*' or '*Truth Alone Triumphs.*'
- Dinanath Bhargava sketched and illuminated India's National Emblem.
- The Indian National Emblem was accepted on 26 January 1950 by Madhav Sawhney.

## 20 Facts about National Emblem of India



A list of 14 facts about Indian National Emblem is provided below:

**Source** – <https://knowindia.gov.in/>

1. The Ashoka pillar, erected by Emperor Ashoka, has four lions seated back to back which imply power, courage, confidence and pride.
2. Other animals demonstrated on the pillar are horse, bull, elephant, and lion.
3. The elephant denotes Buddha's outset (the dream of a white elephant entering her womb dreamt by Buddha's mother at the time of Buddha's conception).
4. The bull symbolizes Zodiac sign of Buddha- Taurus.
5. The horse signifies Buddha's horse, which he rode at the time of departing from the citadel.
6. The lion indicates enlightenment.
7. All the Ashoka Pillars were carved by craftsmen from the same area using stone from Chunar and Mathura.
8. Each pillar is around 40 to 50 feet in height, and weighing up to 50 tons each, were pulled to where they were raised.
9. Only six pillars with animal capitals and nineteen pillars persist with inscriptions.
10. The engravings on the pillars described proclamations about morality grounded on Buddhist doctrines.
11. The slogan 'Satyameva Jayate'- "The Truth Alone Triumphs" is engraved below the National Emblem.
12. Slogan 'Satyameva Jayate' is a quote from the Mundaka Upanishad, the closing part of the holy Hindu Vedas.
13. National Emblem is the official seal of the President of India and Central and State Governments and an inevitable part of the official letterhead of the Government of India.
14. National Emblem is a part of all Indian currency and the National Passport of the Republic of India.
15. In the two-dimensional representation of the emblem on the original copy of Indian Constitution, the fourth lion was left out.
16. Indian Police Service Officers (IPS) wear the state emblem on their caps.
17. Members of Parliament (MPs) can also use the state emblem on their letterheads and visiting cards.
18. There is a punishment of imprisonment of up to two years or a fine of up to INR 2000 if someone violates the law concerning the usage of the National Emblem.
19. Dinanath Bhargava is believed to visit Alipore Zoo in Kolkata to see a lion before he depicts the same on paper.
20. **The National Emblem can be displayed in the following public buildings:**
  - i) Rashtrapati Bhawan
  - ii) Parliament House
  - iii) Supreme Court
  - iv) Central Secretariat buildings
  - v) Raj Bhawan or Raj Niwas
  - vi) State Legislature
  - vii) High Courts

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>viii) Secretariat buildings of the States or the Union territories</li> <li>ix) Premises of India's Diplomatic Mission abroad</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>x) Residences of Heads of Missions in the countries of their accreditation</li> <li>xi) At the entrance doors of buildings occupied by India's Consulates abroad</li> </ul> |
|---|--|

### 19. 'Father of Indian Internet' BK Syngal passes away

- **Former Chairman of Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd (VSNL), Brijendra K Syngal** has passed away at 82.
- He has been acknowledged as the **father of the Indian Internet**.
- Syngal has written his memoir "**Telecom Man: Leading from the Front in India's Digital Revolution**".
- Under his leadership, **on August 15, 1995, VSNL had formally launched the Internet for the Indian public**.
- He also act as an advisor to many industries, government and media.



### 20. New Ramsar Sites in India: Five more Ramsar sites has enhanced India's level of wetlands inclusion globally.

- The recent addition of five more Ramsar sites has enhanced India's level of wetlands inclusion globally. After the introduction of the new sites, India now has a total of 54 Ramsar-designated wetlands. The Ramsar convention, which was initiated in the year 1971, is an intergovernmental treaty for the conservation and sustainable use of Ramsar sites.
- The convention of wetlands is named after the city of Ramsar in Iran where it was first signed. India has the highest number of Ramsar sites among the South Asian nations. The list begins with the inclusion of Chilika lake and Keoladeo National Park -- the first Ramsar-recognised sites in the country. Conserving wetlands is an essential task for the betterment of humanity and to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

#### LIST OF NEW RAMSAR SITES

1. Karikili Bird Sanctuary in Tamil Nadu
2. Pallikaranai Marsh Reserve Forest in Tamil Nadu
3. Pichavaram Mangrove in Tamil Nadu
4. Sakhya Sagar in Madhya Pradesh
5. Pala Wetland in Mizoram

#### FULL LIST OF RAMSAR SITES IN INDIA

RAMSAR SITE IN INDIA	STATE
Karikili Bird Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu
Pallikaranai Marsh Reserve Forest	Tamil Nadu
Pichavaram Mangrove	Tamil Nadu
Sakhya Sagar	Madhya Pradesh
Pala Wetlands	Mizoram
Khijadia Wildlife Sanctuary	Gujarat
Bakhira Wildlife Sanctuary	Uttar Pradesh





Haiderpur Wetland	Uttar Pradesh
Sultanpur National Park	Haryana
Bhindawas Wildlife Sanctuary	Haryana
Thol Lake Wildlife Sanctuary	Gujarat
Wadhvana Wetland	Gujarat
Ashtamudi Wetland	Kerala
Beas Conservation Reserve	Punjab
Bhitarkanika Mangroves	Odisha
Bhoj Wetlands	Madhya Pradesh
Chandra Taal	Himachal Pradesh
Chilika Lake	Odisha
Deepor Beel	Assam
East Kolkata Wetlands	West Bengal
Harike Wetlands	Punjab
Hokera Wetland	Jammu & Kashmir
Kanjli Wetland	Punjab
Keoladeo National Park	Rajasthan
Keshopur-Miani Community Reserve	Punjab
Kolleru lake	Andhra Pradesh
Loktak lake	Manipur
Nalsarovar Bird sanctuary	Gujarat
Nandur Madhameshwar	Maharashtra
Nangal Wildlife Sanctuary	Punjab
Nawabganj Bird Sanctuary	Uttar Pradesh
Parvati Agra Bird Sanctuary	Uttar Pradesh
Point Calimere Wildlife and Bird Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu
Pong Dam lake	Himachal Pradesh
Renuka lake	Himachal Pradesh
Ropar Wetland	Punjab
Rudrasagar Lake	Tripura
Saman Bird Sanctuary	Uttar Pradesh
Samaspur Bird Sanctuary	Uttar Pradesh
Sambhar lake	Rajasthan
Sandi Bird Sanctuary	Uttar Pradesh
Sarsai Nawar Jheel	Uttar Pradesh

Sasthamkotta lake	Kerala
Surinsar- Mansar lakes	Jammu & Kashmir
Tsomoriri	Ladakh
Upper Ganga river	Uttar Pradesh
Vembanad Kol Wetland	Kerala
Wular lake	Jammu & Kashmir
Sunderban Wetland	West Bengal
Asan Barrage	Uttarakhand
Kanwar Lake or Kabal Taal	Bihar
Lonar Lake	Maharashtra
Sur Sarovar	Uttar Pradesh
Tso Kar Wetland Complex	Ladakh

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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### 1. ReNew Power, UNEP, SEWA collaborate to train women as solar technician

- **ReNew Power** has collaborated with the **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)** and **Self-Employed Women's Association of India (SEWA)** to launch 'Project Surya'.
- **Aim:** To train low-income women salt pan workers to work as solar technicians.
- Women salt pan workers will be trained as solar panel and solar pump technicians at Dhokavada village in the Patan district of Gujarat.
- The programme will be **supported by the government's National Skill Development Corporation.**



### 2. Uganda announces discovery of 31 million metric tonnes of gold deposits



- The **African country, Uganda** has recently announced the **discovery of a deposit of 31 million tonnes of gold ore**, with extractable pure gold estimated to **gross 320,000 tonnes.**
- It will attract big investors to develop the Sector hitherto dominated by small wildcat miners.
- To boost the country's economy, the Ugandan Government has **licensed Wagagai Gold Mining Company, a Chinese firm to start producing gold products in the Busia district.**

### Bihar to allow exploration of India's 'largest' gold reserve in Jamui

- The **Bihar government** has decided to accord permission for exploration of the **"country's largest" gold reserve in Jamui district.**
- As per a **Geological Survey of India (GSI)** survey, around **222.88 million tonnes of gold reserve**, which amounts to **44% of the total gold reserves in the country.**
- It also includes **37.6 tonnes of mineral-rich ore**, are present in Jamui district.
- The state **Mines and Geology Department** is in consultation with agencies engaged in exploration, including **GSI and the National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC)**, for exploration of gold reserves in Jamui.

### 3. India elected to UNESCO panel on Intangible Cultural Heritage for 2022-2026

- **India** has been elected as a member of the **Intergovernmental Committee of UNESCO's 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH)** for the **2022-2026 cycle.**
- The elections for the **Intergovernmental Committee** were held during the two-day **General Assembly of the 2003 Convention at UNESCO headquarters in Paris.**
- **India** has already served as a member of the **ICH Committee, from 2006 to 2010 and from 2014 to 2018.**
- **Culture Minister: GK Reddy**



### What is Intangible Cultural Heritage?

- Intangible cultural heritage is the practices, expressions, knowledge and skills that communities, groups and sometimes individuals recognise as part of their cultural heritage.



- Also called living cultural heritage, it is usually expressed in one of the following forms:
  - *Oral Traditions*
  - *Performing Arts*
  - *Social Practices*
  - *Rituals and Festive events*
  - *Knowledge and Practices concerning nature and the universe*
  - *Traditional Craftsmanship*

### Significance of India's Election to the Convention?

- It will help India focus on **fostering community participation, strengthening international cooperation through intangible heritage, promoting academic research on intangible cultural heritage and aligning the work of the Convention with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.**
- India will have the opportunity to closely monitor the **implementation of the 2003 Convention.**
- India shall endeavour to **encourage international dialogue** within the State Parties to the Convention to better showcase the diversity and importance of living heritage.

### Indian Elements were Recognized as ICH are:

- India has 14 intangible cultural heritage elements on the prestigious UNESCO Representative List of ICH of Humanity.

Existing Traditions of India Recognised by UNESCO	
1. Tradition of Vedic chanting, 2008	8. Buddhist chanting of Ladakh: recitation of sacred Buddhist texts in the trans-Himalayan Ladakh region, Jammu and Kashmir, India, 2012
2. Ramlila, the traditional performance of the Ramayana, 2008	9. Sankirtana, ritual singing, drumming and dancing of Manipur, 2013
3. Kutiyattam, Sanskrit theatre, 2008	10. Traditional brass and copper craft of utensil making among the Thatheras of Jandiala Guru, Punjab, India ,2014
4. Ramman, religious festival and ritual theatre of the Garhwal Himalayas, India, 2009	11. Yoga, 2016
5. Mudi yettu, ritual theatre and dance drama of Kerala, 2010	12. Nowruz, 2016
6. Kalbelia folk songs and dances of Rajasthan, 2010	13. Kumbh Mela, 2017
7. Chhau dance, 2010	

- Other than the Durga Puja there are 13 Traditions in India recognised by UNESCO as ICH.

### 4. Former Japanese PM Shinzo Abe passes away



- **Former prime minister of Japan, Shinzo Abe** has been **passed away**, after being **shot while campaigning for a parliamentary election in Nara.**
- He was the **longest-serving prime minister of Japan**, who held office in 2006 for one year and again from 2012 to 2020.
- In 2020, he resigned from the PM post due to the debilitating bowel condition ulcerative colitis.

- He was the **first Japanese PM** to be **chief guest at India's Republic Day parade in 2014.**
- **Japan PM: Fumio Kishida**





### About Shinzo Abe:

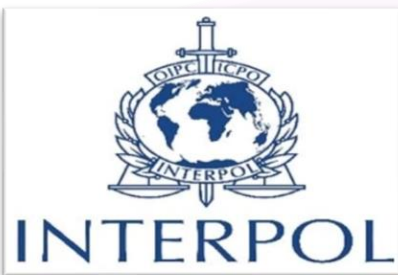
- **Shinzo Abe, Japan's longest-serving prime minister**, who turned around the Japanese economy from recession.
- The **67-year-old conservative leader** advocated what came to be popularly known as **Abenomics**.
- **Abe's policies revived Japan's economy out of deflation and challenged China's growing geo-political clout** by beefing up Japan's military through his historic two-term tenure.
- **Abe was prime minister of Japan from 2006 to 2007** and then again for a second stint from **2012 to 2020**. He had been a strong proponent of a **closer strategic partnership between India and Japan** and **India-Japan ties witnessed a major upswing during Abe's second term in the top office**.

- Abe was also credited for holding together the **Trans-Pacific Partnership**, an important and monumental trade agreement between 11 countries after US' abrupt withdrawal under Donald Trump's administration.
- **QUAD** is the grouping of four democracies – **India, Australia, the US, and Japan**. The idea of Quad was first mooted by **Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in 2007**.

### What Is Abenomics?

- The **economic policies put in place for Japan by Abe** when he came to power for the second time in 2012, became popularly known as **Abenomics**.
- His economic policies involved **increasing the country's supply of money, making Japan more competitive through widespread reforms, and increasing government spending**.

## 5. India joins Interpol's child sexual exploitation database



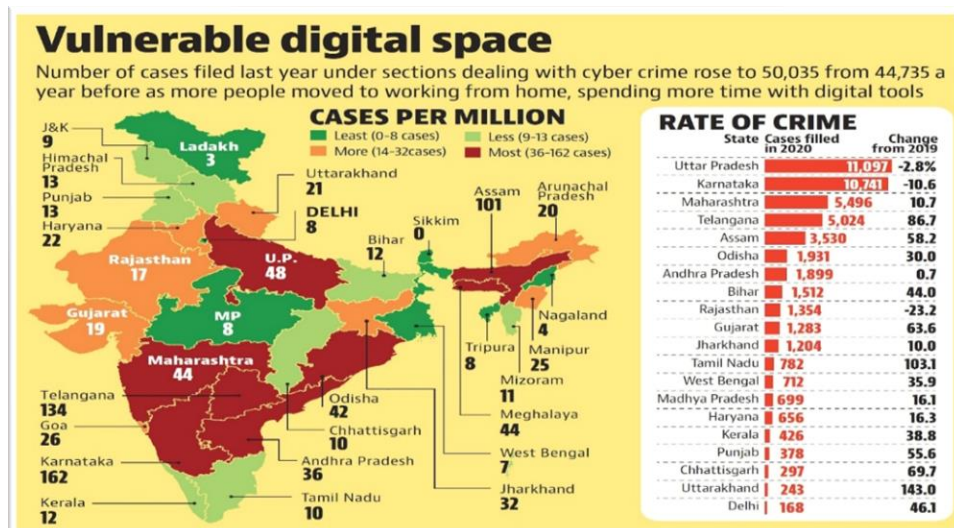
- India becomes the **68th country** to join the **Interpol's international child sexual exploitation (ICSE) database**.
- This allows to draw links **between victims, abusers and crime scene using audio-visual data**.
- The **CBI (Central Bureau of Investigation)** is the **India's nodal agency for Interpol matters**.
- As per the **NCRB data (2021)**, **Uttar Pradesh has topped the list of sexual offences against children** followed by Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu.

### National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) – Formation

- **NCRB was set-up in 1986**.
- NCRB was formed by merging the **Inter-State Criminals Data Branch, Directorate of Coordination and Police Computer (DCPC), and Central Finger Print Bureau of CBI**.
- As part of NCRB evolution, the **Crime and Criminal Tracking Networking System (CCTNS)** was approved in **2009** and **Digital Police Portal** was launched in **2017**.
- It was established on the recommendations of the **Tandon Committee to the National Police Commission (1977-1981)** and the **MHA's Taskforce (1985)**.
- The Bureau has also been entrusted to maintain the **National Database of Sexual Offenders (NDSO)** and share it with the States/UTs on a regular basis.
- **NCRB has also been designated as the Central Nodal Agency** to manage technical and operational functions of the **'Online Cyber-Crime Reporting Portal'**.



## Crime in India Report 2020: Key Findings



- The **Coronavirus pandemic** and subsequent lockdown resulted in a **drop in traditional crimes like theft, robbery, and assault on women and children in 2020.**
- A total of **66,01,285 cognisable crimes comprising 42,54,356 Indian Penal Code (IPC) crimes and 23,46,929 Special and Local Laws (SLL) crimes** were registered in 2020.
- India reported an average of 80 murders daily in 2020, totalling 29,193 fatalities over the year, with Uttar Pradesh topping the chart among states.
- India recorded 50,035 cases of cybercrime in 2020, with an 11.8% surge in such offences over the previous year.
- **Bengaluru tops India in the highest number of cyber-crimes registered in 2020.**
- Incidents of circulation of “false/fake news” and rumours, a crime under the Indian Penal Code, saw nearly a three-fold rise in 2020 over 2019. **Telangana with 273 cases tops the list of states followed by Tamil Nadu (188) and Uttar Pradesh (166). Hyderabad tops the list of cities with 208 cases, followed by Chennai (42) and Delhi (30).**
- **Uttar Pradesh (12,714) recorded the highest number of crimes against Scheduled Castes in 2020.**
- The total number of **crimes against children in the country dropped from 1,48,090 in 2019 to 1,28,531 in 2020, the data showed.**

Source: Indian Express

## 6. India will surpass China as world's most populous country during 2023: UN

- As per the **27<sup>th</sup> edition of the UN World Population Prospects 2022**, India is projected to surpass China as the world's most populous country **in 2023.**
- With the **1,426 million population**, China remains the most populous country in the world in 2022.
- India has been recorded 1,412 million population.
- The **global population will reach 8 billion on November, 2022 that is three times of the population of 2.5 billion in 1950.**
- **By 2050, India's population will reach 1,668 million.**



World Population	Year
1 billion	1804
2 billion	1927
3 billion	1959
4 billion	1974
5 billion	1987
6 billion	1998
7 billion	2011
8 billion	2022

### Findings of the Report:

- **Population Grows, but the Pace is Declining.**
- The global population is expected to grow to around **8.5 billion in 2030, 9.7 billion in 2050 and 10.4 billion in 2100.**
- In 2020, the **global growth rate fell under 1% per year** for the first time since 1950.
- More than half of the projected increase in global population up to **2050 will be concentrated in just eight countries, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines and the United Republic of Tanzania.**
- The share of the global population aged **65 years or above** is projected to rise from **10% in 2022 to 16% in 2050.**
- A sustained drop in fertility has led to an increased concentration of the population at working ages (between 25 and 64 years),

creating an opportunity for **accelerated economic growth per capita.**

- India's growth rate stood at 2.3 % in 1972, which has dropped down to **less than 1% now.**
- In this period, the number of children each Indian woman has during her lifetime has come down from about **5.4 to less than 2.1 now.**
- This means that Indian has attained the **Replacement Fertility Rate**, at which a population exactly replaces itself from one generation to the next.
- **Fertility rates have been declining, so have mortality rates** with increased access to healthcare and advances in medicine.
- **Population of 0-14 years and 15-24 years will continue to decline** while those of 25-64 and 65+ will continue to rise for the coming decades.

Source: Indian Express

## 7. PM Modi participates in first-ever I2U2 Summit virtually



- **PM Modi** participates in the **first-ever I2U2 (India-Israel-UAE-USA) Leaders' Summit Virtually.**

- The summit will be attended by his Israeli counterpart **Yair Lapid; UAE President, Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, and the US President Joe Biden.**

- The I2U2 Grouping was conceptualized during the meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the four countries held in 2021.

