

The background of the cover features a blurred image of a student with glasses sitting at a desk, using a laptop. The student's hands are visible, one holding a blue pen and the other on the keyboard. The image is partially obscured by a large purple and orange graphic element on the left side.

IBPS RRB 2022 Mains Exam

GK Tornado PDF (Capsule)

GK-Tornado for IBPS RRB OS-1 & Clerk Mains Exam 2022

Dear Aspirants,

This **GK Tornado** is a complete docket of important **Banking Awareness & Current Affairs news** and events that occurred in the last **4.5 months (1st May 2022 to 15th September 2022)**. This file is important and relevant for all competitive exams like the IBPS RRB officer & Clerk exam 2022.

News related to RBI

(1st to 14th September 2022)

1. **RBI imposes fine on three entities for failing to comply**

Note: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposes fine on three entities: Three organisations, including Industrial Bank of Korea, have received fines from the Reserve Bank for breaking regulations. The Reserve bank of India announced that Industrial Bank of Korea has been fined Rs 36 lakh for failing to follow several Know Your Customer (KYC) guidelines.

2. **HDFC Bank, Precision selected by RBI for retail payments test phase**

Note: The Reserve Bank of India has announced that HDFC Bank (in partnership with Sweden-based Crunchfish Aktiebolag) and Precision Biometric India Pvt. Ltd has been selected for the test phase for their 'offline retail payments' and

'InnaIT Key Solution for Banking' products under the 'On Tap' application facilities for the theme 'Retail Payments' under the Regulatory Sandbox.

3. **RBI to release "fraud registry" blacklist with details of Scammers**

Note: To help it keep repeat offenders out of the banking system, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is developing a Fraud Registry blacklist. According to Executive Director Anil Kumar Sharma, the fraud registry would record data such as IP (internet protocol) addresses and phone numbers frequently used to commit fraud. Banks would be able to report these details to Reserve Bank of India (RBI) through a mechanism that would be developed. That will assist RBI in stopping these criminals from abusing the financial system to commit fraud after fraud after fraud.

August 2022

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2. **Bank credit rise expedites 14.2% in the June 2022 quarter: RBI**

Note: The Bank credit growth increased from 6% in the quarter that ended in June 2021 to 14.2% in the quarter that concluded in June 2022 as per the data released by the Reserve Bank of India. The Bank credit has increased by 10.8% in the three months that ended in March 2022. The last five quarters have seen a consistent 9.5 to 10.2% annual growth in aggregate deposits.

3. **American Express Praises RBI's Decision to Ease Restrictions**

Note: American Express Banking Corp. praised the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) decision to ease restrictions on the firm so that it may accept new domestic clients as the consequence of the company's large local investments in technology, infrastructure, and resources. American Express applauded RBI's choice to remove the limitations on it. American Express will now be able to add new

Indian clients to its card network thanks to the easing of the embargo.

4. RBI Cancels Licence Of Deccan Urban Co-operative Bank

Note: The RBI said the licence of Deccan Urban Co-operative Bank, Karnataka, has been cancelled as the lender does not have adequate capital and earning prospects. As per the data submitted by the bank, more than 99 per cent of the depositors are entitled to receive the full amount of their deposits from Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC), the central bank said in a release.

5. Reserve Bank Of India's 1st Set Of Digital Lending Norms

Note: All digital loans must be disbursed and repaid through bank accounts of regulated entities only, without pass-through of loan service providers (LSPs) or other third parties, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said in its long-awaited guidelines for the segment. The guidelines, aimed at curbing rising malpractices in the digital lending ecosystem, follow the recommendations of a working group for digital lending, whose report was made public in November 2021. "The concerns primarily relate to the unbridled engagement of third parties, mis-selling, breach of data privacy, unfair business conduct, charging of exorbitant interest rates, and unethical recovery practices," the RBI said in the final guidelines.

6. RBI cancelled the license of Rupee Co-operative Bank, Pune

Note: The Reserve Bank of India has cancelled the licence of Pune-based Rupee Co-operative Bank Ltd as the lender does not have adequate capital and earning prospects. However, the RBI said that in compliance to an order of the High Court of Bombay, its direction will become effective after six weeks. Consequent to the cancellation of its licence, 'Rupee Co-operative Bank Ltd, Pune' stands prohibited from conducting the business of banking which includes, among other things, acceptance of deposits and repayment of deposits with effect from September 22, 2022.

7. RBI authorises HR subsidiary of SBI to manage cost effectively

Note: The Reserve Bank of India preliminary approved the operations and support subsidiary of State Bank of India (SBI). The subsidiary will likely be staffed by a group of employees who will be hired by the arm on a contract basis and will initially focus on managing branches in rural and semi-urban areas. Recruits made by State Bank

Operations Support Services may not be qualified for the benefits, according to sources.

8. RBI Imposes ₹2.33 Cr Monetary Penalty On Spandana Sphoorty Financial

Note: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a monetary penalty of ₹2.33 crore on Hyderabad-based Spandana Sphoorty Financial Ltd for its failure to adhere to the pricing of credit guidelines for Non-Banking Financial Company – Micro Finance Institutions (NBFC-MFIs). RBI had conducted statutory inspections of the company, a NBFC- MFI, with reference to its financial position as on March 31, 2019 and March 31, 2020. Examination of the Risk Assessment Report, Inspection Reports, supervisory letters and all related correspondence revealed that the company's failure to adhere to pricing of credit guidelines for NBFC-MFI, according to the central bank's statement.

9. 4th RBI Monetary Policy review: Repo rate raised by 50 bps

Note: The Reserve Bank of India has retained its retail inflation forecast for the current fiscal year at 6.7 per cent. It has increased the policy repo rate under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) by 50 basis points to 5.40 per cent with immediate effect. RBI hiked the policy repo rate for the third time in a row. The Reserve Bank of India's Monetary Policy Committee is headed by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das. The next meeting of the rate-setting panel is scheduled for September 28-30, 2022.

Current Policy Rates: August 2022

Policy Repo Rate	5.40%
Reverse Repo Rate	3.35%
Marginal Standing Facility Rate	5.15%
Bank Rate	5.15%

10. RBI permitted use of INR for foreign commerce invoices and payments

Note: Bhagwat Kisanrao Karad, the Union Minister of State for Finance, informed the Rajya Sabha that the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has permitted foreign trade invoices and payments to be made in the Indian Rupee. By means of a circular titled International Trade Settlement in Indian Rupees (INR) that was published on July 11, 2022, the central bank has permitted payments for international trade in the Indian currency.

11. RBI permitted bidders for IDBI Bank to own more than 40%

Note: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI), as perceived by the Union Government and Life Insurance Companies (LIC), has reportedly accepted the center's request to permit non-financial institutions and unregulated entities to own more than 40 percent stake in IDBI Bank and to sell between 51 and 74 percent of the lender through a strategic divestment process. As the Union government and

Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) look to sell 51–74% of the lender through the strategic divestment process, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has agreed to the Centre's request to permit non-financial institutions and non-regulated entities to own more than 40% of IDBI Bank. Through a tactical divestiture, the government and LIC intend to sell 51–74 percent of the lender.

July 2022

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2. **RBI approves Piramal Enterprises' establishment of NBFC**

Note: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has given the organisation permission to begin conducting business as an NBFC to Piramal Enterprises. The licence is required to start an NBFC that does not accept public deposits. RBI has granted the company a certificate of registration allowing it to start operating as a non-banking financial institution without taking deposits from the general public. The company gained agreement from the shareholders to demerge its pharmaceuticals division and streamline its corporate structure, the RBI granted its approval. The company paid Rs 34,250 crore to buy Dewan Housing Finance (DHFL).

3. **RBI approves Open, Cashfree Payments, PayNearby and Fairexpay for Cross-Border Payments**

Note: The Reserve Bank of India gave the go-ahead to Open, Cashfree Payments, PayNearby & Fairexpay, providers of payments and API banking solutions, for its cross-border payments offering. Cross-border payments are the focus of the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) announcement about the Second Cohort's release from the Regulatory Sandbox. The reserve bank chose four of the eight entities that were a part

of the Test Phase. These companies include the unicorn of neobanking, Open, as well as Cashfree Payments, PayNearby, and Fairexpay. These entities have all successfully passed the second cohort's Test Phase.

4. **Urban Cooperative Banks 4-tier regulatory structure adopted by RBI**

Note: In order to improve the financial soundness of Urban Co-operative Banks (UCBs), the RBI has decided to create a straightforward four-tiered regulatory framework. A panel of experts led by former RBI deputy governor N S Vishwanathan had presented a number of suggestions for improving UCBs. In addition to other recommendations, the committee had suggested a four-tiered regulatory structure depending on the size of the banks' deposits and the regions in which they operated.

5. **Govt and RBI policies aid banks to recover bad loans of Rs. 8.6 lakh crore in 8 fiscal years**

Note: The administration informed Parliament that concrete actions taken by the RBI and government assisted banks in recovering bad loans of more than Rs 8.6 lakh crore over the course of the previous eight fiscal years. Non-performing assets (NPAs) are a natural, albeit unfavourable, corollary of the banking industry, according to Minister of State for Finance Bhagwat Karad in a written response to the Lok Sabha.

6. **RBI imposed penalty of Rs 1.67 cr on Ola Financial Services for non-compliance provisions**

Note: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 1.67 crore on Ola Financial Services Private Limited for non-compliance with certain provisions related to pre-paid payment instruments and Know Your Customer norms. The penalty has been imposed in the exercise of powers vested in RBI under Section 30 of the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.

7. **Federal Bank and Bank of India penalized by RBI for breaking regulatory obligations**

Note: Due to shortcomings in regulatory compliance, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) fined Federal Bank

Rs 5.72 crore. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) (financial services provided by banks) Directions, 2016 has strict penalties for violations. Federal Bank did not make sure that the insurance company did not compensate any of its employees providing corporate agency or insurance broking services with incentives (cash or non-monetary).

8. RBI chooses Hansa Research Group to conduct fieldwork of inflation anticipation survey

Note: In order to undertake field research for the July 2022 cycle of the consumer confidence and inflation anticipation surveys, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced that it had chosen to partner with the Mumbai-based Hansa Research Group. It is now known that M/s Hansa Research Group Pvt.Ltd., Mumbai has been hired to conduct field work for the July 2022 round of the two surveys on behalf of the Reserve Bank of India, the RBI said in a statement. This follows press releases announcing the launch of the consumer confidence survey (CCS) and inflation expectation survey of households (IESH), both dated June 30, 2022.

9. RBI imposes monetary penalty on IndusInd Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank

Note: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 1.05 crore and Rs 1 crore on Kotak Mahindra Bank and IndusInd Bank, respectively, for deficiencies in regulatory compliance. RBI's these penalties are based on deficiencies in regulatory compliance and are not intended to pronounce upon the validity of any transaction or agreement entered into by the bank with its customers.

10. RBI modifies the rules for banknote sorting and authentication

Note: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) published guidelines ordering banks to test their currency sorting equipment every three months. Following the release of the new series of banknotes, the central bank updated the preexisting standards for authentication and sorting. The Reserve Bank stated that vendors will need to re-calibrate the equipment in the event of inconsistencies during the sorting.

11. Banks' gross non-performing assets reached six-year low of 5.9%: RBI

Note: In March 2022, banks' gross non-performing asset (GNPA) ratio decreased to a six-year low of 5.9 percent from a high of 7.4 percent in March 2021, according to the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) most recent Financial Stability Report (FSR). According to stress testing, the GNPA ratio of commercial banks may go from 5.9% in March 2022 to 5.3 percent by March 2023 due, among other things, to higher-than-anticipated bank loan growth and a downward trend in the stock of GNPA's, according to the research.

12. Credit card spending exceeded Rs. 1.13 billion in May: RBI

Note: May saw credit card spending reach an all-time high of \$1.14 trillion, indicating that the retail sector is doing well. According to Reserve Bank of India data, credit card spending increased 118 percent annually and 8 percent monthly as a result of strong e-commerce spending, high-value travel and tourism spending, and discretionary purchases.

June 2022

1. RBI approves SBI's establishment of operations support subsidiary

Note: The Reserve Bank of India has given the State Bank of India preliminary approval for its proposed operations support subsidiary, which aims to reduce the cost-to-income ratio. Before introducing the new subsidiary across India, the bank will soon begin a pilot programme in a select areas. Dinesh Kumar Khara, the chairman of SBI, said that a subsidiary for operations assistance is being established. It aims to allay the worry over the cost to income ratio. They already have RBI's in-principle permission, and we'll be starting a trial programme soon.

2. RBI delays implementation of provisions for issuing credit and debit cards

Note: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) extended the deadline for implementing a number of the master directives it issued on the issuance of debit cards and

credit cards. by three months, from July 1, 2022 to October 1, 2022. The following Master Direction provisions will now go into effect on October 1, 2022 the central bank announced in a circular. This decision was made after taking into account various comments from industry stakeholders.

3. Millath Co-operative Bank's licence suspended by the RBI

Note: Millath Co-operative Bank Ltd., Davangere, Karnataka, had its licence suspended by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), resulting in a capital shortage. As a result, the bank's banking operations will come to an end at the end of the day. According to a press release from the RBI, the Registrar of Cooperative Societies in Karnataka has also been asked to issue an order winding up the bank and appoint a liquidator.

4. RBI's 'Payments Vision 2025' aims for a three-fold increase in digital payments

Note: The Reserve Bank's Payments Vision 2025 plan, which wants to triple the volume of digital payments, is progressive, according to industry players, and intends to build India as a worldwide payments powerhouse. In light of rising geopolitical threats, the RBI released its Payments Vision 2025 document, which discusses ring-fencing domestic payment networks, as well as the necessity to enforce domestic processing of payment transactions.

5. RBI raises limit of e-mandates for transactions up to Rs 15,000

Note: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has raised the Additional Factor of Authentication (AFA) limit from Rs 5,000 to Rs 15,000 per transaction for e-mandates on cards, Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPIs) and Unified Payments Interface (UPI) for recurring transactions. It implies, additional authentication will not be need for payment of Rs 15,000 per transaction.

6. RBI lifted the restrictions on Mastercard 2022

Note: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) relaxed the limitations placed on Mastercard Asia/Pacific Pte Ltd on onboarding new domestic clients. For non-compliance with RBI standards for data storage in India, Mastercard has been barred from onboarding new domestic users (debit, credit, or prepaid) onto its card network as of July 22, 2021. The RBI had given Mastercard almost three years to comply with the regulatory directives, but it was unable to do so.

7. OmniCard becomes 1st RBI licensed PPI to launch cash withdrawal across all ATMs PAN India

Note: Payment solution provider, OmniCard has announced that it became the 1st RBI licensed PPI (prepaid payment instrument) to launch cash withdrawal using a RuPay-powered card from any ATMs across the country. The move came in after RBI permitted the non-bank licensed entities to enable cash withdrawals from the digital wallets. OmniCard users can withdraw cash from any ATM at their convenience with full security from frauds like card theft, card cloning, and PIN skimming as the withdrawal facility comes with high safety & secure

features and protects the user from exposing their money and bank account details. The company worked with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) team to enable the facility.

8. RBI increased individual housing loan limit for co-operative banks

Note: Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to increased the existing limits on individual housing loans provided by cooperative banks, taking into account the rise in housing prices since the limits were last revised and considering customers' needs for larger loans. RBI has also permitted the Rural Cooperative Banks (RCB) for financing residential real estate projects, in a bid to support affordable housing and inclusive growth.

9. RBI cancelled licence of Mudhol Co-op Bank, Bagalkot, Karnataka

Note: The Reserve Bank of India has cancelled the licence of "The Mudhol Co-operative Bank Limited, Bagalkot (Karnataka)", thus restricting it from repayment of deposits and acceptance of fresh funds. The bank does not have adequate capital and earning prospects, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said while announcing the cancellation of licence. RBI also said that bank with its present financial position would be unable to pay its present depositors in full.

10. RBI announces results of 1st Global Hackathon "HARBINGER 2021"

Note: The Reserve Bank of India had launched its first global hackathon - "HARBINGER 2021 - Innovation for Transformation" with the theme 'Smarter Digital Payments' which was communicated. The hackathon received encouraging response with 363 proposals submitted by teams from within India and from 22 other countries including the USA, UK, Sweden, Singapore, Philippines, and Israel. The Hackathon ran in three phases with shortlisting of proposals in the first phase, solution development in the second phase followed by the final evaluation in the third phase.

May 2022

1. RBI reduces net-worth requirement for non-bank Bharat Bill Payment units

Note: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has eased norms for non-bank entities to set up Bharat Bill Payment operating units by reducing the net-worth requirement to Rs 25 crore, with a view to encouraging more players in the segment. At present, a net worth of Rs 100 crore is required to obtain authorisation for a non-bank BBPOU (Bharat Bill

Payment Operating Units). The reduction in net-worth requirements follows an announcement regarding the same by the central bank in April.

2. RBI formed a six-member group to examine customer service standards

Note: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) established a six-member committee to assess and review customer services in regulated firms with the goal of safeguarding customers' interests. The committee will

also examine the adequacy of customer service standards and provide recommendations to improve customer service, according to a statement from the banking regulator. The six-member committee will also assess the effectiveness of customer service regulations and make recommendations for improvements.

3. **RBI authorises a surplus transfer to the Central Government of Rs 30,307 crore**

Note: The Reserve Bank of India has sanctioned a surplus transfer to the Central Government of 30,307 crore rupees for the fiscal year 2021-22. The Reserve Bank of India's Central Board of Directors met for the 596th time in Mumbai, under the chairmanship of Governor Shaktikanta Das, to adopt the Reserve Bank's Annual Report and Accounts for the year. The board agreed to keep the Contingency Risk Buffer at 5.50 percent after examining the present economic condition, global and domestic issues, and the effect of recent geopolitical developments.

4. **Public sector banks' frauds down 51% to Rs 40,295 crore in FY22: RBI**

Note: The Reserve Bank of India has said that public sector banks reported over a 51 per cent fall in the amount involved in frauds to Rs 40,295.25 crore during the financial year 2021-22 (FY22). As many as 12 PSBs (Public Sector Banks) had reported frauds worth Rs 81,921.54 crore in the preceding fiscal 2020-21, the central bank said in response to an application under the Right to Information (RTI) Act. However, the number of fraud cases didn't fall at the same pace as a total of 7,940 frauds reported by the PSBs in 2021-22, against 9,933 incidents reported in FY21, said the RBI's reply to Madhya Pradesh-based RTI activist Chandrashekhar Gaur.

5. **RBI imposed Rs 59 lakh penalty on KEB Hana Bank**

Note: Reserve Bank of India has imposed a penalty of Rs 59 lakh on the Korean bank, KEB Hana Bank for non-compliance with certain norms related to 'interest rates on deposits. The Korean bank has been penalised for non-compliance with the directions issued by RBI on "Reserve Bank of India (Interest Rate on Deposits) Directions, 2016".

6. **RBI restricts withdrawals from Shankarrao Pujari Nutan Nagari Sahakari Bank, Kolhapur**

Note: RBI has imposed several restrictions on Shankarrao Pujari Nutan Nagari Sahakari Bank Limited, Kolhapur, including on withdrawals, in view of the lender's worsening financial position. However, 99.84 per cent of the depositors are fully covered by the DICGC insurance scheme. Under the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC) insurance scheme, deposits of up to Rs 5 lakh are insured.

7. **RBI allows banks to lend to NBFCs for priority sector loans on an on-going basis**

Note: RBI has decided to allow banks to lend to NBFCs for on-lending to priority sectors on an on-going basis. Small finance banks are also allowed to continue on-lending to NBFC-MFIs. This facility was earlier allowed till March 31, 2022. Now, bank credit to NBFCs, including housing finance companies (HFCs), for on-lending to priority sectors will be allowed up to an overall limit of 5% of an individual banks' total priority sector lending. Similarly, small finance banks will be allowed up to an overall limit of 10% of an individual bank's total priority sector lending. These limits shall be computed by averaging across four quarters of the financial year, to assess the compliance to the prescribed cap. Small finance banks will be allowed to lend to registered NBFC-MFIs and other MFIs who have a gross loan portfolio of up to Rs 500 crore as of March 31 of the previous financial year.

8. **RBI hikes repo rate by 40 bps in an emergency meet**

Note: Recently, the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) held an unscheduled meeting and made some important announcements. The MPC unanimously decided to increase the policy repo rate under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) by 40 basis points to 4.40% with immediate effect. Other Rates are as follows:

- ❖ Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) rate: 4.15%.
- ❖ Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) rate: 4.65%.
- ❖ Bank Rate: 4.65%.
- ❖ Cash reserve ratio hiked by 50 bps to 4.5% effective May 21.
- ❖ Reverse Repo Rate: 3.35%

9. **Rajiv Ranjan has been appointed as MPC ex-officio member by RBI**

Note: The central board of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) approved the appointment of executive director Rajiv Ranjan as an ex-officio member of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC). Ranjan will be succeeding Mridul Saggur, who is understood to have retired. The MPC has six members. There are three officials who are from the RBI and there are three external members who are nominated by the central government. This committee's chairperson is the Governor of the RBI. The MPC was first proposed by the Urjit Patel Committee. This committee came into existence on 27th June 2016.

10. **RBI's Report on Currency and Finance**

Note: According to recent Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) Report on Currency and Finance (RCF), the Indian economy may take more than a decade to overcome the losses caused by the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic. The theme of the report is "Revive and

Reconstruct" in the context of nurturing a durable recovery post-Covid-19 and rising trend growth in the medium-term. According to the report, the Indian economy is likely to take over 12 years to overcome the COVID-19 losses. Taking the actual growth rate of (-) 6.6% for 2020-21, 8.9% for 2021-22, and assuming a growth rate of 7.2% for 2022-23, and 7.5% beyond that, India is expected to overcome COVID-19 losses in 2034-35.

11. India's foreign exchange reserves drop by \$1.7 billion: RBI

Note: According to Reserve Bank of India (RBI) data, India's forex reserves declined by USD 1.774 billion to USD 595.954 billion for the week ended May 6 on the back of a fall in the core currency assets. In the previous reporting week, the overall reserves had declined by USD 2.695 billion to USD 597.728 billion. The fall in the reserves was on account of a decline in the Foreign Currency Assets (FCA), a major component of the overall reserves, and gold reserves, as per RBI's weekly data.

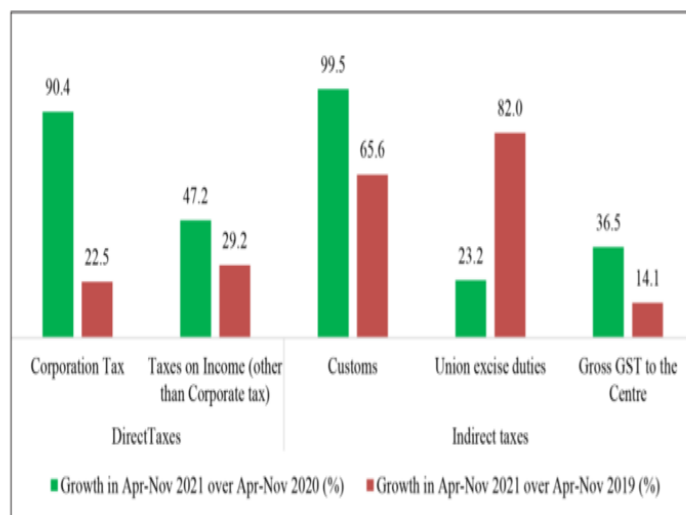
Highlights Economic Survey 2021-22

1. State of the Economy

- Government's flexible and multi-layered approach is partly based on "Agile" framework that uses feedback-loops for monitoring of real-time data.
- For this, govt use eighty **High Frequency Indicators (HFIs)** in an environment of extreme uncertainty.
- As per first advance estimate, Indian economy is estimated to grow by 9.2% in real terms in 2021-22, subsequent to a contraction of 7.3% in 2020-21.
- GDP projection: **Growth of 8% to 8.5% in real terms in 2022-23.**
- As per IMF's latest World Economic Outlook, India's real GDP is projected to grow at 9% in 2021-22 and 2022-23 and at 7.1% in 2023-2024, making India the fastest growing major economy in the world.
- **Sectoral Trends:**
 - **Agriculture and allied sectors:** It is expected to grow by 3.9% in 2021-22
 - **Industry:** It will grow by 11.8% in 2021-22
 - **Services sector:** It will grow by 8.2% in 2021-22.
- Consumption is estimated to grow by 7.0% on demand side.
- **Gross Fixed Capital Formation (GFCF):** to grow by 15%.
- Exports will grow by 16.5% and imports by 29.4% in 2021-22.
- **India's Consumer Price Index inflation:** 5.6% YoY in December 2021.
- Economic impact of "Covid's second wave" was much smaller than that during the full lockdown phase in 2020-21, though health impact was more severe.
- Government opted to use safety-nets for vulnerable sections on one hand while responding iteratively based on Bayesian-updating of information.

2. Fiscal Developments

- **Revenue receipts** during April to November, 2021 have increased by **67.2%** (YoY) as against an expected growth of **9.6%** in the 2021-22 Budget Estimates.
- **Gross Tax Revenue:** It shows growth of over 50% during April to November, 2021 in YoY terms.



- Tax performance is strong as compared to pre-pandemic levels of 2019-2020.
- Gross monthly collections of GST have crossed 1 lakh crore mark consistently since July 2021.
- During April-November 2021, **capital expenditure has grown by 13.5%** (YoY), with focus in infrastructure-intensive sectors.
- Fiscal deficit for April-November 2021 has been contained at 46.2% of BE.
- Central Government debt is increased from **49.1%** of GDP in 2019-20 to **59.3%** of GDP in 2020-21.

3. External Sectors:

- India's merchandise exports and imports has rebounded strongly and surpassed pre-COVID levels during current financial year.
- Current account balance of India turned into deficit of 0.2% of GDP in the first half (H1) of 2021-22.
- **Net capital flows:** US\$ 65.6 billion in the first half of 2021-22, on account of continued inflow of foreign investment, revival in net external commercial borrowings, higher banking capital and additional special drawing rights (SDR) allocation.
- **India's external debt** increased from US \$ 556.8 billion in 2020 to US \$ 593.1 billion at end-September 2021.
- Foreign Exchange Reserves touched US \$ 633.6 billion as of December 31, 2021.
- On November 2021, India was the fourth largest forex reserves holder in the world, after China, Japan and Switzerland.
- Top export destinations in April-November 2021: **USA followed by UAE and China.**
- Largest import sources for India in April-November, 2021: **China, UAE and USA.**
- **Major Schemes & Initiatives to boost exports:**
 - Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP)
 - Developing District as Export Hub
 - Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for 14 sectors.
 - Electronic Platform for Preferential Certificate of Origin (CoO)
 - Infusion of capital in EXIM Bank
 - Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India (ECGC)
 - Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) Scheme
 - Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES)
 - Market Access Initiatives (MAI)
 - Special Economic Zone (SEZ) scheme

4. Monetary Management and Financial Intermediation:

- **Repo rate** was maintained at **4% in 2021-22.**
- RBI took various measures like **G-Sec Acquisition Programme** and **Special Long-Term Repo Operations** to provide liquidity in the market.
- **Bank credit growth** accelerated gradually from 5.3% in April 2021 to 9.2% as on 31st December 2021.
- **Gross Non-Performing Advances ratio of Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs)** declined from 11.2% at the end of 2017-18 to 6.9% in September, 2021.
- **Net Non-Performing Advances ratio** declined from 6% to 2.2%.

- **Capital to risk-weighted asset ratio of SCBs** increased from **13% in 2013-14 to 16.54% in September 2021.**
- Return on Assets and Return on Equity for Public Sector Banks remain positive for the period ending September 2021.
- During April-November 2021, Rs. 89,066 crore was raised via 75 Initial Public Offering (IPO) issues.
- Sensex and Nifty touched peak at 61,766 and 18,477 respectively in October, 2021.

5. Prices and Inflation:

- **Average headline CPI-Combined inflation** decreased to 5.2% in 2021-22 (April-December) from 6.6% in 2020-21.
- Decline in retail inflation was due to ease of food inflation.
- Food inflation averaged at a low of 2.9% in 2021-22 as against 9.1% in 2020-21.
- Measures were taken to control price rise in pulses and edible oils.
- Reduction in central excise and subsequent cuts in Value Added Tax by most States eased petrol and diesel prices.
- **Wholesale inflation based on Wholesale Price Index (WPI)** rose to 12.5% during **April to December 2021-22.**
- Divergence between CPI-C and WPI Inflation has been observed, that can be explained by factors like:
 - Variations due to base effect
 - Difference in scope and coverage of the two indices
 - Price collections
 - Items covered and difference in commodity weights.

6. Sustainable Development and Climate Change:

- India's score on the NITI Aayog SDG India Index and Dashboard: 66 in 2020-21. The rank was 60th in 2019-20
- **Number of Front Runners (scoring 65-99):** 22 States and UTs in 2020-21
- Across North East India, 64 districts were Front Runners and 39 districts were Performers in the NITI Aayog North-Eastern Region District SDG Index 2021-22.
- India has tenth largest forest area across the world.
- India ranked 3rd globally in increasing its forest area during 2010 to 2020.
- Forest covers 24% of India's total geographical, that accounts for 2% of the world's total forest area.
- Compliance status of Grossly Polluting Industries (GPIs) in the Ganga and its tributaries improved from 39% in 2017 to 81% in 2020.
- **New Measures:**

- Plastic Waste Management Amendment Rules, 2021, was notified to phase out single use plastic by 2022
- Draft regulation on Extended Producer Responsibility for plastic packaging was notified.
- PM Modi announced ambitious targets to be achieved by 2030 to enable further reduction in emissions at COP26 in Glasgow in November 2021
- 'LIFE' (Lifestyle for Environment) movement was underlined.
- India continued significant climate leadership at **International Solar Alliance (ISA), Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) and Leadership Group for Industry Transition (LeadIT Group)**.

7. Agriculture and Food Management:

- Agriculture sector registered growth of **3.6% in 2020-21** and **3.9% in 2021-22**.
- **Minimum Support Price (MSP) policy** to promote crop diversification is used extensively.
- Net receipts from crop production have increased by 22.6% in the recent Situation Assessment Survey (SAS) compared to SAS Report of 2014.
- **Livestock sector** has grown at CAGR of 8.15% over the last five years. It has been a stable source of income across groups of agricultural households accounting for about 15% of average monthly income.
- Government also facilitated food processing measures like subsidized transportation and support for formalization of micro food enterprises.
- India runs one of the largest food management programmes in the world.
- Government has extended coverage of food security network through schemes like **PM Gareeb Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY)**.

8. Industry and Infrastructure:

- **Index of Industrial Production (IIP):** It grew at 17.4% (YoY) during April-November 2021.
- **Capital expenditure for Indian railways** increased to Rs. 155,181 crores in 2020-21 and it has been budgeted to further increase to Rs. 215,058 crores in 2021-22, which is five times increase in comparison to 2014 level.
- Extent of road construction per day increased 30.4% to 36.5 Kms per day in 2020-21 from 28 Kms per day in 2019-20.
- Net profit to sales ratio of large corporates reached an all-time high of 10.6% in July-September 2021-22.
- Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme gave major boost to physical as well as digital infrastructure, along with measures to reduce transaction costs and improve

ease of doing business, would support the pace of recovery.

9. Services:

- Overall service Sector GVA is expected to grow by 8.2% in 2021-22.
- GVA of services crossed pre-pandemic level in July-September 2021-22 but GVA of contact intensive sectors like trade, transport, etc. still remain low.
- During first half of 2021-22, service sector received over US\$ 16.7 billion FDI, that accounts for almost 54% of total FDI inflows into India.
- IT-BPM services revenue reached US\$ 194 billion in 2020-21, adding 1.38 lakh employees.
- Major government reforms in this:
 - removing telecom regulations in IT-BPO sector
 - opening up of space sector to private players.
 - 100% FDI flow in telecom sector.
- **Start-ups:**
 - India has become 3rd largest start-up ecosystem of the world after US and China.
 - New recognized start-ups increased from 733 in 2016-17 to over 14000 in 2021-22.
 - A total of 44 Indian start-ups bagged unicorn status in 2021 taking overall tally of unicorns to 83.

10. Social Infrastructure and Employment:

- **Covid vaccination:**
 - Union Budget 2021-22 has allocated 35,000 crore for procurement of vaccines under COVID-19 Vaccination Program.
 - 156.76 crore doses of COVID-19 vaccines has been registered as on 16th January 2022
 - With this, 93% of 18 year and above aged persons have been vaccinated with first dose and about 70% with second dose.
- As per quarterly Periodic Labour Force Survey (PFLS) data, employment in urban sector affected by pandemic has recovered almost to the pre-pandemic level.
- Gross enrolment ratio in higher education reached 27.1% in 2019-20.
- **Expenditure on social services (health, education and others)** by Centre and States as a proportion of GDP increased to 8.6% in 2021-22 (BE)
- As per **National Family Health Survey-5:**
 - **Total Fertility Rate (TFR)** came down to 2 in 2019-21 from 2.2 in 2015-16
 - **Infant Mortality Rate (IMR)** improved.
 - 83 districts have become 'Har Ghar Jal' districts under Jal Jeevan Mission.
 - Increased allotment of funds to Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment

Guarantee Scheme (MNREGS) to provide buffer for unorganized labor in rural areas during Covid.

11. Tracking Development through Satellite Images & Cartography

- The Economic Survey 2021-22 saw plethora of information from satellites, drones, mobile phones and other sources.
- The chapter saw India's night-time luminosity comparison between 2012 and 2021 using satellite images.
- Maps have been created by combining satellite data over the course of 12 month period in each year.

- Components included under this:
 - Physical as well as financial infrastructure development in India.
 - Expansion of national highways, airports, commercial bank branches, metros, etc.
 - Change in net sown area of India over the last 15 years.
 - Comparison of Kharif crop cycle in Moga district, Punjab during 2005 and 2021.
 - Shift of Kharif sowing cycle by around two-to-three weeks causing the Kharif harvest to almost coincide with Rabi sowing in November.
 - Population density of select Indian cities
 - Wasteland redeployment in Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat.

Highlights of Union Budget 2022-23

Pillars of Union Budget 2022-23

Union Budget 2022-23 comprises of **four Pillars**:

- PM Gati Shakti
- Inclusive development
- Productivity Enhancement & Investment, Sunrise Opportunities, Energy Transition, and Climate Action
- Financing of investments

Union Budget 2022-23 will lay special focus on youth, women, farmers, and the backward classes.