- **Aim:** To discuss the common areas of mutual interest, to strengthen the economic partnership in trade and investment.

### About I2U2 initiative:

- I2U2 initiative is a new grouping of **India, Israel, USA and UAE.**
- In the grouping's name, **'I2' stands for India and Israel, whereas 'U2' stands for USA and the UAE.**
- This is a great achievement which tells the **geopolitical changes that happen in the region.**
- This will not only **revitalize and re-energize the system of alliances and partnerships**

around the world, but also stitch together partnerships that did not exist previously or were not utilized to their full extent.

- **I2U2 was initially formed in October, 2021** following the **Abraham Accords between Israel and the UAE**, to deal with issues concerning **maritime security, infrastructure and transport in the region.**
- At that time, it was called the **'International Forum for Economic Cooperation'.**
- That was referred as the **'West Asian Quad'.**





# STATE NEWS

## 1. Himachal CM launches 'Naari Ko Naman' scheme

- Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh, Jai Ram Thakur has launched the 'Naari Ko Naman' scheme.
- **Aim: 50 % concession on fares in Himachal Road Transport Corporation (HRTC) buses to women commuters** within the state boundaries.
- He has also announced a reduction in the **minimum bus fare from Rs 7 to Rs 5 to all passengers across the state.**
- Thakur also said the government will sanction 25 new posts of women drivers in the 'Ride With Pride' government taxi service – an initiative to ferry women passengers and senior citizens.
- Chief minister: **Jai Ram Thakur**
- Official bird: **Western tragopan**
- Capitals: **Shimla (Summer), Dharamshala (Winter)**
- Governor: **Rajendra Arlekar**



Source: ThePrint

## 2. 'EV Mitra' app develop by BESCOM to provide info on EV charging stations

Connector	Rates (Rs./kWh)
CCS2-DC	8.32
GB/T-DC	7.65
IEC60309	7.51

- The **Bengaluru Electricity Company (BESCOM)** has developed 'EV Mitra' mobile app with an aim to provide information about **EV charging stations in Bengaluru.**
- Earlier, the BESCOM had **introduced the EV Jagruthi Web portal**, in a joint initiative of NITI Ayog and the **United Kingdom.**
- This web portal gives state specific information on the availability of electric vehicles, incentives, support mechanisms and initiatives of the state government regarding electric mobility.

- BESCOM has started 136 charging stations in Bengaluru and another 152 such stations will be started soon. Under the Public Private Partnership model, tenders have been invited to establish 1000 charging stations across the state. EV Abhiyan was held for a week from July 1st to 6th and EV Expo from July 1st to 3rd.

SOURCE:PIB

## 3. Odisha emerges as top state in State Ranking Index for NFSA

- Three states, **Odisha, Uttar Pradesh, and Andhra Pradesh** have emerged as the **top states in the State Ranking Index for National Food Security Act (NFSA).**
- The first edition of State Ranking Index for NFSA has been **released by Consumer Affairs Minister Piyush Goyal.**
- **Special Category:** Tripura, followed by Himachal Pradesh and Sikkim.
- **Last:** Ladakh (34), Meghalaya (33), Manipur(32)
- The National Food Security Act (NFSA) was **enacted on July 5, 2013.**

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**State rankings 2022: Top 10**

**Ranks and scores obtained by general category states and union territories**

State or union territory	Index score	Rank
Odisha	0.836	1
Uttar Pradesh	0.797	2
Andhra Pradesh	0.794	3
Gujarat	0.790	4
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman Diu	0.787	5
Madhya Pradesh	0.786	6
Bihar	0.783	7
Karnataka	0.779	8
Tamil Nadu	0.778	9
Jharkhand	0.754	10

SOURCE:PIB

**4. Delhi govt launches 'Mission Kushal Karmi' to upskill construction workers**

- The Delhi government has launched the 'Mission Kushal Karmi' programme to offer a skill development training course to labourers, who are registered with the Delhi Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board.
- The government will also compensate the loss of work by providing ₹4,200 to those workers who take the course (15-day programme).



- This will help in increasing the income of workers up to ₹8,000. The government aims to **train 200,000 workers in a year under the programme.**
- **Construction companies will also benefit from these skilled workers.**
- The programme conducted by the **Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University, Simplex, NAREDCO and India Vision Foundation.**

### 5. Jharkhand secures 1<sup>st</sup> rank in Delta Ranking for RURBAN Mission



- **Jharkhand** has been ranked **first in the Delta Ranking for the month of June under the Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Rurban Mission.**
- The report was **released by the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India.**
- The State Government led by **CM Hemant Soren** is moving forward with the **mantra of “Jeevika Bhi, Jeevan Bhi”.**
- **Aim: To strengthen the rural economy and provide employment to the villagers.**

- **The state has earned 8th place in the country.**

#### Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission

- **SPMRM** is a scheme launched by the **Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) in 2016** to deliver **integrated project-based infrastructure in the rural areas**, which will also include development of economic activities and skill development.
- A predecessor to SPMRM was the **Provision of Urban Amenities to Rural Areas (PURA)**, announced in 2003.
- Mission's Objectives: ***Bridging the rural-urban divide-viz: economic, technological and those related to facilities and services.***
- **SPMRM is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS).**
- As per **Census of India**, the rural population in India, **stands at 833 million**, constituting almost **68% of the total population.**

- Further, the rural population has shown a growth of **12% during the 2001-2011** period and there has been an increase in the absolute number of villages.
- **Ensuring availability of amenities to rural populace** is one of the **top priorities** of the central government.
- Rurban clusters are identified across the country's rural areas showing **increasing signs of urbanization.**
- Rurban areas refer to a cluster of **15-20 villages having about 30 to 40 lakh population.**
- Under the mission **300 Rurban clusters are envisaged** to be developed in a time bound manner. Of these **296 clusters have been selected** and **Integrated Cluster Action Plans (ICAPs) approved.**

SOURCE: PIB

### 6. Chhattisgarh receives Centre's nod for World Bank funded school project

- The **Chhattisgarh Government** has received in-principle nod from the **Centre for \$300 million school education project** which is **funded by the World Bank.**
- **Loan tenure:** 5 years, the state government has to payback this amount over a period of 20 years.
- **Aim:** To boost the education system of **Chhattisgarh.**



- **In-principle nod:** The central government has no objection with the State borrowing money from international financial institution like **World Bank**.
- The World Bank has been associated with India's school education system since 1994, according to its website.
- One of its more recent projects, inked in **2021**, is the **\$500 million Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States Program (STARS)** to improve the **quality and governance of school education in six Indian States, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha and Rajasthan through the Samagra Shiksha**.
- It was in line with the **Sustainable Development Goal for education (SDG 4)** and will help produce better data on learning levels by improving the **National Achievement Survey (NAS)**.

Source: The Hindu

## 7. Delhi Govt partners with UNICEF for employment opportunities to students



- The **Delhi government** joined hands with the **UNICEF** to create **employment opportunities** for students of the **Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University (DSEU)**.
- Skill Varsity of Delhi** partnered with **YuWaah (Generation Unlimited India)** at **UNICEF** to enable access to employment opportunities.
- Another pillar, the '**YuWaah Step Up - Bano job ready**', it is a six-month pilot being conducted by **Flywheel Digital Solutions Pvt** with **DSEU** students.

- **UNICEF HQ: New York, United States**
- **Lt. Governor: Vinai Kumar Saxena**
- **Chief Minister of Delhi: Arvind Kejriwal (AAP)**
- **Deputy Chief Minister: Manish Sisodia (AAP)**

## 8. Uttarakhand becomes first state to implement NEP at pre-primary level

- **Uttarakhand** has become the **first state in the nation** to initiate the process of implementing the **Centre's New Education Policy 2020** with the **launch of 'Bal Vatikas'** at **anganwadi kendras**.
- **Chief Minister, Pushkar Singh Dhami** has inaugurated **Bal Vatikas** across the state to strengthen the pre-primary education system.
- This will function at **4,457 anganwadi kendras** in the state and will be equivalent to the nursery classes at a private school.



### New Education Policy 2020:

- In July 2020, the **Union Cabinet** has approved the **new National Education Policy (NEP), 2020** with an aim to **introduce several changes in the Indian education system - from the school to college level**.
- The NEP 2020 aims at making **"India a global knowledge superpower"**.
- The Cabinet has also approved the renaming of the **Ministry of Human Resource Development** to the **Ministry of Education**.
- The NEP cleared by the Cabinet is only the **third major revamp of the framework of education in India since independence**.





- The two earlier education policies were brought in **1968 and 1986**.
- **Universalization of education** from preschool to secondary level with **100% Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER)** in school education by **2030**.
- To bring **2 crore out of school children back into the mainstream** through an open schooling system.
- The **current 10+2 system to be replaced by a new 5+3+3+4 curricular structure** corresponding to **ages 3-8, 8-11, 11-14, and 14-18 years respectively**.

### 9. Himachal Governor Rajendra Vishwanath unveils book titled The McMahon line

- **Governor of Himachal Pradesh, Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar** has released a book titled, **“The McMahon line: A century of discord”**.
- This book is authored by **former Governor of Arunachal Pradesh and former Chief of Army Staff General JJ Singh (Retd)**.
- The book is based on the experiences and research on the **India-China border dispute**.
- The book had laid emphasis on politics, history, structure and geography of the McMahon line.
- **Chief minister: Jai Ram Thakur**
- **Population: 68.6 lakhs (2012)**
- **Official bird: Western tragopan**
- **Capitals: Shimla (Summer), Dharamshala (Winter)**



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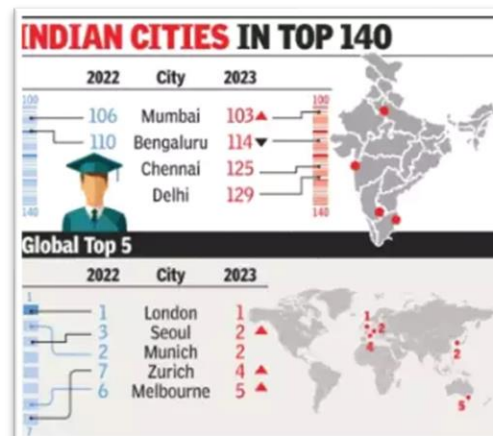
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# RANKS, REPORT AND INDEXES

## 1. QS Best Student Cities Ranking 2023

- The list has been prepared by global higher education consultancy QS (Quacquarelli Symonds) which shows Asia growing as a destination for higher education.
- QS (Quacquarelli Symonds) ranks in 140 cities across the world. In the Arab Region, Dubai is the best student city which ranks 51st globally whereas Buenos Aires, Argentina, takes 23rd position in the world.
- In the QS Best Student Cities Ranking 2023, London has emerged as the best city for students looking to study abroad in terms of affordability, student facilities, and university standard among other factors.
- Seoul and Munich are at second place followed by Zurich and Melbourne at fourth and fifth positions, respectively.
- According to the list, no Indian city has made it to the top 100. Mumbai bagged the 103rd rank, to emerge as India's highest-ranked student city for affordability but it struggled on metrics for student mix and desirability.
- Bengaluru is the second desired city, ranked at 114. While Chennai and Delhi have made their entries to the list this year at 125 and 129, respectively.
- International students address only a small part of the overall student body in India. As per the All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) 2018-19, the number of worldwide students signed up for Indian colleges was only 47,427.
- India wants to draw the attention of 200,000 international worldwide students in its universities by 2023 which is multiple times the ongoing aggregate. The goal was set at the time of the Covid-19 pandemic outbreak, which has profoundly impacted international student's mobility.



Source: Financial Express:

## 2. 3<sup>rd</sup> States' Start-up rankings 2021



The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) conducted the third edition of the States' Start-up Ranking Exercise with the key objective to promote India's vision of competitive and cooperative federalism. The DPIIT's states' startup ranking 2021 were released by Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal.

- The States' Startup Ranking is an annual report presented by the DPIIT ranking the country's states and UTs according to their start-up ecosystems. The framework was first launched in February 2018. A total of 24 states and seven Union Territories (UTs) participated in the exercise and ranked the states and UTs under five categories — best performers, top performers, leaders, aspiring leaders and emerging startup ecosystems.

- Gujarat and Karnataka were ranked the best among big states for developing a startup ecosystem for budding entrepreneurs, as per the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade's (DPIIT) ranking of states and Union Territories.
- Bihar and Andhra took the lead in emerging startup ecosystems among big states and Mizoram and Ladakh were at the forefront among small states/UTs.
- Among smaller states, those with a population of less than one crore, Meghalaya was the top performer.
- As India becomes one of the leading start-up nations globally, the growth of entrepreneurship in Tier-II and Tier-III cities in the country has become necessary, officials said. There were four states/UTs with start-up policies in 2016. Today, there are over 30 states and UTs that have start-up policies, and 27 states and UTs have their own state start-up portal. This edition is unique as it highlights the extensive support provided by states and union territories to the start-up ecosystem amidst a global pandemic.

**Startup India:** Startup India is an initiative of the Government of India. The campaign was first announced by Indian Prime Minister, Narendra Modi during his speech on 15 August 2015. The action plan of this initiative is focussing on three areas: Simplification and Handholding, Funding Support and Incentives.

- India now has the third largest start-up ecosystem in the world with over 71,000

recognised start-ups and more than 100 unicorns.

- Indian start-ups have raised over \$42 billion in funding in the 2021 calendar year.

**Startup Day:** In January 2022, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that the country will celebrate January 16 as National Startup Day.

*Source: CNBC-TV-18*

### 3. 'State Ranking Index for NFSA' 2022

Union Food and Consumer Affairs Minister Piyush Goyal released the 'State Ranking Index for NFSA' 2022 during a conference of state food ministers on food and nutrition security in India.

- The current version of the Index measures the effectiveness of NFSA implementation majorly through operations and initiatives under TPDS (Targeted Public Distribution System). The three pillars are - coverage, targeting and provisions of the Act, delivery platform and nutrition initiatives.
- Odisha has topped in the state ranking for implementation of the National Food Security Act (NFSA) through ration shops with a score of 0.836, followed by Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh, the government.
- Among the special category states (the North Eastern states, Himalayan states, and the Island states), Tripura has obtained the first rank. Himachal Pradesh and Sikkim are at the second and third positions.
- Gujarat is at fourth place, followed by Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman Diu, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Jharkhand.
- Kerala has been ranked at the 11th position, Telangana (12th), Maharashtra (13th), West Bengal (14th) and Rajasthan (15th).
- Punjab is at the 16th position, followed by Haryana, Delhi, Chhattisgarh and Goa.

#### National Food Security Act:

The National Food Security Act 2013 (also 'Right to Food Act') is an Indian Act of Parliament which aims to provide subsidized food grains to approximately two thirds of the country's 1.2 billion people. It was

signed into law on 12 September 2013, retroactive to 5 July 2013.

#### One Nation One Ration Card Scheme:

Under the ONORC (One Nation, One Ration Card), beneficiaries covered under the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) can get their quota of

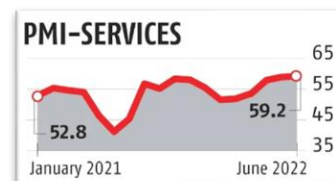
subsidised foodgrains from any electronic point of sale device (ePoS)-enabled fair price shops of their choice by using their existing ration cards with biometric authentication.

Recently, Assam has become the last and the 36th state to implement the One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) scheme.

*Source: Business-Standard*

#### 4. The S&P Global India Services Purchasing Managers' Index

India's dominant services industry expanded at the fastest pace in over 11 years in June amid strong demand but stubborn inflation remains a concern as prices charged rose at the sharpest rate in almost five years, a private survey showed on July 5.



- The S&P Global India Services Purchasing Managers' Index (INPMIS=ECI) rose to 59.2 in June from 58.9 in May, its highest since April 2011 and above the 50-mark separating growth from contraction. A Reuters poll had predicted a dip to 58.7.
- A print above 50 is considered expansion while below 50 is taken as contraction.
- Despite falling to a three-month low in June, input cost inflation remained elevated compared to historical levels due to higher costs for chemicals, food and petrol.
- However, PMI manufacturing data released has showed slowing manufacturing activity from 54.6 in May to 53.9 in June. This is on the back of softer increase in production and rising inflationary concern.
- Although firms expect recovery in services activity to be sustained over the next 12 months, concerns surrounding price pressures restricted business confidence.
- Input costs continued to rise at a historically-elevated pace.
- Unrelenting inflation continued to worry businesses that were cautiously optimistic about the year-ahead outlook for business activity.
- The overall level of sentiment was well below its long-run average as only 9 per cent of companies forecast output growth, the report said.

**Current Growth Forecast:** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has retained its earlier growth projection of 7.2 per cent for FY23, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) has slashed India's FY23 growth forecast to 6.9 per cent from 8.1 per cent estimated earlier. It held that the country had been adversely affected by Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

*Source: Live-Mint*

Last month, the RBI increased policy rates by 50-basis points (bps) to 4.9 per cent. It is the second hike in just over a month, to curb rising inflationary expectations. Many commercial banks have followed the rate action by increasing lending rates. This may hurt the fledgling economic growth momentum.

#### 5. Unemployment Rate

- The country's unemployment rate has shot up at 7.80 per cent in June with the loss of 13 million jobs, mainly in the agriculture sector, according to the data released by economic think-tank Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE).
- The massive fall in number of jobs last month was triggered by higher unemployment rate in rural areas, which went up to 8.03 per cent from 6.62 per cent in May. In urban areas, it was slightly better at 7.30 per cent compared to 7.12 per cent recorded in May, according to the CMIE data.
- The highest rate of unemployment was witnessed in Haryana at 30.6 per cent followed by Rajasthan at 29.8 per cent, Assam at 17.2 per cent, Jammu and Kashmir at 17.2 per cent, Bihar at 14 per cent, the data stated.

- June also exposed the growing vulnerability of salaried jobs. The government shrunk the demand for armed personnel and opportunities in private equity-funded new-world jobs also started to shrink. The rain god cannot save these jobs.

Source: Business-Standard

## 6. Rurban Mission's delta ranking

The Union Ministry of Rural Development has released the delta ranking for the month of June, in which Jharkhand ranked first across the country in the delta ranking and earned eighth place in overall ranking.

As a result, the state has moved up to number eight in the mission's overall ranking. The state's score in the delta ranking increased by 1.93 points from the previous month, the most increase among the 34 states and union territories.

- According to state rural development department secretary Dr. Manish Ranjan, the improved work done in each of the areas is what has caused the good improvement, which is reflected in Jharkhand's ranking.
- According to state MGNREGA commissioner Rajeshwari B, the Union Ministry of Rural Development has announced the delta rating for the month of June, in which Jharkhand placed first nationwide in the delta ranking and ninth overall.

### About Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM):

- It was launched in the year 2016 in mission mode to develop 300 clusters in the country holistically by provisioning economic, social and physical infrastructure facilities.

- It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme undertaken by the Union Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD).
- The State Government identifies the clusters in accordance with the Framework for Implementation prepared by the MoRD.

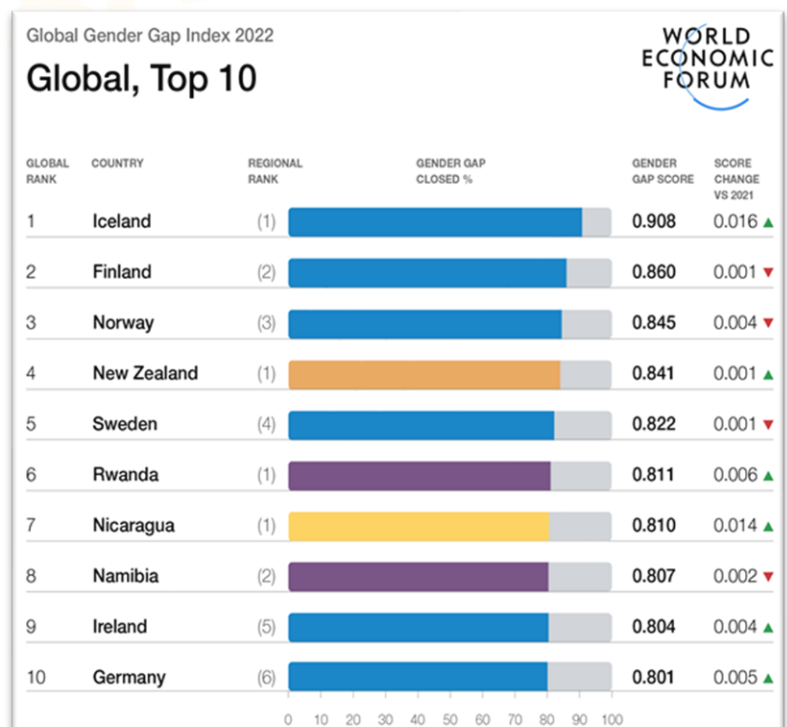
Source: The Print

## 7. Global Gender Gap Index 2022

- In its Global Gender Gap (GGG) Index for 2022, the World Economic Forum (WEF) ranked India 135th out of 146 nations.

### About the GGG Index 2022

- Assesses nations' progress toward gender equality in four key areas with sub-metrics. 1. Economic Participation and Opportunity 2. Educational Attainment 3. Health and Survival 4. Political Empowerment.
- The GGG index assigns a score between 0 and 1 to each of the four sub-indices as well as the overall index, with 1 representing full gender parity and 0 representing complete imparity.
- The Index was first published in 2006.





### India's Performance in the GGG Index 2022:

- **Political Empowerment (Women in Parliament and Ministerial Positions):** India ranks 48th out of 146 with the score of 0.267.
- **Economic Participation and Opportunity (Percentage of women in labour force, Wage Equality for similar work, earned income):** India ranks 143 out of 146 with the score of 0.350.
- **Educational Attainment (Literacy Rate and the Enrolment rates in Primary, Secondary and Tertiary education):** India ranks 107th out of 146 with the score of 0.961.
- **Health and Survival (Sex Ratio at Birth and Healthy Life Expectancy):** India ranks 146th out of 146 nations with a score of 0.937.

Source: Indian Express

## 8. NIRF Rankings 2022

- The Ministry of Education has published the seventh edition of the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) Rankings 2022.

### About NIRF:

- The Ministry of Education (formerly the Ministry of Human Resource Development) authorised the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) in September 2015. It is the government's first attempt to rank Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in the country. In 2018, all government-run educational institutions were required to participate in NIRF.
- HEIs are judged on 5 parameters: Teaching, Learning, and Resources (TLR) Research and Professional Practice (RP) Graduation Outcomes (GO) Outreach and Inclusivity (OI) Peer Perception.
- The best institutions are featured in 11 categories: overall national rating, universities, engineering, college, medical, management, pharmacy, law, architecture, dentistry, and research.
- The NIRF Rankings saw a participation of around 7,000 institutes in NIRF 2022.
  - **Overall:** IIT-Madras, IISc-Bangalore, and IIT-Bombay the country's top three higher education institutions
  - **University:** IISc, Bengaluru tops the category.
  - **Colleges:** Miranda College retains 1st position amongst colleges for the 6th consecutive year, followed by Hindu College, Delhi and Presidency College Chennai.
  - **Research Institution:** IISc, Bengaluru is ranked the best research institution followed by IIT Madras.
  - **Engineering:** Among engineering institutions, IIT-Madras remained number one.
  - **Management:** Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Ahmedabad was ranked one followed by IIM Bengaluru.
  - **Medical:** All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi occupies the top slot in Medical for the fifth consecutive year.
  - **Pharmacy:** Jamia Hamdard tops the list in Pharmacy subject for the fourth consecutive.
  - **Architecture:** IIT Roorkee takes the top slot for the second time in Architecture subject.
  - **Law:** National Law School of India University, Bengaluru retains its first position in Law for the fifth consecutive year.
  - **Dental:** Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences, Chennai got the 1st Rank

Source: Hindustan Times



## 9. State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2022 Report

- The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2022 report has been issued by UN agencies Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), UNICEF, World Food Programme (WFP) and the World Health Organisation (WHO).
- According to the report the number of undernourished people in India has declined in the last 15 years to 224.3 million in 2019-2021.
- The number of people affected by hunger globally rose to as many as 828 million in 2021, an increase of about 46 million since 2020 and 150 million since the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- This report shows that governments can invest in food systems equitably and sustainably, even with the same level of public resources. Governments' support for food and agriculture accounts for almost USD 630 billion per year globally.
- However, a significant proportion of this support distorts market prices, is environmentally destructive, and hurts small-scale producers and Indigenous Peoples, while failing to deliver healthy diets to children and others who need them the most.
- These numbers are similar to 2015, when the goal of ending hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition was launched under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- After remaining relatively unchanged since the launch of the agenda, the proportion of people affected by hunger jumped in 2020. It continued to rise in 2021 to 9.8 per cent of the world population, compared with 8 per cent in 2019 and 9.3 per cent in 2020.
- The gender gap in food insecurity continued to rise in 2021 — 31.9 per cent of women in the world were moderately or severely food insecure, compared with 27.6 per cent of men. The numbers show a gap of more than 4 percentage points, compared with 3 percentage points in 2020.
- The report also talks of food inflation, which has been on an unprecedented rise worldwide, triggered by two years of the COVID-19 pandemic-induced disruption and now the Russia-Ukraine war.

Source: News on Air

## 10. WHO World report on the health of refugees and migrants

The first WHO World report on the health of refugees and migrants has been released. The report said that in 2021 the top five remittance recipients in current US dollars were India, China, Mexico, the Philippines and Egypt.

- The first WHO World report on the health of refugees and migrants said that today about one in eight people in the world, someone billion, are migrants.
- India received 87 billion dollars in remittances in 2021.
- China (\$53 billion), Mexico (\$53 billion), the Philippines (\$36 billion) and Egypt (\$33 billion) were the top five nations in the list.
- The United States was the largest source country for remittances in 2020, followed by the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia and Switzerland. Remittances increase or maintain consumer spending and soften the blow of economic hardship, such as during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Remittances are expected to continue growing in 2022, but there are challenges, such as the COVID-19 crisis, which still poses one of the greatest risks to flows to low- and middle-income countries, especially as fiscal stimulus programmes in migrant destination countries cannot continue indefinitely, the report said.

- ❖ Remittances, it said, are an important and positive economic result of migration for migrants themselves and for family and friends remaining in their home countries.



- ❖ Once migrants have accessed economic opportunities, they often send remittances to their families. Remittances account for a large fraction of the global movement of funds. Despite predictions that remittances would fall due to the COVID-19 pandemic (in part as a result of travel restrictions and the economic downturn), remittances proved to be resilient.

Source: Times-Now news

## 11. TIME: 50 extraordinary destinations to explore

Ahmedabad city and the state of Kerala have been listed by TIME magazine among the “50 extraordinary destinations to explore” in its list of the world’s greatest places of 2022.

### Why is Chennai Listed?

- It said that as India’s first UNESCO World Heritage City, Ahmedabad boasts both ancient landmarks and contemporary innovations that make it a mecca for cultural tourism, from the serene Gandhi Ashram that sits on 36 acres on the banks of the Sabarmati River to Navratri, a vibrant nine-day celebration billed as the longest dance festival in the world.
- It added that Ahmedabad’s Gujarat Science City, a sprawling entertainment center and theme park, unveiled three major attractions last year, including a 20-acre nature park to educate the public on local flora as well as provide new spaces for playing chess and practicing yoga.

### Why is Kerala Listed?

TIME said that on the southwest coast of India, “Kerala is one of India’s most beautiful states. With spectacular beaches and lush backwaters, temples, and palaces, it’s known as “God’s own country” for good reason.

This year, Kerala is boosting motor-home tourism in India to inspire a new pas de deux of exploration and accommodation. The state’s first caravan park, Karavan Meadows, opened in Vagamon, a scenic hill station,” it said.

**World’s Greatest Places 2022:** According to TIME Magazine, the World’s Greatest Places list is compiled through nominations from its international network of correspondents and contributors, with an eye toward those offering new and exciting experiences.

- The list also includes Ras Al Khaimah, UAE; Park City, Utah; Seoul; Great Barrier Reef, Australia; The Arctic; Valencia, Spain; Trans Bhutan Trail, Bhutan; International Space Station; Bogota; Lower Zambezi National Park, Zambia; Istanbul and Kigali, Rwanda.

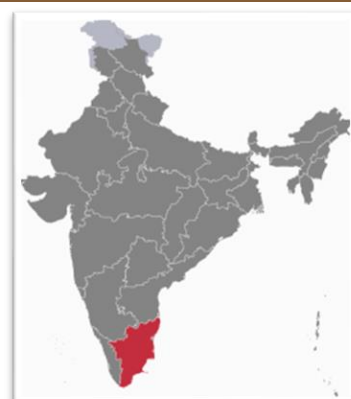
Source: Live-Mint

## 12. Smart City Fund Utilisation Cities

Tamil Nadu tops the list of states so far as utilisation of funds under the government’s flagship Smart City Mission is concerned. While Tamil Nadu has spent over Rs 3,932 crore out of the Rs 4,333 crore released by the Centre, Uttar Pradesh is at second position with utilisation of Rs 2,699 crore out of the Central share release of Rs 3,142 crore.

**Key Highlights of the Report:** Government data showed that states including Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan have also spent major amounts on projects under the Smart City Mission.

- As on 8 July 2022, these Smart Cities have tendered out 7,822 projects worth Rs 1,90,660 crore; work orders have been issued in 7,649 projects worth Rs 1,80,996 crore; 4,085 projects worth Rs 66,912 crore have been completed.



- The period of implementation of SCM is up to June 2023 and all Smart Cities are expected to complete their projects within the stipulated time.

### About the Smart Cities Mission (SCM):

The Central government launched the **Smart Cities Mission (SCM) on 25 June 2015**. One hundred Smart Cities have been selected through 4 rounds of competition from January 2016 to June 2018. As per SCM guidelines, the Central government will provide

financial support to the extent of Rs 48,000 crore over five years which is on an average Rs 100 crore per city per year. An equal amount on a matching basis will be contributed by the state government or urban local

*Source: Hindustan Times*

## 13. Henley Passport Index 2022

- The Henley Passport Index is a global ranking of countries according to the travel freedom enjoyed by holders of that country's ordinary passport for its citizens. It started in 2006 as Henley & Partners Visa Restrictions Index and was modified and renamed in January 2018.
- The index is based on exclusive data from the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and is corroborated by a research team Henley and Partners.
- Henley Passport Index, which ranks world's passports according to the number of destinations their holder can access without a prior visa, has ranked India 87th globally out of 199 passports.
- Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan are at the bottom of the ladder. Afghanistan's passport offers hassle-free access to only 27 countries.
- China is placed 69th with access to 80 countries.
- Japan, Singapore and South Korea have topped the Index.
- A Japanese passport provides visa-free access to 193 countries, one more than those from Singapore and South Korea. Russia, which invaded Ukraine in February, is ranked 50th, with access to 119 nations. Ukraine is ranked 35th with access to 144 nations.

**International Air Transport Association:** It is a trade association of the world's airlines founded in 1945. IATA has been described as a cartel since, in addition to setting technical standards for airlines, IATA also organized tariff conferences that served as a forum for price fixing.

IATA was formed in April 1945 in Havana, Cuba. It is the successor to the International Air Traffic

Association, which was formed in 1919 at The Hague, Netherlands.

IATA supports airline activity and helps formulate industry policy and standards. It is headquartered in Canada in the city of Montréal, with executive offices in Geneva, Switzerland

*Source: Henleyglobal.com*

## 14. India Innovation Index 2021: With a score of 27.88, Chandigarh bagged the top spot among Union Territories in the India Innovation Index 2021, released by NITI Aayog recently.

Chandigarh's score was also higher than the highest-placed state, Karnataka, which had a score of 18.01. It also scored better than Manipur, which with a score of 19.37 had topped in the category of North Eastern states.

As per the various pillars outlined by the report, Chandigarh scored 33.56 on human capital, 33.00 for business environment, 4.61 on investment, 46.89 for safety and legal environment, 22.44 for knowledge workers, 13.34 for knowledge diffusion and 41.9 for knowledge output. Apart from the Innovation Index score, it also scored 27.65 for performers and 28.10 for enablers.

The report notes that Chandigarh has registered the best performance in the percentage of schools with functional computer facilities (99.14%) and Atal Tinkering Labs (3.54%).





**Major States top 5 States:**

Rank	States	III 2021
1	Karnataka	18.01
2	Telangana	17.66
3	Haryana	16.35
4	Maharashtra	16.06
5	Tamil Nadu	15.69

**Top 5 NE and Hill States:**

Rank	States	III 2021
1	Manipur	19.37
2	Uttarakhand	17.67
3	Meghalaya	16.00
4	Arunachal Pradesh	15.46
5	Himachal Pradesh	14.62

**Top 5 UT's":**

Rank	UT and City States	III 2021
1	Chandigarh	27.88
2	Delhi	27.00
3	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	17.29
4	Puducherry	15.88
5	Goa	14.93

**About India Innovation Index:**

- The India Innovation Index is an annual report which presents state-wise rankings based on the innovation landscape and performance of states and union territories.
- The new framework presents a more nuanced and comprehensible outlook with 66 unique indicators as against the 36 indicators used in the previous index for 2020. It provides a report card of every state and union territory's performance; and identifies its strengths and weaknesses. It focuses on education and schools as well.

Source: Hindustan times



## SPORTS NEWS

### 1. 2022 Asia Cup

The 2022 Asia Cup will be played in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) while still being officially hosted by Sri Lanka as the country is under an economic and political turmoil.

- This will make it the second consecutive time that the tournament will be played in the UAE. The six-team Asia Cup will be played as a T20 tournament this year.
- India are the defending champions, having won the tournament in 2018 while it was still played in the ODI format.



#### About Asia Cup:

- The Asian Cricket Council Asia Cup is a men's One Day International and Twenty20 International cricket tournament. It was established in 1983 when the Asian Cricket Council was founded as a measure to promote goodwill between Asian countries. It was originally scheduled to be held every two years. The Asia Cup is the only continental

championship in cricket and the winning team becomes the champions of Asia. It alternates every 2-years between ODI and T20I formats.

- The first Asia cup was held in 1984 in Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates where the council's offices were based (until 1995).

Source: News on Air

### 2. World Athletics Championships



- Record 29 countries won at least one gold medal during the championships. Peru, Kazakhstan, and Nigeria won their first-ever gold medals. India and Burkina Faso had their best medal performances, winning a silver, and the Philippines won a bronze.

- India competed at the 2022 World Athletics Championships in Eugene, Oregon from 15 to 24 July 2022.

• India had entered 21 athletes. India finished at 33<sup>rd</sup> spot with 1 silver won by Neeraj Chopra in Men's Javelin Throw.

- The Olympic gold winning javelin thrower becomes only the second Indian and first male track and field athlete to win a medal in the World Championships. US claimed the 1<sup>st</sup> spot.
- Earlier in the year 2003, Anju Bobby George won a bronze medal in the long jump competition and became the only Indian player to win a medal at the World Athletics Championships.
- After the 2022 Russian invasion of Ukraine, World Athletics banned all Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials from participating at the championships.

Source: Hindustan Times

### 3. 2022 Formula 1 British Grand Prix

Ferrari's Carlos Sainz scored his maiden grand prix at 2022 Formula 1 British Grand Prix. Red Bull's Sergio Perez came second and Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton took the final podium place.

- World Championship leader Max Verstappen struggled with his car after suffering a puncture early on, which saw him finish the race in P7, whilst Leclerc couldn't hold on towards the end of the race on his older set of hard tyres and slipped to finish P4 from leading the race on lap 43.



## 4. Wimbledon 2022



It is the oldest tennis tournament in the world. The 2022 Wimbledon Championships was a Grand Slam tier tennis tournament that took place at the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club in Wimbledon, London, United Kingdom.

- Serbia's Novak Djokovic has defeated Australia's Nick Kyrgios to win the final of the men's singles on day fourteen of the Wimbledon tennis championships in London. The 35-year-old Djokovic is now one Slam ahead of Federer in the all-time race and just one behind Rafael Nadal's record of 22 majors.
- Novak Djokovic won his 7th Wimbledon title, after defeating Nick Kyrgios in the final by 4–6, 6–3, 6–4, 7–6.
- He became the fifth man in the Open Era (after Björn Borg, Pete Sampras, Roger Federer, and Rafael Nadal) to record a streak of at least four consecutive titles at one major.
- The ladies' singles title was won by Elena Rybakina, who defeated Ons Jabeur in the final.
- It was her maiden major singles title.
- Rybakina became the first Kazakhstani to win a major title, and the third player representing an Asian nation to win a major title after Li Na and Naomi Osaka.
- This year, the AELTC barred Russian and Belarusian tennis players from competing, because of the 2022 Russian invasion of Ukraine. In reaction, the WTA, ATP, and ITF withdrew ranking points from the tournament.



### List of Winners:

S.No	Category	Winner	Runner up
1	Men's Singles	N. Djokovic	N. Kyrgios
2	Women's Singles	E. Rybakina	O. Jabeur
3	Men's Doubles	M. Ebden & M. Purcell	N. Mektić & M. Pavić
4	Women's Doubles	K. Siniaková & B. Krejčíková	S. Zhang & E. Mertens
5	Mixed Doubles	D. Krawczyk & N. Skupski	M. Ebden & S. Stosur

Source: Live Mint

## 5. 44<sup>th</sup> Chess Olympiad

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has declared open the FIDE 44th Chess Olympiad in the Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium.
- The 44th Chess Olympiad organised by the Fédération Internationale des Échecs (FIDE) and comprising open and women's tournaments is being held in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India from 28 July to 10 August 2022.
- The official mascot was named "Thambi" (transl. younger brother), a chess knight dressed in the traditional Tamil male attire vēṭṭi with a white shirt. He was depicted with folded hands, extending the Tamil greeting "Vanakkam". The mascot appeared on billboards, statues and posters. Commentators compared Thambi to 'Appu', the mascot for the 1982 Asian Games.