India's growth is estimated to be at 9.27%.

India at 75 to India at 100

Union Budget 2022-23 seeks to lay foundation, providing blueprint of economy over 'Amrit Kal' of next 25 years from India at 75 to India at 100.

Capital Expenditure

- Effective Capital Expenditure (CapEx) of Central Government is estimated at Rs 10.68 lakh crore in 2022-23
- It is about 4.1% of GDP.
- FY23 CapEx target: **Rs 7.50 lakh crores.**

Fiscal Deficit

- Fiscal Deficit for FY22 is pegged at 6.9% from 6.8% in FY21.

- Fiscal deficit target for Fiscal Year 2022-23 (FY23): 6.4% of GDP, which is above expectations.

Four Pillar Approach

PM Gati Shakti Masterplan

- It is a **National Master Plan for Multi-modal Connectivity** that intends to bring together 16 infrastructure related Ministries.
- PM Gati Shakti will encompass 7 engines for multi-modal connectivity to facilitate faster movement of people & goods including railways, roads, ports, airways, etc.
- It will enrich the economy, create jobs and opportunities for the youth.
- **Roadways:** National Highways (NH) Network to be expanded by 25000 Km in 2022-23 with Rs 20,000 crores finance mobilization.
- **Logistic Parks:** Four Multimodal Logistics Parks will be implemented through PPP mode in 2022-23
- **Railways:**
 - 'One Station One Product' to help local businesses & supply chains.
 - Railway network of 2000 Km to be brought under Kavach, indigenous world class technology and capacity augmentation in 2022-23.
 - 400 new generation Vande Bharat Trains to be manufactured in the next three years.
 - 100 Cargo Terminals under PM Gati Shakti will also be developed in the next few years.
- **Parvatmala (National Ropeways Development Program):** Contracts for 8 ropeway projects of 60 Km length will awarded in 2022-23 on PPP mode.

Inclusive Development

Farmers and Agriculture

MSP:

- Rs 2.37 lakh crores will be given as direct payment of MSP to farmers
- Procurement of wheat in Rabi season 2021-22 and estimated procurement of paddy in Kharif season 2021-22 will cover 1,208 lakh metric tonnes of wheat and paddy from 163 lakh farmers

Agriculture financing:

- Funds with blended capital raised under co-investment model to finance start-ups in agriculture and rural enterprises for farm produce value chain will be set up.
- They will be facilitated through NABARD

Agricultural Education: States will be encouraged to revise agricultural universities syllabi to meet needs of natural, zero-budget and organic farming, modern-day agriculture.

Use of drones:

- Drones will be used for crop assessment, digitization of land records, spraying of insecticides and nutrients.

Other Areas

- NABARD will provide funds to finance start-ups for agriculture and rural enterprise for the farm produce value chain.
- Chemical-free Natural Farming will be promoted.

Ken Betwa project

- **Outlay:** Rs 1400 crore.
- It will provide irrigational benefits to 9.08 lakh hectares of farmers' lands.

MSME

- Interlinking of Udyam, e-shram, NCS and ASEEM portals
- **Emergency Credit Linked Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS):**
 - Additional credit to 130 lakh MSMEs
 - It will be extended up to March 2023.
 - Guarantee cover to be expanded by Rs 50000 Crore to Rs 5 Lakh Crore.

- Additional credit of Rs 2 lakh crore for Micro and Small Enterprises to be facilitated under Credit Guarantee Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE).
- **Raising and Accelerating MSME performance (RAMP) programme** to be rolled out with outlay of Rs 6000 Crores.

Skill Development

- **Digital Ecosystem for Skilling and Livelihood (DESH-Stack e-portal)** will be rolled out
- Startups will be promoted for 'Drone Shakti' and Drone-As-A-Service (DrAAS).

Education

- **PM eVIDYA's 'One class-One TV channel' programme** to be expanded to 200 TV channels.
- Virtual labs and skilling e-labs to be set up.
- High-quality e-content to be developed for delivery through Digital Teachers.
- Digital University for world-class quality universal education to be established.

Health

- **National Digital Health Ecosystem platform** to be rolled out.
- **National Tele Mental Health Programme** for counselling and care services to be launched.
- Network of 23 tele-mental health centres of excellence will be set up, with NIMHANS as nodal centre and International Institute of Information Technology-Bangalore (IIITB) providing technology support.
- Two lakh anganwadis will be upgraded to Saksham Anganwadis.

Har Ghar, Nal Se Jal

- Outlay: **Rs. 60,000 crores.**
- Will cover 3.8 crore households in 2022-23

Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North-East Region (PM-DevINE)

- **Aim:** to fund infrastructure and social development projects in the North-East.
- Rs. 1,500 crores allocated initially.

Banking

- 5 lakh post offices to come under core banking system.

- Scheduled Commercial Banks to set up 75 Digital Banking Units in 75 different districts.

e-Passport

- e-Passports with embedded chip and futuristic technology features to be rolled out.

Urban Planning

- Modernization of building byelaws, Town Planning Schemes, and Transit Oriented Development will be implemented.
- Battery swapping policy will be rolled out

Land Records Management

- Unique Land Parcel Identification Number will be provided for IT-based management of land records.

Productivity Enhancement & Investment, Sunrise Opportunities, Energy Transition, and Climate Action

Accelerated Corporate Exit

- Centre for Processing Accelerated Corporate Exit (C-PACE) to be established

Telecom Sector

- Scheme for design-manufacturing to be launched strong for 5G as part of the Production Linked Incentive Scheme.

Export Promotion

- Special Economic Zones Act to be replaced with new legislation to enable States to become partners in 'Development of Enterprise and Service Hubs'.

Defence

- Sector observed 68% of capital procurement earmarked for domestic industry in 2022-23
- Defence R&D to be opened up for industry, startups and academia with 25% defence R&D budget earmarked.
- For meeting testing and certification requirements, Independent nodal umbrella body will be set up

Sunrise Opportunities

- Sunrise Opportunities: Artificial Intelligence, Geospatial Systems and Drones, Semiconductor and

its eco-system, Space Economy, Genomics and Pharmaceuticals, Green Energy, and Clean Mobility Systems.

- Govt will contribute to its R&D

Energy Transition and Climate Action:

- Additional allocation of Rs. 19,500 crores for Production Linked Incentive (PLI) for manufacture of high efficiency solar modules to meet 280 GW goal of installed solar power by 2030.
- 5 to 7% biomass pellets to be co-fired in thermal power plants that will reduce CO2 emission, provide extra income to farmers and help in avoiding stubble burning.
- Financial support to farmers belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for agro-forestry.

Financing of investments

Public Capital Investment

- Public investment continue to pump- private investment and demand in 2022-23.
- Outlay for capital expenditure stepped up by 35.4% to Rs. 7.50 lakh crore in 2022-23 from Rs. 5.54 lakh crore in the current year.
- Outlay in 2022-23 to be 2.9% of GDP.

Digital Rupee

RBI to introduce Digital Rupee in 2022-23.

GIFT-IFSC

- World-class foreign universities and institutions to be established in the GIFT City.
- International Arbitration Centre to be set up for timely settlement of disputes

Mobilising Resources

- Data Centres and Energy Storage Systems to be upgraded to infrastructure status.
- Venture Capital and Private Equity investment to be scaled up
- Blended funds to be promoted for sunrise sectors.
- Sovereign Green Bonds for mobilizing resources for green infrastructure to be issued

Greater Fiscal Space to States

- Enhanced outlay for ‘**Scheme for Financial Assistance to States for Capital Investment**’ from Rs. 10,000 crore in Budget Estimates to Rs. 15,000 crore in Revised Estimates for current year
- States will be allowed fiscal deficit of 4%, of which 0.5% will be tied to power sector reforms in 2022-23.

Tax Proposals

Direct Tax

- **New updated return:** Here people can file updated return within 2 years of filed IT Return.
- **Cooperative societies:**
 - Alternate minimum tax reduced for cooperatives from 18.5% to 15%.
 - Surcharge of cooperative societies reduced from 12% to 7% for those having income of more than 1 crore and up to Rs 10 crores.
- **Tax Benefits to startups:** Existing tax benefits for Startups to be extended by 1 more year till 2023.
- **Tax relief to persons with disability:** Payment of annuity and lump sum amount from insurance scheme to differently abled dependent during lifetime of parents/guardians, i.e., on parents/guardian attaining the age of 60 years.
- **Parity in National Pension Scheme (NPS) Contribution**
 - Tax deduction limit increased from 10% to 14% on employer’s contribution to the NPS account of State Government employees.
 - Brings them at par with central government employees.
- **Virtual digital assets:**
 - They will be taxed at 30%.
 - Loss from transfer of virtual digital asset cannot be set off against any other income.
 - TDS on payment made in relation to transfer of virtual digital asset is at the rate of 1%.
 - Gift of virtual digital asset will also to be taxed in the hands of the recipient.
- Tax incentives to IFSC:
 - Income of non-resident from offshore derivative instruments.
 - Income from over the counter (OTC) derivatives issued by an offshore banking unit.

- Income from royalty and interest on account of lease of ship.
- Income received from portfolio management services in IFSC.
- **Surcharge**
 - Surcharge on Association of Persons (AOPs) capped at 15%.
 - Surcharge on long term capital gains on transfer of any type of assets capped at 15%.
- **Health and Education Cess:** Any surcharge or cess on income and profits not allowable as business expenditure.
- **Discouragement against tax-evasion:** Budget discourages tax invasions and allow any loss against undisclosed income detected during search and survey operations.

Indirect Tax

- **GST:** GST revenues goes buoyant despite the pandemic. Gross GST collections for the month of January 2022 is Rs 1,40,986 crore, which is the highest since the inception of the tax in 2017
- **Special Economic Zones:** Customs Administration of SEZs to be fully IT driven and Customs National Portal will be implemented by 30th September 2022.
- Customs Reforms and duty rate changes
- Faceless Customs service has been fully established.
- Certain exemptions for advanced machineries that are not manufactured within India shall continue.
- Few exemptions introduced on inputs, like specialized castings, ball screw and linear motion guide will encourage domestic manufacturing of capital goods.
- More than 350 exemption entries to be gradually phased out.
- **Electronics:** Duty concessions to parts of transformer of mobile phone chargers and camera lens of mobile camera module and certain other items.
- **Gems and Jewellery:** Customs duty on cut and polished diamonds and gemstones has been reduced to 5% and Nil customs duty to simply sawn diamond.
- Customs duty exemption for steel scrap extended for one more year.
- Unblended fuel to attract an additional differential excise duty of Rs 2 per litre from 1st October 2022.

Summit and Conference

1-15 September 2022

1. Home Minister, Amit Shah inaugurated the 6th All India Prison Duty Meet

- Union Home Minister, Amit Shah has inaugurated 6th All India Prison Duty Meet in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
- It is a biennial event, organised by the Bureau of Police Research and Development.
- The event was attended by Gujarat Chief Minister, Bhupendra Patel and Minister of State for Home, Harsh Sanghavi.
- AIPDM was last organised in Ahmedabad in 2007, It was the second ever meeting
- He has also participated in the closing ceremony of 11th Khel Mahakumbh at TransStadia, Kankaria

2. Union Minister, Hardeep Singh Puri to attend Gastech Milan-2022

- Hardeep Singh Puri (Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister) has attended the Gastech Milan-2022 that scheduled to be held in Milan, Italy.
- The Minister will chair the “India Spotlight: Powering India’s energy industry - new avenues for a sustainable future” panel discussion.
- He will also participate in the select Ministerial Panel of the Opening Ceremony along with Egyptian Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources and State Secretary of Energy of Portugal.

3. First Homoeopathy International Health Summit held in Dubai

- The first edition of “World Health Summit for Pride of Homoeopathy” was held in Dubai with the theme “Diseases caused by climate change and global warming”.

- Aim: To educate and promote a homoeopathic system of medicine, drugs, and practices.
- The summit was organised by Burnett Homoeopathy Pvt Ltd
- Burnett Homoeopathy Pvt Limited deals with homoeopathic dilutions, mother tincture, lower trituration tablets and various other homoeopathic medicines.

4. India invites Bangladesh as guest country during its G-20 presidency

- The government of India has decided to invite Bangladesh, Egypt, Mauritius, Netherlands, Nigeria, Oman, Singapore, Spain and UAE as Guest Countries to take part in the G 20 meeting during its Presidency.
- International Organisations: UN, IMF, World Bank, WHO, WTO, ILO, FSB and OECD and AU, AUDA-NEPAD and ASEAN, ISA, CDRI and ADB.
- This is a part of the G20 tradition of inviting some Guest Countries and International Organisations (IO) to its meetings and summit.

5. PM Modi on a two-day visit to Uzbekistan to attend SCO Summit

- PM Narendra Modi is on two-day visit to Samarkand in Uzbekistan from September 15 to attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Summit.
- Mr. Modi has received an invitation from Uzbekistan President Shavkat Mirziyoyev.
- Agenda: To review the grouping's activities over the past two decades and discuss the prospects of multilateral cooperation.
- The SCO is an inter-governmental organisation founded in Shanghai in June 2001

August 2022

1. ITU's Regional Standardization Forum for Asia & Oceania region begins

- Regional Standardization Forum of International Telecommunication Union (ITU) for Asia and Oceania region has been started in New Delhi, hosted by Communications Ministry.

- Theme of 'Regulatory and Policy aspects of Telecommunications'.
- MoS for Communications, Devusinh Chauhan has inaugurated the Regional Standardization Forum.

- More than 250 delegates from 20 countries has been participated in the Forum, to provide an insight from policy and regulatory perspective.
- 2. HM Amit Shah to inaugurate National Conference of Rural Cooperative Banks**
- Union Home Minister, Amit Shah will inaugurate the National Conference of Rural Cooperative Banks.
 - It was organized by the Ministry of Cooperation and the National Federation of State Cooperative Banks.
 - He will also confer Performance Awards to select State Cooperative Banks, District Central Cooperative Banks, or PACS.
 - The short-term cooperative credit structure in India comprises 34 State Cooperative Banks, 351 District Central Cooperative Banks, and 96,575 PACS.
- 3. Election Commission of India hosts virtual Asian Regional Forum meet**
- The Election Commission of India (ECI) hosted a virtual meet of the 'Asian Regional Forum' at Nirvachan Sadan on August 11, 2022.
 - Theme: "Making our Elections Inclusive, Accessible and Participative"
 - This Regional Forum meet was a precursor to the "Summit for Electoral Democracy" that to be hosted by the National Electoral Institute of Mexico in the coming month.
 - Chief Election Commissioner of India: Rajiv Kumar
- 4. Amit Shah inaugurates National Security Strategies Conference**
- Home Minister, Amit Shah has inaugurated a two-day National Security Strategies (NSS) Conference in New Delhi.
 - Aim: To ensure a safe and secure nation by strengthening all aspects of national security mechanism.
 - During the conference, he has also inaugurated the National Automated Fingerprint Identification System (NAFIS) that was developed by NCRB.
 - NAFIS will help in quick and easy disposal of cases with the help of centralized finger print database.
- 5. 65th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference being held in Halifax, Canada**
- An Indian Parliamentary delegation led by Om Birla will be attending the 65th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference scheduled to be held in Halifax, Canada from August 20-26.
 - The Conference will also be attended by 23 Presiding Officers and 16 Secretaries from State Legislatures in India who are also members of the CPA.
 - Om Birla will participate as a panellist in Workshop 'C' titled "A People's Parliament: Accessibility through Innovation".
- 6. 10th National Conference of Women Police to begin in Shimla, HP**
- The 10th National Conference of Women Police has been started in Shimla, Himachal Pradesh, inaugurated by the Union Minister of State for Home affairs Nityanand Rai.
 - The conference is being organised by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPRD) in collaboration with Himachal Police.
 - Objective: To enhance the leadership potential of women police officers and discuss their problems and challenges.
- 7. HM Amit Shah chaired the 23rd meeting of Central Zonal Council in Bhopal**
- HM Amit Shah has chaired the 23rd edition of Central Zonal Council meeting in Bhopal.
 - Issues: connectivity, power, sharing of river water and other matters of common interests
 - The meeting was attended by CMs, ministers and senior officers of the member states.
 - The Central Zonal Council comprises Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.
 - Five zonal councils in the country were set up in 1957 under Section 15-22 of the States Reorganisation Act, 1956.
- 8. Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh to attend SCO Defence Ministers' meeting**
- Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh has attended the SCO Defence Ministers' meeting at Tashkent in Uzbekistan.

- He also hold the bilateral meetings with his counterparts Lieutenant General, Bakhodir Kurbanov (Uzbekistan); Colonel, General Zhaksylykov Ruslan Zhaksylykov (Kazakhstan) and Lieutenant General, Viktor Khrenin (Belarus).
- Aim: The entire spectrum of defence cooperation with the three countries was reviewed to expand mutually beneficial collaboration.

9. India-Bangladesh Joint River Commission meeting held in Delhi

- The 38th Meeting of Ministerial level Joint Rivers Commission (JRC) of India and Bangladesh was held in New Delhi.
- Aim: Finalized the text of MoU on 'Interim Water Sharing of Kushiyara river'
- Both sides have finalized the design and location of the water intake point on the Feni River to meet the drinking water needs of Sabroom town

July 2022

1. India Stack Knowledge Exchange 2022 kick started

- India Stack Knowledge Exchange has been kick started on 7th July 2022, as a part of the Digital India Week 2022
- It is a 3-day long virtual event and is an opportunity to showcase India's most significant contribution to Digital world-India Stack, which is a unified software platform to bring India's 1.4 billion population into the Digital Age.
- Objective: to give an orientation to the basic building blocks of India Stack, which is driving Digital Transformation in India

2. NMCG organizes 8th Edition of 'Igniting Young Minds: Rejuvenating Rivers'

- National Mission for Clean Ganga has organized 8th Edition of the Webinar Series 'Igniting Young Minds, Rejuvenating Rivers'
- Theme: Afforestation
- Aim: to connect with the youth on the important issue of Ganga Rejuvenation.

June 2022

1. Border Coordination Conference between BSF-BGB held in Bangladesh

- The Inspector General BSF-Regional Commander BGB level Border Coordination Conference

in Tripura, as per the October 2019 India-Bangladesh MoU on the subject.

- The JRC of India and Bangladesh was constituted in 1972.

10. J&K LG, Manoj Sinha inaugurates 8th India International MSME Start-up Expo

- Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, Manoj Sinha has inaugurated the 8th India International MSME Start-up Expo & Summit at New Delhi.
- This Expo provides a platform to SMEs, startups, trade, and industry, service providers to explore new opportunities for buyers and sellers, and exchange information about federal, state, and local programmes.
- J&K has one of the fastest growing horticulture markets in the country.
- MSME Minister: Narayan Rane

- Namami Gange Programme is an Integrated Conservation Mission, approved as flagship programme in June 2014 with budget outlay of Rs.20,000 Crore to accomplish the effective abatement of pollution, conservation and rejuvenation of National River Ganga

3. PM Modi inaugurates first All India DLSAs Meet

- PM Modi has addressed the inaugural session of the first All India District Legal Services Authorities (DLSA) meeting conducted by National Legal Services Authority (NALSA).
- Aim: Creation of an integrated procedure in order to bring homogeneity and synchronisation across DLSAs.
- There are a total of 676 DLSAs in the country and are headed by the District Judge, acts as Chairman of the authority.
- The DLSAs reduces the burden on courts by regulating the Lok Adalats.

between India and Bangladesh begins in Sylhet, Bangladesh.

- BSF delegation led by IG BSF Sumit Sharan along with four other members.

- The Bangladesh delegation of BGB is led by Brigadier General Tanvir Gani Chowdhury.
- Focus area: Issues related to border management and security; illegal entry; smuggling of drugs and other items; trafficking of women and children.

2. India to host special ASEAN-India Foreign Ministers' meet

- India will host Special ASEAN-India Foreign Ministers' Meeting on the 16th and 17th June to mark the 30th anniversary of its relations with the 10-nation grouping.
- It will be the first meeting hosted by India in New Delhi and will be accompanied by 12th Edition of Delhi Dialogue.
- It will be attended by External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar and ASEAN's Ministers.
- Theme of the Delhi Dialogue 2022: Building Bridges in the Indo-Pacific.

3. WTO Ministerial conference 2022 is being held at Geneva

- The twelfth WTO Ministerial Conference will begin from 12th June 2022 in Geneva, Switzerland after a gap of almost 5 years.
- Indian delegation will be led by Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal
- Key areas: WTO's response to the pandemic, Fisheries subsidies negotiations and Agriculture issues including Public Stockholding for Food security.
- India is a founding member of the WTO since 1 January 1995 and a member of GATT since 8 July 1948.

4. First National Conference of Chief Secretaries begins today in Himachal

- A 3-day National Conference of Chief Secretaries is being organized in Dharamsala, HP.
- It will deliberate to further strengthen the partnership between the Central and State Governments.
- PM Narendra Modi will chair over 1st National Conference.
- Three themes of the Conference: (i) Implementation of the National Education Policy; (ii) Urban governance; and (iii) Crop

diversification and achieving self-sufficiency in oilseeds, pulses and other agri-commodities.

5. APEDA organizes 8-day-long mango festival in Bahrain

- In a major boost to the export of mangoes, APEDA launched an eight-day-long Mango Festival in the Kingdom of Bahrain.
- At the show, 34 varieties of mangoes from eastern states of West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh and Odisha, are being displayed at eight different locations of Bahrain's Al Jazira group supermarket.
- The mango show in Bahrain is part of APEDA's new initiatives to explore international markets for Indian mangoes under the 'Mango Festival 2022'.

6. Eighth Global Conference of Young Parliamentarians held in Egypt

- The Eighth Global Conference of Young Parliamentarians has been started in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt to address climate change.
- The two-day conference is being jointly organized by the House of Representatives and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU).
- Nagaland's first woman elected as Member of Parliament to Rajya Sabha, S. Phangon Konyak is representing India at the Conference.
- Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) HQ: Geneva, Switzerland

7. Health Minister addresses inaugural session at the G20 Health Ministers

- Union Health & Family Welfare Minister, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya has virtually addressed the inaugural session at the G20 Health Ministers meeting at Yogyakarta, Indonesia.
- Indonesia has hosted two Health Working Group Meetings in Yogyakarta and Lombok.
- Priority issues: Harmonizing Global Health Protocol Standards and Building Global Health System Resilience.
- India has pledged to End TB by 2025 (five years ahead of the global SDG target of 2030).

8. Jammu and Kashmir to host G-20 meetings in 2023

- Jammu and Kashmir has been selected to host the G-20 meetings in 2023.
- The UT government has also set up a five-member high-level committee for the coordination of G20 summit.
- Piyush Goyal (Commerce and Industry Minister) was appointed as India's Sherpa for the G20 in September 2021.
- India will take the G-20 presidency from December 1, 2022.
- India has been represented by PM Modi since 2014 in G20 summit.
- G20, 2024: Brazil
- G20, 2025: South Africa

9. Dr Jitendra Singh attends “2022 UN Ocean Conference” at Lisbon

- Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology, Dr Jitendra Singh will take part in the “2022 UN Ocean Conference” at Lisbon, which starts from June 27.
- The conference is co-hosted by the Governments of Kenya and Portugal.
- He will deliver the Keynote address at the Conference on the theme 'Scaling up Ocean Action based on Science and Innovation for the implementation of Goal 14: Stock taking, Partnerships and Solutions'.

May 2022

1. National Seminar on Indian Cinema and Soft Power inaugurated in Mumbai

- Renowned Film Director Shekhar Kapoor has inaugurated National Seminar titled 'Indian Cinema and Soft Power' in Mumbai
- Organized by: Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR).
- Key topics: Cinematic colonialism, Indian Cinema as a Vehicle of spreading awareness about idea of India abroad, regional cinema and its global influence, Indian cinema's engagement with foreign audience, global influence of Indian cinematic music.

2. First International Research Conference On Insolvency And Bankruptcy

- The first International Research Conference on Insolvency and Bankruptcy was organised by the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) in association with the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (IIMA).
- Rao Inderjit Singh (Minister of State for Statistics and Programme Implementation) has highlighted the journey of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), 2016.
- Chairperson of IBBI: Dr. Navrang Saini

3. Health Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurates Health Summit in Gujarat

- Union Health Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya has inaugurated a three-day Swasthya Chintan Shivir (Health Summit) at Kevadiya in Gujarat.
- Aim: Detailed discussion on various topics and policies related to the health sector and recommend ways and means for better implementation of these policies/programmes.
- This summit is being organized as a part of the 14th Convention of the Central Council of Health and Family Welfare (CCHFV).

4. Conference of Cluster-Based Business Organizations (CBBOs) in Jaipur

- Union Minister, Kailash Choudhary has inaugurated Conference of Cluster-Based Business Organizations (CBBOs) and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) under Scheme of Formation and Promotion of 10,000 FPOs at Birla Auditorium in Jaipur.
- Focus areas: expectations from CBBOs, Knowledge sharing by CBBOs on best practices, discussion on Training and Capacity Building of Stakeholders, and Open discussion on various issues/ suggestions.

5. PM participated in the Second Global COVID Virtual Summit

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has participated in the Second Global COVID Virtual Summit on the invitation of the President of the USA, Joseph R. Biden.

- The theme of the summit: Preventing Pandemic Fatigue and Prioritizing Preparedness.
- Highlights: India adopted a people-centric strategy to combat the pandemic; India plays an active role by sharing its low cost indigenous COVID mitigation technologies.
- PM Modi had also participated in the first Global COVID.

6. Bhupender Yadav leads COP-15 on Combating Desertification

- Bhupender Yadav (Environment Forest and Climate Change Minister) has led an Indian delegation at the 15th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP-15) of the UNCCD at Abidjan in Cote d'Ivoire.
- The theme of COP 15: Life. Legacy: From scarcity to prosperity.
- Aim: To bring together world leaders to drive progress in the future sustainable management of land and will explore links between land and other key sustainability issues.

7. India to host key SCO anti-terror meet

- India will be hosting the meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization's (SCO's)-Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) in New Delhi from May 16th to 19th.
- The Security Advisers of the National Security Councils of India, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Pakistan and Uzbekistan participated in the meeting.

- India has taken the chairmanship of the Council of Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure of SCO last year for a period of one year.

8. China to host BRICS Foreign Ministers meeting through video conference

- China's State Councillor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi has hosted the meeting of the BRICS Ministers of Foreign Affairs on May 19 through video conference.
- The meeting was attended by: S. Jaishankar (India), Naledi Pandor (South Africa), Carlos Alberto Franco França (Brazil) and Sergey Lavrov (Russia).
- India has handed over the BRICS Chairmanship to China from January 2022.
- Theme 2022: Foster High-Quality BRICS Partnership Usher in a New Era for Global Development

9. Nirmala Sitharaman chaired 7th Annual Meeting of Board of Governors of NDB

- Finance Minister, Nirmala Sitharamana has chaired the 7th Annual Meeting of Board of Governors of NDB through video-conferencing in New Delhi.
- Theme 2022: "NDB: Optimising Development Impact".
- FM Sitharamana has mentioned that India's economic growth in the current financial year has been robust and is estimated to be 8.9%.
- Attended by: Brazil, China, Russia, South Africa and the newly joined members Bangladesh and UAE.

Ranking, Indexes, Reports and Survey

August 2022

1. Nature Index 2022

- It is compiled by Nature Research.
- It is a database that tracks institutions and countries and their scientific output since its introduction in November 2014.
- University of Hyderabad has secured first position among Indian Universities while has

been placed at 16th position among all institutions in academic sector.

- Hyderabad was ranked first with 72 research papers and a share of 19.46 in academic sector.

2. Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India 2021

- It is released by National Crime Records Bureau
- Suicide: 120 deaths per million population

- At the national level, number of suicides increased by 7.17 % from 2020 to 2021.
- Overall share of Persons engaged in the farming sector among the total recorded suicides stood at 6.6% during 2021
- Maximum suicide: Maharastra
- Road Accidents: Deaths in road accidents up by 17%
- Crime against Women: It increased from 56.5% in 2020 to 64.5% in 2021.

3. Global Employment Trends for Youth 2022 Report

- It is released by International Labour Organization
- Unemployment rate among youth aged 15-24 has reached to 15.6% across the world.
- As per report, number of unemployed young population has decreased from 75 million in 2021 to 73 million in 2022.

July 2022

1. Internet in India report 2022

- It is released by Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI)
- As per the report, about 346 million Indians practices online transactions including digital payments and e-commerce, outnumbering US (331 million).
- Global covid-19 pandemic has resulted an increase of 51% in digital transactions.
- Usage of OTT platforms is more in rural India and penetration of online gaming, digital payments, e-commerce, is angled towards urban areas of India.
- Currently, there are 692 million active internet users in India.

2. Expat Insider 2022 survey

- It is conducted by InterNations
- Top performer: Mexico, followed by Indonesia, Taiwan, Portugal, Spain, UAE, Vietnam, Thailand, Australia, and Singapore
- India has been ranked on 36th position out of the 52 countries

- According to CMIE, Labour Force Participation Rate (LPR) in India had fell down to 38.8% in June 2022.

4. 2022 Fortune Global 500

- Top performer: Walmart, U.S; State Grid, China; China National Petroleum, China and Sinopec, China
- 9 Indian public and private companies have been added.
- LIC of India has been ranked at 98th position in the list, with revenue worth USD 97,266.7 million.
- Reliance Industries Ltd. has been placed at 104th position,
- Indian Companies in the list includes IOCL at 142nd, ONGC at 190th, SBI at 236th and BPCL at 295th spot.

- USA has been ranked at 14th place, Canada at 23rd while United Kingdom is ranked below India, at 37.
- Worst performers: Kuwait, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Cyprus, and Luxembourg.

3. India Bioeconomy Report 2022

- It is released by Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC).
- With about a 3% share of the global biotechnology market, India is one of the top 3 biotechnology destinations in South Asia and in the top 12 worldwide.
- India's bioeconomy is expected to reach \$150 billion by 2025 and more than \$300 billion by 2030.

4. India ranks 87th in 2022 World's most powerful passports

- According to the 2022 Henley Passport Index from Henley & Partners (an immigration consultancy), India has been ranked 87th on the list of world's most powerful passports.
- Top 10: Japan, Singapore, South Korea, Germany, Spain, Finland, Italy, Luxemburg, Austria, Denmark

- India neighbouring countries: Bhutan (93rd), Myanmar (99th), Sri Lanka (103rd), Bangladesh (104th) and Pakistan (109th), China (69th)
- Worst passport in the world: Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria.

5. NITI Aayog releases report on Digital Bank

- NITI Aayog has released its report on digital banks, offering a template and roadmap for licencing and regulatory regimes.
- Report titled: A proposal for Digital Banks in India: Licensing and Regulatory Regime
- Report recommendations:
 - Issuing a restricted digital bank licence.
 - Inclusion (of the licensee) in a regulatory sandbox framework enacted by RBI

6. World Airport Traffic Dataset 2021 released

- The Airports Council International has published World Airport Traffic Dataset, in which Delhi Airport placed 13th on the list of the world's busiest airports for 2021.
- IGIA has witnessed 3.7 crore passenger footfall in 2021.
- The Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (ATL) has topped the 2021 ranking with 7.6 crore footfall of passengers.
- Airports Council International HQ: Montreal, Canada

7. India Innovation Index 2021

- It is released by NITI Aayog.
- Top performers: **Karnataka** (Major States' category), **Manipur** (Northeast and Hill States' category), and **Chandigarh** (Union Territories and City States' category).
- Number of indicators has increased from 36 to 66 in 2021.

June 2022

1. Global Liveability Index

- It is released by **European Intelligence Unit (EIU)**
- It assessed 173 cities based on their living conditions and, in general, citizen living standards.

8. NIRF Rankings 2022

- It is released by Ministry of Education.
- It is the first-ever effort by the govt to rank Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in India.
- Categories:
 - Overall: IIT-Madras, IISc-Bangalore, and IIT-Bombay
 - University: IISc, Bengaluru.
 - Colleges: Miranda College.
 - Research Institution: IISc, Bengaluru
 - Engineering: IIT-Madras.
 - Management: IIM Ahmedabad
 - Medical: AIIMS, New Delhi
 - Pharmacy: Jamia Hamdard.
 - Architecture: IIT Roorkee.
 - Law: National Law School of India University, Bengaluru.

9. Global Gender Gap (GGG) Index 2022

- It is released by World Economic Forum (WEF)
- India is ranked 135th out of 146 countries with a score of 0.629.
- Top performers: **Iceland, Finland, Norway, New Zealand, and Sweden.**
- Worst-performing country: **Afghanistan**

10. The Global Findex Report 2021

- It is released by **World Bank.**
- It surveys over 125,000 adults in 123 economies during Covid-19 to better understand how people use formal and informal financial services and digital payment.
- Large shares of global population without formal banking (130 million and 230 million, respectively) lives in India and China because of their size.
- 24 % of adults are unbanked globally and distance is a barrier for 31 % of unbanked adults.

- India: New Delhi has been ranked 112th and Mumbai is ranked at 117th position.
- **Top performers:** Vienna (Austria), Copenhagen (Denmark), Zurich (Switzerland), Calgary (Canada) and Vancouver (Canada).

- **Worst Performer:** Lagos in Nigeria, Damascus in Syria, Tripoli in Libya, Algiers in Algeria, and Karachi in Pakistan.

2. 2021's highest paid CEO by Fortune 500

- Elon Musk was the top-paid chief executive officer in 2021, according to the Fortune 500.
- He drew a salary of around \$23.5 billion (Rs 1,82,576 crore) after he exercised some Tesla stock options awarded in a 2018 multiyear 'moonshot' giant.
- Others in the list: Tim Cook, Satya Nadella, and Reed Hastings.

3. Global Air Powers Ranking 2022

- It is released by World Directory of Modern Military Aircraft (WDMMA)
- Indian Air Force is the 3rd strongest Air Force in the world.
- Top performer air force in world: US and Russia
- Indian Air Force was ranked higher than Chinese Air Force, Japan Air Self-Defense Force, Israeli Air Force, & French Force in strength.