- The famous tournament, which has been held since 1927, is being held in India for the first time and in Asia for the first time in 30 years. With 189 nations competing, this will be the largest Chess Olympiad ever.
- India Post issued a postage stamp featuring the Olympiad. It was unveiled during a ceremony on International Chess Day.
- Grammy and Oscar-winning music composer, AR Rahman has come up with the 'Vanakkam Chennai' (Welcome Anthem) for the upcoming International Chess Olympiad, 2022. Directed by Vignesh Shivan, the music video features chief minister MK Stalin, grandmaster Vishwanathan Anand, and music maestro AR Rahman, who has composed and sung the theme song.

### International Chess Day:



- International Chess Day is celebrated annually on 20 July, the day the International Chess Federation (FIDE) was founded, in 1924.
- The idea to celebrate this day as the international chess day was proposed by UNESCO, and it has been celebrated as such since 1966, after it was established by FIDE. FIDE, which has 181 chess federations as its members, organizes chess events and competitions around the world on this day.

- As recently as 2013, the international chess day was celebrated in 178 countries, according to FIDE President Kirsan Ilyumzhinov. On 12 December, 2019, the UN General Assembly unanimously approved a resolution recognizing the day.

### About FIDE:

- The International Chess Federation (FIDE) is the sport's governing organisation, and it oversees all international chess competitions.
- Its motto is Gens una sumus, Latin for "We are one Family".
- In 1999, FIDE was recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC). As of May 2022, there are 200-member federations of FIDE.
- FIDE's current headquarters are in Lausanne, Switzerland, but it was formed in Paris in 1924. Current President is Mr. Arkady Dvorkovich.

Recently, Young Indian Grandmaster D Gukesh continued his winning spree as he lifted the **Gijon Chess Masters title at Gijon, Spain**. The 16-year-old scored 8 points out of 9 to be crowned the champion.

- Young Indian Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa won the **Paracin Open 'A' chess tournament 2022**, scoring 8 points from nine rounds. Alexandr Predke took the second spot with 7.5 points ahead of Alisher Suleymenov and India's AL Muthaiah, who both scored 7 points. Suleymenov grabbed the third place on the basis of a better tie-break score.

Source: Hindustan Times

## 6. Malaysia Open Badminton Tournament 2022

The 2022 Malaysia Open (officially known as the Petronas Malaysia Open 2022 for sponsorship reasons) was a badminton tournament that took place at the Axiata Arena, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 28 June to 3 July 2022 and had a total prize of US\$675,000. This was the first edition to take place since 2019.



The 2022 Malaysia Open was the twelfth tournament of the 2022 BWF World Tour and was part of the Malaysia Open championships, which had been held since 1937. This tournament was organized by the Badminton Association of Malaysia with sanction from the BWF. It was held at the Axiata Arena inside the KL Sports City in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



**List of Winners:**

Category	Winner
Men's singles title	Viktor Axelsen (Denmark)
Women's singles title	Ratchanok Intanon (Thailand)
Men's doubles champions	Takuro Hoki / Yugo Kobayashi of Japan
Women's doubles champions	Apriyani Rahayu and Siti Fadia Silva Ramadhanti of Indonesia
Mixed doubles	China's Zheng Siwei and Huang Yaqiong

Source: Sportsthehindu

## 7. ICC Players of the Month for June

International Cricket Council (ICC) has announced the ICC Player of the Month awards for June 2022. England's in-form batter Jonny Bairstow bagged the Men's Player of the Month title while South Africa's power-hitting batter Marizanne Kapp was awarded with Women's Player of the Month.



In January 2021, the ICC introduced "Player of the Month" awards to recognise cricketers, male and female, that performed best across all forms of international cricket each month. Nominees and winners are determined by an ICC panel of ex-players and journalists, with a public vote having a 10% contribution to the final results.

### About International Cricket Council:

- The International Cricket Council is the world governing body of cricket. It was founded as the Imperial Cricket Conference in 1909 by representatives from Australia, England and South Africa. It was renamed as the International Cricket Conference in 1965 and took up its current name in 1987.
- The ICC has 108-member nations currently: 12 Full Members that play Test matches, and 96 Associate Members.

**CEO: Geoff Allardice**

**Chairman: Greg Barclay**

**HQ: Dubai, UAE**

**Note:** Recently, Former India captain and current BCCI president, Sourav Ganguly was felicitated by the British Parliament. The Indian cricket legend was felicitated on the same date July 13 when he led India to Natwest final win in 2002 and exactly 20 years later on the same day he was honoured in the same city. He was elected as the President of BCCI in 2019.

Source: Sportsthehindu

## 8. Singapore Open 2022

The 2022 Singapore Open (officially known as the Singapore Badminton Open 2022) was a badminton tournament which took place at Singapore Indoor Stadium in Singapore from 12 to 17 July 2022 and had a total purse of \$370,000.

The 2022 Singapore Open was the fourteenth tournament of the 2022 BWF World Tour and also part of the Singapore Open championships, which had been held since 1929. This tournament was organized by the Singapore Badminton Association with sanction from the BWF.



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**Total prize money: US\$370,000**

**Venue: Singapore Indoor Stadium**



- Anthony Sinisuka Ginting from Indonesia won the men's singles title at badminton's Singapore Open 2022.
- PV Sindhu won the women's singles title and the first Super 500 title of her career when she defeated reigning Asian champion Wang Zhi Yi of China 21-9, 11-21, 21-15 in the final of the Singapore Open. This is her first 500 or better since the world championship win in 2019.

- This is her first 500 or better final in 2022. This is an important marker for the world No 7 while the rankings are still frozen.

Source: Hindustan Times

### 9. 36<sup>th</sup> National Games to be held in Gujarat from 27 September 27, 2022

- **Chief minister of Gujarat Bhupendra Patel** has announced that **Gujarat will host the 36th National Games between September 27 and October 10.**
- The prestigious event is being held after a gap of seven years, **the last was being held in 2015 in Kerala.**
- **PM Narendra Modi** had launched the 'Khel Mahakhumbh' initiative in **Gujarat in 2010** when he was the chief minister of the state.
- The **National Games will have 34 sporting events** including athletics, hockey, among others.



### 10. Bhagwani Devi from India wins gold medal in 100m sprint in Finland

- **Bhagwani Devi Dagar (94 years)** has won **gold in the 100m sprint at the 2022 World Masters Athletics Championships in Tampere, Finland.**



- She has clocked 24.74 seconds in the 100m sprint and also clinched the **bronze medal in the shot put.**
- She hails from **Khidka village in Haryana.**
- The World Masters Athletics Championships is an event for athletics (track and field) for **athletes aged 35 years and over.**
- **Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports: Anurag Thakur**



# HONORS & AWARDS

## 1. Fields Medal 2022

Maryna Viazovska of Ukraine, along with French mathematician Hugo Duminil-Copin of the University of Geneva; Korean-American mathematician June Huh of Princeton; and British mathematician James Maynard of the University of Oxford won the coveted Fields Medal 2022.



- The recipients are normally announced at the International Congress of Mathematicians, which was originally due to be held in Russia this year but moved to Helsinki instead. The Fields prize is many a time referred to as the Nobel Prize in mathematics.
- Position of India: There are two Indian-origin recipients of the Fields Medal, Akshay Venkatesh of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton (2018) and Manjul Bhargava of the Department of Mathematics at Princeton University (2014).

### About the Award:

- It was first given in 1936.
- Every four years, one or more mathematicians under the age of 40 are given the Fields Medal.
- The Fields Medal is presented during the International Mathematical Union's International Congress (IMU).
- The Fields prize is given to acknowledge excellent mathematical achievement both in the present and in the promise of future performance.
- The 1924 International Congress of Mathematicians in Toronto approved a

resolution stating that two gold medals will be presented at each conference to recognise great mathematical achievement.

- Prof J C Fields, the secretary of the 1924 Congress, later gave monies to establish the medals, which were named after him.
- In 1966, it was agreed that, given the rapid growth of mathematical research, each Congress might award up to four medals.
- The Fields Medal Committee is appointed by the International Mathematical Union's Executive Committee and is generally led by the IMU President.

Source: NDTV.com

## 2. 68<sup>th</sup> National Film Awards:

- The 68th National Film Awards were announced on July 22 in an event during which the Directorate of Film Festivals (Director: Senthil Rajan) presented the Awards to honour the best films of 2020 in Indian cinema.
- The awards ceremony is originally slated to be held on 3 May 2021 but was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The winners were declared on 22 July 2022, and the awards are yet to be presented.
- Tamil film 'Soorarai Pottru' won in five categories: Best Feature Film, Best Actor for Suriya, Best Actress for Aparna Balamurali, Best Music Direction (Score) for G V Prakash Kumar, and Best Original Screenplay for Sudha Kongara, who also directed the film.
- Ajay Devgn, has shared the Best Actor for his role in 'Tanhaji: The Unsung Warrior' with Suriya. The film has also won the award for Best Popular Film Providing Wholesome Entertainment.
- Sachidanandan K R has won the Best Direction Award for the Malayalam film 'Ayyappanum Koshiyum' and Madonne Ashwin has won the Best Debut Film of a Director Award for the Tamil film 'Mandela'.
- The Best Book on Cinema went to Kishwar Desai's 'The Longest Kiss'



### Full List of Awards:

- **Best Feature Film:** Soorarai Pottru
- **Best Director:** Sachidanandan KR, Ayyappanum Koshiyum
- **Best Popular Film Providing Wholesome Entertainment:** Tanhaji
- **Best Actor:** Suriya for Soorarai Pottru and Ajay Devgn for Tanhaji
- **Best Actress:** Aparna Balamurali, Soorarai Pottru
- **Best Supporting Actor:** Biju Menon, Ayyappanum Koshiyum
- **Best Supporting Actress:** Lakshmi Priya Chandramouli, Sivaranjaniyum Innam Sila Pengallum
- **Best Action Direction Award:** AK Ayyappanum Koshiyum
- **Best Choreography:** Natyam (Telugu)
- **Best Lyrics:** Manoj Muntashir for Saina (Hindi)
- **Best Male Playback Singer:** Rahul Deshpande for Mi Vasantryo and Anish Mangesh Gosavi for Taktak
- **Best Female Playback Singer:** Nanchamma, Ayyappanum Koshiyum

- **Best Music Direction:** Ala Vaikunthapurramuloo, S Thaman
- **Best film on Social Issues:** 'Justice Delayed but Delivered & Three Sisters
- **Best Choreography:** Natyam
- **Best Cinematography:** Avijatrik
- **Best Audiography:** Dollu, Mi Vasantryo, and Malik
- **Best Costume Design:** Tanhaji
- **Best Production Design:** Kappela
- **Best Editing:** Sivaranjaniyum Innam Sila Pengallum
- **Best Make-up:** Natyam

### About National Film Awards:

- First given out in 1954, they were called the 'State Awards'
- The jury deciding the winners comprises "persons distinguished in the field of cinema, other allied arts and humanities".
- The Directorate of Film Festivals in India is an organisation that initiates and presents the International Film Festival of India, the National Film Awards and the Indian Panorama.

Source: Hindustan Times

### 3. Miss India or Femina Miss India:



Miss India or Femina Miss India is a national beauty pageant in India that annually selects representatives to compete in Miss World, one of the Big Four major international beauty pageants. It is organised by Femina, a women's magazine published by The Times Group. Since 2013, Femina has also organised Miss Diva as a separate competition, with representatives competing at Miss Universe.

- The reigning Femina Miss India (Femina Miss India World) titleholder is **Sini Sadanand Shetty of Karnataka** who was crowned by the outgoing titleholder Manasa Varanasi on 3 July 2022 at Jio World Center, Mumbai.
- The first Miss India was Pramila (Esther Victoria Abraham), from Calcutta, who won in 1947. It was organised by the local press.
- The first Femina Miss India pageant was held in year 1964. Meher Castelino Mistri of Maharashtra was crowned the first Femina Miss India.
- Reita Faria was the first Miss India ever to win any international beauty pageant. She was crowned Miss World 1966 in London, United Kingdom.

Source: News on Air





#### 4. Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star:

- The Government of Japan has announced the conferment of the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star on Narayanan Kumar, vice chairman of Sanmar Group and former president of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), in recognition of his contribution to strengthen economic relations between Japan and India.
- Mr. Kumar, as president of CII in 1997-98, led an economic delegation to Japan, where India's prominent business leaders met Prime Minister Hashimoto and other Japanese leaders. He also promoted the ease of doing business in India through efforts to accelerate infrastructure development, modernise corporate governance and introduce Japanese productivity management.
- Since 2015, Mr. Kumar has served as president, and subsequently as chairman of the Indo-Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry.



#### About the Award:

- The Order of the Rising Sun is a Japanese order, established in 1875 by Emperor Meiji. The Order was the first national decoration awarded by the Japanese government, created on 10 April 1875 by decree of the Council of State.
- The badge features rays of sunlight from the rising sun. The design of the Rising Sun symbolizes energy as powerful as the rising sun in parallel with the "rising sun" concept of Japan (Land of the Rising Sun).

- The Order of the Rising Sun is awarded to people who have rendered distinguished service to the state in various fields except military service. Since there is no order for military achievements under the current Japanese system, Japan Self-Defense Forces personnel are awarded the Order of the Sacred Treasure for their long engagement in public service.

Source: Hindustan Times

#### 5. 'Wall of former chief economists' of the International Monetary Fund:

- India-born Gita Gopinath became the first woman and second Indian to feature on the 'wall of former chief economists' of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
- The first Indian to achieve the honour was Raghuram Rajan who was Chief Economist and Director of Research of IMF between 2003 and 2006.
- Gopinath was appointed as IMF Chief Economist in October 2018, and is the first female to do so, and was later promoted as the IMF's First Deputy Managing Director in December 2021.
- Gopinath had served as the first female chief economist of the Washington-based global lender for three years.



**About IMF:** The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is an agency of the United Nations, and an international financial institution, headquartered in Washington, D.C., consisting of 190 countries.

Formed in 1944, started on 27 December 1945, at the Bretton Woods Conference primarily by the ideas of Harry Dexter White and John Maynard Keynes, it came into formal existence in 1945 with 29-member countries and the goal of reconstructing the international monetary system.

Source: Livemint



## 6. Dr. Rajendra Prasad Memorial Award

- Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Dr Jitendra Singh, who is also Chairman of the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), has announced the setting up of **Dr. Rajendra Prasad Memorial Award in public administration in the field of academic excellence**, in memory of the first President of India who had also laid the foundation stone of the IIPA building complex in the national capital.
- While presiding over the 320th meeting of the Executive Council of IIPA, Dr Jitendra Singh congratulated the Director General and staff of IIPA for receiving the ISO 9001:2015 certification and said, this speaks volume of the excellent work being done by this premier training institution of the Government of India.
- The Union Minister also suggested a one-day visit of the Assistant Secretaries to the Government of India, to the Indian Institute of Public Administration to have a firsthand understanding of the training programmes being undertaken by it. He also opined that visits of the officers of friendly neighbouring countries like Maldives, Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka etc to IIPA should also be organized.
- Dr. Jitendra Singh expressed satisfaction on the enthusiastic number of serving and former civil servants and eminent academicians taking membership of the IIPA. The Minister appreciated the work done by IIPA, including conducting 75 training programmes in 2021-22 and 20 in period from April-June, 2022. IIPA also trained 12,795 participants in 2021-22 and 542 so far from April- to June, 2022. It also organized 75 online training programs in 2021-22 and 05 in the first quarter of 2022-23.

SOURCE: PIB

## 7. Microsoft Partner of the Year Awards 2022

- HCL Technologies was recognised at Microsoft Partner of the Year Awards 2022, for innovation and implementing customer solutions based on Microsoft technology. HCL Tech bagged Microsoft Partner of the Year Award for Healthcare and Life Sciences (global winner) and the 2022 UK Microsoft Partner of the Year Award (country winner).
- The IT company was also named a finalist in the 2022 Microsoft Partner of the Year Award for Internet of Things (domain finalist).
- These awards are a testament to the commitment to our CloudSMART strategy as a key pillar of our ecosystem and partnership with Microsoft, aimed at delivering value for our clients through industry-leading innovation and transformation on the Microsoft cloud, said Kalyan Kumar, Chief Technology Officer, and Head, Ecosystems, HCL Technologies.
- The Awards recognise Microsoft partners that have developed and delivered outstanding Microsoft-based applications, services, and devices during the past year. More than 3,900 nominations were filed from 100+ countries worldwide, for the annual Awards.
- Microsoft Partner of the Year Awards are announced annually before the company's global partner conference, Microsoft Inspire, which will take place on July 19-20 this year.

Source: Financial Express

## 8. Supreme Order of the Chrysanthemum

The Supreme Order of the Chrysanthemum is Japan's highest order. The Grand Cordon of the Order was established in 1876 by Emperor Meiji of Japan; the Collar of the Order was added on 4 January 1888. Unlike its European counterparts, the order may be conferred posthumously.

- The Japanese government has decided to award former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe with the country's highest order posthumously.



- Abe will receive the Supreme Order of the Chrysanthemum. The longest-serving PM of Japan will be the fourth former prime minister to receive the decoration under the post-war Constitution.
- Abe was attacked on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2022, morning in the city of Nara during his campaign speech. Tetsuya Yamagami, 41, approached the politician from behind and fired two shots from a distance of about 10 meters (33 feet).
- Police said Abe was conscious immediately after being wounded, but then, during transportation, his condition became critical “with cardiac and pulmonary arrest.” Later in the day, Nara Medical University hospital pronounced him dead.

Source: *The Print*

## 9. Global Energy Prize 2022

- Indian-origin professor of engineering at the University of Houston, Kaushik Rajashekara has won the prestigious Global Energy Prize.
- Rajashekara was given the award in the New Ways of Energy Applications category for his contributions to transportation electrification and energy efficiency technologies while reducing power generation emissions.
- Only three people in the world were selected this year for the honour, bestowed by the Global Energy Association, out of record 119 nominations from 43 countries. Rajashekara is joined as a 2022 laureate by Viktor Orlov, chief specialist of the Centre for Innovative Technologies (Rosatom in Russia) and pioneer in thermonuclear physics; and Mercuri Kanatzidis, professor of chemistry and materials science at North western University and senior researcher at the Argonne National Laboratory.

## 10. President's Colours to Tamil Nadu police

- Vice-President M Venkaiah Naidu has presented the prestigious President's Colours to the Tamil Nadu police and said it is a recognition of the State police's commendable service and many achievements.
- In a ceremony, Naidu presented the Colours to Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin. Naidu, in his address, said:
- “It is indeed a proud moment for every Tamilian and I feel very happy and privileged to bestow this honour on Tamil Nadu police on behalf of the supreme commander of the armed forces of India.” Stalin said the Tamil Nadu police has got the highest recognition by receiving the President's Colours and it is a honour for not only the Police Department but also the entire State.
- Naidu said the award is a recognition of Tamil Nadu police's commendable service and many achievements.
- The State Disaster Response Force, Commandos, Coastal Security Group, and the Nilgiris police contingents reviewed the Guard of Honour after the chief guest had taken the formal salute. At the ceremony, the Tamil Nadu Police Pipe Band also put on a magnificent performance. The parade's commander was IPS officer A. Pradeep.
- Tamil Nadu is the only State in the country to have an exclusive Idol Wing, a unit dedicated to investigating into cases of theft or loss of cultural artefacts such as idols, paintings and other treasures of the nation's heritage.

Source: *Indian Express*



# APPOINTMENTS

## 1. Eknath Shinde sworn-in as the new Chief Minister of Maharashtra

- **Governor, Bhagat Singh Koshiyari** has administered the oath of office to **Eknath Shinde** as the **20th Chief Minister of Maharashtra**.
- BJP leader, **Devendra Fadnavis** was sworn-in as **Deputy Chief Minister of the state**.
- Devendra Fadnavis had served as the CM of Maharashtra from 2014-19.
- **Shinde** has served as the **urban development minister in the previous Maha Vikas Aghadi government**.
- Maharashtra Vidhan Sabha - 288 seats; Lok Sabha - 48 seats; Rajya Sabha - 19 seats



### The Maharashtra political crisis:

- The row erupted on June 20, and since then **Eknath Shinde** and the other rebel leaders went incommunicado and travelled to **Surat in Gujarat**. While some **Shiv Sena leaders** say about 14-15 rebel MPs were camping out in Surat, others claimed the number was as high as 23 or 35. However, on June 21, the rebel leaders (there are 40 of them, according to Shinde) were taken to **Guwahati in Assam** via a chartered flight, where they were all driven to a luxury hotel amid tight security.
- The Shiv Sena, which heads the MVA, has 55 MLAs, followed by allies NCP (53) and the Congress (44) in the 288-Assembly where the current simple majority mark is 144.
- **Shiv Sena leader Sanjay Raut** on June 22, hinted that the Legislative Assembly may be dissolved amid the political crisis. The same day, **Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari** tested positive for the coronavirus and has been hospitalised. **CM Uddhav Thackeray** has also tested positive for the virus.
- A Shiv Sena minister, who is among the dissidents led by **Eknath Shinde**, said they do not have any complaints against the Sena leadership, but they have been upset with the style of function of the **NCP and Congress**.
- A senior BJP leader from Maharashtra in the evening said his party was exploring the possibility of government formation in the state, amid the crisis.
- Several BJP leaders, including **Leader of Opposition Devendra Fadnavis**, held marathon meetings during the day to discuss Constitutional provisions, the arithmetic required to stake a claim to form a government as well as possible legal objections to such a kind of power transition.
- **NCP chief Sharad Pawar** meanwhile, described the crisis in Maharashtra as an internal matter of the Shiv Sena and declared his party will support the decisions taken by the Thackeray-led outfit.
- **Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari** has asked the Uddhav Thackeray-led Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government to prove its majority on the floor of the House on Thursday and convened a special session of the state Assembly on June 30 at 11 am.
- The Uddhav Thackeray camp has filed a fresh petition in the **Supreme Court** against **Maharashtra governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari's** decision on June 30 to **invite Eknath Shinde to form the government**.
- Then, **Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray** resigned from his post following the **Supreme Court** allowing the floor test as per the **Governor's directions**.



## 2. T Raja Kumar becomes new President of Financial Action Task Force



- **Indian- origin T Raja Kumar** has been appointed as **President** of world's anti-terrorism financing agency, **Financial Action Task Force (FATF) for two years (July 2022 -June 2024)**.
- He **succeeded Dr Marcus Pleyer**, who served as the chief of the FATF.
- He will be **responsible for enhancing the effectiveness of global anti-money laundering and counter-terrorist financing measures**.
- He has a working experience in home ministry of Singapore and police force.
- **FATF HQ: Paris, France.**

### Financial Action Task Force (FATF)

- The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is an inter-governmental organization established to set standards and promote effective implementation of legal, regulatory and operational measures for combating money laundering, terrorist financing and other related threats to the integrity of the international financial system. It was formed in 1989 by the G7 Summit which was held in Paris. The FATF is really a policy-making body that works with governments to bring about national legislation and regulatory reforms in these areas.

### FATF Activities

- The organization monitors its member countries on the progress they have made in implementing reform measures and reviews their counter-measures to money laundering and terror financing.
- The decision-making body of FATF is called the FATF Plenary. It meets three times annually.
- The organization has included even combating terror financing among its objectives after the September 11 terror attacks on the USA in 2001.

### FATF Grey List

- Countries that are considered safe haven for supporting terror funding and money laundering are put on the FATF grey list. This inclusion serves as a warning to the country that it may enter the blacklist.
- Pakistan was retained in the grey list or list of countries under “increased monitoring” because it was unsuccessful in prosecuting the top leadership of UN Security Council-designated terror groups; the list includes Lashkar-e Toiba, Jaish-e Mohammad, Al Qaeda and the Taliban.

### FATF Blacklist

- Officially called the “Non-Cooperative Countries or Territories (NCCTs), the FATF Blacklist is a list of countries that the FATF considers to be non-cooperative in the international fight against terrorist financing and money laundering. This list is regularly updated, with countries being either deleted off the list or new countries being added to the list. It is to be noted that some names are on the list not because of their non-cooperative stance towards fighting this menace, but because they lack the necessary infrastructure and mechanisms to engage in this fight.

## 3. Yair Lapid takes over as 14<sup>th</sup> prime minister of Israel

- **Leader of Yesh Atid Party, Yair Lapid** has been officially became the **14<sup>th</sup> prime minister of Israel**, after **replacing Naftali Bennett**.
- His term could be a fairly short one, as he takes over a caretaker government ahead of national elections on November 1.
- He is a former journalist who serving as PM of Israel since July 1, 2022.



- Naama Schultz has been appointed as a director-general of the Prime Minister's office.
- **Israel Capital: Jerusalem; Currency: New Shekel**

### India-Israel Relations been So Far

#### Diplomatic Ties:

- Though India officially recognised Israel in 1950, the two countries established full diplomatic ties only on 29th January 1992. As of December 2020, India was among 164 United Nations (UN) member states to have diplomatic ties with Israel.

#### Economic and Commercial Relations:

- From USD 200 million in 1992, bilateral merchandise trade stood at USD 4.14 billion (excluding defence) during the period April 2020 – February 2021 with the balance of trade being in India's favour.
- Trade in diamonds constitutes about 50% of bilateral trade..
- India is Israel's third-largest trade partner in Asia and seventh largest globally.

#### Defence:

- India is the largest buyer of military equipment from Israel, which, in turn, is the second-largest defence supplier to India, after Russia.

#### Science & Technology:

- Recently, experts from India and Israel deliberated on widening the scope of India-Israel Industrial R&D and Technological Innovation Fund (I4F) at its 8th Governing Body meeting.
- Israel is also joining the India-led International Solar Alliance (ISA), which aligns very well with the objectives of both countries to scale up their cooperation in renewable energy and partner in clean energy.

Source: Indian Express

## 4. PokerBaazi appoints Shahid Kapoor as its brand ambassador



- **PokerBaazi** has appointed actor **Shahid Kapoor** as its **brand ambassador**.
- **Aims:** to create a robust ecosystem for Poker in India.
- According to research firm Statista, the **online gaming industry across India was valued at around ₹79 billion in 2021**, marking a leap from about ₹65 billion in 2020.

- The sector is **expected to be worth over ₹150 billion by 2024**, indicating a compound annual growth of around 15%.
- **PokerBaazi was owned by Navkiran Singh (founder of Baazi Game).**

## 5. Rahul Narwekar becomes the youngest Speaker in the country

- **Rahul Narwekar** was elected as the **16<sup>th</sup> Speaker of the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly** after **defeating Rajan Salvi (Shiv Sena candidate)**.
- The post of the Maharashtra Speaker was vacant **after Nana Patole (Congress) resigned from the office in February 2021**.
- The **Deputy Speaker Narhari Zirwal** was playing as an **acting Speaker in the House**.
- **Maharashtra Governor: Bhagat Singh Koshyari;**
- **Chief minister: Eknath Shinde;**
- **Deputy CM: Devendra Fadnavis**



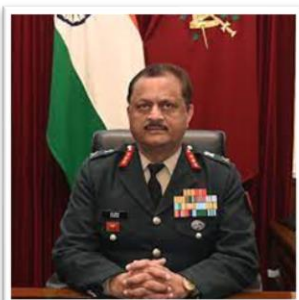
### About Rahul Narwekar

- The new Speaker was associated with the Nationalist Congress Party and Shiv Sena in the past.
- Narwekar (45), a sitting MLA from Colaba, left Shiv Sena in 2014 to contest the 2014 Lok Sabha polls from Maval constituency as a NCP candidate. However, he suffered defeat but was elected to the Maharashtra Legislative Council and remained its member till 2019.

- He contested the Assembly elections from the Colaba seat on BJP's ticket and emerged victorious.
- Narwekar (45) received a total of 164 votes in support and 107 went to Shiv Sena candidate's account.
- Interestingly, Narwekar's father-in-law Ramraje Naik Nimbalkar, a Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) member is the Chairman of the state Legislative Council.

Source: The Print

### 6. India's Lt Gen Mohan Subramanian appointed as Force Commander of UNMISS



- UN Secretary-General, António Guterres has appointed India's Lt Gen Mohan Subramanian as Force Commander of the **United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS)**.
- He **succeeds Lt Gen Shailesh Tinaikar (India)**.
- Presently, he is serving as the Commandant of Defence Services Staff College, Wellington.
- Indian Army is active in *UN Missions in Congo, Lebanon, South Sudan, Golan Heights, Syria, Western Sahara, Abyei and Cyprus*.
- **International Day of UN Peacekeepers: 29 May**

### 7. WCD Minister, Smriti Irani gets additional charge of Minority Affairs

- **Women and Child Development Minister, Smriti Irani and Civil Aviation Minister, Jyotiraditya Scindia** have been assigned additional charge in addition to their existing portfolios.
- **Smriti Irani** has been assigned the **charge of Ministry of Minority Affairs** after the resignation of **Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi**.
- **Jyotiraditya Scindia** has been given the additional charge of the **Ministry of Steel** after the resignation of **Ram Chandra Prasad Singh**.



### 8. Suranjan Das appointed as president of Association of Indian Universities



- **Vice-Chancellor of Jadavpur University, Suranjan Das** is appointed as the **president of the Association of Indian Universities (AIU)**.
- His one year tenure has **come into effect from July 1**.
- Earlier, he was a **Professor of History at the University of Calcutta** and served the Vice Chancellor at University of Calcutta for the period between 2008 and 2015.
- He was a recipient of the USIS International Visitorship Programme.
- **AIU HQ: New Delhi**

### About Association of Indian Universities

- The formation of the **Inter-University Board (IUB) of India** as an **Apex Inter-University Organization on March 23, 1925**, in a meeting of Vice Chancellors/their representatives at Bombay University was the culmination of the **need to bring together all the universities in India on a common platform through a coordinating body, to protect the interest of the students as well as the universities**.



- Prior to this, having such an organization in India was recommended by the **Sadler Commission in 1919 followed by a resolution**, made in the Conference of Vice Chancellors of the Indian Universities convened at Shimla in 1924.
- The **Inter-University Board** acquired a legal status with its registration as a **Society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, on September 29, 1967** and was renamed as **Association of Indian Universities (AIU) in 1973**. Since its inception AIU is actively engaged in the growth and development of Higher Education. The membership of AIU includes all types of universities e.g. Conventional Universities, Open Universities, Deemed to be Universities, State Universities, Central Universities, Private Universities and Institutes of National Importance. In addition to **Indian Universities, 13 Universities/Institutes from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Republic of Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mauritius, Nepal, Thailand, United Arab Emirates and United Kingdom** are its **Associate Members**.

Source: The Print

### 9. TVS's R. Dinesh appointed as President Designate of CII for 2022-23

- **R Dinesh, Executive Vice-Chairman of TVS Supply Chain Solutions** has been elected **President Designate of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) for 2022-23**.
- He has been the Chairman of CII Southern Region during 2018-19.
- **Sanjiv Puri (Chairman and Managing Director, ITC)** will continue as the **Vice-President of CII**.
- **Sanjiv Bajaj** (Chairman and Managing Director, Bajaj Finserv Ltd) continues to be the **President of CII for 2022-23**.
- **CII Headquarters: New Delhi**



### Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)

- **CII is a non-government, not-for-profit, industry-led and industry-managed organization**, playing a proactive role in India's development process.
- **Founded in 1895**, India's premier business association has around 9000 members, from the private as well as public sectors, including SMEs and MNCs, and an indirect membership

of over 300,000 enterprises from around 276 national and regional sectoral industry bodies.

- It works to **create and sustain an environment conducive to the development of India, partnering industry, Government, and civil society, through advisory and consultative processes**.

Source: The Hindu

### 10. Former CEO of NITI Aayog Amitabh Kant appointed as new G20 Sherpa



- Former NITI Aayog CEO, **Amitabh Kant** has been appointed as **India's new Sherpa for the G-20**.
- He **replaced Piyush Goyal** (Minister for Commerce & Industry and Consumer Affairs), who was appointed as the G-20 Sherpa in September 2021.
- **India will hold the presidency of G20 from December 1, 2022 to November 30, 2023**.

- He served as the NITI Aayog CEO from June 2016 to 2022.
- **G-20 Leaders' Summit 2023: India**
- **G-20 Summit 2024: Brazil**
- **G-20 Summit 2025: South Africa**





## 11. Alvaro Lario appointed as President of IFAD

- **Alvaro Lario** has been appointed as the seventh President of the **International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)** with effect from **1st October 2022** for a four-year term.



- **IFAD:**
  - It is an international financial institution and specialized United Nations agency.
  - It is the only multilateral development organization that **focuses on rural economies, food security and climate change**
  - Founded: **1977**.
  - Headquarters: **Rome, Italy**.



### CLAT 2021



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## SCIENCE / TECHNOLOGY NEWS

### 1. CAATSA Waiver to India for Purchasing S-400

Recently, a National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) amendment proposed by the congressman Ro Khanna was accepted by the US House of Representatives, proposing a waiver for the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act that would apply specifically to India (CAATSA).

- The House voted 330 to 99 in favour of the amendment. To be sure, this is not yet a part of the law — the Act will have to be passed in both the House and the Senate, and the different versions passed in the two chambers will then be reconciled in a compromise legislation.
- But the support for Khanna's amendment is seen as signal of political support for the India-US strategic partnership on Capitol Hill, the home of the US legislative branch.
- The amendment calls for the US government to exercise its authority to grant India a CAATSA waiver in order to counter China and other aggressors.
- The NDAA is the umbrella legislation that defines the agencies responsible for America's defence, determines funding for these agencies particularly the Department of Defense (DoD), and frames the broad policies for the use of the funding. In June, the House Armed Services Committee approved the Act with overwhelming bipartisan support. NDAA 2023, if and when passed, will provide over \$800 billion for US national defence.

**About CAATSA:** The Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act is a United States federal law that imposed sanctions on Iran, North Korea, and Russia. The bill was passed by the Senate on 27 July 2017, 98–2, after it passed the House 419–3. The bill was signed into law on 2 August 2017 by President Donald Trump, who stated that he believed the legislation was "seriously flawed"

- Turkey had to deal with sanctions in 2020 after receiving the S400 system.
- The Act empowers the US President to impose at least five of the 12 listed sanctions

Source: Hindustan Times:

### 2. China's Permanent Space Station

China has launched the second of three modules Wentian to its permanent space station, in one of the final missions needed to complete the orbiting outpost by year's end.



- China began constructing the space station in April 2021 with the launch of the Tianhe module, the main living quarters. The Wentian ("Quest for the Heavens") lab module, 17.9 metres (59 feet) long, will be where astronauts can carry out scientific experiments, along with the other lab module yet to be launched - Mengtian ("Dreaming of the Heavens").
- Wentian features an airlock cabin that is to be the main exit-entry point for extravehicular activities when the station is completed.
- It will also serve as short-term living quarters for astronauts during crew rotations on the station, designed for long-term accommodation of just three astronauts.

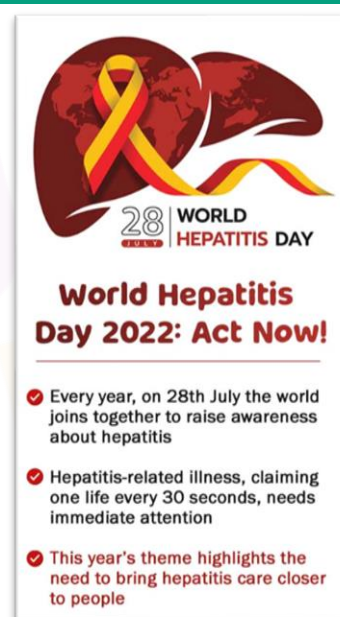


- Mengtian is expected to be launched in October and, like Wentian, is to dock with Tianhe, forming a T-shaped structure.
- On board the space station are Shenzhou-14 mission commander Chen Dong and team mates Liu Yang and Cai Xuzhe. They are slated to return to Earth in December with the arrival of the Shenzhou-15 crew.
- The space station, when completed by the year-end, will lay a significant milestone in China's three-decades long manned space programme, first approved in 1992 and initially code-named "Project 921". It will also flag the start of permanent Chinese habitation in space.
- The completion of the structure, about a fifth of the International Space Station (ISS) by mass, is a source of pride among ordinary Chinese people, and caps President Xi Jinping's 10 years as leader of the ruling Communist Party.

Source: Al-Jazeera

### 3. World Hepatitis Day 2022:

- Every year on July 28th, World Hepatitis Day is held to raise awareness about viral hepatitis on the birthday of Dr. Baruch Blumberg (1925-2011). Dr. Blumberg discovered the hepatitis B virus in 1967 and two years later developed the first hepatitis B vaccine and for these achievements won the Nobel Prize.
- **"Bringing hepatitis care closer to you" is the theme for 2022.** It seeks to highlight the importance of bringing hepatitis care closer to primary health care institutions, and thereby communities, in order to improve access to treatment and care.
- Typically caused by a subset of viruses called as "hepatotropic" (liver-directed) viruses, which include A, B, C, D, and E. Hepatitis is the only communicable illness with a growing fatality rate.
- The term hepatitis refers to any type of hepatic inflammation – the irritation or swelling of liver cells caused by any cause. It can be acute or chronic.
- Effective medicines for Hepatitis B and C are available. Hepatitis A and E are self-limiting infections that resolve on their own and do not require any antiviral drugs.
- By 2030, the Global Target aims to eradicate viral hepatitis as a public health issue.
- WHO is developing a 2022-2026 integrated Regional Action Plan for viral hepatitis, HIV, and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs).



Source: hhs.gov.in

### 4. India's Defence Export in 2022

- India's defence exports for 2021-22 are expected to be the biggest ever at Rs 13,000 crore an impressive 54.1 per cent rise over the previous year.
- India's defence exports were worth ₹8,434 crore in 2020-21, ₹9,115 crore in 2019-20 and ₹2,059 crore in 2015-16.
- India's defence exports are chiefly to the United States, the Philippines and other countries in the South-East Asia, the Middle-East and Africa.



- The private sector accounted for 70% of total exports, while public sector enterprises accounted for the remaining 30%, which is a decrease of 20% share by the private sector.
- India's defence imports from the United States have increased dramatically in recent years and Indian firms are increasingly becoming part of the supply chains of US defence corporations.
- Personal protective equipment, defence electronics systems, engineering mechanical equipment, offshore patrol vessels, sophisticated light helicopters, avionics suites, radio systems, and radar systems are among the commodities exported.

**Major Export Deals and Steps to Boost Exports:** In January 2022, India inked a USD 374.96-million contract with the Philippines for the sale of three batteries of shore-based anti-ship variants of the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile.