4. Mercer's 2022 Cost of Living survey

- Top performers: **Hong Kong**, followed by **Zurich, Geneva, Basel, Bern, Tel Aviv** etc.
- **India's position: Mumbai (127)** is the costliest city in India in terms of both living expenses and accommodation costs for expatriates. **New Delhi (155), Chennai (177), Bengaluru (178), and Hyderabad (192)** are the other in the list. Pune (201) and Kolkata (203) are the least expensive Indian cities in the ranking. Globally, Hong Kong ranked first

5. Bloomberg Billionaires list 2022

- Reliance Industries' Mukesh Ambani is Asia's richest man with a net worth of \$99.7 billion in 2022.
- According to the list, Tesla boss Elon Musk is the world's richest with \$227 billion wealth, followed by Amazon's Jeff Bezos with \$149 billion.
- Adani is ranked 9th with a net worth of \$98.7 billion.

6. Digital payments in India: A \$10 trillion opportunity

- Indian digital payments market to reach \$10 trillion by 2026
- The report was launched by PhonePe, in collaboration with Boston Consulting Group.
- The report highlights how India's digital payments landscape has witnessed a growth over the past five years.

7. The Forbes 30 Under 30 Asia, 2022

- The list was edited by Rana Wehbe Watson.
- It represents 22 countries and territories across the Asia-Pacific region.
- India tops the list in terms of the number of entries with 61, followed by Singapore (34), Japan (33), Australia (32), Indonesia (30) and China (28).
- Indians featured in the list: Shiv Parekh, Namya Mahajan, Siddhant Sachdeva and Vishal Sunil.
- Youngest honouree on the list: Japanese Olympics skateboarding gold-medalist Momiji Nishiya (14 years)

8. Global environment performance index (EPI)2022

- It was released by researchers of **Yale and Columbia University**.
- India scored the lowest among 180.
- EPI ranks 180 countries on 40 performance indicators including climate change, environmental public health, biodiversity, among others.
- Top performers: **Denmark**, followed by **UK and Finland**
- More than 50% of emissions in 2050 are slated to come from China, India, US, and Russia.

9. QS World University Rankings 2023

- IISc, Bengaluru has emerged as the topmost Indian institute placed at the 155th spot
- Top performer: **Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)** remained at no. 1 spot, followed by **University of Cambridge** and **Stanford University**.
- IIT Bombay is ranked 172nd and IIT Delhi is at 174th spot.

10. World Investment Report

- It is released by United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- India jumped one position to 7th among the top recipients of FDI in 2021 despite FDI inflows into the country declining.
- FDI inflows into India declined to \$45 billion in 2021 from \$64 billion in the preceding year.
- Top recipient of FDI: US (\$367 billion), China (\$181 billion) and Hong Kong (\$141 billion)

11. 2nd edition of National e-Governance Service Delivery Assessment 2021 (NeSDA 2021).

- It has been prepared covering the assessment of States, Union Territories with a focus on Central Ministries on their effectiveness in delivering online services to citizens.
- North-East and Hill States category: Meghalaya and Tripura
- Union Territories category: Jammu & Kashmir
- Remaining States: Punjab (Group A) and Rajasthan (Group B)

12. Digital News Report 2022

- It was published by Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism (RISJ).
- India's position has jumped to the 20th spot among 46 countries surveyed from 31st rank in 2021.
- Times of India scored the highest in terms of brand trustworthiness, at 75%, closely followed by All India Radio at 72% while The Print (61 percent), Republic TV (57 percent), and The Wire (57 percent) scored the lowest.

13. Global Startup Ecosystem Report (GSER)

- It was published by Startup Genome
- Kerala's Startup Ecosystem ranked best in Asia and 4th globally for Affordable Talent
- Bengaluru ranked 22nd and Delhi moved up an impressive 11 places coming in at No. 26, with Mumbai at No. 36.

14. World Competitiveness Index 2022

- It was released by Institute for Management Development (IMD).

- It measures countries on 4 factors (334 competitiveness criteria): Economic performance, Government efficiency, Business efficiency and Infrastructure.
- India jumps 6 places to 37th rank from 43rd rank in 2021
- Top performer: Denmark, followed by Switzerland, Singapore, Sweden and Hong Kong.

15. Migration in India 2020-21

- It is released by Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)
- As per the report, after Covid-19 pandemic in March 2020, 0.7% of India's population was a 'temporary visitor' in households during July 2020-June 2021.
- All-India migration rate was 28.9 %in July-June 2020-21, with 26.5% migration rate in rural areas and 34.9% in urban areas.

16. REN21 Renewables 2022 Global Status Report (GSR 2022).

- India ranked third globally for total renewable power capacity additions with 15.4 GW in 2021.
- India installed 843 MW of hydropower capacity in 2021, bringing the overall capacity to 45.3 GW
- Top performer: China and US
- India ranked 4th in the world for total solar energy installations (60.4 GW)
- India was the 2nd-largest market for new solar PV capacity in Asia, and 3d-largest globally (13 GW of additions in 2021).

17. Coursera's latest Global Skills Report (GSR) 2022

- India has slipped four places to be ranked at the 68th position globally
- Among Asian nations, India stands at 19th position
- India's technology proficiency levels increased from 38% to 46%.
- Proficiency in data science has dipped from 38% in 2021 to 26 percent in 2022.

18. Global Trends Report by the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR)

- Globally 100 million people were forced to flee their homes last year due to violence, human rights abuses, food insecurity, the climate crisis, war in Ukraine, and other emergencies.
- There were 23.7 million new internal displacements globally due to disasters.
- Largest displacements: China (6.0 million), Philippines (5.7 million), and India (4.9 million).
- India: Nearly 5 million people in India were internally displaced due to climate change and disasters in 2021.

19. International Labour Organisation (ILO)

- 94% of domestic workers worldwide lack comprehensive social security
- Only 6% of domestic workers worldwide have access to comprehensive social protection with women who constitute 76.2% of the total domestic workforce particularly more vulnerable in the absence of adequate social benefits.
- Europe and Central Asia comprises 57.3% of domestic workers that are legally covered for all benefits.

20. World Gold Council (WGC) report

- India ranks fourth in global gold recycling and has recycled 75 tonnes in 2021
- Titled of the report: 'Gold refining and recycling'
- Top performer of gold recycling: China (recycled 168 tonnes), followed by Italy and US.

21. Forecasting Penetration of Electric Two-Wheelers in India report

- It is released by NITI Aayog and Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC)
- 100% electric two-wheelers penetration can be seen in the Indian market by FY27
- Sale of electric two-wheelers may cross 220 lakh units by FY2028-29

22. Harnessing Green Hydrogen: Opportunities for Deep Decarbonization in India

- It is released by NITI Aayog and RMI India
- Green Hydrogen Market In India Likely To Reach \$340 Billion By 2050
- Hydrogen demand in India could reach \$8 billion by 2030.

23. ASK Private Wealth Hurun India Future Unicorn Index 2022.

- As per the index, India will have 122 new unicorns startups valued each at more than \$1 billion--in the next 2-4 years
- India's future unicorns are currently worth \$49 billion, an increase of 36% as compared to last year.
- 17 gazelles (those most likely to become unicorns in two years), and 7 cheetahs (start-ups that could go unicorn in four years) from last year's index hit unicorn valuation this year.
- Bengaluru continues to be the start-up capital of India with home to 46 probable Unicorns, followed by Delhi NCR (25) and Mumbai (16).

May 2022

1. 2022 World Press Freedom Index

- Published by: Reporters Without Borders (RSF).
- Top Performers: Norway (1st) Denmark (2nd), Sweden (3rd) Estonia (4th) and Finland (5th)
- Worst Performer: North Korea (180th)
- India ranked 150th among the 180 countries and Pakistan is at 157th position and Russia was placed at 155th position.
- India's neighbour: Nepal (76th), Pakistan (157th), Sri Lanka (146th), Bangladesh (162nd), Myanmar (176th) and China (175th)

3. State of the World's Forests 2022

Key findings:

- It was released by United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).
- 10% of total forest area on Earth lost in 30 years
- World has lost 420 million hectares (mha), approximately 10.34% of its total forest area in the last 30 years

- 420 mha of forests have been lost between 1990 and 2020, due to deforestation, though forests cover
- 4.06 billion ha (31%) of the earth's geographical area.

4. Central government released Civil Registration System (CRS) report 2020

Key findings:

- India logs 6.2% hike in death rate during 2020
- Registered deaths have increased from 76.4 lakh in 2019 to 81.2 lakhs in 2020.
- Registered births have decreased from 2.48 crore in 2019 to 2.42 crore in the year 2020

5. Lionel Messi Tops Forbes' Highest-Paid Athletes List 2022

- Lionel Messi has taken over from Conor McGregor as the highest paid athlete in Forbes' list for 2022.
- Messi's total remained stagnant on \$130 million with James' total income at \$121.2 million.
- Other top performers: LeBron James (\$121.2 million), Cristiano Ronaldo (\$115 million) and Neymar (\$95 million) and Stephen Curry (\$92.8 million)

6. India overtakes Germany to become 4th largest vehicle market

- According to the report, released by Organization Internationale des Constructeurs d'Automobiles (OICA), India saw 3,759,398 vehicles sold in 2021, compared to 2,973,319 vehicles in Germany.
- Top performer: **China**, followed by **US** and **Japan**
- OICA is the international trade association formed of 39 national automotive industry trade associations.

7. The State of Inequality in India Report

- It was released by Bibek Debroy, Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM) and has been written by **Institute for Competitiveness**.
- It compiles information on inequities across sectors of health, education, household characteristics and the labour market

8. Swachh Survekshan (SS) 2023

- It is launched by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) under Swachh Bharat Mission Urban 2.0.
- It would give priority to the principle of 3Rs: Reduce, Recycle and Reuse.
- Theme: Waste to Wealth
- SS 2022 covered 4,355 cities and 85,860 wards.

9. National Achievement Survey 2021 report

- Released by: Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education
- It assesses the health of the school education system by conducting a comprehensive evaluation survey of children's learning competencies at classes III, V, VIII and X with a cycle period of 3 years.
- It saw the participation of 34 lakh students of 1.18 lakh schools in 720 districts from both rural and urban areas.
- Literacy Rate of India: 73% and Teachers in Nation: 93,83,128
- Child sex ratio (0-6 years): 919 girls per 1000

10. 2022 Global Food Policy Report: Climate Change & Food Systems

- It is released by International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
- India's food production could drop 16% and number of those at risk for hunger could increase 23% by 2030 due to climate change.
- Number of Indians at risk from hunger in 2030 is expected to be 73.9 million in 2030.
- Average temperature across India is projected to rise by between 2.4°C and 4.4°C by 2100.

11. RBI's Banknote Survey of Consumers findings

- RBI's Survey revealed that, among banknotes, 100 was the most preferred while 2,000 was the least preferred denomination.
- Among coins, denomination of 5 was the most preferred whereas 1 was the least preferred.
- Value of the total Rs 2,000 notes in circulation dropped to 13.8%, compared with 17.3 % a year ago.

- RBI has not printed Rs 2,000 currency notes since the financial year 2018-19.

12. Global travel and tourism development index

- It is released by **World Economic Forum (WEF)**
- India tops in South Asia region but drops to 54th spot globally
- In 2019, India stood at 46th place.
- **Top performers:** Japan, followed by US, Spain, France, Germany, Switzerland, Australia, UK, Singapore, and Italy.

13. US surpasses China as India's biggest trading partner in FY22 at \$119.42 bn

- US surpassed China to become India's top trading partner in 2021-22.

- In 2021-22, bilateral trade between US and India stood at \$119.42 billion as against \$80.51 billion in 2020-21.
- India had a trade surplus of \$32.8 billion with US in 2021-22

14. TIME's 100 Most Influential People of 2022 List

- Supreme Court lawyer Karuna Nundy, business tycoon Gautam Adani and prominent Kashmiri human rights activist Khurram Parvez are among the 100 Most Influential People of 2022.
- List has been divided into six categories: Icons, Pioneers, Titans, Artists, Leaders, and Innovators.
- It includes US President Joe Biden, Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, Russian President Vladimir Putin, Chinese President Xi Jinping, among others.

Banking & Financial Awareness

1st to 15th September 2022

1. Athletics Federation of India (AFI) has joined hands with **HSBC Bank** to support women athletes of the country.

Note: Under the partnership, promising girl athletes will be selected from the National Inter District Championships for U-14 and U-16 categories. Special coaching camps would be set up for the selected athletes and nurtured them to perform on the global platform.

2. As per the official data, the Indian economy has grown by **13.5%** in the April-June period 2022.

Note: Reason: Better performance by the agriculture and services sectors. India has also remained the fastest growing major economy as China registered economic growth of 0.4% in the April-June 2022 quarter. As per the data released by the National Statistical Office, the Indian economy has been grown by 20.1% in April-June 2021-22.

3. As of 31st August 2022, as per the RBI data, **\$1.11 billion** of foreign direct investment by the India Inc's has been recorded in July 2022.

Note: The domestic firms had invested over \$2.56 billion on Outward Foreign Direct Investment in July 2021 in the form of equity, loan and issuances of guarantees. The Indian businesses has invested \$579.15 million by equity infusion, \$193.21 million as loans and \$337.49 million infused by issuing guarantees to their overseas ventures

4. Alappuzha has become the fifth fully digital banking district, is located in **Kerala**.

Note: Four Kerala districts: Thrissur, Kottayam, Palakkad and Kasaragod. The project was initiated by the RBI with the support of the State Level Bankers' Committee and respective district administrations as part of the Digital India project. As part of the initiative, at least one digital transaction facility has been enabled.

5. As per the data released by RBI, during the first quarter of 2022-23, the pricing index for homes in India has been grown by **3.5%** year-on-year.

Note: The all-India house price index (HPI) is a quarterly release done by the central bank. This index is based on transaction-level data obtained from the housing registration authorities in 10 major cities in the country. The cities are: Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Jaipur, Kanpur, Kochi, Kolkata, Lucknow, and Mumbai.

6. As per the Reserve Bank India data, the services exports of India has been increased by **20.2%** year-on-year to \$23.26 billion in July 2022.

Note: However, the July exports were lower than June by \$25.29 billion in 2022. As per the monthly data on India's international trade in services for July 2022, the imports surged by 22.3% to \$13.92 billion in July. The exports during April-July 2022-23 stood at \$94.75 billion, and the imports totalled \$58.94 billion during the period.

7. According to Finance Ministry data, the government has collected **₹1,43,612 crore** as the gross GST revenue in the month of August 2022.

Note: CGST is ₹ 24,710 crore, SGST is ₹ 30,951 crore, IGST is ₹ 77,782 crore. It includes ₹ 42,067 crore collected on import of goods and cess is ₹ 10,168 crore (including ₹ 1,018 crore collected on import of goods). The revenues for the month of August 2022 are 28% higher than the GST revenues in the same month in 2021 of ₹ 1,12,020 crore.

8. **SBICard** has launched 'CASHBACK Card', a cashback focused credit card, to boost the online transactions.

Note: Consumers across country, including tier-2 and 3 cities, can apply for the card on the digital application platform 'SBI Card SPRINT'. CASHBACK SBI Card customers will earn unlimited 1% cashback on all spends, cashback will increase to 5% on all online spends up to maximum of ₹ 10,000 per monthly statement cycle.

9. Financial service company **MuthootFinCorp** has partnered with IME India Pvt Ltd to expand its money remittance services between Indo-Nepal corridor.

Note: Muthoot has been assisting the Nepali community in India in remitting money through their existing partner (Prabhu Money Transfer Pvt Ltd). Now, Muthoot will be able to serve a larger mass of Nepalese diaspora living in India. IDFC First Bank, India and Global IME Bank Ltd., Nepal are the banking partners to facilitate Indo-Nepal remittance service.

10. **IndusIndBank** has signed an agreement with Asian Development Bank (ADB) to provide support and promote supply chain finance (SCF) solutions in India.

Note: The bank has entered into a partial guarantee programme with ADB with an initial outlay of USD 70 million (₹560.0 crore). Aim: To grow IndusInd Bank presence in MSME financing. This partnership will further strengthen various initiatives of the bank in this domain.

11. **BOB Financial Solutions Ltd** has joined hands with Snapdeal in association with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and Japan's JCB International Co. Ltd to launch the Credit Card.

Note: It is co-branded contactless credit card. User will receive up to 5% unlimited cashback (accrued as 20 reward points on every ₹100 spent) on the Snapdeal app and website. It offers 10 Reward points per ₹100 spent on online spends.

12. **RBI** has released new guidelines on digital lending.

Note: The central bank has given regulated entities (RE) till November 30th to put in place adequate systems and processes to ensure that 'existing digital loans' comply with fresh lending guidelines. The new norms are applicable to both 'existing customers availing fresh loans' and to 'new customers getting onboarded'. These have come into effect from September 1st, 2022 onward.

13. As per the State Bank of India (SBI), **6.8%** would be the GDP growth forecast for India for FY23.

Note: Earlier, the growth forecast was 7.5%. Reason: Statistical adjustments as the reason for lowering the

GDP forecast The revised GDP forecast by SBI has been come after the National Statistical Office (NSO) data for the April-June quarter (Q1) of 2022-23, where the economy showed a growth of 13.5% (lower from 20.1% in Q1 of FY22).

14. As per the official data of RBI, India's foreign exchange (forex) reserves has been declined in the week ending August 26, 2022 by **\$561 billion**.

Note: India's FER has declined sharply in recent months as the RBI continues to intervene in the currency markets to defend the rupee. The value of gold reserves also fall down by \$271 million to \$39.643 billion during the week ended August 26. The value of India's SDRs with IMF has also declined by \$155 million to \$17.832 billion.

15. The Securities and Exchange Board of India has restructured its panel on cyber security that recommends measures to safeguard the capital markets from such attacks, chaired by **Navin Kumar Singh**.

Note: Earlier, The committee had only four members but now it has six members. Other members: Sanjay Bahl, H Krishnamurthy, Sandeep Shukla and DebdeepMukhopadhyay, SugataGangopadhyay

16. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has launched a pilot project for end-to-end digitization of KCC lending. **Kisan Credit Card** is the full form of KCC.

Note: The pilot has been developed by the central bank and its subsidiary Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH). Objective: To make it more efficient and reduce costs for borrowers. States for pilot project: Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu with Union Bank of India and Federal Bank, respectively

17. As per the report of the State Bank of India (Economic Research Department), by the year **2029** India would become the third largest economy in the world.

Note: India will surpass Germany in 2027 and most likely Japan by 2029 at the current rate of growth. The country has undergone a large structural shift since 2014 and is now the 5th largest economy overtaking the United Kingdom. The report is authored by SoumyaKanti Ghosh, group chief economic adviser, SBI.

18. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the \$4.7 billion acquisition deal between PayU (backed by Prosus) and online payments firm **BillDesk**.

Note: The commission has cleared the acquisition of 100% of the equity share capital of <http://Indialdeas.com> (BillDesk) by PayU Payments. The PayU-BillDesk deal is pegged as the second-largest buyout in the Indian internet sector after Walmart's \$16 billion acquisition of ecommerce major Flipkart in 2018.

19. Public sector banks will open about **300** brick-and-mortar branches in the unbanked areas of various states by December 2022.

Note: Aim: To cover all remaining unbanked villages. Branches in: Rajasthan (95), followed by Madhya Pradesh (54), Gujarat (38), Maharashtra (33), Jharkhand (32) and Uttar Pradesh (31). Banks have been asked to open branches at allocated locations by the respective State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) by December 2022.

20. IppoPay has acquired **Tutelar**, AI-based risk management company for an undisclosed amount.

Note: IppoPay is a Chennai-based payment gateway firm, that is backed by Coinbase Global, Better Capital and Blume Founders Fund. Addition of Tutelar makes IppoPay an important constituent in the fight against fraud in the payments space.

21. RBI Deputy Governor, T Rabi Sankar has announced that, government will launch CBDC by the end of 2022. **Central Bank Digital Currency** is the full form of CBDC.

Note: The RBI will launch digital currency on a pilot basis in 2022. In Budget for 2022-23, the finance minister had said the RBI would roll out a digital equivalent to the rupee. Benefit: CBDC could become a tool for reducing time and cost for cross-border transactions. Data Security Issue: They are keep working on it on a continuous basis.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

33. WAAREE Solar Panel manufacturer has signed an agreement with SBI for providing unsecured financing for solar projects through Surya Shakti Solar Finance Scheme.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

39. HDFC Bank has become the first bank in India to issue an Electronic Bank Guarantee (e-BG) in partnership with National E-Governance Services Limited (NeSL).

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

43. DWS Group and Nippon Life India Asset Management have collaborated to provide portfolio

management and investment advisory services to the European-listed Indian Government Bond ETF.

Note: DWS is continuously developing its range of ETFs in order to meet the ever-evolving needs of

investors. Through this collaboration, clients can access to the attractive Indian bond market. Nippon Life India brings in its deep knowledge of the Indian Fixed-Income market.

August 2022

1. **IndusInd Bank** has entered into a strategic partnership with Rupy for offering 100% paperless loan processing.
Note: Rupy, digital lending platform, is a fintech arm of the Jaipur based, Girmarsoft Pvt Ltd (which houses brands like CarDekho, BikeDekho, Zigwheels, etc). This partnership will simplified documentation and instant processing of vehicle loans from IndusInd Bank. IndusInd Bank customers can now opt for flexible repayment options while transacting on 'Rupy'.
2. **₹1,48,995 crore** amount of gross GST has been collected by the government for July 2022.
Note: The second highest collection ever since the introduction of the Goods and Services Tax. The July 2022 revenue is 28% higher than the revenues in the July 2021 of ₹1,16,393 crore. CGST is ₹25,751 crore, SGST is ₹32,807 crore, IGST is ₹79,518 crore (including ₹41,420 crore collected on import of goods) and cess is ₹10,920 crore (including ₹995 crore collected on import of goods).
3. **6 billion** transactions of the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) has been recorded by the NPCI in July 2022.
Note: It is the highest ever since its inception in 2016. According to data released by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), the UPI has reported 6.28 billion transactions amounting to Rs 10.62 trillion. Month-on-month, the volume of transactions was up 7.16% and value increased 4.76%.
4. **IRDAI** organisation has revised the guidelines on the anti-money laundering rules and counter financing of terrorism programme for insurance companies.
Note: The rules issued to consolidate and update guidelines replace the assorted norms issued since 2013. No life, general, or health insurer can claim any relaxations to comply with the money-laundering rules, with effect from Nov 1, 2022.
5. **SVC Co-operative Bank Ltd.** has entered into a partnership with Small Industries Development Bank in India (SIDBI) for empowering MSMEs.
Note: According to the agreement, SIDBI will extend refinance facility to SVC Bank to facilitate an improved flow of credit to MSMEs. The agreement was signed by Ashish Singhal (MD, SVC Bank) and Sanjeev Gupta (GM, SIDBI) in Mumbai. SIDBI is the Principal Financial Institution for Promotion, Financing and Development of the MSME sector.
6. **Union Bank of India** has launched first ever, men-focused Committee 'EmpowerHim' as part of its flagship HR initiative 'Prerna'.
Note: Aim: To promote the employees' career trajectory and improve diversity in the Bank by picking out and resolving individual as well as common existing challenges. This Committee will complement the women focused; EmpowerHer Committee launched by the bank earlier in July 2022.
7. Rs 10 lakh crores of loans have been written off by the bank in the last five financial years i.e. 2017-18 to 2021-22 **Note:** The write-off amount has come down to Rs 1,57,096 crore (2021-22) as compared to Rs 2,02,781 crore (2020-21). In 2019-20, the write-off has also come down from Rs 2,36,265 crore to Rs 2,34,170 crore. The commercial banks and financial institutions have reported credit information of all borrowers having aggregate credit exposure of Rs 5 crore and above to RBI.
8. The financial inclusion (FI) index has been increased to 56.4 in March 2022 from 53.9 in March 2021, constructed by the **Reserve Bank of India**.
Note: It shows growth in across all sectors across the country. Financial inclusion index was constructed to capture the extent of financial inclusion across the country. Sectors: Banking, investments, insurance, postal, pension sector. This index has been created without any base year, and published in July every year.
9. The government has lowered the mandatory turnover threshold from Rs 20 crore to 10 Crore under the Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime from October 1, 2022.
Note: Aim: Digitising a higher volume of transactions, transparency in sales reporting, reducing errors and mismatches, automating data entry work, and improving compliance. E-invoicing (electronic billing) has been started in October 2020.
10. **SEBI** has restructured advisory committee on market data, that recommends policy measures pertaining to securities market data access and privacy.
Note: The market data advisory committee will now have 20 members (earlier 21 members). Sebi has replaced former MD and CEO of NSE, Vikram Limaye by NSE current chief, Ashishkumar Chauhan. The committee is chaired by S Sahoo Professor at National Law University.
11. Current Repo Rate **5.40%** has been increased by the 50 basis points by the RBI

- Note:** Standing Deposit Facility Rate to 5.15%, MSF and Bank Rate revised to 5.65% in the latest bi-monthly monetary policy. Reason: to control the inflationary pressure. As per the RBI, real GDP growth for the first quarter of the ensuing fiscal year is projected at 6.7%. GDP growth projection for 2022-23 retained at 7.2%. India's reserves remain the fourth largest globally.
- 12. Health Insurance Company Ltd** has launched Smart Health+ Disease Management Rider, for its ReAssure customers -- **Niva Bupa**.
Note: Coverage: It provide coverage for diabetes, hypertension and related complications from Day 1. It offers quarterly health check-ups. It also offers discount of up to 20% on health insurance renewal premium on managing a healthy lifestyle.
- 13. Federal Bank** has become the first bank to list its Payment Gateway platform on the Income Tax Department's TIN 2.0 platform.
Note: TIN 2.0 platform was launched on July 1, 2022. This "Payment Gateway" has been enabled by providing one more payment option to taxpayers. With this taxpayers can now make their payments with by using Credit/Debit Card, UPI, NEFT/RTGS and Internet Banking.
- 14. IndusInd Bank** has collaborated with M2P Fintech to launch customer value propositions across payments and lending solutions.
Note: The Bank will leverage M2P's cutting-edge technology backed by analytics. Aim: To deliver hyper personalised offering across payments and lending. M2P is fully equipped API infrastructure. It enables the bank to develop innovative products/experiences on top of Bank's core banking system (CBS).
- 15. Insurance Dekho** has partnered with Future Generali India Insurance Company to offer a unique dog health cover.
Note: This dog health insurance plans offers comprehensive coverage for over 25 breeds of dogs. Age of dog: Six months to 10 years. Premium: Rs 324 annually. This insurance provide financial assistance for expenses incurred by pet parents towards hospitalisation, treatment of terminal illness, and surgery, subject to certain terms and conditions.
- 16. Bandhan Bank** has opened its first currency chest in **Deedargunj, Patna**.
Note: This is the first ever currency chest of bank. It will help in cash management for the branches and ATMs in the city. This currency chest will help people, MSMEs and small traders with supply of currency notes to the bank branches and the ATMs as and when required. The currency chest will also benefit the bank branches with storage.
- 17. RBI and Life Insurance Companies (LIC)** have accepted the center's request to permit non-financial institutions and unregulated entities to own more than **40 %** stake in IDBI Bank.
Note: Also, allowed to sell between 51 and 74% of the lender through a strategic divestment process. Through a tactical divestiture, the government and LIC intend to sell 51-74% of the lender.
- 18. Andhra Pragathi Grameena Bank (APGB)** has signed an agreement with Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) to facilitate an improved flow of credit flow to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the state.
Note: APGB has started banking operations in 2006. This bank provide loan to agriculture and self-help groups in rural areas. SIDBI is playing a prominent role as an enabler in empowering the MSME ecosystem in the country.
- 19.** According to a report, the Indian Food Processing industry could potentially grow at a CAGR of **1011%** to reach \$500-530 bn by FY27.
Note: This is due to its strong agricultural background and several favourable trends supporting its progress. According to the report, India has emerged as a global agricultural powerhouse. Now it is the world's 2nd-largest agricultural producer, leading in the production of cereals, pulses, fruits and vegetables, sugar, and milk.
- 20. Reserve Bank of India** will soon issue draft guidelines on outsourcing of financial services by financial institutions
Note:The draft norms, deemed to be titled 'RBI (Managing Risks and Code of Conduct in Outsourcing of Financial Services) Directions, 2022', will be issued for public comments and feedback shortly. The revised norms will expand the scope of the directions to include regional rural banks, local area banks, AIFI, CIC and non-scheduled payments banks.
- 21. Dr Agarwals Eye Hospitals** has strengthened its presence in Maharashtra by acquiring five eye hospitals in Pune,
Note: The leading eye care chain announced it has acquired Prabhudesai Eye Clinic (Kothrud); Global Eye Care Clinic (Pimpri Chinchwad and Sangvi); Om Eye Care (Viman Nagar and Vishrantwadi), all of which have been eyecare centres of repute in Pune for many years. The eye care chain now runs 118 eye hospitals across the country and abroad.
- 22.** The board of **Reliance Infrastructure** has authorized the issuance of up to \$400 million, 5 per cent unsecured Foreign Currency Convertible Bonds (FCCBs) on a private placement basis.
Note: The FCCBs shall be convertible into equity shares of ₹10 each of the company as per the FCCBs

- term, at ₹123 (including a premium of ₹113) per equity share. The tenure of the bonds will be ten years. Each FCCB of \$1,000,000 is equivalent to ₹7.94 crore.
- 23.** The RBI has imposed a penalty of amount **₹82 lakh** on Bengaluru-based Jupiter Capital Private Ltd, for breach of norms on submission of credit information.
Note: RBI also imposed a fine of ₹32 lakh on Indian Bank for breach of directions on classification and reporting of frauds. The examination of the Risk Assessment Report, Inspection Report and all related correspondence revealed that Indian Bank was in violation of certain provisions of RBI Directions, 2016.
- 24.** The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has constituted of Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) Advisory Committee under the chairmanship of **former Chief Economic Adviser KV Subramanian**.
Note: Aim: To increase the overseas flows into the country. Other members: Representing foreign banks, stock exchanges depositories and RBI. The committee will review investment avenues available for FPIs and to advise on the feasibility of new investment avenues.
- 25. Max Life Insurance Company Ltd.** has launched Max Life Smart Secure Easy Solution, a comprehensive three-in-one protection of life, critical illness & disability and accidental cover.
Note: It covers self-employed individuals, salaried and other professionals to comprehensively guard against life's uncertainties. Aim: Providing financial protection in case of any uncertainties in life with an accidental cover option and Max Life Critical Illness and Disability Health Rider.
- 26.** After completion of how many year as AD Category-II, all scheduled small finance banks (SFBs) can be eligible for an authorised dealer (AD) category-I licence **at least two years**.
Note: Eligibility norms for Small Finance Banks: It should have included in the Second Schedule to RBI Act 1934. It should have a minimum net worth of ₹500 crore. Its CRAR should not be less than 15%. The net NPAs of the bank should not exceed 6% (last four quarters).
- 27. American Express** has launched its cross-border payments platform for small to medium-sized businesses named Global Pay.
Note: It will work as a digital solution that will let U.S. businesses make secure domestic and international B2B payments. In addition to this, the eligible customers can earn rewards points on foreign exchange payments. Global Pay is available to all eligible American Express Small Business Card Members in the U.S.
- 28.** Indian Bank has signed an MoU with Hatchlab Research Centre, TBI of SRM University-AP to launch 'IND Spring Board'.
Note: It is an initiative for financing start-ups and MSMEs. The bank will extend financial aid of up to Rs 50 crore to start-ups incubated at SRM Hatchlab for their working capital requirements. This collaboration is one of its kind in the state of Andhra Pradesh.
- 29. PNB Housing Finance** has revamped its 'Unnati' loan portfolio to offer affordable housing loans of ₹9-12 lakh to target customers.
Note: PNB Housing has created a small vertical under Unnati which will be different from existing ₹18-19 lakh as affordable housing loans. In the June quarter, PNB HFC has already opened 10 more branches.
- 30. IDFC FIRST Bank** has partnered with the LetsVenture have to support the startup ecosystem by providing curated products and solutions to startups (founders and investors).
Note: IDFC FIRST Bank provides customised solutions to start-ups under its FIRST WINGS programme. With this, it makes IDFC FIRST Bank a preferred banker to all startups on LetsVenture's Scalix. LetsVenture's Scalix is a newly launched platform that supports the startUp ecosystem.
- 31.** Axis Bank becomes the first Indian bank to launch Axis Receivables Suite (ARS).
Note: Aim: Simplifies Receivables reconciliation, accelerates cash flow, enhances the client experience and reduces the cost of doing business. ARS is an end-to-end proposition to automate the reconciliation of receivables against sales invoices raised by clients. Benefit for Clients: Know about payments, real-time control over receivables
- 32. YES Bank** has joined hands with IBSFINtech (TreasuryTech Solution provider) to explore digital services for corporate clients.
Note: This partnership will strengthen the corporate treasury ecosystem with a strong decision-making tool and automated workflows. It will provide connectivity between a corporate's ERP (Enterprise resource planning) and a bank's solutions.
- 33.** RBI has issued the regulatory framework to make digital lending safe for customers.
Note: The RBI has mandated that digital loans must be credited directly in the bank accounts of borrowers and not through any third party. Any fees, charges, payable to Lending Service Providers in the credit intermediation process shall be paid directly by Regulated Entities and not by the borrower. Automatic increase in credit limit without explicit consent of borrower is prohibited.
- 34. Rupee Co-operative Bank** licence has been cancelled by the Reserve Bank of India.
Note: Reason: The bank is unable to pay its present depositors in full (capital inadequacy). It does not

comply with the provisions of Section 11(1) and Section 22 (3) (d) with Section 56 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949. The bank has also prohibited from conducting the business of 'banking' which includes, acceptance and repayment of deposits.

35. Paytm has partnered with the Piramal Capital & Housing Finance for expanding distribution of merchant loans to the small cities and towns of India.

Note: With this, merchants can avail loans of up to Rs 10 lakh with a tenure of 6-24 months. It will also empower MSMEs from smaller cities and towns with access to digital credit. Piramal Capital & Housing Finance is a subsidiary of Piramal Enterprises Limited.

36. According to State Bank of India's economic research report "Ecowrap", India's home loan market would be **double** in the next **5 years**.

Note: Currently valued at about ₹24 lakh crore and it is expected to double (₹48 lakh crore). The share of 'Housing Loans' in 'Bank Credit' has increased to 14.4% in June 2022 from 13.1% in March 2020. The total home loan portfolio grew by 10% in FY22 in tier-3 and tier-4 areas, faster rate than tier-1 and tier-2 districts.

37. Kotak Mahindra Bank has launched an account named Kotak Creme. This account has been categorized in **salary account**.

Note: This account will offer an upgraded experience to its customers working in MNCs, retails, law firms, unicorns etc. The account will be available to all corporates in India and will also come with a host of privileges and rewards across lifestyle, travel, healthcare, dining, skilling and learning experiences.

38. Retail inflation in July 2022 -- **6.71%**.

Note: Inflation eased mainly due to easing prices in the Food & Beverages section. However, the retail inflation level remains above the mandated level of 4% with a margin of 2% on either side. CPI-based inflation or retail inflation: Change in the price index over a period.

39. State Bank of India (SBI) has signed an agreement with High Commission of India in Dhaka to extend the operations of the Indian Visa Application Centre (IVAC) in Bangladesh for two more years.

Note:The IVAC will also start a few additional services which include facilitation for online form filling and submission of forms, slot booking and launching of a mobile app. A priority lounge was also inaugurated at the IVAC centre in Dhaka.

40. Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the merger proposal of **HDFC Bank** with HDFC Ltd.

Note: The proposed combination envisages the merger of HDFC Investments and HDFC Holdings with HDFC Ltd in the first step and subsequently, the merger of HDFC Ltd into HDFC Bank. Benefits of merger: The increased scale of business, new product lines, a strong

balance sheet; reduction in unsecured loans. Chairman of HDFC Limited: Deepak Parekh

41. Payment solution provider **Razorpay** has become the first Indian company to be named in the 2022 Forbes Cloud 100 List in the definitive ranking of the top 100 private cloud companies in the world.

Note: The ranking has been published by Forbes in partnership with Bessemer Venture Partners and Salesforce Ventures. Razorpay has entered the list for the second time, placed at 49th for being a Financial Solutions Software. The list has been topped by Stripe (CEO: Patrick Collison)

42. SBI bank has introduced a unique term deposit programme called "Utsav Deposit".

Note: This fixed deposit scheme has higher interest rates and is only available for a limited time. Under the Utsav Fixed Deposit Scheme, SBI is offering an interest rate of 6.10% per annum on fixed deposits with a tenure of 1000 days. And senior citizens will be eligible to get an additional interest rate of 0.50% over and above the regular rate.

43. 13.93% is the Wholesale price inflation (WPI) for July month 2022.

Note: According to the Commerce and Industry Ministry, WPI inflation fell on easing prices of food articles and manufactured products. The WPI was at a record high of 15.88% in May 2022 and stood at 11.57 per cent in July 2021. The retail inflation based on Consumer Price Index (CPI) was also declined to 6.71% in July 2022 from 7.01 in preceding month.

44. Paytm has partnered with **Samsung** stores across India to provide smart payments as well as its loan service Paytm Postpaid through deployment of point of sale devices.

Note: Paytm through its postpaid service will provide credit limit of up to Rs 60,000 per month. It will also give customers an option to avail personal loan of up to Rs 2 lakh

45. Bima Manthan 2022 is the name of the first hackathon organised by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India.

Note: Theme: Innovation in Insurance. Aim: To identify and develop solutions that have the potential to make the insurance available to every individual. Problem areas: Automated Death Claim settlement, miss-selling of Insurance products, identify uninsured motor vehicles, distribution of insurance products, Fraud prevention in motor insurance

46. Karnataka Bank has launched a new Term Deposit Scheme, Amrit Samridhi under ACC and Fixed Deposit for a tenure of 75 weeks (525 days), will be available for a limited time.

Note: The interest rate for this Deposit Scheme is 6.10% per annum. With the new product, KBL Amrit

Samridhi, the bank has extended the benefit of increase in the interest rates to customers.

47. Yes Bank has announced its partnership with SellerApp (a seller-centric intelligence platform) to adopt Open Network Digital Commerce (ONDC).

Note: This partnership will help them to expand their digital commerce footprint. ONDC is a strategic initiative of the Indian government with an aim to democratize the entire digital commerce space. The network is also being built as an alternative to e-tailers like Walmart-owned Flipkart and Amazon in the Indian ecommerce market.

48. Bank of Baroda (BoB) has launched the 'Baroda Tiranga Deposit Scheme', a special retail term deposit product that offers interest rates of 5.75% for 444 days and 6% for 555 days.

Note: This scheme is applicable on retail deposits below ₹2 crore and remain in force till December 31, 2022. Senior citizens will earn an additional interest rate of 0.50%, while non-callable deposits will get 0.15% extra.

49. Indel Money Ltd has launched its mobile app and e-portal to provide digital personal loan. **Umesh Mohanan** is the CEO of Indel Money Ltd.

Note: Initially this service will be offered to its existing customers, to provide complete digitalised experience with faster disbursement of loan. The rate of interest will be 10-20% based on the individual credit score. The repayment tenure is in the bracket of 3-6 months.

50. The State Bank of India (SBI) has launched its first "state-of-the-art" dedicated branch for start-ups in India to facilitate and support them in **Koramangala, Bangalore.**

Note: After Bengaluru, the second and third branch will be launched in Gurgaon and Hyderabad respectively. The branch has also entered into MOUs with the government of Karnataka initiatives.

51. Axis Bank has signed an MoU with Food Corporation of India (FCI) to provide "Ultima Salary Package" with exclusive benefits & features to all its employees.

Note: Personal Accidental cover: up to Rs.20 lakhs ; Additional Education Grant: upto Rs. 8 lakhs. Total Permanent Disability Cover benefit: up to Rs. 20 lakhs; Permanent Partial disability: up to Rs.20 lakhs. Air Accident cover of Rs. 1 Crore

52. As per the annual report of bank for FY 22, Amitabh Chaudhry was the highest-paid private bank chief in India in the previous financial year, has drawn a total of Rs 7.62 crore in annual salary, he is a CEO of **Axis Bank.**

Note: Followed by IndusInd Bank chief, Sumant Kathpalia, who made over Rs 7.31 crore in annual salary in FY22. Sandeep Bakhshi, MD of ICICI Bank, has earned Rs 7.05 crore in annual salary last fiscal.

53. HDFC Bank has launched latest campaign 'Vigil Aunty' with an aim to promote safe banking habits among people _____.

Note: Anuradha Menon who plays the popular character of 'Lola Kutty' on television, will be the face of the 'Vigil Aunty' campaign. This campaign will run with the Bank's popular 'Mooh Band Rakho' campaign, that urges people not to share their confidential banking information with others. The Vigil Aunty campaign will run for 4-6 weeks.

54. The Reserve Bank of India has cancelled the licence of **Deccan Urban Co-operative Bank** due to inadequate capital and earning prospects in August 2022.

Note: As per the data submitted by the bank, more than 99 percent of the depositors are entitled to receive the full amount of their deposits from Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC). The cooperative bank ceases to carry on banking business, with effect from the close of business on 18 Aug.

55. Larson & Toubro has commissioned a new green hydrogen plant at Hazira in Gujarat.

Note: The development comes 5 months after the company inked a joint venture with Indian Oil Corporation and ReNew Power for the production of green hydrogen. L&T and IOC had also inked a separate joint venture for the production of electrolyzers. The plant will produce 45 kg of green hydrogen daily, which will be used for captive consumption in the company's Hazira manufacturing complex.

56. HDFC has opened its first all-women branch in Cherootty Road, north Kerala region in Kozhikode.

Note: The four women bankers branch was inaugurated by the city Corporation Mayor, Beena Philip. According to the bank, as of March 31, 2022, women made up 21.7% (21,486) of the total workforce. The private lender wants to raise it to 25% by 2025.

57. Indian Unified Payments Interface (UPI) has partnered with payments solutions provider **PayXpert** to start its business in the UK market starting with QR code-based transactions.

Note: The NPCI International Payments Ltd (NIPL) has partnered with PayXpert. Aim: To internationalise the acceptance of its payment solutions in the UK. UAE, Japan, the US, Singapore, Bhutan, Nepal and France are already accepting UPI payment services.

58. India has signed an loan agreement of **USD 96.3 million (approx Rs 769 crore)** with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for safe drinking water and improve water supply and sanitation services in Himachal Pradesh.

- Note:** This agreement was signed between the multilateral lending agency and the central government. The project will build up the capacity of the Jal Shakti Vibhag of the Government of Himachal Pradesh and gram panchayat village water and sanitation committees.
- 59.** Gold finance provider **Muthoot Finance** has launched Milligram Reward Programme for its customers to strengthen its relationships with customers.
Note: With this launch, the company has become the first gold loan NBFC to launch a new reward programme. Two year long programme, every customer referral transaction with the company will yield 20 mg of gold.
- 60.** **SEBI** has joined the Account Aggregator framework of RBI to boost the regulated financial-data sharing system _____.
Note: It will allow customers to share information about their mutual fund and stock holdings with financial service providers. The account aggregator (AA) is a licensed by the RBI to enable the flow of data between Financial Information Providers (FIPs) and Financial Information Users (FIUs). The user has to give consent while sharing data.
- 61.** General insurance company **HDFC ERGO** has launched a portal named 'All Things EV' (www.allthingsev.io) for Electric Vehicles (EV).
Note: This is the country's first one-stop-solution portal that can be used by existing and potential EV users. This portal provides information on nearby charging stations, locations of charging stations. The platform serves to all Indians who have either purchased EVs or are planning to buy EV or to make an earning out of the booming EV space.
- 62.** **AMG Media Networks Limited (AMNL)** has indirectly acquired a 29.18% stake in media and news broadcaster New Delhi Television (NDTV).
Note: AMG Media Networks (AMN) would acquire 29.18% of NDTV through an investor in the channel, Vishvapradhan Commercial (VCPL). VCPL will have to make an open offer to acquire 26 % of NDTV from public shareholders at Rs 294 apiece, a total cost of around Rs 483 crore.
- 63.** Digital insurance provider **Edelweiss General Insurance** has partnered with health ministry to create digital health IDs under Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission.
Note: Digital Health ID or ABHA (Ayushman Bharat Health Account) number is a 14-digit number that helps users to access their health records digitally with registered healthcare providers. The National Health Authority (NHA) is the nodal agency for implementing this program under the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission.
- 64.** The Reserve Bank of India has lifted the business restrictions on the financial card the service provider **American Express Banking Corp** and allows to restart onboarding of new domestic customers on its card network.
Note: RBI had put the curbs on American Express in May 2021. Reason: For not complying with a circular issued on storage of payments data in 2018. American Express is payment system operators authorised to operate card networks in India under the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.
- 65.** Reserve Bank of India has become the net seller of the US currency in June 2022 after selling **USD 3.719 billion** on a net basis.
Note: The central bank has purchased USD 18.96 billion from the spot market and sold USD 22.679 billion. In June 2021, RBI was net buyer of the greenback after it purchased USD 18.633 billion on a net basis from the spot market. In May 2022, the RBI has net bought USD 2.001 billion (Purchased USD 10.143 billion and sold USD 8.142 billion).
- 66.** The Centre has announced an amendment in the Foreign Exchange Management (Overseas Investment) Rules, came into effect from **22nd August**.
Note: Reason: Simplify the existing framework for overseas investment. Presently, the overseas investment by a person residing in India is governed by the Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or Issue of Any Foreign Security) Regulations, 2004 and Foreign Exchange Management (Acquisition and Transfer of Immovable Property Outside India) 2015
- 67.** **BASIX Social Enterprise** has launched **BASIX Farmers' Market (BFM)** (AgriTech platform) in partnership with **Mastercard**.
Note: Objective: To integrate farmers into the digital economy. BFM will leverage technology capabilities of Mastercard and deep industry expertise of BASIX in agriculture to improve the lives of small and marginal farmers. This platform will digitizes data and workflows for FPOs with strong controls on data privacy and security.
- 68.** **KreditBee** has partnered with banking solutions company, Cashfree Payments to offer an option to convert online purchases into EMIs, at the time of checkout.
Note: KreditBee has a large customer base which can avail the online checkout finance facility from merchant partners of Cashfree Payments. The checkout finance loans range from ₹2,400 to ₹2 lakhs with a tenure of 3-18 months. KreditBee is currently offering personal loans and a digital gold investment product.

- 69. Universal Sompo General Insurance** non-life insurer organisation has partnered with Repco Home Finance for insuring home loans.
Note: Aim: To provide security to home financier customers by insuring their home loans in the event of an unfortunate event during the repayment term of the loan. This partnership will additionally disburse affordable insurance solutions like group credit protection and personal accident policies to customers of Repco.
- 70. PNB** has launched pre-qualified credit card which also including insurance coverage.
Note: It has also introduced a facility of overdraft against fixed deposit on PNB One in a few clicks and a single OTP. This card facility will be available for salary account customers and they will be able to apply through PNB One, or website. There is a concession of 0.25% on the interest rate when applied through digital platforms like PNB One.
- 71. Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)** has partnered with the TP Renewable Microgrid Ltd (TPRMG), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Tata Power, to set up 1,000 green energy enterprises throughout the country.
Note: As per the agreement, SIDBI will provide them a "Go REsponsive, ENterprise incentive (GREENi)", after the entrepreneurs finish a capacity-building programme organised by TPRMG.
- 72.** The RBI has imposed certain restrictions on Kerala based, **Thodupuzha Urban Co-operative Bank** for a period of six months.
Note: Reason: Due to its deteriorating financial condition. Restriction on granting or renewing loans and advances and making any investments.
- 73. IRDAI** has given insurers more flexibility in paying commission by linking limits to the overall portfolio and company management expenses.
Note: IRDAI has proposed to cap commissions paid by the health and general insurers at 20 per cent of gross written premium (GWP). For life companies, IRDDAI has proposed to link commissions with expenses of management (EoM).
- 74. HDFC Bank** would invest in Go Digit Life Insurance Ltd, the general insurer backed by Canada-based Fairfax Group.
Note: HDFC Bank has proposed an investment of between Rs 49.9-69.9 crore (two tranches) by subscribing to equity shares of the company for an equity stake of up to 9.944% of the paid-up equity share capital of the company. Recently, Go Digit General Insurance filed draft papers with SEBI to raise funds through an initial public offering (IPO).
- 75. Tata Neu and HDFC Bank** have partnered to launch two co-branded credit cards variants named 'Plus Credit Card' and 'Infinity Credit Card'.
Note: Customers will earn 2% NeuCoins with Tata Neu Plus HDFC Bank Credit Card on all purchases on partner Tata brands. And, customer will earn 5% NeuCoins with Tata Neu Infinity HDFC Bank Credit Card. Tata Neu customers can apply for the credit card on the Tata Neu app and access its key details.
- 76.** As per the latest data collated by PGA Labs shows that, **State Bank Of India** has topped debit cards market with a 30% market share, as of June 2022.
Note: Followed by Bank of Baroda (8% market share), Bank of India, Canara Bank Union Bank, and Punjab National Bank with 5% each. HDFC Bank also topped the charts in the credit cards segment with a market share of 22%, followed by SBI (18%), ICICI Bank (17%), Axis Bank (12%), RBL Bank (5%), and Kotak Mahindra Bank (5%).
- 77. Indian Army** has introduced a Yoddha co-branded credit card in association with BOB Financial Solutions Limited (BFSL) and National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).
Note: This co-branded credit card will be available on the RuPay platform and have contactless features. All members of the Indian Army will be eligible for the co-branded credit card's Life Time Free (LTF) offer. The Yoddha credit card will offer features like Personal Accident Insurance and many more.
- 78.** As per the report of RBI, the Bank credit growth has been accelerated to **14.2%** in the quarter ended June 2022 from 6% June 2021.
Note: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has released the 'Quarterly Statistics on Deposits and Credit of SCBs for June 2022' that shows collected data from all scheduled commercial banks (SCBs), which include regional rural banks, small finance banks and payments banks. In the quarter ended March 2022, bank credit had expanded by 10.8%.
- 79.** The National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) has signed an agreement with **ICICI Bank** for the development of financial accounting software and mobile application.
Note: ICICI Bank will design, develop and deploy the application for NMDFC and provides source code and executable database information among others. This MoU provides for the development of financial accounting software for NMDFC and State Channelizing Agencies, loan accounting software.
- 80.** Minister of State (MoS) for External Affairs and Education, Rajkumar Ranjan Singh has ceremonially handed over a cheque of **USD 1 million** for the BIMSTEC Secretariat's operational budget.

Note: BIMSTEC Secretary General, Tenzin Lekphell who was on a visit to India and meet Rajkumar Ranjan Singh. He has also held discussions on cooperation in specific areas led by India including counter-terrorism, disaster management, maritime cooperation and energy security.

81. Along with Kochi Metro Rail Limited, **Axis Bank** launched a campaign to promote the more use of Kochi-1 smart card in connection with Onam.

Note: The bank has also partnered with the Amazon Pay to provide discounts on recharges, utility and bill payments. The 'Dining Delights' offer has been extended to Kochi1 card holders by which they can avail discounts on food and beverage bills. Customers can also avail dine-out deals with EazyDiner while using their Kochi1 card.

82. IRDAI Chairman, Debasish Panda has announced that IRDAI has been eased the registration process of new companies by reducing the time taken to process new applications from 8 to 2 months.

Note: The regulator has created a facilitation cell consisting of two officers for handholding the applicants so that the entity gets its approval to start its operations. According to Irdai data, the insurance penetration in the country is at 4.2% as of 2021, which is higher than China.

83. **PGIM India Mutual Fund** has launched a new investor education and awareness website 'MoneyAndMe'.

Note: This website contains exhaustive content on various aspects of personal finance including household budgeting, protection, savings and investing. The company also launched of a consumer awareness campaign – 'Aapka HappinessPlanned' to promote the MoneyAndMe Initiative. Aim: To help investors dealing with various financial challenges

84. **ICICI Bank** has announced its partnership with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) to launch Coral variant credit cards on payments network RuPay.

Note: The ICICI Bank RuPay Credit Card is presently available in the Coral variant of the Bank's Gemstone series. This will be soon followed by Rubyx and Sapphiro variants. It is a contactless card that comes with a slew of perks and benefits.

85. SEBI has imposed the monetary penalty of **₹25 lakh (Total)** on Aadhaar Ventures India Ltd and its directors for violating insider trading rules and listing conditions.

Note: Directors: Jils Raichand Madan, Somabhai Sunderbhai Meena and Jyoti Munver. SEBI has conducted an early investigation for alleged price manipulation in the scrip of AVIL. AVIL, Madan, Meena and Munver had failed to disclose the information to the stock exchange, thereby violating disclosure lapses.

July 2022

1. **World Bank** has approved two complementary loans of **\$500 million each to enhance** and support India's health sector.

Note: 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.

2. ICICI Securities has launched learning app **ICICIdirect iLearn.**

Note: Its aim to provide customers with easy access to learning financial products and market topics. This will help customers with this app to better assist them in their investment journey.

3. Insurance company **Max Life** has launched a smart solution, 'Insta confirmation of insurance (Insta-COI)'.

Note: Aim: To customers buying the 'Max Life Smart Fixed-return Digital Plan'. This is a non-linked, non-participating, individual life insurance savings plan on Max Life website or Policybazaar platform.

4. Around 10% of the growth of bank deposit has been recorded in March 2022 as compared with 11.9% in 2021, as per the Reserve Bank of India data.

Note: 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.

5. **Axis Bank** has joined hands with EazyDiner to launch of Dining Delights for the bank customers.

Note: It offers choice of over 10,000 premium restaurants across India and Dubai. 40% discount on specific credit cards at hand-picked premium restaurants in India and Dubai

6. **Visa** platform will be used by 'Aditya Birla SBI Card' credit card.

Note: SBI Card has entered into a partnership with Aditya Birla Finance Ltd to launch credit card named Aditya Birla SBI Card. This is a rewards-centric credit

- card, launched in two variants - 'Aditya Birla SBI Card SELECT' and 'Aditya Birla SBI Card'.
7. According to the CRISIL, the real GDP growth for India in FY23 -- **7.3%**.
Note: 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.
8. General Insurance **Edelweiss General Insurance** has joined hands with Avanse Financial Services to provide travel insurance to Indian students.
Note: It offers complete coverage against medical, stay, travel inconvenience-related covers, emergencies and losses. The students can also customize their plan per their needs and requirements from universities.
9. Amount of GST has been collected by the government in June 2022 -- **Rs 1,44,616 crore**.
Note: 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.
10. In two cases Non-bank payment system operators (PSOs) shall require approval from the RBI -- **Takeover or acquisition of control and Sale or transfer of payment activity**.
Note: The RBI shall respond within 45 calendar days after receipt of complete details. The authorised non-bank PSO should inform DPSS, CO, RBI within 15 calendar days.
11. The RBI has imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 1.05 crores on **Kotak Mahindra Bank** for deficiencies in regulatory compliance.
Note: RBI imposed Rs 1 crore penalty on IndusInd Bank. Kotak Mahindra Bank has failed to maintain margin on advances to stock brokers, credit the amount involved in the unauthorised electronic transactions to the customers' account.
12. **Paschim Banga Gramin Bank** has signed a bancassurance pact with SBI Life Insurance to offer wide product range of SBI Life.
Note: Products include: Wealth creation, credit life, annuity and savings products.
13. **Muthoot Finance** has received an approval from the RBI to open 150 new branches across the nation.
Note: This approval will help the company to expand its customer base. Muthoot Finance had also expanded its doorstep service of gold loan@home across South India with an aim to make credit more accessible and easy to avail.
14. General Insurance company **Edelweiss** has launched a comprehensive motor insurance product named SWITCH.
Note: This product was launched under Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority's (IRDAI) Sandbox initiative. SWITCH is a digital mobile telematics-based motor policy.
15. The **Central government** has decided to set up the **Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB)** for appointments of Wholtime Directors and Non-Executive Directors in public sector banks (PSBs), public sector insurers (PSIs) and financial institutions (FIs).
Note: 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.
16. **SBI General Insurance** company has launched the Cyber VaultEdge insurance plan for individuals.
Note: This comprehensive cyber insurance cover provides protection against financial losses arising from cyber risks and attacks. This covers unauthorised e-transactions, loss of wages resulting from identity theft and instances impacting online reputation.
17. **South Indian Bank** has signed an agreement with Forest and Wildlife Department of Kerala to enable digital collection of payments at eco-tourism centres, Vanasree shops, mobile Vanasree units and eco-shops across the State.
Note: With the help of this partnership, the digital collection system of South Indian Bank will now be available at all 124 tourist spots that comes under the Forest Department.
18. IRDAI has permitted the general insurance provider to introduce technology-enabled add-ons to **motor insurance**.
Note: Add-ons are: Pay-as-you-drive, pay-how-you-drive and floater policy for vehicles belonging to the same individual owner for two wheelers and private cars. **Objective:** It will make motor insurance more affordable, especially for customers who primarily opt for only third-party (TP) insurance and overlook the benefits of OD covers.
19. **HDFC Ltd.** bank has partnered with software firm, Salesforce to support the company's growth priorities.
Note: HDFC, to build the next generation of integration backbone, to connect backend and frontend systems including Salesforce. Mulesoft (Software Company) with its innovative API-led integration approach and low code integration capabilities will help HDFC to innovate quickly around connecting systems.

20. Punjab National Bank (PNB) has signed MoU **Indian Air Force** for 'PNB Rakshak Plus'.
Note: The scheme covers personal accidental insurance, air accidental insurance to serving, retired and trainees of the defence forces, central armed police forces, state police force, metro police and retired defence pensioners. Death Cover- Personal Accidental: Rs. 50 lakh; Air Accidental Insurance : Rs. 100 lakh
21. **Max Life Insurance Company** has launched Smart Capital Guarantee Solution, which is a life insurance product solution that combines three benefits.
Note: This product is launched by merging the benefits of Max Life Smart Wealth Plan and Max Life Flexi Wealth Advantage Plan. It will offer wealth creation through market-linked returns along with a guarantee on premiums paid at maturity with additional financial protection
22. RBI has imposed a penalty of Rs 5.72 crore on **Federal Bank** for deficiencies in regulatory compliance.
Note: RBI imposed penalty of Rs 70 lakh on Bank of India for non-compliance with certain provisions of Know Your Customer (KYC) norms and instructions on 'compliance function in banks' issued by RBI. RBI has been imposed on Dhani Loans and Services Ltd, Gurugram for non-compliance with KYC norms with fine of Rs 7.6 lakh
23. Along with Razorpay, Pine Labs, and Stripe, **1Pay** has received in-principle approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for payment aggregator licences.
Note: Payment aggregators: Entities that enable e-commerce sites and merchants to accept various payment instruments from customers. They allow merchants to connect with acquirers. In the process, they receive payments from customers, pool and transfer them to the merchants after a time period.
24. The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) has approved the establishment of an Interim Operational Hub in **Abu Dhabi**.
Note: 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.
25. State bank of India has partnered with the Karnataka Digital Economy Mission (KDEM) to support the state's budding startups with collateral-free loans.
Note: Aim: To leverage the existing Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE), set up by the Centre to improve the credit flow to the MSE sector. The CGTMSE will be utilised by the SBI to provide collateral-free loans of up to Rs 2 crore to startups recognised under KDEM's Elevate programme.
26. Bank of Baroda has partnered with **Women's World Banking** to roll out the third phase of the 'Baroda Jan Dhan Plus' programme across Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.
Note: In this phase, the programme will reach out to existing Jan Dhan customers of BoB through financial literacy camps. Baroda Jan Dhan Plus' encourage women account holders to save money by depositing Rs. 500 monthly for five months and can get a PMJDY overdraft loan facility of up to Rs 10,000.
27. **Edelweiss Asset Management Ltd.** has launched a new fund offer (NFO) for Focused Equity Fund.
Note: This will invest in 25-30 stocks spread across three key investing opportunities of - (1) brands, (2) market share gainers, and (3) innovators. The fund will be managed by Trideep Bhattacharya and Abhishek Gupta.
28. **RBI** has announced a system for the domestic traders to settle imports and exports in rupees.
Note: 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.
29. **SBICAP Ventures Limited** has signed MoU with the Ministry of External Affairs for establishing the Trilateral Development Cooperation Fund (TDC Fund).
Note: The TDC Fund helps to route the India's commitment of approx. Rs.175 cr. to the Global Innovation Development Fund (GIP Fund). The UK and India have partnered to launch the GIP and the Trilateral Development Corporation fund.
30. **Tata AIA Life Insurance Co. Ltd.** has joined hands to create a strategic alliance with City Union Bank.
Note: Aim: To offer life and health insurance solutions to the Bank's consumers. With the help of this partnership, the City Union Bank consumers (existing and new) will get benefit from Tata AIA Life's diverse and innovative products and services spanning term insurance, savings and investment, and health.
31. **IRDAI** has formed two task forces to study the issues of non-life and life insurance industries face in reinsurance support.
Note: Reinsurance support: It refers to insurance companies transferring a part of the risk they underwrite to other firms. Non-life insurance: Headed by Bhargav Dasgupta (MD&CEO, ICICI Lombard General Insurance); Nine members. Life insurance: Headed by Naveen Tahilyani (MD&CEO, TATA AIA Life Insurance; seven-members

- 32. City Union Bank (CUB)** signs MoU with Shriram General Insurance to distribute the latter's insurance products through its branches.
Note: Under this, Shriram General Insurance will offer personal lines of insurance products like motor, personal accident, home and travel, along with commercial lines of insurance products such as property, marine and engineering insurance to the bank's customers.
- 33. India Mortgage Guarantee Corporation** has signed a strategic partnership with RBL Bank to offer mortgage guarantee backed home loan products to salaried and non-salaried customers.
Note: This partnership will help RBL Bank to extend the mortgage guarantee-backed home loans to new borrower segments through the bank's network. It also help to create a conducive lending environment by ensuring timely disbursal of housing credit and longer tenure to customers
- 34. Star Health and Allied Insurance Co. Ltd.** has partnered with the Common Services Centres (CSC), under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology to increase the health insurance penetration in rural India.
Note: Aim: To provide over 5 lakh CSCs access to a select range of Star Health insurance products and the products have been designed to meet the needs of rural customers across the tier-II, tier-III cities, and rural markets pan India.
- 35. Digital lending app ApnaArohan** of the NBFC-MFI Arohan Financial Services, that was for its customers to make repayments and other transactions through the digital mode.
Note: It reduces the physical interaction with the loan officers of the MFI. The AI-powered app will help to increase the outstanding portfolio from ₹4,500 crore (June 2022) to around ₹5,100 crore by the end FY23.
- 36. Agri-tech startup nurture.farm** has partnered with the SBI General Insurance and Future Generali India Insurance Company to expand its insurance solutions for farmers.
Note: nurture.farm is an open digital platform for growers, farming communities and food systems. The company had recently received a corporate agency licence from IRDAI to enable nurture.farm, to help farmers access innovative insurance solutions at cost-effective price points.
- 37. The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) of India for the month of June 2022 -- 15.18% (Provisional).**
Note: Reason of high rate of inflation: Rise in prices of mineral oils, food articles, crude petroleum & natural gas, basic metals, chemicals & chemical products, food products etc. Fuel and Power category: Index increased by 0.65% to 155.4 in June.
- It remained in double-digit for the 15th straight month.
- 38. Bank Indonesia** has signed an MoU with RBI to improve mutual cooperation between them.
Note: With this MoU, RBI and BI committed to deepening relations between the two central banks and strengthening the exchange of information and cooperation in the area of central banking. It includes payment systems, digital innovation in payments services, and a regulatory and supervisory framework.
- 39. Kotak Mahindra Bank** has completed technical integration with the new e-filing portal of the IT department and has become the 1st private bank to fully integrate with the portal.
Note: Its customers can now pay their direct taxes through the e-pay tax tab on the portal. This will make the tax payment process simple, instant, and convenient for customers.
- 40. The Internet and Mobile Association of India** has decided to shut down the Blockchain and Crypto Assets Council.
Note: With this, IAMAI will cease to represent crypto-exchanges operating in India. IAMAI had created and nurtured BACC for four years.
- 41. India's commodities trade deficit** has been recorded in June 2022 -- **\$26.1 billion.**
Note: Reason: Continuing global commodity supercycle kept the prices of key energy and metal imports high. The exports in June 2022 has been increased by 23.5% to \$40.13 billion and imports raised by 57.5% to \$66.31 billion.
- 42. DBS bank** has been honoured with the 2022 global best SME bank by the leading UK-based financial publication Euromoney, for the second time since 2018.
Note: The DBS bank also won three first-time awards at Euromoney's Awards for (1) World's Best 'Financial Innovation of the year' 2022, (2) 'Asia's Best Bank for Wealth Management 2022', (3) 'Asia's Best Bank for SME award 2022'. The World's Best Bank for 2022: Bank of America. The World's best investment bank 2022: Goldman Sachs
- 43. Kotak Mahindra General Insurance** has launched an automation of vehicle inspection for insurance renewals with Artificial Intelligence based technology.
Note: The company has partnered with Inspektlabs to automate the vehicle inspection process. Aim: Help in the renewal process as well as to detect fraud thereby aiding the underwriting process. During policy renewals process, the customers can capture photos or videos of their vehicle and upload them on the cloud-based App.

44. General Insurance company **Go Digit** has launched an add-on feature for motor insurance Own Damage policies, named 'Pay as you Drive'.
Note: Customers who drive less than 10,000 Km per year on an average, will now pay less with this add-on. Digit will use odometer reading, telematics data and annual kilometer opted to give this discount (up to 25%). IRDAI has also permitted to the general insurance companies to introduce such tech-enabled concepts in motor OD policies.
45. As per the SBI study, the average income of farmers between FY 2017-18 and 2021-22, has shown an increment across India -- **1.3 -1.7 times**.
Note: Income from allied and non-farm: 1.4-1.8 times (growth). Some crops like soybean in Maharashtra and cotton in Karnataka, incomes have in fact doubled during the same time. The study is based on primary data, contains granular data of various crops from agri-intensive branches and analyses the change in income of farmers.
46. As per the Morgan Stanley, India's real GDP growth for FY23 -- **7.2%**.
Note: It has also estimated that the GDP growth for the FY24 will slow down to 6.4%, this is lower by 0.30% as compared to the earlier estimate.
47. According to the RBI report, the share of remittances from **Gulf Cooperation Council region** has declined in 2021.
Note: Observations: slower pace of migration and the presence of the Indian diaspora in informal sectors that were hit the most during the pandemic period. Article: 'Headwinds of COVID-19 and India's Inward Remittances'. The US, The UK, and Singapore are an Important sources countries of remittances (accounting for 36% of total remittances in 2020-21).
48. The government of India has declared "zero coupon zero principal instruments" as **Securities**.
Note: Zero coupon zero principal instrument: An instrument issued by a Not for Profit Organisation, will be registered with the social stock exchange segment of a recognised stock exchange. These will be governed by rules made by the Securities and Exchange Board of India. Social Stock Exchange: To serve private and non-profit sector providers by channelling greater capital to them.
49. RBI has imposed a capped of withdrawal limit of Rs 15,000 per customer for a period of six months -- **Raigad Sahakari Bank**.
Note: Reason: Worsening of financial situation of the lender. RBI has also imposed a penalty of Rs 6 lakhs on Shri Chhatrapati Rajarshi Shahu Urban Co-operative Bank Limited for contravention of provisions related to 'Frauds - Classification and Reporting'.
50. **State Bank of India** has launched its WhatsApp Banking services to make banking easier for its customers
Note: Customers of the SBI can access their Account Balance and view Mini Statement on WhatsApp. This WhatsApp Banking services can available to customers when they send a message saying 'Hi' on the number 919022690226.
51. Revised minimum capital adequacy ratio (CAR) for Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs) for the deposits above Rs 100 crore -- **12%**.
Note: It has provided a path till March 2026 to meet revised CAR norm in phases for UCBs that don't meet it currently. This is based on recommendations of a panel headed by N S Vishwanathan (former Deputy Governor). It has retained the norm of a minimum CAR of 9% for tier-1 banks (deposits up to Rs 100 crore).
52. **Standard Chartered Bank** has launched a co-branded credit card with EaseMyTrip to offer exclusive travel benefits with instant discounts and reward points to card holders.
Note: This credit card offers flat 20% instant discount on domestic & international hotel bookings, flat 10% on domestic & international flight bookings on EaseMyTrip. Standard Chartered Bank CEO: Bill Winters; Headquarters: London. EaseMyTrip Headquarters: New Delhi
53. **IndusInd** bank's board has approved a proposal to raise up to Rs 20,000 crore in debt on a private placement basis to fund its business growth.
Note: As on March 31, the capital adequacy ratio of the bank stood at 18.42% (tier-I capital being at 16.80% and tier-II capital at 1.62%) as percentage of its risk-weighted assets. The fund-raising plan is subject to the approval of its shareholders.
54. **Tamil Nadu** has topped the list of the states so far as utilisation of funds under the government's flagship Smart City Mission.
Note: Tamil Nadu has spent over Rs 3932 crore out of the Rs 4333 crore, Uttar Pradesh (second) has utilised Rs 2699 cr out of Rs 3142 crore, released by the Centre. On 8 July 2022, the Centre has released Rs 30,751.41 crore for 100 Smart Cities out of which Rs 27,610.34 crore has been utilized. Smart Cities Mission launched: 25 June, 2015.
55. As per the Asian Development Bank (ADB), economic growth forecast for India for the current fiscal year (2022-23) -- **7.2%**.
Note: For the South Asian region: Cut the forecast for 2022 to 6.5% from 7% ; For 2023, from 7.4% to 7.1%. Economic crisis in Sri Lanka, high inflation and associated monetary tightening in India
56. **RBI** has renewed its statement of commitment to the FX Global Code, a compilation of best market practices formulated by central banks worldwide.