- During the previous two years, India has implemented a gradual import restriction on 310 various weapons and systems, which has helped boost exports.
- There has been an increase partnership with the private sector
- India has set a target of USD 5 billion in defence exports by 2024.

**The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI):**

- Was founded in 1966 and provides data, analysis and recommendations for armed conflict, military expenditure and arms trade as well as disarmament and arms control. Based in Stockholm.
- Ranked India at number 23 in the list of major arms exporters for 2015-2019.
- India is still responsible for barely 0.17 percent of global arms exports.

Source: Live-Mint

## 5. INS SINDHUDHVAJ Decommissioned

After 35 years of service, the Indian Navy has decommissioned its Kilo class submarine, INS Sindhudhvaj, in Vishakhapatnam.



**About the Submarine:** INS Sindhudhvaj was commissioned into the Indian Navy in June 1987. One of ten Kilo-class submarines bought by India from Russia between 1986 and 2000.

- It was the only submarine to receive the Prime Minister's CNS Rolling Trophy for Innovation.
- Its numerous firsts include the operationalization of the indigenous sonar USHUS, the indigenous satellite communication systems Rukmani and MSS, the inertial navigation system, and the indigenous torpedo fire control system.
- With INS Sindhudhvaj decommissioned, the Navy now has just 15 conventional submarines in service.
- Seven Russian Kilo-class submarines, four German HDW submarines, four French Scorpene submarines, and the indigenous nuclear ballistic missile submarine INS Arihant are presently part of the fleet.
- The submarine crest depicts a gray colour nurse shark and the name means flag bearer at sea. Sindhudhvaj, as the name suggests, was the flag bearer of indigenisation and Indian Navy's efforts towards achieving Atmanirbharta in the Russian built Sindhughosh class submarines throughout her journey in the navy.
- She also successfully undertook mating and personnel transfer with Deep Submergence Rescue Vessel and only submarine to be awarded CNS Rolling trophy for Innovation by the Honourable Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi.

SOURCE: PIB





## 6. PSLV-C53 rocket

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully launched three Singaporean satellites in a commercial mission of the New Space India Limited. This was the second launch of the year by the space agency, the first one having placed an Indian Earth Observation Satellite in orbit in February.

- Along with the commercial satellites, the space agency also sent on board six in-orbit experiments mounted on the fourth stage of the rocket in the current mission.
- The workhorse rocket of the country, PSLV-C53, took off from Sriharikota at 6pm and injected the three satellites into precise orbits around 18 minutes later.
- The launch vehicle flew in the core-alone configuration where no strap-on motors are used other than the four main engine stages.
- The main payload of the mission was a 365 kg Singaporean DS-EO satellite, which is an electro-optic, earth-observation satellite capable of providing full-colour images for land classification and disaster-relief operations.
- The 155 kg NeuSAR satellite is its first small commercial satellite capable of providing images in the day or at night under all weather conditions.
- The third satellite was Nanyang Technical University's 2.8kg Scoob-1, the first in the student satellite series for giving hands-on training for the university's satellite research centre.

**Note:** In addition to the international payloads, the rocket also carried six experiments in its fourth stage, including two from Indian startups Digantara and Dhruva Space. The PSLV Orbital Experiment Module (POEM) uses the spent fourth stage of the rocket as an in-orbit platform by adding solar panels, a battery, and a navigation control system.

Usually, after putting the satellite in orbit, the rocket stages decay, return to the atmosphere and burn up. But, with the addition of a little power to keep the stage in orbit, they can be utilised for experiments.

*Source: Indian Express*

## 7. India's first autonomous navigation facility "TiHAN"

India's first Autonomous Navigation facility, TiHAN was inaugurated by Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State for Science & Technology at the IIT Hyderabad campus. It is developed at a budget of Rs. 130 crores by the Union Ministry of Science & Technology.

- TiHAN (Technology Innovation Hub on Autonomous Navigation) is a multidisciplinary initiative that will make India a global player in the futuristic and next generation 'smart mobility' technology.
- The minister said that the vision of TiHAN-IITH is to become a global player for next generation smart mobility technologies and the Ministry of Science & Technology has come forward to support this initiative, which will be a trendsetter for others as well.
- TiHAN Testbed will provide a unique platform for high quality research between academia, industry and R&D labs both at the national and international level, thus making India a global leader in autonomous navigation technologies.
- TiHAN-IITH testbed on Autonomous Navigations (Aerial & Terrestrial) will allow us to test the next generation autonomous navigation technologies accurately and allow faster technology development and global market penetration.

*Source: Live-Mint*



## 8. Indian Naval Air Squadron 324

Squadron 324 has been commissioned into the Indian Navy at an impressive Commissioning Ceremony held at INS Dega, Visakhapatnam.

- The unit is the first Naval Squadron on the Eastern Seaboard operating the indigenously designed and built Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) MK III (MR) helicopters.
- INAS 324 has been named "KESTRELS" which are birds of prey and have good sensory capabilities symbolising the envisaged role of the Aircraft and the Air Squadron.
- The Insignia of the Squadron depicts a 'KESTREL' searching over vast blue and white sea waves, which signifies the integral Maritime Reconnaissance (MR) and Search and Rescue (SAR) role of the Squadron.
- ALH MK III helicopters are fitted with state-of-the-art equipment which includes modern surveillance radar and electro-optical sensors. Induction of these flying machines is, in pursuance of the GOI initiative of Atma Nirbhar Bharat, as they have been developed and manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).
- In addition to their primarily roles of MR and SAR, these helicopters can also be deployed for Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Operations as well as Special Operations with Marine Commandos.
- The helicopter also has an airborne Medical Intensive Care Unit (MICU) for use in the Air Ambulance role to facilitate the medical evacuation of critically ill patients.
- It will enhance the surveillance capability on the Eastern Seaboard.
- NAS 324 is commanded by Cdr SS Dash, an accomplished and highly experienced ALH Qualified Flying Instructor with extensive operational experience.

SOURCE: PIB

## 9. INS Vikrant

The Cochin Shipyard has handed over to the Navy the indigenous aircraft carrier Vikrant, which was designed by the Navy's in-house Directorate of Naval Design and will likely be commissioned on August 15.

- It is named after India's first aircraft carrier, the Indian Naval Ship (INS) Vikrant, which played a significant role in the 1971 war. The aircraft carrier will be initially with the western naval command.
- With an overall indigenous content of 76 per cent, it is a perfect example of the quest for Aatma Nirbhar Bharat and provides a thrust to the government's Make in India initiative.
- The development marks the culmination of a long journey – the carrier's construction began in 2009.
- It has been built at a cost of around ₹20,000 crore and will significantly boost the country's naval presence and its reach, navy officials said. The warship's delivery comes in the backdrop of rigorous user acceptance trials carried out between August 2021 and July 2022.
- Vikrant has put India in a select league — only the US, the UK, Russia, France and China have the capability to build aircraft carriers. The 262-metre-long carrier has a full displacement of 45,000 tonne.
- It will operate an air wing consisting of 30 aircraft, including MiG-29K fighter jets, Kamov-31 choppers, MH-60R multi-role helicopters, advanced light helicopters and light combat aircraft (navy).
- The fighters on board the aircraft carrier will use the ski-jump to take-off and will be recovered by arrestor wires or STOBAR (short take-off but arrested recovery) in navy parlance.
- India currently operates a solitary aircraft carrier, INS Vikramaditya, bought second-hand from Russia for \$2.33 billion, but the navy has been arguing it needs three such floating airfields given its vast area of interest.



**Note:** Vikrant will be commissioned into the navy barely two months after China launched its third aircraft carrier, the first such designed and built entirely in that country. The launch of the new carrier called **Fujian** on June 17 came against the backdrop of China's push for greater maritime influence in the far seas and as its warships attempt to leave their mark in Pacific and Indian Ocean regions.

Source: Hindustan Times:

## 10. Joint theatre commands of the tri-services

The Indian Defence Minister announced the setting up of joint theatre commands of the tri-services to enhance coordination among the armed forces.

- The idea behind 'Theatre Command System' is to bring synergistic coordination between the three branches of the armed forces.
- The integration process would ultimately lead towards the unified military assets fused into one single command under one operational head who will be responsible for directing and controlling their activities in a given situation.
- Besides the operational synergies, the theatre command system will also contribute to more streamlined costs and a leaner fighting force.

### There are two joint services commands in India:

- 1) Andaman and Nicobar Command (ANC): Based on the principle of theatre command system, ANC is considered to be the only one of its kind in the country that amalgamates the army, navy and air force. Set up in 2001, ANC is based in Port Blair and is led by officers of the three services on a rotation basis. The command covers India's strategic interests in Southeast Asia and the Malacca Strait.
- 2) Strategic Forces Command (SFC): As SFC takes care of the nuclear assets of India and is not related to any specific theatre of war.

### India as a Defence Exporter:

- India is moving quickly from being the world's largest importer of defence equipment to an exporter.
- The country has started defence exports worth Rs 13,000 crore and it has fixed a target to increase it to Rs 35,000 to Rs 40,000 crore by 2025-26.

- Today, India is not the world's largest importer but is among the top 25 nations engaged in defence exports.

### Countries that follow Theatre Command System:

- Various countries around the globe already have some form of theatre or joint command in place to bring better integration among their military forces. Notably, the USA was the first country to enforce a theatre command system with six geographical and four functional commands presently in place.
- Russia also started with the restructuring of its defence forces in 2008 and has four theatre commands. China's theatre command system is said to be based on the US model and has "five peacetime geographical commands". Chinese Western Theatre Command covers the region along the Indian border.

Source: News on Air

## 11. India's first rocket engine factory

Homegrown space startup, Agnikul Cosmos, has opened the country's first private factory dedicated to building rocket engines.

- Located in Chennai, the facility was inaugurated by N. Chandrasekaran, chairman, Tata Sons, and S. Somanath, chairman of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).
- The new facility will use additive manufacturing technology to build 3D printed rocket engines, and will develop engines for its in-house rockets, according to the company.



- Agnikul Cosmos said it already has partners who are preparing small-sized satellites for launch on Agnibaan, and that the factory will address this demand. Agnibaan is an ultra-light launch vehicle, which is even lighter than ISRO's upcoming small, light commercial rocket, the Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV).
- While the SSLV can carry payloads of around 300kg, Agnibaan will be able to carry payloads of up to 100kg to low Earth orbits (LEOs) of up to 700km above Earth.

#### Dimension of the rocket engines:

- The 10,000-square-foot facility is located at IIT-Madras Research Park. It will have a 400mm x 400mm x 400mm metal 3D printer from EOS that will enable end-to-end manufacturing of a rocket engine under one roof.
- The manufacturing facility has the capacity to make two rocket engines per week and thereby one launch vehicle every month.

**About Agnikul:** Agnikul was founded in 2017 by Srinath Ravichandran, Moin SPM and SR Chakravarthy (professor of IIT-Madras). In December 2020, Agnikul signed an agreement with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) under the IN-SPACe initiative to have access to the space agency's expertise and its facilities to build rocket engines.

*Source: Live-Mint*

## 12. James Webb Space Telescope

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has published a series of photos and science products collected with the James Webb Space Telescope from five distinct locations of the sky.

- The recent findings contain a galaxy cluster that formed 4.6 billion years ago. Most detailed infrared picture of some of the most distant and ancient galaxies yet observed, which will help scientists understand more about the mass, age, history, and composition of these ancient galaxies.

#### James Webb Space Telescope

- NASA, the European Space Agency (ESA), and the Canadian Space Agency collaborated to launch the spacecraft in December 2021.
- The telescope is named after James E. Webb, who was the administrator of NASA from 1961 to 1968 during the Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo programs.
- The James Webb Space Telescope was launched on 25 December 2021 on an Ariane 5 rocket from Kourou, French Guiana, and arrived at the Sun–Earth L2 Lagrange point in January 2022.
- Presently in the Sun-Earth L2 Lagrange point, roughly 1.5 million kilometers beyond Earth's orbit around the Sun. It is the biggest and most powerful infrared space telescope ever.

- It is the successor to the Hubble Space Telescope.
- It can view backwards in time to shortly after the Big Bang by looking for galaxies that are so far away that the light from those galaxies has taken billions of years to reach our telescopes.

#### Objectives of JWST-

- Look back roughly 13.5 billion years to observe the earliest stars and galaxies emerge from the early universe's darkness.
- Contrast the faintest, most ancient galaxies with today's massive spirals.
- To see where stars and planetary systems are being born
- To study extrasolar planets' atmospheres (beyond our solar system)

*Source: The Hindu*





### 13. Monkeypox

The first case of monkeypox was confirmed in India after a person who had returned to Kerala from UAE developed symptoms of the disease. His samples were sent to National Virology Institute in Pune which confirmed the disease.

#### What is Monkeypox?

- Monkeypox is a zoonosis, that is, a disease that is transmitted from infected animals to humans.
- Monkeypox virus infection has been detected in squirrels, Gambian poached rats, dormice, and some species of monkeys.
- It was first found in monkeys in 1958.
- While the natural reservoir of monkeypox remains unknown, African rodents and monkeys are suspected of transmission and infection.

**Occurrence-** According to the WHO, two distinct clades are identified

- 1) the West African clade

- 2) the Congo Basin clade (the Central African clade)

**Transmission-** Transmission can occur through contact with bodily fluids, lesions on the skin or on internal mucosal surfaces, such as in the mouth or throat, respiratory droplets and contaminated objects.

- Human-to-human transmission is limited and the longest documented chain of transmission is six generations (meaning the last person to be infected in this chain was six links away from the original sick person).
- In 2017, Nigeria experienced the largest documented outbreak, 40 years after the last confirmed case.
- Subsequently, the disease has been reported in many West and Central African countries.

### 14. Human Spaceflight Expo

Offering multiple glimpses into India's first-ever manned space flight mission Gaganyaan, a unique Human Space Flight Expo kicked off at the Jawaharlal Nehru Planetarium. The three-day exhibition will stay alive till July 24 to commemorate the Azadi ki Amrit Mahotsav.

- Inviting members of the public to attend talks and view exhibits, ISRO described the expo as a “techno-interactive knowledge-sharing event”.
- The activities slotted include games and workshops on model-plane-making, space habitat creation, and space-themed art.
- Exhibits at the expo include an interactive Gaganyaan (proposed project for India's first crewed spaceflight) model, scaled models of rockets and satellites, simulations of a Mars rover, a space toilet, and a space suit, among others.
- As part of the expo, ‘The Indian Space Odyssey – Sounding rockets to Gaganyaan’ — a movie tracing the history and evolution of ISRO over the decades — is also being screened at the planetarium's sky theatre, and there will be live lectures on how to become an astronaut, amateur (ham) radio, and space flight history.
- ISRO has been organising similar events across the country. The Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh, for instance, is holding a three-day ‘Space on Wheels’ mobile exhibition in Tirupati to showcase models of launch vehicles.

Source: The Print



## 15. NIRMAN Accelerator Program

The Startup Incubation and Innovation Centre (SIIC) at IIT Kanpur has launched the NIRMAN Accelerator Program, supported by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, where 15 start-ups will be selected and given the opportunity to accelerate their product journey from 'lab to market'.

- The programme will focus on the manufacturing startups engaged in healthcare and agriculture domains to help them overcome the challenges from their prototype-to-market journey.
- The best-performing startups among the cohort of 15 startups will receive a cash award of up to ₹1 million.
- The 6-month-long programme will be devised into four segments, namely – Principles of Product Growth, Engineering Acceleration, Navigating the Compliance Puzzle, and Leading to Next-Stage Growth.
- The programme will offer knowledge workshops, one-on-one mentoring support, diving deep for customised support for clinical validation, and business and investor connect.



Source: Live mint

## 16. HAL sign agreement with Safran to create JV to build helicopter engines



- **Safran Helicopter Engines** has signed an **agreement with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)** to create a new joint venture intended to develop helicopter engines.
- The MoU was **signed by Mr. R. Madhavan (HAL CMD) and Franck Saudo (Safran CEO)**.
- **Aim:** To meet the requirements of **HAL and India's Ministry of Defence (MoD) future helicopters**, including the future **13-ton IMRH (Indian Multi Role Helicopter)**.
- Both companies have also partnered for **Shakti engine**.
- Amongst the most ground-breaking technological successes notched up by **Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL)** are its **single-engine and twin-engine helicopters** – in the former segment, the eponymous **Light Utility Helicopter (LUH)**; and in the latter, the **Dhruv advanced light helicopter (ALH)**, the **Rudra attack helicopter** and the **Light Combat Helicopter (LCH)**.
- Through HE-MRO joint venture in Goa, **HAL and Safran Helicopter Engines** will also provide MRO (maintenance, repair, overhaul) services for **TM333 and Shakti engines** already in service with India's military. **It will be operational by the end of 2023**, said a **HAL-Safran joint statement**.

Source:BS



## ECONOMIC & FINANCIAL NEWS

### 1. FM Nirmala Sitharaman releases the Business Reform Action 2020 in New Delhi

- Finance Minister, **Nirmala Sitharaman** has released the **Business Reform Action Plan (BRAP)- 2020** in New Delhi.
- **To boost investor confidence, foster a business-friendly climate and augment the ease of doing business across the country** by introducing an element of **healthy competition through a system of assessing states based on their performance in the BRAP.**
- The parameters include various areas, such as **construction permit, labour regulation, environmental registration, access to information, land availability and single window system.**
- **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade DPIIT** since **2014** has been assessing States/UTs based on their performance in implementation of prescribed reforms in **Business Reforms Action Plan (BRAP) exercise.** Till date, assessment of States/UTs have been released for the years 2015, 2016, 2017-18 and 2019.
- **Top Achievers: Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Punjab, Telangana and Tamil Nadu.**
- **Achievers category: Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh**
- **Aspirers category: Assam, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Jharkhand, Kerala, Rajasthan and West Bengal.**



SOURCE: PIB

### 2. CCI approves Google's proposed stake buy in Bharti Airtel

- The **Competition Commission of India (CCI)** has approved **Google International LLC's** proposed acquisition of a minority and non-controlling stake of **1.28%** of equity capital of **Bharti Airtel Limited (target).**
- Along with this investment agreement, both companies have also entered **certain commercial deals through their affiliates.**
- **Google International LLC** is a wholly-owned subsidiary of **Google LLC**, latter is a wholly-owned subsidiary of **Alphabet Inc.**
- **Google** had said in January this year that it will invest up to **\$1 billion** in **India's No 2 telecom services provider Bharti Airtel** through an equity purchase of **1.28%** for **\$700 million** and commercial agreement of **\$300 million** on mutual terms over the next five years.
- The investment comes on the back of the internet search giant having invested **\$4.5 billion** in **Reliance Jio** back in **July 2020**, both part of the Google for **India Digitization Fund**, making it an investor in two rival telecom service providers in the sector.
- Google CEO: **Sundar Pichai**
- Founded: **4 September 1998**
- Headquarter: **Mountain View, California, United States**
- Google Founders: **Larry Page, Sergey Brin**
- Google's Parent organization: **Alphabet Inc.**
- Bharti Airtel CEO: **Gopal Vittal**



- Bharti Airtel Headquarters: **New Delhi**
- Bharti Airtel Founder: **Sunil Bharti Mittal**

### 3. World Bank approves \$1 Billion to support India's Health Sector



- The World Bank has approved **two complementary loans of \$500 million each to enhance and support India's health sector.**
- This \$1 Billion financing will **support India's flagship Pradhan Mantri-Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM).**
- This scheme was launched in October 2021.
- Aim of scheme: To improve the **public healthcare infrastructure across**

the country.