- Note:** It is implemented by the Global FX Committee (GFXC) in co-ordination with the Local FX Committee (LFXC) in each jurisdiction. FX Global Code developed under the Bank for International Settlements.
- 57. USD 875 million** has been approved by the New Development Bank for water, sanitation, ecotourism and transport to India, Brazil and China.
Note: Brazil: \$ 300 million for water supply and sewage collection. India: \$ 79 million for the Meghalaya Ecotourism Infrastructure Development Project. China: EUR 265 million for Lanzhou Zhongchuan International Airport and RMB 805 million for Xi'an Xianyang International Airport.
- 58.** RBI has capped the withdrawal limit restrictions on Saibaba Janata Sahakari Bank, Maharashtra, due to its deteriorating financial positions -- **Rs. 20,000.**
Note: RBI imposed restriction on Suri Friends' Union Co-operative Bank Ltd, West Bengal, United India Co-operative Bank Limited, Bijnor (UP) and National Urban Co-operative Bank Ltd, Bahraich (UP). Withdrawal limit: Suri Friends' Union Co-operative: Rs. 50,000; National Urban Co-operative: Rs.10,000
- 59.** The name of the mobile app, that was launched by the Canara Bank -- **Canara ai1.**
Note: It is available in 11 languages to cater to multiple sections of the society in their preferred language. Features: Intuitive UI and UX with multiple themes and customised menus which can be personalised as per the user's choice. Security features: Device binding, malware detection, detection of remote administration tools and a dynamic keyboard to provide safe and secure banking.
- 60. Bajaj Allianz General Insurance** has announced the launch of its add-on motor insurance cover, called 'Pay As You Consume' (PAYC).
Note: It is a usage-based motor insurance add-on cover, can be opted by the customer along with the basic Own Damage (OD plan) under Package Product, Bundled and Standalone OD cover. Customers can choose coverage based on their vehicle usage, further to which the premium will be calculated, i.e., kilometres driven annually.
- 61.** According to the latest report released by the Reserve Bank of India, The foreign exchange reserves of India -- **\$572.7 billion.**
Note: It is dropped from \$7.5 billion during the week ended July 15, 2022. Reason: It is mainly due to foreign currency assets that were down \$6.5 billion. Reserves have been fallen about \$60 billion in 2022 due to aggressive intervention by the central bank to curb the sharp volatility in the foreign exchange market.
- 62. City Union Bank** has signed bancassurance partnership with Aditya Birla Health Insurance Co Ltd (ABHICL) for the distribution of health insurance products through the former's network of branches across the country.
Note: CUB has already signed bancassurance pacts with Star Health and Alliance Insurance, and Care Health (formerly known as Religare Health Insurance Co). The CUB has also signed bancassurance pact with Royal Sundaram General Insurance
- 63. HDFC Securities Ltd.** has partnered with Equitas SFB to provide demat accounts, and broking and investment services to its customers.
Note: Equitas Small Finance Bank will offer its customers 3-in-1 account, to access the services of HDFC Securities. With this partnership, Equitas Small Finance customers will be able to open their demat account for buying and selling shares and trading in futures, commodities, and currencies.
- 64.** Life insurance corporation (LIC) has reduced shareholding in Sun Pharmaceuticals by selling **2%** stakes, in the company for about Rs 3,882 crore, to 5.024%.
Note: The shares were sold through open market transactions during the period from May 17, 2021 to July 22, 2022. As per the norms of Sebi, listed companies are required to intimate the stock exchanges when their shareholding in an entity falls by 2% or more.
- 65. Rajasthan** Grameen Aajivika Vikas Parishad (RGAV) has signed an agreement with Stree Nidhi-Telangana to set up a financial institution for women.
Note: Rajasthan Mahila Nidhi is being set up in Rajasthan on the lines of Telangana's Stree Nidhi model. Rajasthan's CM, Ashok Gehlot had announced the setting up a bank run by women in the state budget 2022-23.
- 66.** According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), what would be the gross domestic product (GDP) growth forecast for India for the current financial year (FY23) **7.4%.**
Note: The IMF has also reduced the growth forecast for FY24 to 6.1% as against 6.9% earlier. Reason: Due to less favorable external conditions and more rapid policy tightening.
- 67. Piramal Enterprises** has received the non-banking finance company (NBFC) business license from RBI.
Note: The RBI has grant license under Section 45 IA of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934. The license was received by the Company on 26th July, 2022. Last year, the Piramal Enterprises board approved the demerger of its pharmaceuticals business and simplification of the corporate structure.
- 68.** RBI has launched a campaign to raise the awareness about the unclaimed deposits, with a focus on the eight states that have the maximum amount of unclaimed deposits.
Note: The unclaimed deposits in banks have increased to Rs 48,262 crore in FY22 from Rs 39,264

crore. Eight states: Tamil Nadu, Punjab, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Bengal, Karnataka, Bihar and Telangana/Andhra Pradesh. This campaign is launched in Hindi and English along with the languages of these eight states.

69. As per the RBI report, the amount involved in fraud cases reported by PSBs has been reduced to **Rs 3,204 crore** in the last fiscal from Rs 28,884 crore in 2017-18.

Note: In 2018-19, a total of 9,092 cases were reported amounting to Rs 26,720 crore. In 2019-20, the number of frauds rose to 11,074, involving a monetary value of Rs 21,170 crore. The gross NPAs (non-performing assets) of these banks also reduced to Rs 5,41,750 crore from Rs 6,16,616 crore in 2020-21.

70. After Singapore (27.01%), USA (17.94%) has emerged as the top sourcing countries in FDI equity flows into India in FY2021-22.

Note: Mauritius (15.98%) has been ranked third followed by Netherland (7.86%) and Switzerland (7.31%). Top 5 sectors: Computer Software & Hardware (24.60%), Services Sector, Automobile Industry, Trading and Construction (Infrastructure) Activities. Top 5 States: Karnataka (37.55%), Maharashtra (26.26%), Delhi (13.93%), Tamil Nadu, and Haryana

71. For ease of transition to an alternate system in respect of transactions where cardholders decide to enter the card details manually at the time of undertaking the transaction is known as **Guest checkout transactions**.

Note: The RBI has relaxed card-on-file data storage norms pertaining to guest transactions checkout. Now, apart from the card issuer and the card network, the merchant or its payment aggregator involved in the settlement of the transactions can save the data for a maximum of T+4 days or till the settlement date, whichever is earlier.

June 2022

1. According to the annual report data of the Reserve Bank of India, the current the size of the central bank's balance sheet during 2021-22 is **Rs 61,90,302.27 crore**.

Note: This shows activities carried out by it in pursuance of currency issue function as well as monetary policy and reserve management. Revenue has increased by 20.14% and expenditure rose by 280.13%.

2. **Rs 66,539 crore** is the net profit of Public sector banks (PSBs) during FY 2021-22.

Note: The collective profit of banks during 2021-22 is Rs 66,539 crore with an increase of 110% over Rs 31,816 crore in FY21. SBI has the highest net profit at Rs 31,675 crore followed by Bank of Baroda (7,272 crores), and Canara Bank (Rs 5,678 crore).

3. The Fiscal deficit of India for 2021-22 is **6.71% of the GDP**.

Note: The fiscal deficit in the absolute terms was Rs 15,86,537 crore (provisional). The finance ministry had estimated the deficit at Rs 15,91,089 crore or 6.9 percent of GDP in February 2022.

4. SEBI has imposed a penalty of Rs 1 crore on **India Infoline Ltd (IIFL)** for misusing client fund.

Note: The amount has to be paid by IIFL within 45 days. The penalty came after the SEBI's inspections of the books of account of IIFL for the period April 2011 to January 2017. It was found that IIFL had misused

client funds in the range of Rs 0.59 crores to Rs 397.02 crores for settlement obligation of debit balance clients.

5. The amount of GST has been collected by the Govt in May 2022 is **Rs 1.41 lakh crore**.

Note: The government has collected Rs 1,40,885 lakh crore Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenue for the month of May 2022. The numbers have been surged 44% as against Rs 97,821 during the corresponding period of preceding fiscal year.

6. **7.5%** would be the FY23 economic growth forecast by the SBI.

Note: SBI Research has estimated the growth of the Indian economy at 7.5% in 2022-23, an upward revision of 20 basis points from its earlier estimate. According to the official data, the economy will grow by 8.7% in FY22, net adding ₹11.8 lakh crore in the year to ₹147 lakh crore.

7. **Rs 86,912 crore** has been released by the finance ministry to the states as part of the GST compensation dues.

Note: The Centre has released the entire amount of GST compensation to states which were due up to May 31, 2022. Maharashtra has received the highest amount of GST compensation dues at Rs 14,145 crore, followed by Tamil Nadu (Rs 9,602 crore) and Uttar Pradesh (Rs 8,874 crore).

- 8. RBI** has launched the 2021-22 round of its annual survey on "Foreign Liabilities and Assets of Mutual Funds and Asset Management Companies".
Note: The survey collects information from mutual fund companies and asset management companies on their external financial liabilities and assets at the end of March of the latest financial year. The survey results are released in the public domain besides being used for the compilation of balance of payments statistics and other uses
- 9. Tata Projects** has won the bid to build Jewar Airport.
Note: It outbid the Shapoorji Pallinji Group and Larsen & Toubro for the contract. The new airport is expected to be functional by 2024.
- 10. NABARD** has launched My Pad My Right programme in Leh.
Note: This programme was launched by Nabard's NabFoundation with machinery and materials of a cost of Seven and half Lakh rupees. NABARD also sanction One lakh (addition) to upgrade the machinery to make sanitary pads suitable to the demands of women of different age groups.
- 11. SBI General Insurance** has launched new health insurance vertical to focus on new innovative health products to boost customer experience.
Note: The company will manage in-house servicing of all health insurance claims to deliver a superior and hassle-free customer experience. The company has recorded a 50% growth in gross written premium in 2021-22.
- 12.** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has released the provisioning guidelines for outstanding loans extended by 'NBFC-Upper Layer', these guidelines shall be effective from **October 1, 2022**.
Note: Individual housing loans and loans to Small and Micro Enterprises (SMEs) : 0.25%. Housing loans extended at teaser rates: 2% (decrease to 0.4% after 1 year from the date on which the rates are raised.) Advances to Commercial Real Estate- Residential Housing (CRE - RH) Sector: 0.75%
- 13. Smarter Digital Payments** is the theme of The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) first global hackathon – "HARBINGER 2021 – Innovation for Transformation".
Note: Tone Tag (brand of Naffa Innovations) has been declared the winner in two categories, first is 'Innovative, easy-to-use, non-mobile digital payment solutions' and second is 'Context-based retail payments to remove the physical act of payment'.
- 14. Airtel Payments Bank** has partnered with Muthoot Finance to offer gold loans.
Note: There will be no-processing charge on the loan. Muthoot Finance will provide up to 75% of the pledged gold value as a loan. The loan facility will be available at the 5 lakh banking points for Airtel Payments Bank.
- 15.** Indian telecommunications company, **Jio** becomes the first to provide 4G voice and data services at Spangmik village near Pangong lake in the Ladakh region.
Note: Lok Sabha member from Ladakh, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal has inaugurated the Jio mobile tower at Spangmik village. This launch will help to boost the economy of the region besides providing seamless connectivity to the tourists and the troops in the area.
- 16.** According to the recent projection of the World Bank, **7.5%** would be India's gross domestic product (GDP) forecast for the current fiscal year (2022-23).
Note: The World Bank has revised its GDP forecast for the second time. In April 2022, The World Bank had reduced the forecast from 8.7% to 8%. In May 2022, Moody's Investors Service has cut the GDP projection to 8.8% for the calendar year 2022 from 9.1% earlier.
- 17.** After the revision of the repo rate by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on June 8, 2022, **4.90%** is the current repo rate.
Note: Earlier, the committee had raised rates by 40 basis points at an unscheduled meeting in May. RBI has also raised the inflation forecast to 6.7% for 2022-23 from an earlier estimate of 5.7%.
- 18. Mastercard** will power the "Apple Pay Later" service that would be launched by Apple, to offer the users to split the cost of a purchase.
Note: Apple Pay Later will offer the users to split the cost of a purchase made over Apple Pay into four equal payments over six weeks without any interest or late fees. This service will be available everywhere, Apple Pay can be accepted online or in-app by using the Mastercard network.
- 19.** Along with Indian Oil Corporation Limited and the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) **Axis Bank** has launched co-branded contactless credit card.
Note: The card offers: fuel surcharge waiver, cashback on fuel purchases, reward points, quick cinema ticket discounts etc.
- 20. NABARD** has launched the My Pad My Right programme in Leh.
Note: This programme was launched by Nabard's NabFoundation with machinery and materials of a cost of Seven and half Lakh rupees. NABARD also sanction One lakh (addition) to upgrade the machinery to make sanitary pads suitable to the demands of women of different age groups.
- 21. Tata Project** has won the bid to build the national capital region's new airport at Jewar.
Note: It outbid the Shapoorji Pallinji Group and Larsen & Toubro for the contract. Tata Projects, the infrastructure and construction arm of the Tata group,

- will construct the terminal, runway, airside infrastructure, roads, utilities, landside facilities and other ancillary buildings at the Noida International Airport.
- 22.** According to the OECD, after the revision of the growth rates in June 2022, **6.9%** would be India's economic growth has been projected by the OECD for 2022-23. **Note:** OECD has also projected the growth for India is 6.2% in 2023. The Reserve Bank of India has also estimated the growth of the nation to 7.2%. The RBI has also raised the repo rate by 50 basis points (bps) to 4.9% in a bid to curb the soaring inflation in the country.
- 23.** After raising the limit for individual housing loans for Cooperative Banks by the RBI, **Rs. 50 lakh** is the new limit for the Rural Cooperative Banks for individual housing loans with an assessed net worth less than ₹100 crores. **Note:** The limits for Tier I /Tier II UCBs have been revised from ₹30 lakh/ ₹70 lakh to ₹60 lakh/ ₹140 lakh, respectively. RCBs the limits have been increased:- From ₹20 lakh to ₹50 lakh for RCBs with an assessed net worth less than ₹100 crore; From ₹30 lakh to ₹75 lakh for other RCBs.
- 24.** Nirmala Sitharaman has recently launched EASE 5.0 under EASENext program. EASE reforms are focused on **Public Sector Banks**. **Note:** EASE Agenda was launched in January 2018 jointly by government and PSBs. It was commissioned through Indian Banks' Association and authored by Boston Consulting Group. EASE 1.0 report showed significant improvement in PSB performance in resolution of NPA transparently.
- 25. ICICI Bank** has partnered with ZestMoney to expand its 'Cardless EMI' facility for purchases at retail and e-commerce platforms. **Note:** The partnership enhances the affordability of millions of customers of the bank who can use pre-approved cardless credit to instantly buy products/ services using ZestMoney and take care of the cost into EMIs. Customers can convert transactions up to Rs 10 lakh into EMIs by simply putting their registered mobile number, PAN and OTP.
- 26.** Electric two-wheeler maker Ather Energy has partnered with **State Bank of India** for vehicle financing for its customers. **Note:** The collaboration will enable Ather Energy's customers, having pre-approved loan offers from SBI, to avail instant loans at low interest rates starting from 9.55 per cent per annum, depending on customer credit profile. The vehicle loans can be availed through SBI's mobile app YONO as well as offline.
- 27. Indian Bank** has launched its KCC Digital Renewal scheme, enabling eligible customers to renew their Kisan Credit Card accounts via digital modes.
- Note:** The initiative is part of the bank's digital transformation under project 'WAVE' - World of Advanced Virtual Experience. The account renewals can be done using Indian Bank's IndoASIS mobile app and internet banking.
- 28.** META4 group is a company based in **UAE** that signed an MoU with the Telangana govt to set up an Electric Vehicle manufacturing plant with an investment of ₹250 crores in Zaheerabad, Telangana. **Note:** As per the MoU, the Telangana govt will provide 15 acres of subsidized land in the National Investment and Manufacturing Zone, Zaheerabad. META4 has made this investment through Voltly Energy, which provides advanced EV 2-wheeler manufacturing and delivers energy-efficient EV charging solutions.
- 29.** Bharat FIH has received market regulator SEBI's approval for an Initial Public Offering (IPO) aggregating to **Rs. 5,000 crores**. **Note:** Bharat FIH is a subsidiary of FIH Mobile a leading manufacturing services provider for the mobile handset industry, which is a part of Foxconn Technology Group. The company makes devices for Xiaomi and Nokia.
- 30.** Fintech startup, **XPay.Life** has launched its UPI services targeted at rural India. **Note:** aim: to make financial facilities accessible for people in rural areas. The launch of its UPI services is expected to benefit XPay.Life's 4 mn consumers across more than 15 states and 1 lakh villages. XPay.Life along with NABARD, NPCI and the state govt working towards strengthening DB and payments by enabling the last mile link.
- 31. OmniCard** became 1st RBI licensed PPI to launch cash withdrawal using a RuPay-powered card from any ATMs across the country. **Note:** The move came in after RBI permitted the non-bank licensed entities to enable cash withdrawals from the digital wallets. **OmniCard** users can withdraw cash from any ATM at their convenience with full security from frauds like card theft, card cloning, and PIN skimming. The company is working with **NPCI** to enable the facility.
- 32.** According to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), **More than 4.11 lakh** PoS, mobile PoS and other physical devices were deployed across the country under the Payments Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF) scheme as on April 30, 2022. **Note:** Besides, 1,14,05,116 digital devices, including inter-operable QR code-based payments such as UPI QR, Bharat QR, were deployed under the scheme. The PIDF scheme, operationalised by the Reserve Bank from January 2021, subsidises deployment of Points of Sale (PoS) infrastructure (physical and digital modes)

- in tier-3 to tier-6 centres and northeastern states of the country.
- 33.** According to the report “Digital payments in India: A \$10 trillion opportunity” unveiled by PhonePe, India’s digital payments market is expected to increase more than threefold from the current US\$3 trillion to US\$10 trillion by **2026**.
Note: India’s leading digital payments company, PhonePe in collaboration with Boston Consulting Group (BCG), unveiled a report titled, “Digital payments in India: A \$10 trillion opportunity”. This would translate to digital payments (non-cash) constituting 2 out of 3 payment transactions by 2026.
- 34. Airtel Payments Bank** has partnered with Muthoot Finance to offer gold loans through the bank’s app.
Note: With this partnership, Airtel Payments Bank customers can get hassle-free gold loans with Zero processing fees from Muthoot Finance. There will be no-processing charge on the loan and Muthoot Finance will provide up to 75 percent of the pledged gold value as a loan. The partnership will give access to secured and affordable credit to customers looking for quick liquidity against their gold assets.
- 35. Adani Group** has agreed to invest \$50 billion over the next 10 years in India to produce green hydrogen with TotalEnergies SE.
Note: TotalEnergies will buy 25% in a new clean energy company, Adani New Industries Ltd, a unit of Adani Enterprises Ltd, to jointly build the world’s biggest green hydrogen ecosystem. In the initial phase, Adani New Industries will develop a green hydrogen production capacity of 1 million tonnes per annum by 2030.
- 36.** Financial wellness platform **CASHe** has launched an industry-first credit line service using its AI-powered chat capability on WhatsApp.
Note: Aim: to provide customers with a fast, seamless and convenient way to access instant credit line by merely typing their name. CASHe’s WhatsApp chat service is built on the WhatsApp Business Platform.
- 37. 7.04%** is the retail inflation based on the Consumer Price Index in May 2022.
Note: As the Food and Beverages have a weightage of more than 54% in CPI, the dip in food prices contributed the most to the ease in inflation. Rural inflation lowered to 7.01% in May as compared to 8.38% in April.
- 38. HDFC Bank** has signed an MoU with 100X.VC to enhance its engagement with the start-up ecosystem in the country.
Note: The bank will also assess start-ups for investment and loan extension opportunities which are recommended by 100X.VC.
- 39. New Development Bank (NDB)** has signed BRICS Partnership on New Industrial Revolution (PartNIR) Innovation Center to facilitate bilateral cooperation and promote the common development of BRICS countries.
Note: The MoU was signed at a meeting held via video link in the port city of Xiamen, East China’s Fujian Province. BRICS is the acronym for Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.
- 40.** An exclusive savings account for kids **ENJOI** was launched by the Equitas Small Finance Bank.
Note: The ENJOI allow kids of 0-18 years to open savings accounts under the supervision of their parents. The bank offers 7% interest for savings balances between ₹5 lakh to ₹2 crore.
- 41.** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) lifted the restrictions imposed on **Mastercard** on June 16 citing improvement compliance.
Note: The RBI had imposed restrictions on Mastercard Asia/Pacific Pte. Ltd. from on-boarding new domestic customers (debit, credit or prepaid) onto its card network from July 22, 2021. Reason of restriction: For non-compliance with the RBI circular dated April 6, 2018, on Storage of Payment System Data.
- 42. Tamil Nadu** has replaced West Bengal to become the largest state in terms of the outstanding portfolio of microfinance loans.
Note: It was followed by Bihar (₹35,941 crores) and West Bengal (₹34,016 crores). The gross loan portfolio of Tamil Nadu as of March 31, 2022 stood at ₹36,806 crore, as per the MFIN Micrometer Q4 FY21-22, a quarterly report published by Microfinance Institutions Network.
- 43.** Canara, HSBC, and Oriental Bank of Commerce Life Insurance have rebranded and renamed itself as Canara HSBC Life Insurance. The HQ of Canara Bank is located in **Bengaluru**.
Note: They launched its first brand campaign #PromisesKaPartner aligned to its new positioning - ‘Powering India to re-imagine their dreams and aspirations.
- 44.** By the year **2025**, RBI increase the number of digital payment transactions by more than 3X and to curb the volume of cheque-based payments to less than 0.25% of total retail payments.

- Note:** Core theme of vision documents: E-Payments for Everyone, Everywhere, Everytime (4Es). It covers 47 specific initiatives and 10 expected outcomes
- 45.** After revising the Additional Factor of Authentication (AFA) limit for e-mandates on cards, Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPIs), and UPI for recurring transactions by RBI **Rs 15,000 per transaction** is the new limit.
Note: An e-mandate means, that the cardholder gives a standing instruction to the merchant platform to deduct a certain amount of money for recurring transactions.
- 46. Fitch Ratings** has revised the rating outlook of nine Indian banks which include SBI, ICICI Bank and Axis Bank, from negative to stable.
Note: The other banks are: Bank of Baroda (BOB), Bank of Baroda (New Zealand) Ltd, Bank of India, Canara Bank, Punjab National Bank (PNB) and Union Bank of India.
- 47. Kotak Mahindra** has partnered with PhonePe Insurance Broking Services Pvt. Ltd (PhonePe) to offer motor insurance on the PhonePe platform.
Note: With the help of this platform, Kotak General Insurance will provide quick and seamless car and two-wheeler insurance policies to its customers.
- 48.** Along with ICICI Bank and HDFC Bank, **NPCI** has been identified as a 'critical information infrastructure' by the Union Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY).
Note: The government has the power to declare any data, database, IT network or communications infrastructure as CII to protect that digital asset as per the IT Act of 2000. Any person who secures access to a protected system in violation of the law can be punished with a jail term of up to 10 years.
- 49. Open Network for Digital Commerce** has joined hands with National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) to activate e-commerce in the agriculture domain.
Note: ONDC and NABARD have come together to host the NABARD-ONDC Grand Challenge to establish market linkages for the enabled players with market-ready Farmers Producers Organisations. Aim: To promote the development of innovative solutions that are likely to aid the adoption of e-commerce in the agriculture domain.
- 50. The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)** has launched Dhan Sanchay, a non-linked, non-participating, individual savings life insurance plan.
Note: This plan offers financial assistance to the family in the event of the life assured's untimely death within the policy's term. It also offers a guaranteed income stream from the date of maturity until the end of the payout period.
- 51.** PVR and INOX Leisure have received clearances for their merger from **NSE and BSE**.
Note: In March 2022, both multiplex operators announced the merger to create the largest multiplex chain in the country. The company received an observation letter with 'no adverse observations' from BSE Ltd on June 20, 2022, and an observation letter with 'no objection' from NSE on June 21, 2022.
- 52. SBI** will collaborate with the Government's Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare (DoPPW) to create an integrated pension portal.
Note: It helps to enhance the ease of living of pensioners. It was decided during the special session, that immediate effort are needed for the creation of a pension portal by linking the existing portals of the DoPPW and the SBI.
- 53.** Under the chairmanship of **KV Kamath**, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), has set up a 20-member advisory committee, which recommends a fillip to the growth of such instruments, including measures focusing on ease of issuance and attracting domestic and global capital.
Note: Sebi has reconstituted its research advisory committee of 16 members, chaired by V Ravi Anshuman.
- 54. October 1, 2022** is the new timeline recommended by the RBI for implementation of a few provisions under its master directions on credit card and debit card issuance.
Note: Provisions: Card issuers shall seek OTP-based consent from the cardholder for activating a credit card, If consent is not received then card issuers shall close the credit card account without any cost.
- 55. South Indian Bank** has launched a new portal for its corporate EXIM customers named 'SIB TF Online'.
Note: This portal provides a platform for trade-related payments to foreign entities remotely. Through this portal, customers can initiate the payment request on SIB TF Online, after uploading the relevant documents for the transaction.
- 56. YES Bank** has joined hands with CARD91 and RuPay, to create a card management system that will allow companies to launch a variety of co-branded card instruments.
Note: This will enable CARD91 to expand its presence in the Indian payments market. CARD91 is a global payment infrastructure powering B2B payments. It

- was designed to help businesses launch co-branded cards and simplify payments.
- 57. Max Life Insurance Company Ltd** has launched the 'Max Life Smart Fixed-return Digital Plan' with **Policybazaar**.
Note: It is a non-linked, non-participating, individual life insurance savings plan. This plan helps customers to meet their short-term financial goals. The plan also offers guaranteed tax-free returns up to 6.14%. Monthly premiums: ₹3000; Minimum tenure: five years
- 58. In association with Equitas Small Finance Bank**, Freo has launched a digital savings account offering 'Freo Save'.
Note: With this launch, Freo has become the first consumer neobank in the country to provide full-stack neo-banking products. It includes smart savings account, credit and payments products, cards and wealth-growth products.
- 59. AU Bank LIT (Live-It-Today)** the customised Credit Card, launched by AU Small Finance Bank.
Note: This credit card offers a unique value proposition to cardholders. Cardholders can choose the features and time period according to their wish. Through the AU0101 app, cardholders can track their saving/earnings daily to maximize their benefits.
- 60. Liberty General Insurance** has signed an agreement with **Peerless Financial Products Distribution Ltd (PFDDL)** distribution company to enable the distribution of Liberty's retail and commercial line of products.
Note: The product distribution across the country will be done through the 42 branches of Peerless. Liberty is working closely with PFDDL to provide training and operational expertise.
- 61. Karnataka Bank** has launched the 'Video-based Customer Identification Process (V-CIP)'.
Note: It is an online savings bank (SB) account opening facility. This facility will enable the corporate website of the bank, to strengthen the prospective customers to open an SB account through the online process and complete KYC verification through a video call. This is an end-to-end paperless digital process.
- 62. Uttarakhand's** rain-fed agriculture in the steep areas project has been approved by the World Bank, cost Rs. 1,000 crore.
Note: The watershed department will carry out the Uttarakhand Climate Responsive Rain-fed Farming Project. Aims: Lower the greenhouse gas emissions. It will also encourage environment-friendly agricultural practices.
- 63. The World Bank** has approved a loan of **\$ 245 Million** to the Indian Railways to reduce the India's high carbon emissions and low modal freight share in the railways.
Note: The Indian Railway project will help India to shift more traffic from road to rail. This will make transport more efficient and reduce tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions each year. This loan is financed through the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development with a maturity of 22 years.
- 64. ICICI Bank** has launched a digital platform called 'Campus Power'.
Note: Aim: To help students aspiring to pursue higher education in India and outside the country. This platform will cater the varied needs of the entire student ecosystem comprising students, parents, and institutes.
- 65. Zomato** online food delivery platform has announced to acquire Blinkit, which was earlier known as Grofers, in an all-stock deal of Rs 4,447 crore.
Note: Zomato would acquire up to 33,018 equity shares of Blink Commerce Pvt Ltd. The total purchase consideration of Rs 4,447.48 crore at a price of Rs 13.45 lakh per equity share. Last year, Zomato had bought a 10% stake in Blinkit for about \$100 million.
- 66. Mufin Finance** has received in-principal RBI approval for issuance of semi-closed prepaid payment instruments.
Note: This PPI licence will allow digital banks, fintech firms and large consumer-facing applications to roll out features such as digital payment solutions for lending. It is the fourth NBFC to receive such a licence from the RBI Other three: **Bajaj Finserve, Manapurram and Paul Merchants.**
- 67. Acemoney** fintech service has launched UPI 123Pay payment and wearable ATM cards.
Note: UPI 123Pay: Allow people to carry out cashless transactions without smartphones or internet connections by using feature phones only. Wearable ATM cards: It is designed as key chains and rings that allows people to carry out cashless transactions without ATM cards and phones. Acemoney is India's first company to launch UPI 123Pay services in Malayalam and Tamil.
- 68. Kerala Financial Corporation** has raised the upper loan limit of loans under the Chief Minister's

Entrepreneurship Development Programme (CMEDP) to ₹2 crore.

Note: Aim: More MSMEs can get funds at a concessional 5% interest rate. The Kerala government will provide a subsidy of 3% with the Corporation chipping in with 2% towards the effective interest rate. The age limit set by Govt for SC/ ST entrepreneurs, women entrepreneurs and non-resident Keralites is 55 years.

69. As per the Goods and Services Tax (Period of Levy and Collection of Cess) Rules, 2022, has been notified by the finance ministry that the government has extended the time for levy of GST compensation cess by nearly 4 years till **March 31, 2026**.

Note: The levy of cess was about to end on June 30. The revenue from the GST compensation cess is used to pay for the borrowings and arrears of compensation paid to states in the last two financial years.

70. **Bajaj Allianz General Insurance** has launched 'Global Health Care', a comprehensive health insurance product.

Note: It covers planned as well as emergency treatment. It also provides health care Internationally

(outside of India) and domestically (within India). Sum Insured: Rs 37,50,000 to Rs 3,75,00,000. The product is available in two plans, namely 'Imperial Plan' and 'Imperial Plus Plan'. For Overseas citizens of India, the minimum period to stay outside is 180 days.

71. **Airtel Payment Bank** has joined hands with Axis Bank to digitize the cash collection system.

Note: Region: India's tier III cities and semi-urban regions. Axis Bank to build operational efficiencies in the cash management process, speed up the payment cycle. It helps in releasing the bandwidth of field agents who operate across the country.

72. The Securities and Exchange Board of India has imposed a penalty of **7 crores** on the National Stock Exchange (NSE) in the dark fibre case.

Note: 5 crore on Chitra Ramkrishna (former CEO of the exchange). Anand Subramanian (former group operating officer) and Ravi Varanasi (current CBD officer), 5 crore each. Sampark Infotainment, Way2Wealth Brokers and GKN Securities have been fined 3 crore, 6 crore and 5 crore, respectively.

May 2022

1. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 1.12 crore on **Bank of Maharashtra** for non-compliance.

Note: The RBI has also imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 25 lakh on Haryana State Co-operative Apex Bank Limited for non-compliance with its directions on Housing Finance. RBI has also imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 12 lakh on Rajkot Nagarik Sahakari Bank Limited for non-compliance with 'Interest Rate on Deposits'.

2. **NABARD** is planning to prepare a farmer distress index to identify, track, and support distressed farmers.

Note: Under this, the government and the financial institutions can decide on an appropriate package of support instead of a distress package for all the farmers across the board. This index will not be uniform across the nation, as it will depend upon the place's stress levels.

3. **Indian Bank** has unveiled a pre-approved personal loan (PAPL) product under Project World of Advance Virtual Experience (WAVE).

Note: Aims: To provide customers with instant loan disbursements. The loan would carry an interest rate of 10% p.a. with no foreclosure charges. The service is available for existing customers (regular income and pension accounts) and can be availed of through a mobile application, website, and internet banking facility.

4. Which life insurance company has signed up for the UN-supported Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) with the objective of sustainable growth and long term value creation ____ **HDFC Life**.

Note: The Company currently has Assets Under Management of over Rs. 2 lakh crores. The company focuses on better understanding the investment implications of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) factors.

5. **HDFC ERGO** has announced to launch of its 'Pay as you Drive' program, this insurance offers distance-based insurance to reduce upfront costs of premium.

Note: The program will be available for owners of new Maruti Suzuki cars in selected cities up to May 14, 2022. This program is applicable for 10,000 policies or ₹50 lacs of premium whichever happens earlier. The driving distance will be measured with the help of a telematics device in the vehicle.

6. **DBS Bank** has partnered with Anthill Ventures (startup venture capital fund) and Headstart Network Foundation (evangelist network) to launch DBS Business Class foundED.