- Loan prioritize states: **Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Meghalaya, Odisha, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, and UP.**

### 4. Bank deposit growth slows down in March 2022: RBI

- As per the Reserve Bank of India data, the **growth of bank deposit has moderated to 10% in March 2022 as compared with 11.9% in 2021.**
- **Current, savings and term deposits** have been increased by **10.9%, 13.3% and 7.9%**, respectively, during 2021-22.
- The share of **current account and savings account (CASA) deposits** has been increasing over the years and stood at **44.8% in March 2022 as compared with 41.7% three years ago.**

#### Key Points:

- **Metropolitan branches of banks** which account for over half of total deposits, accounted for **51.5 per cent in incremental deposits during 2021-22 (59.6 per cent in 2020-21).**
- The household sector held the dominant share (**62.6%**) in total deposits followed by non-financial corporations, general government, rest of the world and financial corporations, respectively.
- **Female depositors** accounted for **19.8%** of total deposits in March 2022; their share in

incremental bank deposits during 2021-22 increased to **34.3%** from **15.2%** in the previous year, the central bank further said in a statement.

- **Large-size deposits** with assets of Rs 1 crore and above have nearly **40%** share in total term deposits.
- **Seven states, viz., Maharashtra, National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, and Gujarat,** together accounted for **63.3%** of bank deposits.

Source: ET

### 5. CRISIL reduces India's FY23 GDP growth estimate to 7.3% from 7.8%

- **Crisil** has cut the real **GDP growth forecast for India to 7.3% in FY23 from 7.8%.**
- **Reason:** The downward revision to higher oil prices, slowing of export demand and high inflation.
- The **RBI has also estimated 7.2% real GDP growth** for this fiscal year.
- Inflation has been pegged to average at 6.8% in FY23 as against 5.5% in FY22, it reduces the purchasing power of consumers.
- **World Bank GDP forecast for FY23: 7.5%**
- **CRISIL CEO: Amish Mehta**





### About CRISIL:

- The full form of **CRISIL** is **Credit Rating Information Services of India Limited**. **CRISIL** is an **Indian consulting firm offering ratings, analysis, risk and policy advice and is a branch of S&P Global, an American corporation**.
- It was India's first credit rating body, **founded in 1988 by ICICI & UTI** by the incoming share capital of SBI, LIC and United India Insurance Company.
- In **April 2005, US-based credit score firm S&P bought the bulk of the company's shares**.

### Operations of CRISIL

- CRISIL 's analysis and solution help the creditors, borrowers, lenders, and authorities to find the correct financial decision.
- It enables consumers to assess the risk as well as produce more revenue by determining the accurate service, product and pricing decisions
- It also facilitates economic development in rising markets by influencing public infrastructure policies in such areas
- The CRISIL insists incompetence, transparency, working together and honesty.
- CRISIL 's mission is to include critical views, prosecutable knowledge, as well as a positive solution.

## 6. Government set up FSIB, a sole entity for bank board appointments



- The Central government has decided to set up **Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB)** as a single entity for **appointments of Wholtime Directors and Non-Executive Directors in public sector banks (PSBs), public sector insurers (PSIs) and financial institutions (FIs)**.

- This new entity will be **headed by former Chairman of Banks Board Bureau, Bhanu Pratap Sharma for two years**.

- The Cabinet committee, headed by the **Prime Minister has approved the establishment of FSIB**.

### About Financial Services Institutions Bureau?

- The Financial Services Institutions Bureau will select the chiefs of public sector banks and insurance companies.
- The FSIB will have the clear mandate to issue guidelines and select general managers and directors of state-run non-life insurers, general insurers and Financial Institutions.
- FSIB will be the single entity for making recommendations for appointments of WTD (Whole-time Director) and NEC (Non-executive Chairman) in Public Sector Banks,

India Private Limited company and Financial Institutions.

- The Department of Financial Services shall first carry out necessary modifications in the Nationalised Banks (Management and Miscellaneous Provisions) Scheme of 1970/1980 (as amended).
- The Banks Board Bureau (BBB) has its genesis in the recommendations of 'The Committee to Review Governance of Boards of Banks in India, May 2014 (Chairman - P. J. Nayak)'.

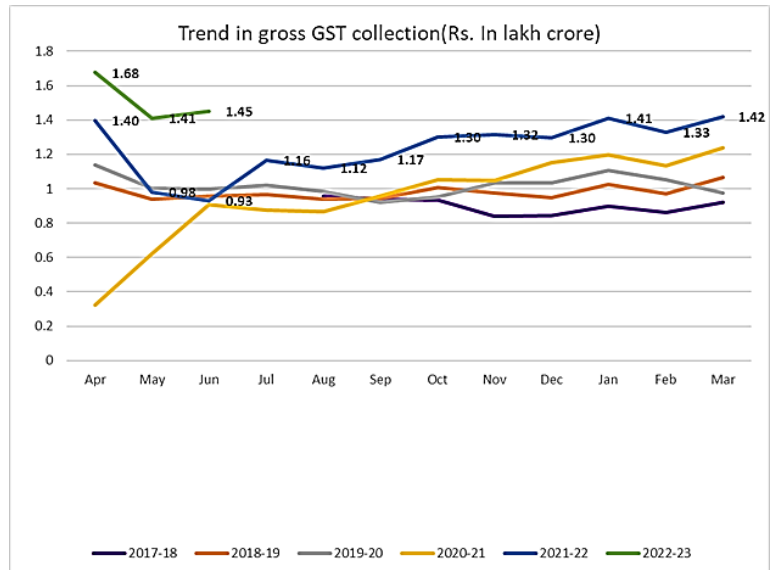
*Source: Indian Express*

## 7. GST collections increased to Rs 1.44 lakh cr in June 2022

- **Collection of Goods and services tax (GST) in June 2022 has jumped to 56% year-on-year to touch Rs 1,44,616 crore.**
- The GST collection raised due to economic recovery and anti-evasion drives such as action against fake billers.
- The mop-up in June 2021 had stood at Rs 92,800 crore.



- This is the **second-highest collection ever, after the April 2022 mop-up of Rs 1,67,540 crore.**
- CGST: Rs 25,306 crore; SGST: Rs 32,406 crore; IGST: Rs 75,887 crore and cess is Rs 11,018 crore.
- Speaking at the **GST Day celebrations on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman** said that within five years of its rollout, **GST was showing its potential.** “The gross GST revenue collection for the month of June is **Rs 1,44,616 crore, 56% rise** from the same month last year. So the trend that was being talked about, we are now reversing that and showing that GST revenues remain above Rs 1.40 lakh crore. So, Rs 1.40 lakh crore is the rough bottom line, we are not going below that. **We will remain above that,**” she said.



Source:ET

## 8. Deutsche Bahn becomes world's first intermodal partner of Star Alliance



- **Deutsche Bahn (DB)** is ready to become the world's **first Intermodal Partner of Star Alliance.**
- Under the new partnership, the DB customers and passengers of Star Alliance member airlines will be able to **start or end their journey comfortably on the climate-friendly train.**
- **Germany is the first market and DB is the world's first partner** in the new **Star Alliance initiative.**

- This partnership between **DB and Star Alliance** builds on the **Lufthansa Express Rail programme.**

### About Star Alliance

- In **1997**, five airlines from the **Americas, Europe and Asia** founded **Star Alliance** as the **first global aviation alliance**, dedicated to international travel innovation and providing customers a seamless journey.
- Today, **Star Alliance comprises 26 member airlines**, each with its own distinctive culture and style of service. Alliance members come together at **over 50 global hubs** to offer smooth connections across a world-leading global network.
- A management company based in **Frankfurt, Germany, and Singapore**, coordinates Star Alliance projects and activities, which include airport co-location, digital infrastructure, frequent flyer integration, joint business lounge projects, and other services to improve the travel experience.
- **Jeffrey Goh, CEO**
- **Scott Kirby, Chairman**
- **Headquarter: Frankfurt am Main, Hesse, Germany**



## 9. AIIB to establish an Interim Operational Hub in Abu Dhabi



- The **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)** has approved the establishment of an **Interim Operational Hub (its first overseas office in Abu Dhabi)**.
  - The hub will provide AIIB with a strong platform to enable effective supervision of its growing investment portfolio.
  - India is the **second-largest shareholder in AIIB after China**.
- **Reason:** UAE was chosen as the location keeping in mind its **connectivity with many of the 105 members of the bank**.

### Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)

- A **multilateral development bank** with a mission to improve **social and economic outcomes in Asia**.
  - Aims to connect **people, services and markets** that over time will impact the lives of billions and build a better future by investing in sustainable infrastructure and other productive sectors.
  - It is established by the **AIIB Articles of Agreement (entered into force December 2015)** which is a multilateral treaty.
- Headquarter: **Beijing (China)**
  - Began its operations in **January 2016 with 57 founding Members** (37 regional and 20 non regional).
  - By the end of 2020, it had **103 approved Members** representing approximately **79% of the global population and 65% of global GDP**.
  - **Jin Liqun** is the current **President of AIIB**.

## 10. RBI sets up system to settle international trade payments in rupees

- RBI has announced a system for the **domestic traders to settle imports and exports in rupees**.
- This system will **promote the global trade growth with an emphasis on exports from India and will support the increasing interest of the global trading community in the domestic currency**.
- This decision was came after, the rupee touching record lows against the dollar.
- The **Special Vostro Accounts** can be used for payments for projects and investments.

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## IMPORTANT ONE LINERS QUESTIONS (July 2022)

### Important News – India

1. Which institutes in Gujarat have been upgraded to a central university and renamed as the Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya \_\_\_\_\_ **National Rail and Transportation Institute.**
2. Which department of government has set up a committee in developing a framework for the 'Right to Repair' \_\_\_\_\_ **Department of Consumer Affairs.**
3. Paper Import Monitoring System will come into effect from \_\_\_\_\_ **1st October 2022.**
4. Name the new mobile app that has been launched by UIDAI to perform face authentication through mobile app from anywhere and at any time \_\_\_\_\_ **AadhaarFaceRd.**
5. Which organisation has joined hands with Google and a not-for-profit body Indian Society of Agribusiness Professionals (ISAP), to set up a call centre named "DigiVaani Call Center" \_\_\_\_\_ **Nasscom Foundation.**
6. What is the total length of the Bundelkhand Expressway, inaugurated by PM Narendra Modi at Kaitheri village in Orai tehsil of Jalaun district in UP \_\_\_\_\_ **296KM.**
7. According to the Ministry of Education's National Institutional Ranking Framework, Which institution has bagged the top spot among educational institutions in the country for the 4th consecutive year \_\_\_\_\_ **IIT Madras.**
8. Which city has been declared as the first Cultural and Tourism Capital of the SCO for 2022-23 \_\_\_\_\_ **Varanasi.**
9. According to the National Statistical Office, which state/UT has recorded the most number of unmarried youth was observed in 2019 \_\_\_\_\_ **Jammu & Kashmir.**
10. The flagship scheme of Women and Child Development (WCD) Ministry, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao will now be extended across the country, was launched in which year \_\_\_\_\_ **2015.**
11. Which ministry has issued detailed guidelines for 'Mission Shakti' scheme that came into effect from April 1st, 2022 \_\_\_\_\_ **Ministry of Women and Child Development.**
12. What is the name of the mascot, launched by the Department of Consumer Affairs for empowering consumers and generating awareness about their rights \_\_\_\_\_ **Jagriti.**
13. Which organisation has launched the Mapping and Exchange of Good Practices initiative for mainstreaming millets in Asia and Africa in association with the World Food Programme \_\_\_\_\_ **NITI Aayog.**
14. Which port has become first 100% Landlord Major Port of India, all berths is being operated on public-private partnership (PPP) model \_\_\_\_\_ **Jawaharlal Nehru Port.**
15. The Centre has set up a Committee on Minimum Support Price under the chairmanship of \_\_\_\_\_ **Sanjay Agrawal (Former Agriculture Secretary).**
16. Which state has been topped category of major states in Niti Aayog's third innovation index \_\_\_\_\_ **Karnataka.**
17. India has signed an MoU on wildlife conservation and sustainable biodiversity utilization for reintroducing the cheetah in India with which country \_\_\_\_\_ **Namibia.**
18. Name the India's first passenger drone, launched by PM Narendra Modi \_\_\_\_\_ **Varuna.**
19. Union Minister for Road Transport, Nitin Gadkari has inaugurated the Savner-Dhapewada-Goundkhairi section of National Highway 547-E in which city \_\_\_\_\_ **Nagpur.**
20. With the addition of five new wetlands, then what is the total number of Ramsar sites in the India \_\_\_\_\_ **54.**
21. Which country has signed an MoU with India, for judicial cooperation to speed up the court digitization and boost prospects for IT companies & start-ups in both countries, that has been approved by Union Cabinet \_\_\_\_\_ **Maldives.**
22. Which organisation has partnered with Talgo with an aim to manufacture high speed trains in India \_\_\_\_\_ **BF Infrastructure.**
23. Which edition of Agricultural Census (2021-22) has been launched by Union Minister for





Agriculture, Narendra Singh Tomar with an aim to provide information on a variety of agricultural parameters at a relatively minute level \_\_\_\_\_ **13th**.

**24.** Who has addressed the inaugural session of the first All India District Legal Services Authorities (DLSA) meeting conducted by National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) \_\_\_\_\_ **Narendra Modi**.

**25.** Along with Ola Electric and Rajesh Exports, which company has signed an agreement to build battery cells under the Indian government's Rs 18,000 crore incentive program \_\_\_\_\_ **Reliance New Energy**.

### **New Appointments**

**1.** Who has been recommended by the Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB) as Managing Director at the National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID) \_\_\_\_\_ **G Rajkiran Rai**.

**2.** Who has been appointed as the new managing director and CEO of the National Stock Exchange for five years \_\_\_\_\_ **Ashish Kumar Chauhan**.

**3.** Who has been given the additional charge as the new Governor of Bengal, after the resignation of Jagdeep Dhankhar \_\_\_\_\_ **Manipur Governor, La Ganesan**.

**4.** Who has been appointed as the BCCI's ethics officer and ombudsman \_\_\_\_\_ **Vineet Saran (Justice)**.

**5.** Who has been appointed as the chairman of Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) \_\_\_\_\_ **Manoj Kumar**.

**6.** Who has been sworn-in as the eighth president of Sri Lanka at the parliament premises before Chief Justice Jayantha Jayasuriya \_\_\_\_\_ **Ranil Wickremesinghe**.

**7.** Who has been elected as the 15th President of India, after securing 64% of the votes \_\_\_\_\_ **Droupadi Murmu**.

**8.** Who has been appointed as acting president of the International Hockey Federation (FIH) after the resignation of Indian administrator Narinder Batra from the post \_\_\_\_\_ **Seif Ahmed (Egypt)**.

**9.** Who has been appointed as the new Prime Minister of Sri Lanka along with 17 other cabinet ministers \_\_\_\_\_ **Dinesh Gunawardena**.

**10.** Who has been appointed as a new Chief Economist and Senior Vice President for Development Economics of World Bank, will be effective September 1, 2022 \_\_\_\_\_ **Indermit Gill**.

**11.** Ahmad Nawaf Al Ahmad Al Sabah has been appointed as the Prime Minister of which country \_\_\_\_\_ **Kuwait**.

**12.** Who has been sworn-in as the President of the Republic of Albania and becomes the ninth president of the country \_\_\_\_\_ **Bajram Begaj**.

### **Important News – State**

**1.** Pushkar Singh Dhama has launched an e-FIR service and the state police app. He is a CM of which state of India \_\_\_\_\_ **Uttarakhand**.

**2.** Chairman of National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), Uday Umesh Lalit has launched the country's first AI-powered digital Lok Adalat during the 18th All India Legal Services Authorities' meet held in which state \_\_\_\_\_ **Jaipur, Rajasthan**.

**3.** Bonalu is a popular hindu festival celebrated in which state of India \_\_\_\_\_ **Telangana (Hyderabad and Secunderabad)**.

**4.** Which state CM has launched a scheme named 'Swanirbhar Naari', to empower indigenous weavers \_\_\_\_\_ **Himanta Biswa Sarma (CM of Assam)**.

**5.** Which state has become the first state in India to connect all registered commercial vehicles equipped with Vehicle Location Tracking Device (VLTD) with Emergency Response Support System (ERSS) \_\_\_\_\_ **Himachal Pradesh**.

**6.** Which state has launched a scheme Deen Dayal Upadhyaya State Employees Cashless Medical Scheme \_\_\_\_\_ **Uttar Pradesh**.

**7.** Name the Chief Minister of Jharkhand, who has launched Jharkhand Tourism Policy 2022, to prepare a roadmap for tourism to thrive in the state \_\_\_\_\_ **Hemant Soren**.



8. Which state government has approved the proposal for the creation of Barak Bhuban Wildlife Sanctuary (second wildlife sanctuary) in Barak Valley \_\_\_\_\_ **Assam**.
9. Which state cabinet has gave their approval to the state Employment Policy 2022-25' for increasing job opportunities in the state \_\_\_\_\_ **Karnataka**.
10. Union home minister, Amit Shah has launched an e-FIR filing system in which state to enable citizens to file FIRs online, without visiting a police station \_\_\_\_\_ **Gandhinagar**.
11. The Asian Development Bank has approved \$96.3 million loan for safe drinking water and sanitation project to which state \_\_\_\_\_ **Himachal Pradesh**.
12. Name the application based system, that has been launched by Haryana CM for police attendance and real-time monitoring of patrolling by personnel in Gurugram \_\_\_\_\_ **'Smart E-Beat'**.
13. Which state has become the first state to launch a Semiconductor Policy 2022-27, with an aim to boost manufacturing of semiconductors in the state \_\_\_\_\_ **Gujarat**.
14. Which government is set to launch its own e-taxi service named 'Savari' from August \_\_\_\_\_ **Kerala**.
15. Which state chief minister has announced to roll out a breakfast scheme for state-run school children of Classes 1 to 5 \_\_\_\_\_ **Tamil Nadu CM, M K Stalin**.
16. Which state Women Commission has organised 'Mukhyamantri Mahtari Nyay Rath Yatra' to make the women of the state aware of their constitutional rights and laws \_\_\_\_\_ **Chhattisgarh**.

#### **Important News – World**

1. Which country's government has launched an "Aviation Passenger Charter" with an aim to help passengers know their rights \_\_\_\_\_ **British government**.
2. Which state and city have been listed among the TIME magazine 50 extraordinary destinations to

explore the World's Greatest Places of 2022 \_\_\_\_\_ **Kerala and Ahmedabad**.