Note: This forum will help modern-day founders, innovators, and game-changers to foster co-innovation and collaboration in the startup ecosystem. The first event of

- DBS BusinessClass foundedED was held in Hyderabad with actor Rana Daggubati.
7. Fintech API platform, **FidyPay** has joined hands with Yes Bank to expand the digital facility to a wide range of enterprises, including SMEs, fintech companies, and start-ups.
Note: The fintech platform will provide Yes Bank customers with a smooth connected banking experience as part of the partnership. FidyPay will also serve as UPI services solution provider. FidyPay is backed by Mr. Pratekk Agarwal (the former CBO of BharatPe) and Mr. Ram Pathade (CEO of Mahagram).
 8. **30%** is the maximum investment ceiling for insurance companies in the banking, financial services, and insurance (BFSI) sector has been set by The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Irdai).
Note: The existing sectoral investment cap of 25% has been fully utilised by most insurance firms. This will help insurance companies to take a higher exposure in the BFSI sector.
 9. **Eqaro Surety** financial guarantee provider has signed an MoU with the Federation of Indian Micro and Small & Medium Enterprises (FISME) to set up a digital lending platform for MSMEs in the country.
Note: The platform will provide collateral-free capital up to Rs 25 lakh to fulfil MSMEs need for urgent funds post due diligence of their businesses. The credit for MSMEs would be backed by guarantees from Eqaro.
 10. The current repo rate is **4.40%**.
Note: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has raised the Repo rate by 40 basis points to 4.40% and the cash reserve ratio (CRR) by 50 basis points to 4.50%. To bring down the raised inflation to the desired level and tackle the impact of geopolitical tensions. The hike in CRR by 50 bps will suck out Rs 87,000 crore from the banking system.
 11. **Canara Bank** in association with the Additional Skill Acquisition Programme (ASAP) has launched 'skill loans'.
Note: Under this facility, the loan is ranging from ₹5,000 to ₹1.5 lakh. This loan can be availed of by students who are pursuing skill training programmes which are offered by ASAP Kerala or any other Central or State government-recognised agencies. Collateral free loans will be provided to students and have a repayment period of three to seven years.
 12. **Seven** years have been completed for Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMSBY), and Atal Pension Yojana (APY) of providing social security net.
Note: The schemes were launched by PM Narendra Modi on 9th May 2015 in Kolkata, West Bengal. PMJJBY: More than 12.76 crore Cumulative Enrolments; PMSBY: More than 28.37 crore Cumulative Enrolments; APY: Over 4 Crore subscribers
 13. **Indian Bank** has unveiled a digital broking solution named E-Broking, which allows customers to open a Demat and trading account.
Note: E-Broking is a strategic step toward a complete digitalisation of its offerings to customers. IndOASIS (mobile banking application) also offer a seamless experience from Demat and trading account opening to discounted broking services. This will help the bank to increase its CASA (current account, savings account).
 14. **Reliance Industries** becomes the first Indian company to record annual revenue of more than a whopping \$100 billion.
Note: The company has recorded a 22.5% rise in net profit for the quarter ended March 2022. The company has also reported the highest-ever quarterly EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortisation) of ₹33,968 crores (28% up) year-on-year.
 15. **Market Ka Eklavya** is the National Securities Depository Limited's (NSDL) investor awareness programme for students which was launched by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.
Note: To introduce the basics of the securities market and also impart training on financial markets for students. NSDL has launched a new investor awareness programme as part of its silver jubilee celebration.
 16. **Equitas Small Finance Bank** has got RBI approval to merge with Equitas Holdings Ltd.
Note: The merger will comply with the RBI norms on small finance banks which mandate the promoter to reduce the stake in the subsidiary to 40% within five years of commencement of operations by the SFB (Small Finance Bank).
 17. Under the chairmanship of Navneet Munot, SEBI has constituted a committee for advising on **Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG)** in the securities market.
Note: The terms of reference of the committee include Enhancements in business responsibility and sustainability report, ESG ratings, and ESG investing. It will examine evolving disclosures/metrics relevant to the Indian context and suggest areas for assurance and a plan for implementation.
 18. **Xpress Car Loans** is an end-to-end digital car loan scheme launched by the HDFC Bank for its existing customers as well as new customers.
Note: Buyers can apply for a maximum of Rs 20 lakh and the loan amount will be credited to the dealers' accounts within 30 minutes. The facility is currently

available for four-wheelers and will be soon rolled out to two-wheelers as well. To simplify the car purchase process and increase car sales.

- 19. ICICI Bank** has partnered with Santander bank in Britain in a pact aimed at facilitating the banking requirements of corporates operating across both countries.

Note: The memorandum of understanding (MoU) between ICICI and Santander UK Plc is designed to establish a framework of the partnership between the banks to meet the financial service requirements of corporate customers operating within the India-UK corridor.

- 20. Bharti AXA Life Insurance** company has launched its financial literacy campaign 'InspiHERs- enabling an empowered future'.

Note: It is a special initiative to spread financial awareness among women about financial decisions for a secured future. Bharti AXA Life Insurance is a joint venture between Bharti Enterprises and AXA.

- 21. 7.6%** would be India's growth forecast for FY23 estimated by the Morgan Stanley.

Note: The reason: a slowdown in global growth, higher commodity prices and risk aversion in global capital markets expose Asia's third-largest economy to downside risks. Earlier, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has also revised downwards its growth projection for FY23 to 7.2% from 7.8%. The World Bank also slashed its FY23 growth forecast for India to 8%.

- 22. The Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank)** will extend its financial support of USD 190 million to **SBM (Mauritius) Infrastructure Development Company Ltd (SBMIDCL)**.

Note: Projects: Metro Express Project and other infrastructure projects in Mauritius. The credit facility is an additional tranche to the existing Credit of USD 500 million which has been extended to SBMIDCL on the terms and conditions contained in the Dollar Credit Line Agreement dated May 27, 2017.

- 23. Union Bank of India (UBI)** has launched a digital solution named "Trade nxt" to enable corporates as well as MSMEs to transact all cross-border export-import transactions.

Note: This online platform offers absolute entry and processing of letters of credit (LoC), bank guarantees, export and import bills, disbursement of export credit, outward & inward remittances, dealer financing, and much more. Managing Director & CEO of Union Bank of India: Rajkiran Rai G.

- 24. Reliance Industries** of India has climbed two spots to No. 53 on Forbes' latest Global 2000 list of public companies worldwide.

Note: Followed by State Bank of India (105), HDFC Bank (153) and ICICI Bank (204). Other Indian Firms: ONGC at 228 ranks, HDFC at 268, Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) at 357, TCS at 384, Tata Steel at 407 and Axis Bank at 431. The Forbes Global 2000 ranks the largest companies in the world on the basis of four metrics: sales, profits, assets and market value.

- 25. Axis Bank** has partnered with **SpiceJet** to launch the most rewarding co-branded credit card which is powered by Visa that will offer a host of privileges and benefits to customers.

Note: The card comes in two variants: SpiceJet Axis Bank Voyage and Voyage Black. Aim: Facilitating a superlative travel experience for flyers through SpiceClub. The special credit card livery has been unveiled on SpiceJet's Boeing 737 MAX aircraft.

- 26. The government of India** has made PAN or Aadhar mandatory from May 26 in case cash deposits and withdrawals in a financial year exceed **₹20 lakh**.

Note: A notification was issued by the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT). PAN and Aadhar are also mandatory for the opening of a current account or cash credit account by a person with a banking company. There is also a requirement for quoting PAN on bank deposits of over ₹50,000 made in one day.

- 27. The wholesale price-based inflation** in April 2022 is **15.08%**.

Note: On rising prices across segments from food to commodities. The WPI-based inflation was 14.55% in March 2022 and 10.74% in April 2021. The WPI inflation has remained double-digit for the 13th consecutive month since April 2021.

- 28. RBI** has imposed a penalty of Rs 59 lakh on KEB Hana Bank for non-compliance with certain norms related to the interest rates on deposits. The headquarters of KEB Hana Bank is located in **Seoul, South Korea**.

Note: The bank has been penalised under the "Reserve Bank of India (Interest Rate on Deposits) Directions, 2016". The RBI has conducted a statutory inspection for supervisory evaluation of KEB Hana Bank with reference to its financial position as of March 31, 2020.

- 29. India** has surpassed Germany to become the 4th largest vehicles market _____.

Note: According to the Organisation Internationale des Constructeurs d'Automobiles (OICA), India has sold 3,759,398 vehicles in 2021 as compared to 2,973,319 vehicles in Germany. This shows a difference of almost

26%. The most number of vehicles were sold in China (sales remained almost stagnant), followed by the US (reported growth of 4%) and Japan (market shrunk compared to both 2020 and 2019).

- 30. Rs 40,295.25 crore** of fraud has been recorded by the Public sector banks during the financial year ended March 2022.

Note: The 12 PSBs had reported frauds worth Rs 81,921.54 crore in the preceding fiscal 2020-21. But, the number of fraud cases has fallen slightly as a total of 7,940 frauds were reported by the PSBs in 2021-22, against 9,933 incidents reported in FY21.

- 31. For Systems Reform Endeavors for Transformed Health Achievement in Gujarat -SRESTHA-G project** of Gujarat, the World Bank has approved the USD 350 million as financial aid.

Note: The project will include transforming key health delivery systems in the state. Focus area: Improve the quality, equity, and comprehensiveness of primary healthcare, services for adolescent girls and the capacity of disease surveillance systems.

- 32. PNB MetLife India** has launched a dental health insurance plan.

Note: A dental health insurance plan is the first insurance plan in India that covers fixed-benefit outpatient expenses and provides financial assistance with costs related to overall dental health. PNB MetLife has tied up with more than 340 dental clinics to help customers to manage their dental health.

- 33. Minimum 20 investors** have been mandated by the SEBI Collective Investment Scheme (CIS).

Note: Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has enhanced the net worth criteria and track record requirements with an aim to strengthen the regulatory framework for collective investment schemes. A subscription amount of at least Rs 20 crore for each Collective Investment Scheme (CIS). SEBI has put a cap on cross-shareholding in Collective Investment Management Company (CIMC) to 10% to avoid conflict of interest.

- 34. 7.3%** would be India's GDP projection for the current fiscal FY23 by the S&P Global Ratings.

Note: On rising inflation and the Russia-Ukraine conflict. S&P Global Ratings suggestions: Central banks to raise rates more than what was currently priced in, risking a harder landing which includes a larger hit to output and employment.

- 35. National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)** will facilitate Unified Payments Interface (UPI) integration with all banks and ATM networks.

Note: Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has directed banks and ATM operators to provide cardless cash withdrawal facilities at all ATMs. All banks, automated teller machine (ATM) networks, and White Label ATM Operators (WLAOs) may provide the option of ICCW at their ATMs.

- 36. The NEFT and RTGS facility** will be available for **Post Office Savings Accounts holders**.

Note: NEFT facility has been made available for Post Office Savings Accounts holders from May 18, 2022, and RTGS facility will be available from May 31, 2022. This facility enables POSB customers to transfer funds to and from other bank accounts to POSB Accounts in DoP-CBS (DoP-CBS stands for Department of Posts - Core Banking Solutions).

- 37. 25 special courts** will be constituted for the expeditious disposal of cheque bounce cases.

Note: The special courts under the Negotiable Instruments Act will be set up in Maharashtra, Delhi, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan in view of a large number of pending cases. The special courts shall follow the same procedure with respect to trial as mandated by the Criminal Procedure Code, 1973.

- 38. As per the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, India** has received record **USD 83.57 billion** as FDI in 2021-22.

Note: In 2020-21, the inflow stood at USD 81.97 billion. FDI equity inflow in manufacturing sectors has increased by 76% in 2021-22 (USD 21.34 bn) compared to 2020-21. Top investors: Singapore (27%); USA (18%) and Mauritius (16%). Computer software and hardware attracted maximum inflows followed by the services sector and automobile industry

- 39. Rs. 30,307 crore** amount of dividend payment of to the Centre for the fiscal year 2021-22 has been approved by the RBI.

Note: The bank's central board of directors also decided to maintain the contingency risk buffer (CRB) at 5.50%. In the 2022 budget, the government had estimated that it would receive Rs. 73,948 crore as dividend from the RBI and state-owned banks for FY22. The budgeted dividend is 27% lower than the ₹1.01 trillion the Centre received in FY22.

- 40. Paytm** has announced a Joint Venture with **general insurance company**.

Note: JV named as Paytm General Insurance Ltd (PGIL). Paytm has announced plans to infuse ₹950 crore in PGIL in tranches, over a period of 10 years and to hold upfront equity stake of 74 per cent. PGIL will become a subsidiary of the Paytm. PGIL will seek a license for a

- general insurance business from the insurance regulator IRDAI.
- 41. RBL Bank** has recently tied up with Amazon Web Services to offer UPI payments.
Note: The bank has partnered with Amazon Pay to offer peer-to-peer and peer-to-merchant transactions. With this integration, Amazon Pay will issue NPCI's allocated UPI ID with the handle @rapl to RBL Bank. The partnership will allow the bank to tap Amazon Pay's growing customer base and transaction volumes. It will expand the bank's presence in the UPI segment with its payment processing platform hosted on AWS
- 42. New Development Bank (NDB)** has issued an RMB-denominated bond of CNY 7 billion (\$1.04 billion) in China's interbank bond market with a maturity of three years.
Note: The transaction is the largest ever Panda Bond issue by a Multilateral Development Bank (MDB). Upon the completion of the issuance, the NDB would have a cumulative total of RMB 30 bln bonds issued under its RMB bond programs in the China Interbank Bond Market.
- 43. \$30 billion** has been announced by the World Bank as financial aid in response to the ongoing food security crisis in the world.
Note: Areas: Agriculture, nutrition, social protection, water, and irrigation will be available for implementation to address food insecurity over the next 15 months. The World Bank is working with countries on the preparation of \$12 billion of new projects for the next 15 months.
- 44. New Development Bank (NDB)** bank will open its first regional office in India at the Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City) to cater to the infrastructure and sustainable development needs of the country.
Note: The Indian Regional Office (IRO) will be instrumental in enhancing NDB's engagement with borrowers and stakeholders. IRO expands our on-the-ground presence, contributing to preparing and implementing projects
- 45. Real-Time Xpress Credit** is the name of the credit card which is recently announced by the State Bank of India (SBI) on its Yono platform which allows eligible customers to get personal loans of up to ₹35 lakh.
Note: It is a flagship personal loan product for salaried customers (Xpress Credit), now has a digital avatar, and customers can now avail of it through Yono. It would be a 100% paperless and digital experience and an end-to-end eight-step journey.
- 46. Tata Capital Ltd** has launched 'Loan Against Shares' an end-to-end integrated digital financial offering.
Note: Aims: To provide customers with an easy and seamless experience. Through this facility, the customers can avail of loans up to ₹5 crores by simply pledging their dematerialized shares online, facilitated by NSDL.
- 47. HDFC Bank** has joined hands with Retailio to launch of a new range of co-branded credit cards primarily targeted at chemists and pharmacies in the merchant segment.
Note: Retailio is the country's largest B2B pharma marketplace. The co-branded credit card offers cashback on tax payments, reward points, and 5% Cashback on all Business essentials. The card also offers no-cost and low-cost EMI options for all customers on their credit cards.
- 48. Under the chairmanship of Former RBI deputy governor BP Kanungo**, the Reserve Bank of India has set up a committee to review the efficacy, adequacy, and quality of customer service in banks, NBFCs, and other entities regulated by it.
Note: The six-member committee will submit a report within three months from the date of its first meeting. It will also review the evolving needs of the customer service landscape (evolving digital/ electronic financial products and distribution landscape).
- 49. Mahagram** start-up of rural NEO bank has signed a partnership with the IndusInd Bank to digitize the nation's payment ecosystem and provide a wider scope to transact for its customers in rural India.
Note: Aim: To boost financial inclusion, encourage socio-economic development, mitigate the risks of a shadow economy, and accelerate the growth of a cashless society. Mahagram was founded in 2015 to enable rural women to save money at the local Kirana stores.
- 50. UCO Bank** has signed a co-lending agreement with NBFC Paisalo Digital Limited for agriculture business to capitalize on the underbanked and under-serviced population.
Note: The tie-up will give a boost to the agriculture advance of the bank and it is a win-win situation for the bank as well as the NBFC. The Government of India aims to help agriculture and other small borrowers who are the backbone of the Indian economy.
- 51. 7.5% equity stake** have been acquired by the GIC (sovereign wealth fund) in Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail (ABFRL) for Rs 2,195 crore.

- Note:** The investment will be made by way of preferential equity and warrants. In the first tranche, the GIC will invest Rs 770 crore, while the rest amount of Rs 1,425 crore would be infused within 18 months. After the investment, Aditya Birla Group will hold a controlling stake of 51.9% in the company.
- 52. PhonePe (Walmart-owned digital payments firm)** will acquire wealth management firms WealthDesk for about \$50 million and OpenQ for around \$20 million.
Note: PhonePe confirmed the deal related to WealthDesk and OpenQ, but didn't reveal the value of the transaction. PhonePe has applied to the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) for a mutual fund (MF) license in 2021, joining rivals in the race to set up an asset management company (AMC)
- 53. MUFG Bank** becomes the first Japanese bank to open a branch at Gujarat International Financial Tech City (GIFT City).
Note: MUFG Bank has already taken all necessary approvals from the International Financial Services Centre Authority (India) and the Financial Services Agency (Japan) to set up a branch at GIFT City. MUFG had opened its first branch in Mumbai in 1953.
- 54.** The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has increased the third-party (TP) motor insurance premium for various categories of vehicles with effect from **June 1**.
Note: The premium for new private cars is hiked between 1% and 23%.
- 55. Northern Arc (NBFC)** has announced a joint venture (JV) with Indian Bank, to help both institutions leverage synergies and offer customer-centric financial solutions to borrowers in the retail segment.
Note: This move will help Indian Bank by gaining access to Northern Arc's n-POS platform which helps fintech, NBFCs and investors co-lend to retail loan borrowers.
- 56.** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has relaxed the norms for non-bank entities to set up Bharat Bill Payment operating units (BBPOU) by reducing the net-worth requirement to **Rs 25 crores**.
Note: Presently, the minimum net worth of Rs 100 crore is required to obtain authorization for a non-bank BBPOU. Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS) is an interoperable platform for bill payments and the scope and coverage of BBPS extend to all categories of billers who raise recurring bills.
- 57.** The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has cleared **29.5%** of stake to sale in Hindustan Zinc Ltd (HZL) to fetch around Rs 38,000 crore to the exchequer.
Note: The government has budgeted Rs. 65,000 crore from PSU disinvestment and strategic sale. In 2002, the government offloaded a 26% stake in HZL to Sterlite Opportunities and Ventures Ltd (SOVL).
- 58.** Bank of Baroda Financial in partnership with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and **Hindustan Petroleum (HPCL)**, has launched HPCL BoB co-branded contactless RuPay Credit Card.
Note: This card can be used across merchants and ATMs globally through the JCB network. BOB Financial is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Bank of Baroda (BoB).
- 59. HDFC Money** is the name of the Robo advisory platform launched HDFC Securities.
Note: This also manages other aspects of finances such as accessing, managing, and tracking portfolios, starting goal planning, insurance planning, and managing/filing taxes.
- 60.** SEBI has withdrawn the recognition of **Indian Commodity Exchange Limited (ICEX)**.
Note: The withdrawal of recognition follows an order passed by SEBI on May 10 after finding the bourse non-compliant on several grounds like net worth and infrastructural requirements.
- 61. 8.8%** would be India's growth has been projected by the Moody's Investors Service for the calendar year 2022 (CY22).
Note: It projected inflation to be around 6.8% and 5.2% for 2022 and 2023, respectively.
- 62. RBI** organization has issued norms for facilitating the physical import of gold through India International Bullion Exchange IFSC (IIBX) or similar authorized exchange by Qualified Jewellers in India.
Note: Banks may allow Qualified Jewellers to remit advance payments for 11 days for the import of gold through IIBX in compliance to the extant Foreign Trade Policy and regulations issued under IFSC Act.
- 63.** RBI has red-flagged **non-banking financial companies (NBFCs)** in its annual report, observing that balance sheets of shadow banks expanded even as the asset quality deteriorated.
Note: Some of NBFCs pose potential threat to financial stability as their size increased due to higher risk appetite Shadow banking: bank-like activities that take place outside traditional banking sector
- 64.** According to the RBI's Banknote Survey of Consumers findings, **₹100** note has revealed as the most preferred banknote.

Note: ₹2,000 was the least preferred denomination. Among coins, ₹5 denomination was the most preferred whereas ₹1 was the least preferred.

65. Ecowrap is a research report of **SBI**.

Note: According to the State Bank of India's research report Ecowrap, the growth rate of India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is expected to be in the range of 8.2 to 8.5% in the FY22.

Banking & Financial terms

1. **AEPS** – Aadhar Enabled Payment System
2. **APBS** – Aadhar Payment Bridge System
3. **ATM** – Automated Teller Machine
4. **ALM** - Asset Liability Management
5. **AIIB** - Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank
6. **AMFI** - Association of Mutual Funds in India
7. **BIS** - Bureau of Indian Standards
8. **BBPS** – Bharat Bill Payment System
9. **BCA** -Baseline Credit Assessment
10. **BHIM** - Bharat Interface for Money
11. **BLRA**: Bank Led Resolution Approach
12. **CBL** - Chest Balance Limit
13. **CMFRI** - Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute
14. **CBS** – Core Banking System
15. **CIDR** - Central Identities Data Repository
16. **CTS** – Cheque Truncation System
17. **CDR** - Corporate Debt Restructuring
18. **CASA** – Current Account Saving Account
19. **CAD** – Capital Account Deficit
20. **CRA** - Counterparty Risk Assessment
21. **CRR** – Cash Reserve Ratio
22. **ECS** – Electronic Clearing Service
23. **DNS** - Domain Name System
24. **DEAF** - Depositor Education and Awareness Fund
25. **EFTPOS** - Electronic funds transfer at point of sale
26. **EFT** – Electronic Fund Transfer.
27. **FRBM** - Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management
28. **LGD** - Loss Given Default
29. **LTV**- Loan To Value
30. **LRS** - Liberalized Remittance Scheme
31. **LCR** - Liquidity Coverage Ratio
32. **GNFV** - Gross Negative Fair Value
33. **SFTs**: Securities financing transactions
34. **HCE** - Host Card Emulation
35. **PFE** - Potential Future Exposure
36. **IIP** - Index of Industrial Production
37. **IBBI** - Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India
38. **IFC** - International Finance Corporation
39. **IDRBT** - Institute for Development and Research in Banking Technology
40. **Ind As** - Indian Accounting Standards
41. **ICAAP** - Internal Capital Adequacy Assessment Process
42. **IFSC** - Indian Financial System Code
43. **IMPS** - Immediate Payment Service
44. **IMPS** - Interbank Mobile Payment Service
45. **MMID** - Mobile Money Identifier
46. **MPIN** - Mobile Personal Identification Number
47. **NPA** – Non- Performing Assets
48. **NSFR** - Net Stable Funding Ratio
49. **NPCI** - National Payment Corporation of India
50. **NFS** – National Financial Switch
51. **NSFR** - Net Stable Funding Ratio
52. **NACH** – National Automated Clearing House
53. **NEFT** – National Electronic Fund Transfer
54. **NFC** - Near field communication
55. **NDTL** – Net Demand and Time Liabilities.
56. **NASSCOM** - National Association of Software and Services Companies
57. **NIIF** - National Investment and Infrastructure Fund
58. **OTC** – Over the Counter
59. **PIN** – Personal Identification Number
60. **PAC** - Personal Access Code
61. **PCA** - Prompt Corrective Action
62. **PCR** – Public Credit Registry
63. **PCR** - Provisioning Coverage Ratio
64. **PSPs** - Payment Support Providers
65. **TC-CCP** - Third-Country Central Counterparty
66. **TRR** - Temporary Recognition Regime
67. **TReDS** - Trade Receivables Discounting System
68. **RTGS** – Real Time Gross Settlement
69. **USSD** - Unstructured Supplementary Services Data
70. **UIDAI** - Unique Identification Authority of India
71. **VPA** - Virtual Payment Address.
72. **WMA** - Ways and Means Advances
73. **TIEA** - Tax Information and Exchange Agreement
74. **NRETP** - National Rural Economic Transformation Project
75. **IBC** - Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code
76. **GSP** - Generalised System of Preferences
77. **IFFCO** - Indian Farmers Fertilizer Co-operative
78. **PMJAY** - Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana
79. **NBFC** - Non-banking finance companies
80. **SWIFT** - Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunications
81. **NHB** – National Housing Bank
82. **NGT** - National Green Tribunal
83. **DSIB** – Domestically Systematically Important Bank
84. **RWAs** - Risk Weighted Assets
85. **TCs** - Trade credits

86. CSO - Central Statistics Office
87. ASSOCHAM - Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India
88. WPI - Wholesale Price Index
89. FTA - Free Trade Agreement
90. NHB - National Housing Bank
91. YONO - You only need one
92. ARC - Asset Reconstruction Company
93. D-SIBs - Domestic Systemically Important Banks
94. MFIs - Micro Finance Institutions
95. FPIs - Foreign portfolio investors
96. FVCIs - Foreign venture capital investors
97. PPF - Public Provident Fund
98. NSC - National Savings Certificate
99. CbC - Country-by-Country
100. WEF - World Economic Forum
101. MPI - Multidimensional Poverty Index
102. UNDP - United Nations Development Programme
103. UPI - Unified Payments Interface
104. NPCI - National Payments Corporation of India
105. CII - Confederation of Indian Industry
106. NBCC - National Buildings Construction Corporation
107. NSSO - National Sample Survey Office
108. EMV - Europay, MasterCard, Visa.
109. FATF - Financial Action Task Force

Books and Authors

1-15 September

1. **Saumya Saxena** is the writer of the book 'Divorce and Democracy: A History of Personal Law in Post-Independence India'.
Note: A new book on divorce laws and various religions in the post-colonial era was released at the India International Centre. She is a British Academy Fellow at the faculty of History, University of Cambridge, the book talks about the Indian state's difficult dialogue with divorce, which reconciles largely through religion.
2. **Dr Munjpara Mahendra bhai Kalubhai** is the writer of book titled "Science Behind Surya Namaskar".
Note: The book is a collection of evidence-based research on one of the most well-known Yoga asanas at the AIIA. The book was released during the Continuing Medical Education (CME) Programme 2022 organised by the departments of Swasthavritta, Panchakarma, and Darvyaguna in association with Rashtriya Ayurveda Vidyapeeth (RAV), New Delhi.
3. A book titled, 'Forging Mettle: Nrupender Rao and the Pennar Story' has been authored by **Pavan C. Lall**.
Note: In this book, the senior journalist Pavan C. Lall tells the story of Nrupender Rao and his entrepreneurial journey. It is a unique story of how a business built with ethics, social and environmental concern at the core of its values can indeed be profitable and sustainable. This book was published by Harper Business.
4. **Sjoerd Marijne** has authored "Will Power" in which writer shares the inside story of the team's incredible turnaround at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.
Note: The book will be published by HarperCollins India and released on September 21. Marijne was appointed as the chief coach of the women's team in 2017. He has played for The Netherlands, and guided the Dutch Under-21 women's side to a World Cup title.

August 2022

1. A book titled, 'Madam President: A Biography of Draupadi Murmu' that will be released by the end of 2022, is written by **Sandeep Sahu**.
Note: Sandeep Sahu is a Bhubaneswar-based senior journalist. The book will be published by Penguin Random House India (PRHI).
2. Union Minister of State (IC) of the Ministry of Science and Technology, Dr. Jitendra Singh, launched a poetry book titled 'Rusty Skies and Golden Winds', is written by **Sannidhya Sharma**.
Note: She is a student of class 7th at Jammu. The book is published by Blue-Rose Publishers.
3. "Bibi: My Story" is an autobiography of **Benjamin Netanyahu** the former prime minister of Israel.
Note: The English translation will be released by American publisher Simon & Schuster while the Hebrew version will be released by Shibolet Library. He is the longest-serving leader in the history of Israel (1996-1999; 2019 -2021). He presently serves as the chairman of the National Liberal Movement (Likud party).
4. Former Vice President, M Venkaiah Naidu has released a book titled, 'New India - a compilation of selected articles 2014-19' on the death anniversary of former Union Minister **Arun Jaitley**.
Note: Arun Jaitley has served as the Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs of the Government of India from 2014 to 2019. He was awarded the Padma Vibhushan (second highest civilian award of India), posthumously in 2020 in the field of Public Affairs.
5. A book titled, "The Hero of Tiger Hill", is an autobiography of **Subedar Major (Honorary Captain)**.

Note: Yogendra Singh Yadav is the youngest Param Vir Chakra awardee (India's highest gallantry award) at the age of 19 for his actions in the 1999 Kargil conflict. This book was published by Srishti Publishers. It is the true story of a brave soldier who left no stone unturned and fought valiantly for the honour of India

6. **Dr Ashutosh Raravikar** has authored a new book titled "Indian Banking in Retrospect – 75 years of Independence".
Note: He is the Director of the Department of Economic & Policy Research (DEPR), Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The book is published by Aswad Prakashan Private Limited. Bibek Debroy, Chairman of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister of India has written the foreword of the book.

7. **Mallika Sarabhai** is the writer of the self-help memoir, "Free Fall: My Experiments with Living".
Note: The book is about "coming to terms with yourself, your body and finding the lifestyle that works for you". It is published by Speaking Tiger.
8. A new book named 'India's Economy From Nehru To Modi: A Brief History' written by **Pulapre Balakrishnan**.
Note: The book, India's Economy 'From Nehru To Modi: A Brief History' is written about the economic progression of India from the time of Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru to the current time of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Independent The 75-year odyssey of the Indian economy is coming to an end.

July 2022

1. Author-journalist **Susan Ninan** has written the memoir Mind Master: Winning Lessons from a Champion's Life.
Note: Hachette India has announced the paperback edition of five-time world chess champion Viswanathan Anand's widely acclaimed memoir "Mind Master: Winning Lessons from a Champion's Life". It is written by Anand with author-journalist Susan Ninan.
2. **Hector Garcia and Francesc Miralles** is the writer of the book titled "Shinrin Yoku: The Rejuvenating Practice of Forest Bathing".
Note: 'Shinrin Yoku', which translates as 'forest bathing', refers to taking mindful walks amidst nature to relieve stress and realign our energies. The term was coined by the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries in 1982.
3. Union Minister **Meenakshi Lekhi** has launched the book the titled, "Swadhinta Sangram na 75 Shoorveero" in Gujarati.
Note: This book is a page-long summary of 75 freedom fighters of India like- Tirupur Kumaran from Tamil Nadu who saved the Flag. It is a part of the "Swadhinta Ka Amrit Mahotsav" to mark the 75th year of the country's Independence. The book is published by the Hindu Spiritual & Service Foundation in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
4. **General JJ Singh (Retd)** is the writer of the book titled, "The McMahon line: A century of discord".
Note: He was a former Governor of Arunachal Pradesh and former Chief of Army Staff. 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.
5. **Aradhana Johri (Senior IAS)** is the writer of the book "BEYOND THE MISTY VEIL", Temple Tales of Uttarakhand, released by CM Pushkar Singh Dhami.
Note: This book will be known as an authentic introduction to the divine temples of Uttarakhand in the country and abroad. Former IAS officer Aradhana Johri who had served earlier as the District Magistrate of Nainital.
6. **S. Jaishankar (External Affairs Minister)** released the 'Connecting through Culture', an anthology of essays on various aspects of India's soft power strengths.
Note: The Minister described the book as the "good cop" in diplomacy. It can be used to encourage others to work with India because "it creates a comfort about India.
7. **Union Minister Anurag Thakur** has released the Moods, Moments and Memories - Former Presidents of India (1950-2017) A Visual History, published by Directorate of Publications Division.
Note: Other two books published by Directorate of Publications Division and released by Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Anurag Thakur are: (1) First Citizen - Pictorial Record of President Ram Nath Kovind's Term. (2) Interpreting Geometries - Flooring of Rashtrapati Bhavan

June 2022

1. **Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh** has released two E-Books on 8 Years of Administrative and Pension reforms of DoPPW & DARPG.
Note: Dr Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (MoS), Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions released two e-books titled "E-book on 8 Years Achievements of DoPPW 2014-2022" and "E-Book on 8

- Years Achievements of Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances(DARPG)".
- International Institute of Sports Management** has launched the book 'Business of Sports: The Winning Formula for Success'.
Note: It is authored by Vinit Karnik and has been published under the banner of Popular Prakashan.
 - Ram Bahadur Rai** is the writer of the book titled, 'Bhartiya Samvidhan: Ankahi Kahani'.
Note: This book of Shri Rai will be in the tradition of New India's effort to remember the forgotten thoughts to ensure that in the India of the future, consciousness of the past remains strong. The book with the history of independence and the untold chapters of our constitution will give a new thinking to the youth of the country.
 - RN Bhaskar** is the writer of the biography of Adani Group chairman and founder, Gautam Adani, "Gautam Adani: The Man Who Changed India".
 - Note:** The book will be published by the Penguin Random House (PRHI). The book has claimed to bring to light the unknown aspects of one of the richest men in the world.
 - Rahul Ramagundam** is the writer of the biography of India's former Union Defence Minister, late George Fernandes, 'The Life and Times of George Fernandes'.
Note: It will be published by Penguin Random House India. He was born on June 3, 1930 in Mangalore. He emerged as a key figure in the fight to restore democracy after the Emergency was imposed in 1975.
 - Who has released a book titled Ashtang Yoga authored by Dr Sonu Phogat on 8th International Yoga Day ____
Haryana CM, Manohar Lal.
Note: During the launch he announced that various programmes are being organised in Haryana on IYD. CM also appreciated the efforts of writer Dr Sonu Phogat, as it is a matter of pride that the book on Yoga was released on International Yoga Day.

May 2022

- Dr. Anirban Ganguly and Shivanand Dwivedi** is the author of Marathi book on Union Home Minister Amit Shah that chronicles his political journey.
Note: Devendra Fadnavis (Maharashtra BJP leader) has released a book titled 'Amit Shah Ani Bhajapachi Vatchal' records the life and journey of Shah and his contribution to building the BJP. The book has been translated into Marathi by Dr. Jyostna Kolhatkar. The book is published by Bloomsbury India.
- Air Marshal Jagjeet Singh and Group Captain Shailendra Mohan** is the editor of the 'INDO-PAK WAR 1971- Reminiscences of Air Warriors' book which was released by Rajnath Singh at the 37th Air Chief Marshal PC Lal Memorial Lecture.
Note: The book has 50 Swarnim articles which are penned in detailed narrations by veterans. Air Chief Marshal PC Lal was commissioned in the IAF in 1939 and awarded the Padma Bhushan (1966) and Padma Vibhushan (1972).
- Wesley Morgan** is the author of the book, titled "The Hardest Place: The American Military Adrift in Afghanistan's Pech Valley".
Note: Wesley Morgan (Author and journalist) has won the William E. Colby Award for his military and intelligence writing. He was cited for his book "The Hardest Place: The American Military Adrift in Afghanistan's Pech Valley." The Colby Award is presented by Norwich University in Northfield, Vermont. The Colby award was established in 1999 and named for the late CIA director William E. Colby.
- Renowned author Preeti Shenoy** has authored a new novel titled "A Place Called Home".
Note: The book published by HarperCollins Publishers India. The novel is about secrets, family, and finding yourself. A story set in a coffee estate in Sakleshpur, Karnataka with a strong female protagonist at its core. Other Books of Preeti Shenoy: The Magic Mindset, When Love Came Calling, Wake Up Life is Calling, Life is What You Make it, The Rule Breakers.
- Ruskin Bond** is the author of the book titled "Listen to Your Heart: The London Adventure".
Note: Published by: Penguin Random House India (PRHI). His first novel: The Room on the Roof Awards: Padma Shri (1999) and Padma Bhushan (2014).

Agreement & Deals

(1st to 14th September 2022)

1. IBM and IIT Madras collaborate to promote quantum computing in India

Note: IBM and IIT Madras collaborate: Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (IIT-Madras) and International Business Machines (IBM) have cooperated to improve quantum computing research and talent development in India. IIT Madras joins the IBM Quantum Network's global membership of over 180 organisations through this agreement. IIT Madras also joins the global network of Fortune 500 corporations, start-ups, academic institutions, and research labs using IBM Quantum technology to enhance quantum computing and investigate business application cases as the "first Indian university."

2. MeitY Startup Hub and Meta Collaborate to speed up XR technology startups in India

Note: MeitY Startup Hub and Meta Collaborate: In association with Meta, MeitY Startup Hub (MSH) will introduce a programme to help and accelerate XR technology entrepreneurs in India. The program's announcement is scheduled for September 13, 2022. At the event will be Joel Kaplan, Vice President, Global Policy, Meta, and Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar, Hon'ble Minister of State for Electronics & Information Technology, Skill Development & Entrepreneurship.

3. Vedanta And Foxconn to Invest 1.54 Lakh Crore In Gujrat For Chip Manufacturing

Note: The Anil Agarwal-led-Vedanta Limited and Foxconn Group will invest more than Rs 1.54 lakh crore to set up an semiconductor ecosystem in Gujarat. The oil-to-metals conglomerate said Vedanta Displays Limited will set up a Display Fab Unit with an investment of Rs 94500 crore and Vedanta Semiconductors Limited will set up an integrated Semiconductor Fab Unit and OSAT (Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Test) facility with investment of Rs 60000 crore.

4. NIESBUD, IIE and ISB Signs MoU to offer Entrepreneurial Programmes to India's Youth

Note: The National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development (NIESBUD) and the Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship (IIE), under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) individually with the Indian School of Business (ISB), which is a top-ranking global business school, to offer world-class management education through entrepreneurial programs targeted towards youth and job seeking entrepreneurs.

5. India-Bangla Trade Now Set For CEPA Boost

Note: Following a meeting with the visiting Prime Minister of Bangladesh Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister Narendra Modi

said India and Bangladesh will soon commence negotiations on a Bilateral Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA). "We both believe that by taking lessons from the Covid pandemic and recent global developments, we need to make our economies stronger,"

6. BEL tie-up with Smiths Detection to manufacture scanning systems

Note: Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Smiths Detection, a global leader in threat detection and security inspection technologies, for offering advanced, high-energy scanning systems to the Indian market. The MoU, signed for a period of five years and can be extended further by mutual consent, will leverage the high-end, technological capabilities of both firms to meet India's domestic security needs.

7. Adobe and AICTE collaborate to promote digital literacy in India

Note: Adobe and AICTE collaborate: The All-India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) in order to advance digital creativity capabilities throughout the nation, has struck a partnership deal with Adobe. According to a release, under the terms of the agreement, Adobe will provide training for educators, provide courses, and incorporate digital creativity into the curriculum to give kids the fundamental creative and digital literacy skills they need to succeed in today's digital-first society.

8. Tata Steel and Punjab govt inked an MoU to establish steel facility in Ludhiana

Note: Tata Steel and Punjab Govt signs an MoU: The Tata steel company and the Punjabi government have agreed to establish a 0.75 million tonne per year (MnTPA) long products steel facility with an electric arc furnace (EAF) powered by scrap. Tata Steel's decision to build the greenfield facility at Kadiana Khurd in Ludhiana's Hitech Valley is a part of the company's commitment to investing in a circular economy and switching to low-carbon steel making through steel recycling.

9. Andhra Pradesh signs MoU with Parley for the Oceans

Note: Andhra Pradesh government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the 'Parley for the Oceans', a U.S.-based company that works for plastic-waste management. The minister of Municipal Administration and Urban Development (MA&UD) Audimulapa Suresh, MAUD Principal Secretary, Y.Sri Lakshmi, and Founder of Parley for the Oceans, Cyrill Gutsch. The MoU was signed under the presence of Chief Minister of Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy and an event was held at the AU Convention Centre in Vishakhapatnam.

August 2022

- 1. AAI and Sweden inks an MoU for sustainable aviation Tech**
Note: At the AAI Corporate Headquarters in New Delhi, the LFV Air Navigation Services of Sweden and the Airports Authority of India (AAI) signed a Memorandum of Understanding. In order to investigate smart aviation solutions, the agreement between Sweden and Airports Authority of India (AAI) brings together two air navigation service providers, India and Sweden, who have a track record of developing and implementing the newest generation of environmentally friendly aviation technology.
- 2. Hero Electric Partners with Jio-BP for Charging & Battery swapping**
Note: Hero Electric, an Indian electric scooter maker announces a partnership with Jio-BP to provide EV charging and battery swapping solutions in India. The partnership between Hero electric and Jio-BP will allow the automaker's customers access to the latter's charging and battery swapping infrastructure. In 2020, a joint venture between Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Industries and British oil giant BP, called Jio-BP.
- 3. Royal Enfield tie-up with UNESCO to promote cultural heritage of India**
Note: Royal Enfield has partnered with UNESCO (the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) to promote and safeguard the 'Intangible Cultural Heritage of India, beginning with the Himalayas. The programme is curated as an experiential and creative showcase of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) practices in the Western Himalayas and the North Eastern region.
- 4. SIDBI and Tata Power's TPRMG collaborated to support green entrepreneurs**
Note: In order to build 1,000 green energy businesses across the nation, the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) and TP Renewable Microgrid Ltd (TPRMG), a fully owned subsidiary of Tata Power, have teamed up to launch green energy businesses programme. The project will promote sustainable business models across the country, resulting in the empowerment of rural entrepreneurs.
- 5. Godrej Agrovet signed agreements with Assam, Manipur, and Tripura for Palm Oil**
Note: Godrej Agrovet, a diversified agribusiness conglomerate, announced that it has signed an MoU with the governments of Assam, Manipur, and Tripura to advance and promote oil palm growth in the area under the National Mission on Edible Oils-Oil Palm initiative. The partnership between Godrej Agrovet and the state governments will create new chances for expansion of oil palm plants in these states as well as support for farmers.
- 6. IREDA and MAHAPREIT sign an MoU to provide loans for green energy projects**

Note: IREDA and MAHAPREIT sign an MoU: The Mahatma Phule Renewable Energy and Infrastructure Technology Ltd. (MAHAPREIT), a fully owned subsidiary of MPBCDC (49% owned by the Government of India and 51% owned by the Government of Maharashtra), and the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd. (IREDA) signed a memorandum of understanding.

- 7. TCS partnership with five star bank to offer hyper-personalised customer experience**
Note: Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has partnered with a subsidiary of Financial Institutions, Inc. 'Five Star Bank' on its digital transformation journey. This partnership enables it to determine lending risk and deliver hyper-personalized customer experiences using the TCS Customer Intelligence & Insights (CI&I) analytics platform. TCS will leverage the AI-powered CI&I platform's real-time contextual engagement capabilities to help the bank gain insights to avoid attrition blind spots and drive omnichannel customer personalization.
- 8. K-DISC inks MoU with LinkedIn to Promote Employability**
Note: Kerala Development and Innovation Strategy Council (K-DISC) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with LinkedIn, the world's largest professional network, along with the ICT Academy of Kerala (ICTAK) under the Kerala Knowledge Economy Mission (KKEM) as a part of Connect Career to Campus campaign (CCC). Kerala government aims to boost employability skills with this partnership among the youth of Kerala to get relevant jobs using LinkedIn.
- 9. NIESBUD tie-up with Hindustan Unilever Ltd to develop entrepreneurial skills**
Note: National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development (NIESBUD) and Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for developing entrepreneurial skills among the youth and identifying other aspects for mutual collaboration. The alliance will further enhance employment generation and create sustainable livelihood opportunities, giving a major boost to nano and micro-entrepreneurship advancement in the country.
- 10. IOCL and Bangladesh ink MoU to supply emergency petroleum products**
Note: A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the emergency delivery of petroleum products via Bangladeshi territory to India was signed by the Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) and the Bangladesh Roads and Highways department in Dhaka. The Indian High Commission stated in a tweet that this is an interim setup to help with the urgent supply of petroleum products due to damage caused by the flood in Assam this year.
- 11. IISc Bengaluru and Indian Navy ink MoU for joint aviation research**

Note: In accordance with the objectives of Atmanirbhar Bharat, the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) and the Indian Navy have signed an MoU to cooperate on aviation research and development and to intensify self-reliance efforts for the Indian Navy. The inked MoU gives the Indian Navy a legal framework for communication with the appropriate IISc faculty members and will support collaborative research initiatives in areas of shared interest, according to a statement from the Bengaluru-based institution.

12. Agreement Between NPCI and IIT Kanpur for Research Collaboration

Note: A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kanpur, paves the way for the exchange of creative ideas and collaboration on the creation of homegrown digital payment solutions. The collaboration will also aid in strengthening cybersecurity safeguards for the goods and services provided by NPCI and its affiliates. The MoU will spur NPCI and IIT Kanpur to work together on a variety of projects.

13. For next "Make in Odisha" summit in 2022, Odisha and FICCI ink an MoU

Note: A Memorandum of Understanding between the state-run Industrial Promotion and Investment Corporation of Odisha and the business organisation Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) designates the latter as a national industry partner for the Make in Odisha Conclave 2022. The Odisha government's Principal Secretary for Industries, Hemant Sharma, emphasised that "Make in Odisha" is the state's most entrepreneurial event and draws investors, businesspeople, and industrialists alike.

14. International North-South Transport Corridor(INSTC)

Note: International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) is a multi-modal transport corridor established in the year 2000 for the purpose of promoting transportation cooperation among the Member States. This corridor connects India-Ocean and Persian-Gulf to the Caspian Sea via Iran and is then connected to Saint Petersburg and North European via Russia.

15. NSE and BSE approve of Zee's merger with Sony Pictures

Note: The BSE and NSE stock exchanges have given Zee Entertainment their approval for Zee Entertainment's proposed merger with Sony Pictures Networks India. According to a statement by Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd., both the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) and the National Stock Exchange (NSE) have accepted the planned merger with Culver Max Entertainment Private Limited (formerly Sony Pictures Networks India). The stock exchanges' approval is a decisive and encouraging step in the merger approval process as a whole.

16. IMF Signed Extended Fund Facility(EFF) With Pakistan

Note: IMF(International Monetary Fund) provides assistance to countries experiencing serious payment imbalances because of structural impediments or slow growth and an inherently weak balance-of-payments position. It provides support for comprehensive programs including the policies needed to correct structural imbalances over an extended period. As structural reforms to correct deep-rooted weaknesses often take time to implement and bear fruit, EFF engagement and repayment cover longer periods than most Fund arrangements. The funds are provided for up to 3 to 4 years. And amounts drawn under an EFF are to be repaid over 5–10 years.

July 2022

1. Indian and Malaysian bodies signs deal to support palm oil business

Note: The Malaysian Palm Oil Council (MPOC) and the Indian Vegetable Oil Producers' Association (IVPA) have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to expand their cooperation in promoting the usage of palm oil. The MoU is anticipated to increase collaboration in areas of shared interest and to advance the production and consumption of palm oil from Malaysia and palm oil with the MSPO certification. Through cooperative actions and assistance for product and market development, it would advance the interests of producers, processors, users, and consumers.

2. Egypt signs \$8 billion agreement with India for Suez Canal Economic Zone

Note: Egypt and an Indian company have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to construct a green hydrogen factory in the Suez Canal Economic Zone, according to a cabinet announcement. The MoU states that Indian ReNew Power Private Limited (RENE.BO) will invest \$8 billion to construct a facility that will create 20,000 tonnes of green hydrogen annually.

3. Talgo and Bharat Forge inks a contract for the production of trains

Note: A joint venture to produce high-speed passenger trains has been established by BF Infrastructure Ltd., a fully owned subsidiary of Bharat Forge Ltd., and Talgo India Pvt Ltd., a fully owned subsidiary of Spanish manufacturer Patentes Talgo S.L. The cooperation will take advantage of forthcoming local requirements in the field as well as new economic prospects in the railways sector.

- 4. One of India's largest financial deals, Axis Bank-Citi merger, gets approved by CCI**
Note: The acquisition of Citibank, N.A. and Citicorp Finance (India) Limited's consumer banking operations by Axis Bank has been approved, according to the Competition Commission of India (CCI). The acquisition had been disclosed by the firms. According to CCI, the transaction entails the going-concern slump sale of Citibank and Citicorp's consumer banking operations to Axis.
- 5. To Establish Center of Excellence for MSME, NSIC and LG Electronics sign an agreement**
Note: In the presence of Shri Narayan Rane, Honorable Cabinet Minister, Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma, Honorable Minister of State, Shri B. B. Swain, Secretary MSME, Shri P. Udayakumar, CMD, NSIC, and Shailesh Kumar Singh, AS&DC, National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) signed an agreement with LG Electronics India Pvt Ltd. and the Electronics Sector Skills Council of India (ESSCI).
- 6. MoU signed between Flipkart and Bihar State Skill Development Mission**
Note: E-commerce market, Flipkart said that it had signed an agreement with the Bihar State Skill Development Mission to start the Supply Chain Operations Academy (SCOA) projects in the state. According to a release, the programme aims to develop a talent pool of skilled supply chain operations personnel and disseminate pertinent training and expertise of the business.
- 7. India sign an agreement with Namibia to reintroduce cheetah**
Note: A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Namibia aims to bring back cheetahs to the country after nearly seven decades. The first eight cheetahs are expected to arrive in Madhya Pradesh's Kuno National Park by August 15. Separately, India is anticipated to receive 12 cheetahs from South Africa; a draught deal has already been signed, and a final one is forthcoming, according to authorities with knowledge of the situation.
- 8. RIL tie-up with Athletics Federation of India to support Indian Athlete**
Note: Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) and the Athletics Federation of India (AFI) have entered into a long-term partnership to enable the holistic growth of athletics in India. The partnership aims to discover, nurture and develop Indian athletes from across the country and provide them with world-class facilities, coaching and sports science and medicine support by leveraging the Reliance Foundation ecosystem including the Odisha Reliance Foundation Athletics High-Performance Center and Sir HN Reliance Foundation Hospital.
- 9. Vedanta collaborates with company started from IIT Madras**
Note: In order to implement safety incident detection, metal and oil and gas company Vedanta has partnered with Detect Technologies, a startup established at IIT Madras, and deployed T-Pulse HSE Monitoring System across all of its business units. The partnership is consistent with the Vedanta Group's objective to achieving zero harm through the implementation of AI-enabled safety monitoring of workplaces, which is a key priority in its roadmap for digital transformation.
- 10. Coffee Board to collaborate with ISRO to develop climate-resistant varieties**
Note: State-run Coffee Board is planning to focus on developing new varieties that will be resistant to the changing climatic patterns. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Coffee Board and the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) was signed with regard to breeding climate-resilient varieties and assessing the carbon sequestration potential in coffee among others.
- 11. Rashtriya Raksha University, DroneAcharya tie up to set Remote Pilot Training Centre**
Note: Rashtriya Raksha University at Gandhinagar has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with DroneAcharya Aerial Innovations Private Limited for setting up a Remote Pilot Training Centre for imparting drone flying skills. This training will be imparted to the Police and security force personnel and citizens at RRU Campus near Gandhinagar. According to official sources, this initiative is in accordance with the mission of the University to identify, prepare and sustain statecraft of national strategic and security culture among the security, police and civilian society.
- 12. Tata Power and Tamil Nadu inks a pact to establish a solar manufacturing facility**
Note: Tata Power revealed that it has reached a deal with the Tamil Nadu government to invest Rs. 3000 crore in the construction of a new solar cell and module manufacturing facility in the state's Tirunelveli district. According to the agreement, both parties will endeavour to promote the switch to renewable energy and the creation of jobs in the state. The investment in the facility must take place over a period of more than 16 months and must result in the creation of jobs, the majority of which will be for women.
- 13. Avanse Financial and Edelweiss collaborate to provide student travel insurance**
Note: Avanse Financial Services, an NBFC with an emphasis on education, and Edelweiss General Insurance (EGI) have teamed to offer student travel insurance to international students who are supported by Avanse. Student travel

insurance from Edelweiss General Insurance covers medical costs and guards against emergencies and financial losses. The Edelweiss General Insurance plan ensures students have a worry-free time while studying and staying by providing comprehensive coverage against medical, lodging, and travel inconvenience-related covers.

14. To establish semiconductor park, IGSS Ventures and Tamil Nadu Govt signs MoU

Note: In the presence of Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between

Tamil Nadu and the Singapore-based M/s. IGSS Ventures Pte Ltd to build a 300-acre semiconductor high-tech park in the State with an investment and grants of 25,600 crore. At the function held at the Secretariat were Industries Minister Thangam Thennarasu, Chief Secretary V. Irai Anbu, and other top officials. In the next five years, the project is expected to directly employ more than 5,000 individuals, according to an official press release.

June 2022

1. To provide e-PAN Services, Protean and PayNearby collaborate

Note: In order to provide PAN-related services for PayNearby's retail partners through Aadhaar and biometric or SMS-based OTP authentication for their clients, Protean eGov Technologies Ltd (previously NSDL e-Governance Infrastructure Ltd) and PayNearby have formed a cooperation. For millions of citizens, the cooperation seeks to improve service delivery.

2. Bharat Electronics signed an MoU with Belarusian Company for supply of Airborne Defence Suite

Note: Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Defense Initiatives (DI), Belarus, and Defense Initiatives Aero Pvt Ltd, India (a subsidiary of DI Belarus). The MoU is signed to build cooperation amongst the three companies for the supply of Airborne Defense Suite (ADS) for Indian Air Force's helicopters.

3. Zomato tie-up with Jio-bp to accelerate EV adoption

Note: Zomato and Jio-bp have entered into an agreement to support Zomato's commitment towards "The Climate Group's EV100 initiative of 100 per cent EV fleet by 2030." The collaboration is poised to accelerate EV adoption in the rapidly growing Indian delivery and transportation segment. Jio-bp, the fuel and mobility joint venture between Reliance Industries Ltd and bp, will provide EV mobility services to Zomato and access to 'Jio-bp pulse' battery swapping stations for last-mile delivery.

4. France signs agreement to accept UPI payments and RuPay cards from India

Note: Union Communication Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said that UPI and Rupay card services will be available in France soon, giving a huge boost to the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) and Rupay cards. The overseas branch of India's National Payments Corporation (NPCI) has inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with France's Lyra Network for the acceptance of UPI and Rupay in the country.

5. LinkedIn tie-up with UN Women to create employment opportunities for women

Note: LinkedIn, the world's largest professional network, will invest USD 5,00,000 (Rs 3.88 crore) in partnership with United Nation's Women to advance women's economic empowerment. The project will launch a pilot in Maharashtra to cultivate the digital, soft and employability skills of 2,000 women and present them with a range of career-building opportunities through job fairs, mentoring sessions and peer-to-peer networks. The three-year regional collaboration will digitally upskill women, providing them greater access to jobs and equipping them to fully participate in the formal economy.

6. BRICS PartNIR Innovation Center has signed MoU with a BRICS bank

Note: The BRICS Partnership on New Industrial Revolution (PartNIR) Innovation Center and the BRICS New Growth Bank (NDB) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to enhance bilateral cooperation and boost BRICS countries' common development. The name BRICS stands for Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa, a group of emerging markets. It is home to more than 40% of the worldwide population and a quarter of the global economy.

7. India & Canada inked MoU on Climate Action for Stronger Cooperation

Note: India and Canada have signed a memorandum of understanding to strengthen bilateral collaboration on climate change, environmental preservation, and conservation. On the sidelines of the Stockholm+50 summit, Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav and his Canadian colleague Steven Guilbeault signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

8. Israel and the United Arab Emirates signed the first Arab free trade deal

Note: Israel has inked its first free trade agreement with an Arab country, with the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The agreement was signed in Dubai by Israel's Economy and Industry Minister Orna Barbivay and the UAE's Economy Minister Abdalla Bin Touq Al Marri. According to an official

statement released by Israel's Ministry of Economy and Industry, the comprehensive, significant, and ground-breaking agreement is expected to increase bilateral trade in goods and services, increase Israeli exports to the United

Arab Emirates, and provide customs exemption on 96% of trade between the countries: food, agriculture, cosmetics, medical equipment, medication, and more.

May 2022

1. Uttarakhand Govt and BPCL inked MoU for renewable energy projects

Note: An MoU was signed between the Uttarakhand government and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) in the presence of Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami for the promotion of the renewable energy industry and other projects in the state. The Uttarakhand government and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for the development of new and renewable energy projects in the state.

2. India-Jordan struck an agreement to cooperate in fertilisers sector

Note: A high-level group led by Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya visited Jordan in a first-of-its-kind endeavor with the goal of securing fertilizers and raw materials for the short and long term. The visit took place against the backdrop of the current global fertilizer crisis. Dr. Mandaviya noted that the Jordan visit was historic in terms of assuring India's supply of phosphoric and potassium fertilizers. Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya called Jordan as India's chosen fertilizer partner during the meetings.

3. UNDP and Agriculture Ministry signs MoU for Credit Strategic Partnership

Note: The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW), the Government of India, and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) under which UNDP will provide technical assistance to the Centre's ambitious Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) and Kisan Credit Card – Modified Interest Subvention Scheme.

4. MoU between Ministry of Agriculture and UNDP

Note: The Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). As per the MoU, UNDP will provide technical support to two government programs: Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) & Kisan Credit Card-Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (KCC-MISS). By leveraging its expertise, UNDP will provide technical assistance to effectively implement agriculture credit and crop insurance schemes. It will also help the government in the capacity development of small and marginal farmers, women farmers, sharecroppers, & tenant farmers.

5. INCOIS signs MoU with Indian Navy

Note: Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Hyderabad, has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Navy to provide training services and support to the School of Naval Oceanology and Meteorology (SNOM) for conduct of various courses related to operational oceanography. Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Hyderabad, has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Navy to provide training services and support to the School of Naval Oceanology and Meteorology (SNOM) for conduct of various courses related to operational oceanography.

6. MoRD, Amazon ink pact to turn rural women into entrepreneurs

Note: Ministry of Rural Development and Amazon have signed an MOU to enable SHG entrepreneurs under NRLM to offer their products to the buyers across India through Amazon Saheli Storefront and help SHG women achieve good price for their varied products.

7. Prasar Bharati and ORTM inked MOU on cooperation and collaboration in Broadcasting

Note: Prasar Bharati, India's national broadcaster, has signed an MoU with Madagascar's official ORTM (Office de la Radio et de la Television) for broadcasting cooperation and collaboration. Indian Ambassador Abhay Kumar and ORTM Director General Jean Yves signed a Memorandum of Understanding. The MoU intends to exchange programmes, investigate co-production of programmes, and exchange persons.

8. WEF partnered with NITI Aayog to focus on emerging technologies to help small, marginal farmers

Note: NITI Aayog and World Economic Forum (WEF) have partnered to use artificial intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT), blockchain and drones for the benefit of farmers, particularly small and marginal. In 2018, the WEF has established the Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution (C4IR), India in Mumbai, in collaboration with the NITI Aayog. C4IR has already launched the Sagu Bagu Pilot Project in Telangana for using AI in agriculture.

9. NHAI Signs Two MOUs in Lucknow to Enhance Highway Infrastructure

Note: National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has signed two MOUs to enhance National Highway infrastructure and will contribute to sustaining environment in Uttar Pradesh and other states. A first of its kind MOU was signed between NHAI and State

Rural Livelihood Mission, Uttar Pradesh to involve the self-help groups in taking up the plantations along the National Highways. The initiative will also be introduced in other states like Madhya Pradesh, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Assam, Rajasthan, and Andhra Pradesh. The second MOU was signed between NHA and AMMANN India Pvt. Ltd. Both entities have collaborated to create a talent pool of highly skilled workforce, fully trained on advanced technologies in Highway construction, rehabilitation, and maintenance.

10. MHA and SECI sign MoU to realize India's green energy initiative

Note: Ministry of Home Affairs and Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited (SECI) have signed an MOU for collaboration in the field of green energy. Under the MOU, SECI will generate solar power up to 71.68 megawatts and provide the energy to a large number of security establishments across India.

11. Railway Protection Force (RPF) has signed an MoU with Association for Voluntary Action (AVA) for curbing child trafficking.

Note: Railway Protection Force is entrusted with the responsibility of security of railway property, passenger area and passengers. It has been discharging responsibility as mandated by the Standardized Operating Procedure for rescue of children issued by Ministry of Railways and working with other stakeholders to rescue more than 50,000 children since 2018 under "Operation Nanhe Farishte". It has recently launched "Operation AAHT" to take stringent action against human trafficking through rail and has been rescuing victims of Human Trafficking from the clutches of traffickers.

12. India, Denmark Ink 9 Agreements During PM Modi's Visit

Note: India and Denmark signed 9 agreements during PM Modi's visit to the European nation. Some important are as follows:

1. Agreement on Migration and Mobility
2. Letter of Intent for creating Centre of Excellence in Green Shipping
3. Cultural Exchange Program from 2022-2026
4. India has joined the International Centre for Anti-Microbial Resistance Solution (ICARS) as the mission partner

5. Agreement for cooperation on water, skill development, animal husbandry and dairying sector, setting up Energy Policy Dialogue at Ministerial level

6. Agreement between Invest India and Technical University of Denmark for start-up collaboration

13. Ayana Renewable and Greenstat Hydrogen tie up to develop green hydrogen projects

Note: Ayana Renewable Power and Greenstat Hydrogen India have partnered for development of green hydrogen projects in India. Under this partnership, the companies will develop large scale green hydrogen solutions, to provide long term supply of green hydrogen to industrial and commercial customers in India. An initial pilot project will be launched in Karnataka. Ayana is powered by National Investment and Infrastructure Fund's (NIIF). Greenstat is a subsidiary of Norway-based Greenstat ASA.

14. IIT Bombay and IMD signed MOU to develop user-friendly weather forecasting app

Note: The IIT Bombay has partnered with the Ministry of Earth Sciences' India Meteorological Department (IMD) to develop climate solutions for stakeholders at the village, city, and district levels. The partnership will aid the institute in the development of sensors and drone-based smart monitoring systems, climate-smart agriculture technology for water and food security, intelligent and automated early warning systems, climate and health, smart power grid management, wind energy forecasting, and heat wave forecasting.

15. C-DOT and C-DAC sign agreement for cooperation in telecom, ICT

Note: Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) and the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) have signed an MOU for cooperation in the areas of telecom and information and communication technology. Established in 1984, C-DOT is an autonomous Telecom R&D centre under the Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications. Established in 1988, C-DAC is an autonomous body under the Ministry of Electronics and IT. The MOU was signed during India's 1st Conference on Semiconductors in Bengaluru.

Obituaries

1-15th September 2022

1. The former Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, who has passed away, had been honoured with the nobel prize in the year **1990**.

Note: He had served as the general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party and de facto leader of the

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

August 2022

1. T Mohandas M Pai, who has passed away, was founder of the newspaper **Udayavani(Kannada daily)**.
Note: He was also the president of the Dr T M A Pai Foundation and Manipal Media Network, which runs 'Udayavani'. He also served as the chairman and non-executive director at ICDS limited.
2. Johnny Famechon, who has been passed away was belonged to **Boxing** sports.
Note: He was associated with professional boxing for more than 20 years and had a record of 56 wins (20 by knockout, six draws and five losses). He won his featherweight world title against Masahiko Harada from Japan.
3. Olivia Newton-John, who has recently passed away, was a popular **Singer and actor**.
Note: She was best known for her music video Physical and the hit musical Grease. She received her first Grammy awards in 1973 in Best Female Country Vocal Performance category for "Let Me Be There".

4. K Maya Thevar, who has been passed away, was a former MP of the political party **AIADMK**.
Note: He started his career as lawyer, and practised as an advocate at the Madras HC. Later he moved to politics and joined AIADMK, and becomes the candidate for the first-ever Lok Sabha election faced by the AIADMK after the formation of the party in 1972 by former CM MG Ramachandran.
5. P V Kamaraj who has been passed away, won the bronze at the Asian Championships, Tokyo in 4x400m Indian men's relay, held in **1979**.
Note: He was retired as a Chief Reservation Officer with the Indian Railways and had contributed immensely to athletics in Tiruchi (hometown of Kamaraj).
6. Uma Pemmaraju, who has been passed away, was a **Indian American journalist**.
Note: She was a part of various shows such as The Fox Report, Fox News Live, Fox News Now, and Fox On Trends. She has been awarded many Emmy Awards in her career for investigative reporting and journalism.
7. Rakesh Jhunjhunwala, who has been passed away, was a **Stock market investor**.
Note: He was started his journey in stock markets while still in college with a capital of just 5,000 rupees. India's newest budget carrier, Akasa Air was one of the business ventures of Rakesh Jhunjhunwala. The airline began commercial operations this month with a maiden flight from Mumbai to Ahmedabad.
8. David McCullough, who won Pulitzer Prizes for his biographies of presidents John Adams and Harry Truman, has away, has won the first Pulitzer Prize in **1993**.
Note: He won a Pulitzer Prize in 1993 for Truman, a biography about the 33rd president of the US and another Prize in 2002 for the biography about the second US president, John Adams. He has also earned National Book Awards for "The Path Between the Seas: The Creation of the Panama Canal and Mornings on Horseback".
9. Anshu Jain, who has recently passed away, was a former co-Chief Executive Officer of **Deutsche Bank**.
Note: He started his career at Wall Street and also worked at financial major Merrill Lynch. He was appointed to the Management Board of Deutsche Bank in 2009, where he was responsible for the Corporate and Investment Bank division from 2010. He became the Co-CEO of Deutsche Bank in 2012.
10. Writer, Nicholas Evanshas, who has recently passed away. **The Horse Whisperer** is the name of his debut novel.
Note: It was published in 1995, was the bestselling novels in the United States for 1995 as determined by The New York Times. The book was turned into a movie in 1998. His other work includes "The Loop" (1998), "The Smoke Jumper" (2001), "The Divide" (2005) and "The Brave" (2010).
11. Amitabh Chaudhary, who has passed away was a former acting secretary of **BCCI**.
Note: He had also served as a president of Jharkhand State Cricket Association (JSCA). He served as acting secretary of the BCCI until 2019. He was a retired senior IPS officer, who rose to the rank of IGP with the Jharkhand Police and was the chairman of Jharkhand Public Service Commission. He played a crucial role in developing infrastructure for Jharkhand cricket.
12. Kerala's first tribal novelist and short story writer, Narayan, who has recently passed away. **Kocharethi** is the name of his debut novel.
Note: He was born in the Malayaraya community in Kadayathur hills in Thodupuzha taluk in 1940. His debut novel, 'Kocharethi' published in 1998, was selected for the Kerala Sahitya Akademi award in 1999. The novel has been translated to English, Hindi and south Indian languages.
13. Samar 'Badru' Banerjee, who has recently passed away, was a former India team captain of **Football**.
Note: He led the country to a historic 4-place finish in the 1956 Melbourne Olympics. Fondly known as 'Badru Da', he was suffering from Alzheimer's, Azotemia and high-blood pressure-related ailments. Besides guiding Mohun Bagan to several trophies including their 1st ever Durand Cup (1953), Rovers Cup (1955), Banerjee has also won the Santosh Trophy twice as a player (1953, 1955) and once as coach (1962).
14. Senior Congress leader, Syed Sibtey Razi has been passed away, was a former governor of **Jharkhand and Assam**.
Note: He had served as the governor of Jharkhand from the year 2004- 2009 and governor of Assam in 2009. He was born on March 7, 1939 in Rae Bareli, Uttar Pradesh and joined joined the Youth Congress in 1969. He was made president of the Youth Congress in 1971 -1973. He was served as a member of Rajya Sabha thrice.
15. Abdul Gaffar Nadiadwala, fondly known as Gaffarbhair, has been passed away, was a **Filmmaker**.
Note: He was known for his films including Mahabharat (1965), Jhutha Sach (1984), Lahoo Ke Do Rang (1997), Hera Pheri (2000), Welcome (2007) & More. He had started his film production and media entertainment company in 1953.
16. Abhijit Sen, who has passed away, was an eminent **Economist**.
Note: In his career, he taught economics at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. He was a member of Planning Commission from 2004 to

2014, during the tenure of PM Manmohan Singh. He was awarded the Padma Bhushan for public service

in 2010.