3. Which IT organisation has signed an agreement to acquire life sciences consulting and tech firm BASE life science for up to \$€ 110\$ million in an all cash deal \_\_\_\_\_ **Infosys**.
4. Which country has topped the Expat Insider Rankings for 2022 published by the InterNations \_\_\_\_\_ **Mexico**.
5. According to the Forbes' Real-Time Billionaires List, who has become the world's 4th richest person with the net worth of \$115.5 billion \_\_\_\_\_ **Gautam Adani (Chief of Adani Group)**.
6. According to the 2022 Henley Passport Index from Henley & Partners (an immigration consultancy), what is the rank of India on the list of world's most powerful passports \_\_\_\_\_ **87th**.
7. Which organisation has announced that it will introduce a new app named, 'Viva Engage' in Teams with an aim to build community and connection, along with providing tools for personal expression \_\_\_\_\_ **Microsoft**.
8. According to a World Health Organisation report, how much amount has been received by India as remittances in 2021 and becomes the top remittance recipient \_\_\_\_\_ **\$87 billion**.
9. India has contributed how much amount to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) \_\_\_\_\_ **USD 2.5 million**.
10. Name the mountaineer which has become the first Bangladeshi to scale the second highest mountain peak K2, that is administered by Pakistan) \_\_\_\_\_ **Wasifa Nazreen**.
11. According to the Airports Council International, published World Airport Traffic Dataset, what is the rank of Delhi Airport on the list of the world's busiest airports for 2021 \_\_\_\_\_ **13th**.
12. Which country has launched gold coins named "Mosi-oa-Tunya' to control an inflation spike that has eroded the country's unstable currency \_\_\_\_\_ **Zimbabwe**.



13. According to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index, who has become the richest women in Asia with \$11.3 billion fortune \_\_\_\_\_ **Savitri Jindal (72, Indian)**.

### Honor & Awards

1. Who has been conferred with the Mother Teresa Memorial Award for 2021 \_\_\_\_\_ **Dia Mirza and Afroz Shah**.
2. Which organisation has bagged the Sardar Patel Outstanding ICAR Institute Award 2021 (in the Large Institute Category) for its overall performance \_\_\_\_\_ **The National Academy of Agricultural Research Management**.
3. Who has won the prestigious Global Energy Prize for outstanding contributions to transportation electrification and energy efficiency technologies while reducing power generation emissions \_\_\_\_\_ **Kaushik Rajashekara**.
4. Name the actor who has won the 68th National Film Awards 2022 for the best actor along with Ajay Devgn \_\_\_\_\_ **Suriya (for Soorarai Pottru)**.
5. Name the actor, who has received the prestigious Golden Visa from the UAE government for 10 years \_\_\_\_\_ **Kamal Haasan**.
6. Who has been awarded the Sir Winston Churchill Leadership Award by United Kingdom PM, Boris Johnson has presented for his efforts at the time of war \_\_\_\_\_ **Volodymyr Zelenskyy (Ukrainian President)**.
7. Dinesh Shahra Foundation (DSF) has instituted a first-of-its-kind 'Dinesh Shahra Lifetime Award' for Excellence in which field \_\_\_\_\_ **Music**.
8. Name the Canadian scholar, who has been awarded with the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) 2021 Distinguished Indologist for his outstanding contribution in study, teaching and research in any of the fields of Indian Studies \_\_\_\_\_ **Jeffrey Armstrong**.

### Sports News

1. Who has clinched the silver medal with best throw of 88.13m, in the javelin throw final at 2022 World Championships, Eugene, Oregon \_\_\_\_\_ **Neeraj Chopra**.

2. Name the women cricketer, who has announced her retirement from all forms of Cricket \_\_\_\_\_ **Karuna**.

3. The Indian Olympic Association announced a 322-strong contingent including 215 athletes and 107 officials and support staff for the upcoming Birmingham Commonwealth Games. Who is the chief of the mission \_\_\_\_\_ **Rajesh Bhandari**.

4. In which year Tokyo will host the World Athletics Championships \_\_\_\_\_ **2025**.

5. Who has won the Paracin Open 'A' chess tournament 2022 in Serbia \_\_\_\_\_ **R Praggnanandhaa**.

6. Who has lifted first Super 500 title of her career after defeating reigning Asian champion, Wang Zhi Yi of China by 21-9, 11-21, 21-15 in the final of the Singapore Open \_\_\_\_\_ **P V Sindhu**.

7. Who has clinched the gold with an aggregate of 157kg (69kg+88kg), in the women's 45kg gold at the Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championship in Tashkent, Uzbekistan \_\_\_\_\_ **Harshada Garud**.

8. Ben Stokes, who has announced his retirement from ODI cricket belongs to which cricket team \_\_\_\_\_ **England**.

9. Lleyton Hewitt was inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame, as part of the 2021 class, belongs to which country \_\_\_\_\_ **Australia**.

10. Who has won the 2022 French Grand Prix \_\_\_\_\_ **Max Verstappen (Red Bull)**.

11. Which country will host 2025 ICC Women's ODI World Cup \_\_\_\_\_ **India**.

12. Who were named as the India's flag bearer for the opening ceremony of the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games \_\_\_\_\_ **PV Sindhu (badminton player) and Manpreet Singh (Indian men's hockey team captain)**.

13. Which edition of FIDE Chess Olympiad held in Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium, Chennai, Tamil Nadu \_\_\_\_\_ **44th**.

14. Name the Indian women weightlifter, who has claimed first gold medal for India in the Women's 49Kg event at Birmingham 2022 CWG \_\_\_\_\_ **Saikhom Mirabai Chanu**.



15. Who has clinched the title of the 2022 Hungarian Grand Prix \_\_\_\_\_Max Verstappen (Red Bull).
16. Gustav McKeon has become the youngest male player to score consecutive international hundreds in the T20 World Cup 2024, belongs to which country \_\_\_\_\_ **France.**

**Science and Defence**

1. Which space-tech start-up company has opened its Rocket Factory-1, India's first-ever rocket facility dedicated to 3D printed rocket engines at scale \_\_\_\_\_ **Agnikul Cosmos.**
2. Which company has launched a Biodiversity Sensor Project, a biodiversity monitoring technology in association with IIT Ropar \_\_\_\_\_ **Syngenta India.**
3. Name the SpaceX Cargo Dragon spacecraft has launched from "launch complex 39A" of the Kennedy Space Centre \_\_\_\_\_ **CRS-25**
4. Dunagiri has been launched into the Hooghly river at Garden Reach Shipbuilders and

Engineers Limited, Kolkata, is a frigate of which class \_\_\_\_\_ **Project 17A.**

5. Name the INS, kilo-class submarine which has been decommissioned by the Indian Navy \_\_\_\_\_ **INS Sindhudhvaj.**
6. Name the challenge, launched by PM Modi with an aim to boost the usage of indigenous technology in the Indian Navy \_\_\_\_\_ **'SPRINT challenges'.**
7. Which country has successfully launched the Wentian laboratory module (23-tonne), second space module to its permanent space station \_\_\_\_\_ **China.**
8. Which country will withdraw from the International Space Station (ISS) after 2024 \_\_\_\_\_ **Russia.**
9. A Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) has been conducted between Indian Navy and Maritime Self Defense Force of which country \_\_\_\_\_ **Japan.**
10. Which fighter jets will be retired by the Indian Air Force by 2022 September \_\_\_\_\_ **MiG-21.**





## CURRENT AFFAIRS TOP 50 MCQs: JULY 2022

- Maryna Viazovska, who becomes the second woman to receive the 2022 Fields Medal for mathematics, is belong to which country?**
  - Russia
  - Iran
  - France
  - Ukraine
- Which of the following states has been ranked third in the first edition of the State Ranking Index for the National Food Security Act?**
  - Odisha
  - Meghalaya
  - Chandigarh
  - Andhra Pradesh
- MoS, Jitendra Singh has launched a Testbed for Autonomous Navigation named TiHAN at IIT Hyderabad. What does 'H' stand for, in 'TiHAN'?**

A. Heat	B. Hub
C. Hydro	D. Human
- Michelle Poonawalla has received the prestigious Shiromani Award at NRI World Summit 2022, that was organised in which of the following countries?**
  - France
  - Brazil
  - USA
  - United Kingdom
- Name the first ALH Squadron, that has been commissioned by the Indian Navy at the INS Dega, Visakhapatnam?**
  - INAS 125
  - INAS 532
  - INAS 076
  - INAS 324
- Name the Indian American women who have not been included in the 2022 eighth edition of Forbes' list of America's richest self-made women?**
  - Jayshree V Ullal
  - Neerja Sethi
  - Neha Narkhede
  - Leena Nair
- Rahul Narwekar has become the youngest Speaker of which state's Legislative Assembly after defeating Rajan Salvi?**
  - Delhi
  - Rajasthan
  - Bihar
  - Maharashtra
- Danish badminton player, Viktor Axelsen has won the the 2022 Malaysia Open title by defeating \_\_\_\_\_.**
  - Kento Momota
  - Takuro Hoki
  - Yugo Kobayashi
  - Kanta Tsuneyama
- Which of the following state-owned enterprises has been recognized as the "Most Preferred Workplaces of 2022", by the Team Marksmen in association with India Today?**

A. NHPC	B. NTPC
C. GAIL	D. SAIL
- Which of the following states has been recognized as the 'Best Performer State' for the third time in a row in the States' Startup Ranking 2021?**
  - Karnataka
  - Gujarat
  - Madhya Pradesh
  - Odisha



11. Who among the following has been appointed as the President of Paris-based Financial Action Task Force (FATF)?
- A. Anoop Birthara  
B. Rakesh Bansal  
C. Michael Raj S  
D. T Raja Kumar
12. Who among the following has been awarded the CII Quality Ratna Award 2021 for his contribution to building the competitiveness of the Indian industry?
- A. Ashok Soota  
B. Subroto Bagchi  
C. Azim Premji  
D. Debashis Chatterjee
13. What is the theme of International Day of Cooperatives Day 2022, which is observed annually on the first Saturday of July?
- A. Rebuild Better Together  
B. Cooperatives Build a Better World  
C. Cooperatives for Climate Change  
D. Coops for Decent Work
14. After replacing Naftali Bennett, who among the following has become the 14th prime minister of Israel?
- A. Ayelet Shaked  
B. Avigdor Lieberman  
C. Yair Lapid  
D. Gideon Sa'ar
15. Which of the following Indian cities has been ranked 103 in the QS Best Student Cities Ranking 2023?
- A. Delhi  
B. Chennai  
C. Pune  
D. Mumbai
16. In which of the following cities, the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi has virtually inaugurated Bosch India's first smart campus?
- A. Mumbai  
B. Noida  
C. Bengaluru  
D. Visakhapatnam
17. Name the Director of All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), who has been honoured with the Ayurveda Ratna Award by the UK Parliament? (July 2022)
- A. Mustehasan Saifi  
B. Pritha Mehra  
C. Seema Jain  
D. Tanuja Nesari
18. Who among the following has been crowned Femina Miss India World 2022?
- A. Rubal Shekhawat  
B. Shinata Chauhan  
C. Sini Shetty  
D. Lekh Uthaiyah
19. Who among the following has won the maiden Formula One British Grand Prix 2022 at Silverstone?
- A. Max Verstappen  
B. Sergio Pérez  
C. Carlos Sainz  
D. Fernando Alonso
20. Vivek Express holds the title of the longest train route in the country, in terms of distance and time, covers how many states of India?
- A. 10  
B. 15  
C. 9  
D. 14
21. Who among the following has been sworn in as the new Chief Minister of Maharashtra, after replacing Uddhav Thackeray?
- A. Devendra Fadnavis  
B. Eknath Shinde  
C. Sharad Pawar  
D. Raj Thackeray



22. Who among the following Javelin throwers has won the gold medal with a best throw of 90.31 meters at the prestigious 2022 Diamond League meet in Stockholm?
- A. Anderson Peters  
B. Keshorn Walcott  
C. Neeraj Chopra  
D. Kirani James
23. Eoin Morgan has announced his retirement from international cricket, he was associated with which of the following cricket team?
- A. Australia  
B. South Africa  
C. England  
D. New Zealand
24. Name the satellite vehicle that has been launched by the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022, carrying three satellites of Singapore?
- A. INSAT-2DT  
B. NISAR  
C. INSAT 3DS  
D. PSLV-C53
25. Who among the following has become the second Indian to get featured on the “wall of former chief economists” of the International Monetary Fund (IMF)?
- A. Raghuram Rajan  
B. V Anantha Nageswaran  
C. Gita Gopinath  
D. Poonam Gupta
26. Who among the following has been elected as the President Designate of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) for 2022-23?
- A. Sanjiv Puri  
B. Uday Kotak  
C. Vikram S. Kirloskar  
D. R Dinesh
27. Who among the following has become the full-time Sherpa of G20 after replacing Minister for Commerce & Industry and Consumer Affairs, Piyush Goyal?
- A. Montek Singh Ahluwalia  
B. Amitabh Kant  
C. Arvind Panagariya  
D. Suman Bery
28. Which company has announced the launch of Startup School India (SSI) as part of its Startups initiative?
- A. Flipkart  
B. Amazon  
C. Google  
D. Facebook
29. The First floating terminal of India for liquefied natural gas (LNG) is expected to be operational in which of the following states in 2022?
- A. Saurashtra, Gujarat  
B. Jaigarh, Maharashtra  
C. Kochi, Kerala  
D. Haldia, West Bengal
30. Which of the following railway companies will become the world's first Intermodal Partner of Star Alliance to make the long journey of passengers comfortable?
- A. Indian Railways  
B. FlixTrain  
C. Swiss Federal Railways  
D. Deutsche Bahn
31. Shinzo Abe, who passed away recently, was a former Prime Minister of which of the following countries?
- A. South Korea  
B. Japan  
C. South Africa  
D. Myanmar



32. Who among the following has been appointed as Force Commander of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS)?
- A. Lt Gen Shailesh Tinaikar
  - B. Lt Gen Gurbirpal Singh
  - C. Lt Gen Satish R Iyer
  - D. Lt Gen Mohan Subramanian
33. Which of the following country has signed a five years agreement to pay equally to the male and female cricketers at both international and domestic level?
- A. Australia
  - B. New Zealand
  - C. West Indies
  - D. India
34. Who among the following has been appointed as a president of Association of Indian Universities?
- A. Pranjal Basu
  - B. Indrajeet Gupta
  - C. Suranjan Das
  - D. H S Banyal
35. Which state government has launched the "Single-Use Plastic Buy Back Scheme" to inculcate a habit among the youngsters towards environment conservation?
- A. Uttar Pradesh
  - B. Jharkhand
  - C. Bihar
  - D. Himachal Pradesh
36. Huge reserves of uranium have been found at Rohil in which state of India?
- A. Andhra Pradesh
  - B. Jharkhand
  - C. Rajasthan
  - D. Maharashtra
37. Rafael Nadal won 22 Grand Slam titles by winning the French Open men's single title 2022, this is his \_\_\_\_\_ French open title?
- A. 11<sup>th</sup>
  - B. 12<sup>th</sup>
  - C. 13<sup>th</sup>
  - D. 14<sup>th</sup>
38. Who has been appointed as United Nations Secretary-General's envoy on technology?
- A. Amandeep Singh Gill
  - B. Vijay Gokhale
  - C. Gautam Bambawale
  - D. Vikram Misri
39. PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the headquarters of the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe) at \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. Ahmedabad
  - B. Bengaluru
  - C. Pune
  - D. Hyderabad
40. Which country has released a new geological map of the moon, which it says is the most detailed to date?
- A. USA
  - B. Israel
  - C. China
  - D. Japan
41. Name the Indian Grandmaster who won the Norway Chess Group A open chess tournament?
- A. Sankalp Gupta
  - B. Raja Rithvik
  - C. R Praggnanandhaa
  - D. Nihal Sarin
42. Manpreet Kaur is associated with which sport who sets a new National Record in the Inter-State Athletics Meet in Chennai?
- A. Swimming
  - B. Gymnastic
  - C. Shot Put
  - D. Discus Throw
43. Marizanne Kapp, who has been named for the International Cricket Council (ICC), Player of June 2022, belongs to which of the following countries?
- A. England
  - B. South Africa
  - C. New Zealand
  - D. Australia





- 44. Which of the following companies has unveiled India's first indigenously developed lithium-ion cell?  
A. Ather Energy  
B. StoreDot  
C. Hero MotoCorp  
D. Ola Electric
- 45. Name the Indian shooter who won the men's 10m air rifle gold medal at ISSF World Cup in South Korea?  
A. Arjun Babuta  
B. Paarth Makhija  
C. Divyansh Singh Panwar  
D. Saurabh Chaudhary
- 46. PM Modi has unveiled the 6.5 metre-tall National Emblem on top of the new triangular parliament building, which was created by \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. Bimal Patel and Sunil Deore  
B. Poonam Chaudhary and Manoj Sharma  
C. Vinay Lokhande and Rahul Rajput  
D. Sunil Deore and Laxman Vyas
- 47. Narayanan Kumar, who has received the 'Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star'

- award from the government of Japan, is a Vice-Chairperson of which organization?  
A. Tamilnadu Petroproducts Limited  
B. Sanmar Group  
C. Tata Chemicals  
D. Manali Petrochemical
- 48. Who among the following has bagged the Mrs Universe Divine Crown in South Korea 2022?  
A. Ana Siradze  
B. Zhuldyz Abdukarimova  
C. Honey Cho  
D. Pallavi Singh
- 49. Novak Djokovic has won his 7th Wimbledon 2022 and 21<sup>st</sup> Grand Slam title after defeating \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. Matthew Ebden  
B. Max Purcell  
C. Nikola Mektić  
D. Nick Kyrgios
- 50. Droupadi Murmu, who has recently been elected as the 15th President of India, belongs to which of the following tribal communities?  
A. Bhil  
B. Ghara  
C. Kharia  
D. Santha

###ANSWERS###

1. D	2. D	3. B	4. D	5. D	6. D	7. D	8. A	9. B	10. B
11. D	12. A	13. C	14. C	15. D	16. C	17. D	18. C	19. C	20. C
21. B	22. A	23. C	24. D	25. C	26. D	27. B	28. C	29. B	30. D
31. B	32. D	33. B	34. C	35. D	36. C	37. D	38. A	39. A	40. C
41. C	42. C	43. B	44. D	45. A	46. D	47. B	48. D	49. D	50. D



## DAYS TO REMEMBER JULY 2022

DATE	IMPORTANCE	THEMES
1 <sup>st</sup> July	<b>National Doctor's Day</b>	<i>"Family Doctors on the Front Line"</i>
2 <sup>nd</sup> July	<b>International Day of Cooperatives</b>	<i>"Cooperatives for building a people-centred and environmentally just recovery"</i>
4 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>American Independence Day</b>	<i>(Foundation of the United States of America and liberation from British rule)</i>
6 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>World Zoonoses Day</b>	<i>"Let's Break the Chain of Zoonotic Transmission"</i>
11 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>World Population Day</b>	<i>"A world of 8 billion: Towards a resilient future for all – Harnessing opportunities and ensuring rights and choices for all"</i>
12 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>World Malala day</b>	<i>(Malala Yousafzai's birthday)</i>
17 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>World Day for International Justice</b>	<i>"Achieving Social Justice through Formal Employment"</i>
18 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>Nelson Mandela International Day</b>	<i>"Do what you can, with what you have, where you are"</i>
28 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>World Nature Conservation Day</b>	<i>"Forests and Livelihoods: Sustaining People and Planet"</i>
29 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>International Tiger Day</b>	<i>"India launches Project Tiger to revive the tiger population"</i>



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