July 2022

1. Peter Brook, who passed away, was an eminent personality in **Theatre and cinema director**.
Note: He was born in London and transferred from Britain to Paris in 1970. He was received the Tony Award for Best Direction in 1966 for his interpretation of Peter Weiss' "Marat/Sade," and in 1970 for the production of Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream."
2. Tarun Majumdar, who passed away, he was a veteran **Filmmaker**.
Note: He has won National Award four-times and received Padma Shri. His first directed film was Chawa Pawa (1959), starring Uttam Kumar and Suchitra Sen.
3. Gopinathan Nair passed away, was a famous **Freedom fighter**.
Note: He had participated in the Quit India Movement in 1942 and imbibed the Gandhian principles of peace and non-violence in everyday life. He was served as chairman of the Kerala Mahatma Gandhi National Memorial Trust, which is managed by the Union Government.
4. Mohammad Barkindo (Nigerian), who has passed away, was secretary-general of **OPEC**.
Note: His second term as head of OPEC was set to end on July 31, 2022. He hold the post for six years since 2016. He started his career with the Nigerian Mining Corporation in 1982, and also served as deputy MD of Nigerian Liquefied Natural Gas.
5. Shinzo Abe, who has been passed away, was a longest Prime Minister of **Japan**.
Note: He 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.
6. José Eduardo dos Santos, who has passed away, was former President of **Angola**.
Note: He was one of Africa's longest-serving heads of state, who ruled for almost four decades as president of Angola. He stepped down from the president's post in 2017. He had also fought for the continent's longest civil war and turned his country into a major oil producer.
7. Luis Echeverría Alvarez, who has passed away, served as president of **Mexico**.
Note: He started his career as a lawyer and become a member of Mexico's Institutional Revolutionary Party. He has also initiated the establishment of diplomatic relations with China in February 1972. He was also known for promoting the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States at the United Nations in 1972.
8. Former Chairman of Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd (VSNL), Brijendra K Syngal, who has passed away, was acknowledged as the father of **Indian Internet**.
Note: 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.
9. Dr. Enamul Haque, who has been passed away, was associated with **Archaeology**.
Note: He became the director of the museum in 1973 and served as director general of National Museum from 1983 to 1991. He was conferred with Padma Shri in 2020 for his work on Bengal's Iconography and terracotta art.
10. Barry Sinclair, who has passed away was a former cricket captain of **New Zealand**.
Note: He was the third batter from New Zealand after Bert Sutcliffe and John R Reid to score 1,000 runs in Test cricket. He had played 21 Tests for New Zealand between 1963 - 1968, scored 1148 runs, including three centuries against South Africa, Pakistan and England.
11. Avdhash Kaushal, who has passed away, was a **Social worker**.
Note: He founded the Rural Litigation and Entitlement Kendra (RLEK) for the development work among tribal hill communities in the areas of Jaunsar-Bawar (Dehradun district). He led various initiatives including protecting the fragile eco-system of Doon valley, abolition of the bonded labour system in Jaunsar-Bawar area of Dehradun and securing the rights of marginalised communities.
12. Achuthan Kudallur, who has been passed away at 77, was known for his **abstract art**.
Note: He has participated in several art shows and was a well-regarded name in South Indian contemporary art. He is a recipient of the national and Tamil Nadu state Lalit Kala Akademi Awards. He was born in 1945 in Kerala, but lived alone in Chennai, and pursued a degree in Civil Engineering and revelled as an Indian Asian Modern and Contemporary painter.
13. Bhupinder Singh, who has passed away at the age of 82, was an eminent **Singer**.

- Note:** He was born in Punjab's Amritsar and started his career with All India Radio and was also associated with Doordarshan Delhi. He worked with Mohammed Rafi, RD Burman, Lata Mangeshkar, and Bappi Lahiri.
14. Nirmal Singh Kahlon, who has passed away was a former speaker of **Punjab**.
Note: He was the Rural Development and Panchayat Minister from 1997 to 2002 and was elected as an MLA from Fatehgarh Churian constituency in Gurdaspur district in 1997 and 2007. He served as the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly from 2007 to 2012.
15. Noted scientist, Dr Ajay Kumar Parida, who has passed away, He was a director of **Institute of Life Sciences (ILS), Bhubaneswar**.
Note: He was awarded the Padma Shri Award by the President of India in 2014 for his outstanding contribution in the field of Science and Engineering. He had also served as an Executive Director in M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation.
16. Anant Yashwant Khare, who has passed away, was a renowned writer in **Marathi** language.
Note: Noted work: 'Antajichi Bakhar', 'Bakhar Antakalachi' and 'Udya' He received the Bhai Madhavrao Bagal Award for his book 'Kahani Manav Pranyachi' in 2010. He was awarded with Granthali, Vidarbha Sahitya Sangh, and Lokmangal.
17. Sushovan Bandyopadhyay, fondly known as Bengal's 'one rupee doctor, who has passed away, received the Padma Shri in **2020**.
Note: His name was recorded in the Guinness World Records for treating the maximum number of patients. He was a former MLA from Bolpur seat and had contested on a Congress ticket in 1984, but after the formation of Trinamool Congress, he became the president of Birbhum district.
18. David Trimble, who has passed away, awarded with the Nobel Peace Prize to end the conflict in Northern Ireland in **1998**.
- Note:** He was also the Member of Parliament (MP) for Upper Bann from 1990 to 2005. He was known as the architect of the Good Friday Agreement in 1998, which ended the 30 years of disputes in Northern Ireland. In October 1998, John Hume and David Trimble were awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for their efforts to end the conflict in Northern Ireland.
19. Balwinder Safri, who has passed away, was a renowned **Punjabi singer**.
Note: He was based in Birmingham, UK, was part of the UK bhangra scene since 1980 and formed the Safri Boyz Band in 1990. He was known for his Punjabi tracks such as "Rahaye Rahaye" and "Chan Mere Makhna".
20. Writer of 'Namghoria', Atulananda Goswami known for his novels and short stories, who has been passed away, was famous writer of **Assamese** language.
Note: He had also received the Sahitya Akademi Award in 2006 for his short story collection 'Seneh Jarir Ganthi'. Awards: Ambikagiri Roy Choudhury Sahitya Award, the Kumar Kishor Memorial Award, the Katha Award and the Sneha Bharati Sahitya Samman, among other honours. He also translated many English, Bengali and Odia texts into Assamese.
21. Nirmala Mishra, who has passed away, was a renowned singer in **Bengali** language.
Note: She also sang various songs in Odia and Assamese films. The West Bengal government has also awarded her 'Sangeet Samman', 'Sangeet Mahasamman' and 'Bangabhibhushan' awards. She has been conferred with the Sangeet Sudhakar Balakrushna Das Award for her lifetime contribution to the Odia music.
22. Fidel Ramos, who has passed away was a former president of **Philippines**.
Note: He was the 12th president of the Republic of the Philippines from 1992 to 1998. During his tenure, the Philippines was recognized as a budding "tiger economy".

June 2022

1. Renowned **singer**, Krishnakumar Kunnath passed away recently.
Note: He is fondly known as KK, has passed away in Kolkata at the age of 53. His debut album 'Pal' was released in 1999. He has recorded songs in Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi and Bengali, among other languages.
2. Eminent **Politician** Bhim Singh passed away.
Note: Founder of Jammu and Kashmir National Panthers Party, senior leader, and lawyer Bhim

Singh passed away in Jammu at 81. He founded the Panthers Party in 1982. The veteran leader was known as 'Sher-e-Jammu' for raising the voice of the people of Jammu before the Kashmir-centric governments.

3. **Freedom fighter**, Anjalai Ponnusamy passed away.
Note: Indian National Army (INA) veteran soldier from Malaysia. She was born in 1920 in Sentul, Kuala Lumpur. She belonged to the Jhansi Rani Division of the Indian National Army.

4. Renowned **Santoor player**, Bhajan Sopori passed away was a famous.
Note: He was popularly known as the 'saint of santoor' and 'king of strings' has passed away at 73 due to cancer. He has received Padma Shri in 2004, the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in 1992 and the Jammu and Kashmir State Lifetime Achievement Award. He belonged to north Kashmir's Sopore district and came from the 'Sufiana Gharana'.
5. Two-time Olympian and a double Asian Games gold medallist, Hari Chand passed away recently, he was a veteran **Long distance runner**.
Note: Hari Chand won the 5000 and 10,000m gold at the 1978 Bangkok Asiad and also the 10,000m title at the 1975 Asian Championships in Seoul.
6. Veteran business personality Nobuyuki Idei passed away recently, he was former CEO of **Sony**.
Note: During his seven years as CEO from 1998, Mr Idei made an immense contribution to Sony's evolution as a global company. Tokyo-based Sony is among Japan's stellar brands, having brought the world the Walkman portable music player.
7. Professor Gopi Chand Narang, who passed away was an eminent critic, theorist, and linguist in the **Urdu** language.
Note: He has been honoured with the Padma Bhushan (2004) and Sahitya Akademi Awards (1995). He was a Professor Emeritus at the University of Delhi and Jamia Millia Islamia.
8. R. Raveendran, has been passed away. He was a **Photojournalist**.
Note: He was known for his iconic photo of Rajiv Goswami setting himself on fire during the Mandal agitation in the Capital. He has been awarded various photography awards. He has worked in AFP and ANI.
9. Chowalloor Krishnankutty has passed away, was a **Lyricist, author and journalist**.
Note: Krishnankutty has penned over 3000 devotional songs and authored more than 200 books. He was retired from the Malayala Manorama daily as an Assistant Editor. Awards: Kerala Sahithya Academy Award for satire, Poonthanam Jnanapana, and Revathy Pattathanam Awards among others.
10. V Krishnamurthy, who passed away, was a former **Chairman of SAIL**.
Note: He worked as the chairman of SAIL from 1985 to 1990. He had also been the chairman of Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL), Maruti Udyog and GAIL. Awards: Padma Shri (1973), Padma Bhushan (1986), Padma Vibhushan (2007)
11. Pallonji Mistry, who passed away was a **Chairman of Shapoorji Pallonji group**.
Note: In 2022, Pallonji Mistry stands at rank 125 while he was the ninth richest Indian person as of 2021, as per the Forbes Billionaires List. He has been conferred with the Padma Bhushan (2016). He was the largest individual shareholder in the Tata Group with a 18.4% holding.
12. Varinder Singh, who passed away was related to sports of **Hockey**.
Note: He was an integral part of the gold-medal-winning Indian team at the 1975 men's Hockey World Cup in Kuala Lumpur. He was also a part of the bronze medal-winning team at the 1972 Munich Olympics and the silver medal at the 1973 World Cup in Amsterdam. He has been conferred with the prestigious Dhyani Chand Lifetime Achievement Award in 2007.

May 2022

1. Salim Ghouse who passed away recently was a veteran **Actor**.
Note: He made his debut with the film Swarg Narak in 1978 and acted in films like Charkha, Saransh, Manthan, Kalyug, Trikal, Aghaat, Drohi, Thiruda, Sardari Begum, Koyla, Soldier, Aks and several others. He also played the roles of Rama, Krishna, and Tipu Sultan in Shyam Benegal's TV Series Bharat Ek Khoj. He has also worked in Malayalam and Tamil films.
2. Tony Brooks has passed away, was associated with **Formula One**.
Note: He won six Formula One Grand Prix in the 1950s died at 90. He was known as a "Racing Dentist".
3. Pandit Shiv Kumar Sharma who passed away recently was a veteran **Santoor player**.
Note: He was born in Jammu in 1938 and is believed to be the first musician to have played Indian classical music on the santoor. Awards: Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1986), Padma Shri (1991), and Padma Vibhushan (2001)
4. Yuri Averbakh who passed away recently associated with the **Chess**.
Note: He won the Moscow Championship in 1949 and earned the Grandmaster title in 1952. In 1954, He won his F1 debut at the non-championship 1955 Syracuse Grand Prix.

- he became the champion of the USSR. He also chaired the Chess Federation of the USSR from 1972 to 1977.
- Renowned personality Pandit Sukh Ram passed away recently. He was a **former Union minister**.
Note: He was the Union Minister of State, Communications (Independent Charge) from 1993 to 1996 and a member of Lok Sabha from the Mandi constituency (Himachal Pradesh). He won the Lok Sabha elections three times and the Vidhan Sabha elections five times
 - Leonid Kravchuk who passed away recently was the first president of **Independent Ukraine**.
Note: Kravchuk was known as the "wily fox" as he rose through the ranks of Ukraine's Communist Party and take over as head of the parliament in 1990. He signed the Belovezha accords with Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Belarusian leader Stanislav Shushkevich in December 1991 which effectively triggered the Soviet Union's collapse.
 - Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al-Nahyan who passed away recently was the president of **UAE**.
Note: He took over as the UAE's second president in November 2004 after his father as the 16th ruler of Abu Dhabi. He also rescued Dubai when it was hit by the global financial crisis in 2009. The UAE ministry has announced 40 days of mourning, with flags and work suspended in the public and private sectors for the first three days.
 - Cricketer Andrew Symonds, passed away recently.
Note: He made his first-debut for Queensland in 1994-95 season. He was a right-handed batter, who was known for scoring runs at a quick pace and has

- a career strike rate of 92.44 in 198 ODI matches. He was a part of the Ricky Ponting-led side that won the ICC Men's World Cup in 2003 and 2007.
- Padma Shri awardee, Dr Rama Kant Shukla, passed away he was an eminent scholar of Hindi and **Sanskrit**.
Note: He is the founder and general secretary of Devavani Parishad in Delhi, and the founding chairman and editor of "Arvacinasamskrtam" (quarterly journal) in Sanskrit. He was conferred the titles of Sanskrit Rashtrakavi, Kaviratna, and Kavi Siromani by literary and Sanskrit organizations.
 - Former parliamentarian Shivaji Patnaik. passed away at 92 who was related to **CPI (M)**.
Note: Patnaik joined the undivided Community Party of India (CPI) in 1947 and was the architect of the formation of CPI(M) in Odisha in 1961. He was elected from the Lok Sabha seat (Bhubaneswar) thrice in 1977, 1989 and 1991. He was the CPM secretary of the State Committee from 1972 to 1991 and also a member of the central committee of the CPM for a long period.
 - Lester Piggott passed away and was related to the sports of **Jockey**.
Note: Piggott was partially deaf and has won the Derby at Epsom for the first time in 1954 and the ninth win came on Teenoso in 1983.
 - Bujar Nishani, has passed away and was related to **Politics**.
Note: He was a former president of Albania. Nishani was elected as president in June 2012 at the age of 45, and becomes the country's youngest-ever president.

Appointments

List of Cabinet Ministers of India 2021 and their Constituency

Prime Minister		
Shri Narendra Modi	Prime Minister and also in charge of: Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances, and Pensions; Department of Atomic Energy; Department of Space; All important policy issues and All other portfolios not allocated to any Minister.	Varanasi(Uttar Pradesh)

Cabinet Ministers			
Sr. No	Name of the Minister	Portfolio	Constituency
1	Shri Raj Nath Singh	Minister of Defence	Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh)
2	Shri Amit Shah	Minister of Home Affairs and Ministry of Cooperation	Gandhinagar (Gujarat)
3	Shri Nitin Jairam Gadkari	Minister of Road Transport and Highways	
4	Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman	Minister of Finance and Minister of Corporate Affairs.	Rajya Sabha (Karnataka)
5	Shri Narendra Singh Tomar	Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	Morena (Madhya Pradesh)
6	Kiren Rijju	Minister of Law and Justice	Arunachal West (Arunachal Pradesh)
7	Shri Virendra Kumar	Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment.	Tikamgarh (Madhya Pradesh)
8	Dr. Subrahmanyam Jaishankar	Minister of External Affairs.	Rajya Sabha (Gujarat)
9	Shri Dharmendra Pradhan	Minister of Education and Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship	Deogarh (Odisha)
10	Shri Arjun Munda	Minister of Tribal Affairs.	Khunti (Jharkhand)
11	Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani	Minister of Women and Child Development	Amethi (Uttar Pradesh)
12	Shri Mansukh Mandaviya	Minister of Health and Family Welfare and Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers	Palitana (Rajya Member from Gujarat)
13	Shri Bhupender Yadav	Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change; Minister of Labour and Employment	Rajya Sabha member (Rajasthan)
14	Shri Piyush Goyal	Minister of Commerce and Industry; Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; and Minister of Textiles	Rajya Sabha (Maharashtra)
15	Shri Narayan Tatu Rane	Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises	Rajya Sabha Member
16	Shri Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi	Minister of Minority Affairs.	Rajya Sabha (Jharkhand)
17	Shri Pralhad Joshi	Minister of Parliamentary Affairs; Minister of Coal and Minister of Mines.	Dharwad (Karnataka)
18	Dr Mahendra Nath Pandey	Minister of Heavy Industries	Chandauli (Uttar Pradesh)
19	Shri Giriraj Singh	Minister of Rural Development; and Minister of Panchayati Raj	Begusarai (Bihar)
20	Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat	Minister of Jal Shakti.	Jodhpur (Rajasthan)
21	Shri Sarbananda Sonowal	Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways; and Minister of AYUSH	
22	Shri Jyotiraditya M.	Minister of Civil Aviation	Rajya Sabha Member from Madhya Pradesh

	Scindia		
23	Shri Ramchandra Prasad Singh	Minister of Steel	Rajya Sabha Member from Bihar
24	Shri Ashwini Vaishnav	Minister of Railways; Minister of Communications; and Minister of Electronics and Information Technology	Rajya Sabha Member from Odisha
25	Shri Pashu Pati Kumar Paras	Minister of Food Processing Industries	Hajipur (Bihar)
26	Shri Raj Kumar Singh	Minister of Power; and Minister of New and Renewable Energy	Arrah (Bihar)
27	Shri Hardeep Singh Puri	Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas; and Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs	Rajya Sabha (Uttar Pradesh)
28	Shri Parshottam Rupala	Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying	Rajya Sabha Member from Gujarat
29	Shri G. Kishan Reddy	Minister of Culture; Minister of Tourism; and Minister of Development of North Eastern Region	Secunderabad (Telangana)
30	Shri Anurag Singh Thakur	Minister of Information and Broadcasting; and Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports	Hamirpur (Himachal Pradesh)

List of Ministers of State (Independent Charge)

S. No	Name of the Minister	Portfolio	Constituency
1	Rao Inderjit Singh	Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation; Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Planning; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Corporate Affairs	Gurugram (Haryana)
2	Dr. Jitendra Singh	Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Science and Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Earth Sciences; Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office; Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Minister of State in the Department of Atomic Energy; and Minister of State in the Department of Space	Udhampur (Jammu & Kashmir)

List of Ministers of State

S. No	Name of the Minister	Portfolio
1.	Shri Shripad Yesso Naik	Minister of State in the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Tourism
2.	Shri Faggansingh Kulaste	Minister of State in the Ministry of Steel; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development
3.	Shri Prahalad Singh Patel	Minister of State in the Ministry of Jal Shakti; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Food Processing Industries
4.	Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey	Minister of State in the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

5.	Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal	Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Culture
6.	General (Retd.) V. K. Singh	Minister of State in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Civil Aviation
7.	Shri Krishan Pal	Minister of State in the Ministry of Power; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Heavy Industries
8.	Shri Danve Raosaheb Dadarao	Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways; Minister of State in the Ministry of Coal; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Mines
9.	Shri Ramdas Athawale	Minister of State in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
10.	Sadhvi Niranjana Jyoti	Minister of State in the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development
11.	Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Balyan	Minister of State in the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
12.	Shri Nityanand Rai	Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs
13.	Shri Pankaj Chaowdhary	Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance
14.	Smt. Anupriya Singh Patel	Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry
15.	Prof. S. P. Singh Baghel	Minister of State in the Ministry of Law and Justice
16.	Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar	Minister of State in the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
17.	Sushri Shobha Karandlaje	Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
18.	Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma	Minister of State in the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
19.	Smt. Darshana Vikram Jardosh	Minister of State in the Ministry of Textiles; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways
20.	Shri V. Muraleedharan	Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs
21.	Smt. Meenakshi Lekhi	Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Culture
22.	Shri Som Parkash	Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry
23.	Smt. Renuka Singh Saruta	Minister of State in the Ministry of Tribal Affairs
24.	Shri Rameswar Teli	Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Labour and Employment
25.	Shri Kailash Choudhary	Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

26.	Smt. Annpurna Devi	Minister of State in the Ministry of Education
27.	Shri A. Narayanaswamy	Minister of State in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
28.	Shri Kaushal Kishore	Minister of State in the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
29.	Shri Ajay Bhatt	Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Tourism
30.	Shri B. L. Verma	Minister of State in the Ministry of Development of Northeastern Region; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Cooperation
31.	Shri Ajay Kumar	Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs
32.	Shri Devusinh Chauhan	Minister of State in the Ministry of Communications
33.	Shri Bhagwanth Khuba	Minister of State in the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers
34.	Shri Kapil Moreshwar Patil	Minister of State in the Ministry of Panchayati Raj
35.	Sushri Pratima Bhoumik	Minister of State in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
36.	Dr. Subhas Sarkar	Minister of State in the Ministry of Education
37.	Dr. Bhagwat Kishanrao Karad	Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance
38.	Dr. Rajkumar Ranjan Singh	Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Education
39.	Dr. Bharati Pravin Pawar	Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
40.	Shri Bishweswar Tudu	Minister of State in the Ministry of Tribal Affairs; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Jal Shakti
41.	Shri Shantanu Thakur	Minister of State in the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways
42.	Dr. Munjapara Mahendrabhai	Minister of State in the Ministry of Women and Child Development; and Minister of State in the Ministry of AYUSH
43.	Shri John Barla	Minister of State in the Ministry of Minority Affairs
44.	Dr. L. Murugan	Minister of State in the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
45.	Shri Nisith Pramanik	Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports

National and International Appointment

1-15 September 2022

1. ONGC has appointed **Rajesh Kumar Srivastava** as the interim chairman for a period of 4 months with effect from September 1, 2022, to December 31, 2022.
Note: He is the senior-most director on the ONGC board. He has been given additional charge of chairman and managing director after current acting head Alka Mittal has been superannuated.
2. **Nagesh Singh** has been appointed as next ambassador of India to Thailand.
Note: He is presently Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs. He will replace ambassador, Suchitra Durai and is expected to take up the assignment shortly. Nagesh Singh is a 1995 batch officer of the Indian Foreign Service (IFS) who has served as Consul General of India in Atlanta.
3. Starbucks has appointed **Laxman Narasimhan** as the next chief executive officer and a member of the Starbucks Board of Directors.
Note: He will work closely with the interim CEO, Howard Schultz, before taking charge as CEO role. Howard Schultz will continue as interim CEO until April 1, 2023.
4. The President of India, Draupadi Murmu has nominated **Justice DY Chandrachud** as new executive chairperson of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA).
Note: He has replaced Justice U.U. Lalit, who was elevated as the 49th Chief Justice of India. He was the former Chief Justice of the Allahabad HC and a former judge of Bombay HC. NALSA has been constituted under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 to provide free Legal Services to the weaker sections.
5. **Kalyan Chaubey** has been elected as the president of All India Football Federation (AIFF).
Note: He has defeated India's football team captain, Bhaichung Bhutia by 33-1. In the 85-year history of federation, this was the first time a former player was elected president.
6. **MV Iyer** has been given an additional charge of additional charge as the Chairman and Managing Director of the GAIL.
Note: He has been succeeded the current CMD, Manoj Jain, who superannuated on August 31. He has been appointed to the post for a period of three months with effect from September 1, 2022, or until further orders, whichever is the earlier.
7. **Yamuna Kumar Chaubey** has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director of NHPC for three months, with effect from September 1st 2022.
Note: He has replaced Abhay Kumar Singh, who retired on August 31, 2022. He is a graduate in Civil Engineering from IIT, Kharagpur. He joined NHPC Limited in 1985 as a Probationary Executive (Civil) at 540 MW Chamara Hydro-Electric Project, now Chamara-I Power Station, Himachal Pradesh.
8. Leader of the Conservative Party, Liz Truss has been elected as the 56th prime minister of **United Kingdom**.
Note: She has succeeded present PM Boris Johnson, who will tender his resignation to Queen Elizabeth II. She has been served as the foreign secretary since 2021. She has defeated rival Rishi Sunak with 57 per cent of the vote. She will be third female prime minister to lead the country.
9. The Board of Directors of Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Ltd has approved the appointment of **Krishnan Sankarasubramaniam** as the Managing Director & CEO with effect from 4th September 2022 for a term of 3 years.
Note: He has replaced present MD & CEO, K V Rama Moorthy, whose tenure ended on 3rd September 2022. Earlier, he was the MD & CEO of Punjab and Sind Bank from 4th September 2020 to 31st May 2022.
10. **Capt. B. K. Tyagi** has assumed charge as chairman & MD of the Shipping Corporation of India Ltd (SCI) on 3rd September, 2022.
Note: Prior to this, he was the director, who was looking after the liner and passenger services division at SCI. He started his career as a trainee nautical officer and sailed on board various ships in different ranks including as master in SCI in 1990. SCI is a Navratna CPSE under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways (MoPSW).
11. **Sanjay Kumar Verma** has been appointed as India's next high commissioner to Canada.
Note: He is a 1988 batch officer of the Indian Foreign Service and is currently the ambassador of India to Japan. He has been served in Indian missions in Hong Kong, China, Vietnam and Turkey. He has also served as Consul General of India in Milan, Italy. While Amit Kumar, who is currently Consulate General of India in Chicago, has been named as the next ambassador to the Republic of Korea.
12. President Draupadi Murmu has appointed **Justice M Duraiswamy** as the Chief Justice of the Madras High Court with effect from September 13, 2022.
Note: Prior to this, he was the senior judge of the Madras High Court. He has replaced Chief Justice of Madras High Court Justice Munishwar Nath Bhandari. He got enrolled as an Advocate in the Bar Council of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry in 1987.
13. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres appointed **Volker Turk** of Austria as the next UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.
Note: The new High Commissioner is currently coordinating global policy work as an Under-Secretary-General in the UN's Executive Office. From 2019 to 2021, Turk served as Assistant Secretary-General for Strategic Coordination in the UN chief's Executive Office.

- 14. King Charles** will officially be proclaimed as Britain's new monarch in a ceremony followed by gun salutes and the reading of proclamations.
Note: Charles, 73, succeeded his mother immediately, but an Accession Council made up of hundreds of politicians, bishops and senior civil servants will proclaim his succession at a ceremony. Charles is king and head of state of the United Kingdom and 14 other realms including Australia, Canada, Jamaica, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea.
- 15. American Express Banking Corp** has appointed **Sanjay Khanna** as the chief executive officer and country manager for India.
Note: Responsibilities: For increasing growth across the organization's consumer and commercial businesses. Prior to this role, Khanna has held many leadership positions in the company including head of global financial operations, India centre lead for finance and chairman of the American Express India Pvt Ltd (AEIPL) legal entity board.
- 16. The Kerala Assembly** has elected **AN Shamseer** as the 24th Speaker of the Kerala Legislature.
Note: He defeated UDF MLA Anwar Sadath by 56 votes in the election. UDF candidate and Aluva MLA Anwar Sadath secured 40 votes against the LDF nominee who received 96 votes. Deputy Speaker Chittayam Gopakumar headed the election procedures.
- 17. Nayara Energy** has appointed **Prasad K Panicker** as the Chairman of the company with effect from October 3, 2022.
Note: He will take on this role from Charles Anthony (Tony) Fountain who has served the company for five years. In his new role, he will deploy his technological experience and knowledge of the local Indian market to lead Nayara Energy.
- 18. The Centre** appoints **Chief Justice of Madras High Court, Justice Munishwar Nath Bhandari** the Chairman of the Appellate Tribunal under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act.
Note: The post of the Chairperson of the Tribunal was vacant since September 2019. The order was issued by the Department of Revenue under the Ministry of Finance. The Tribunal for Forfeiture of Property under the SAFEMA and the PMLA Appellate Tribunal were merged in 2016 through the Finance Act, 2016.
- 19. The Ministry of External Affairs** has appointed Senior diplomat, **Sibi George** as the next Indian ambassador to Japan.
Note: He will replace Sanjay Kumar Verma as India's envoy to Japan, has recently appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to Canada. He is a 1993-batch Indian Foreign Service officer and is currently serving as the Ambassador of India to Kuwait. India and Japan share very strong Strategic and Global Partnership.
- 20. The US President Joe Biden** has appointed **Dr Renee Wegrzyn** as the inaugural director of the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H) for five years.
Note: Purpose of the ARPA-H: To seek innovative solutions to biomedical problems. She is a biologist and former government scientist. Dr. Renee Wegrzyn is currently serving as the vice president of business development at Ginkgo Bioworks and Head of Innovation at Concentric by Ginkgo.
- 21. BharatPe** has appointed the two independent directors are BP Kanungo (former Deputy Governor of RBI) and Kaushik Dutta (Chairman and Independent Director at Zomato).
Note: B P Kanungo: He served as the Deputy Governor of the RBI from 2017 to 2021 and here, he will be responsible to build a profitable business. Kaushik Dutta: He previously held leadership positions at PwC

August 2022

- 1. Sanjay Arora** has taken charge as police commissioner of Delhi.
Note: He is due for retirement in 2025. He succeeded Rakesh Asthana (Gujarat cadre IPS officer), who retired after nearly 38 years in service. He was appointed the Director General of the paramilitary Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP).
- 2. Auguste Tano Kouamé** has been appointed as the country director for India by World Bank.
Note: He succeeded Junaid Kamal Ahmad (Bangladeshi economist), who has recently completed his term of five-year. He recently served as the country director of World Bank for Turkey. Earlier, he worked as the director of the department of human development and economic management in the World Bank Group's Independent Evaluation Group (IEG).
- 3. Vaani Kapoor** has been appointed as the brand ambassador Noise for its upcoming smartwatch, X-Fit 2 series.
Note: Last year, the company had announced partnership with HRX, a fitness brand jointly owned by Hrithik Roshan and Exceed Entertainment. India's wearables market saw double-digit growth in Q1 2022 with products crossing 13.9 million units,

- according to the international Data Corporation India.
4. **Dr. Sujoy Lal Thaosan** has assumed the additional charge of Director General of Indo-Tibetan Border Police in New Delhi.
Note : He is an IPS Officer of the 1988 batch, Madhya Pradesh Cadre. He has taken charge from Sanjay Arora, who has recently appointed as the Police Commissioner of Delhi Police.
 5. **Satyendra Prakash** has been appointed as the principal director general of Press Information Bureau (PIB).
Note: Earlier, he served as the principal DG of Central Bureau of Communication (HQ: New Delhi). He has a wide range of experience in the field of public communication, media management, administration, policy formulation and programme implementation. He has also represented India in various national and international forums.
 6. **Ranjit Rath** has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of state-run Oil India Ltd (OIL).
Note: He has replaced Sushil Chandra Mishra who superannuated on June 30. Prior to his appointment, he served as the CMD Mineral Exploration & Consultancy Ltd. He has also held the positions of the CEO of Khanij Bidesh India Limited, additional charge of the Director General of Geological Survey of India, and MD of Bharat Gold Mines Ltd
 7. **Inderjit Camotra** has been appointed as the MD & CEO of Unity Small Finance Bank (USFB).
Note: His appointment has been approved by the RBI and Unity Bank's Board. Prior to this appointment he was interim CEO of the Bank. Camotra has over 25 years of experience as a Banker in leadership positions at Standard Chartered Bank, ANZ and Citibank. USFB has been promoted by Centrum Financial Services (Centrum Group) with Resilient Innovations (BharatPe) as joint investor.
 8. **Deepak Padaki** has been appointed as the president of Catamaran, an investment firm.
Note: MD Ranganath as its Chairman. Padaki will be responsible for driving the firm's investment management strategy in its mission to nurture ideas from entrepreneurs into impactful business outcomes. Ranganath served as the Chief Financial Officer at Infosys for 18 years till 2018.
 9. **Dr N. Kalaiselvi** has been appointed as the Director General of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) for two years.
Note: She succeeded Shekhar Mande, who superannuated in April 2022. She is the first woman scientist to hold this position. Currently, she is working as the head of the CSIR-Central Electrochemical Research Institute (CSIR-CECRI). She is known for her work in the field of lithium-ion batteries.
 10. **Viswanathan Anand** has been elected as the deputy president of FIDE.
Note: While the present president, Arkady Dvorkovich (Russian) has been re-elected for a second term. Anand was nominated by incumbent president Arkady Vladimirovich Dvorkovich as part of his team. Dvorkovich a Muscovite has received 167 votes in his favour while his opponent Andrii Baryshpolets got 16.
 11. **Jagdeep Dhankhar** has been elected as the 14th Vice President of India after defeating joint Opposition candidate Margaret Alva.
Note: He will succeed M Venkaiah Naidu whose tenure ends on August 10. He secured 528 votes out of the 710 valid votes in the Vice-Presidential election.
 12. The Appointment Committee of the Cabinet (ACC), headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved a one-year extension of Union cabinet secretary **Rajiv Gauba**.
Note: After the extension, he will remain in the same position till August 30, 2023. He had taken over as the new Cabinet Secretary in the Government of India after the superannuation of PK Sinha in 2019. He is an IAS officer of the Jharkhand cadre (1982 batch) and served as like Union Home Secretary.
 13. **Gustavo Petro** has sworn in as the first leftist President of Colombia.
Note: He is a former member of Colombia's M-19 guerrilla group, who won the presidential election in June 2022 by beating conservative party candidate. He also promised to implement outstanding provisions of the 2016 peace agreement that saw the rebel FARC movement lay down arms after nearly six decades of civil conflict.
 14. **Pramod Kumar** has been appointed as the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of the Powergrid Corporation of India Limited.
Note: Prior to this, he served as the Executive Director (Finance) of the company. He has an experience of 35 years in the Power Sector including Finance and Accounting functions i.e. finalisation of Corporate Accounts, formulation of Capital Budget etc.
 15. **James Marape** has been re-elected as PM of Papua New Guinea for second term.
Note: Papua New Guinea has been governed by multi-party coalitions. He joined the PANGU Pati in May 2019 and announced to lead the PANGU Pati.
 16. **Justice Uday Umesh Lalit** has been appointed as the 49th Chief Justice of India for three months.

- Note:** He will replace CJI Justice N V Ramana, who will retire on 26th August 2022. He was appointed as Judge of the Supreme Court (SC) in August 2014. He will be the second CJI to be directly elevated to SC from the Bar, after Justice S.M. Sikri (13th CJI).
- 17. Gopal Vittal** has been re-appointed as the managing director of Bharti Airtel for a period of five years (February 1, 2023 to January 31, 2028).
Note: He was re-appointed as the managing director and CEO with effect from February 1, 2018 for a period of 5 years, (upto January 31, 2023). Fixed pay of Vittal (excluding perquisites) stood at Rs 9.1 crore in 2021-22, in addition to a variable pay component.
- 18. Rear Admiral Guillermo Pablo Rios** has been named Head of Mission and Chief Military Observer for the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP).
Note: He replaced Major General José Eladio Alcain of Uruguay, who steps down after the completion of his assignment. He was also served as the Navy Warfare School's Education Department Chief (2018), Marines Infantry Fleet Commander (Brigade Commander) (2020–2021).
- 19.** The Central government has appointed IAS, Shah Faesal as Deputy Secretary in **Tourism Ministry**.
Note: He is a 2010 batch IAS topper of erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir cadre. He worked in various positions in the Jammu & Kashmir administration. He had resigned from the services in January 2019 and joined politics, which he later quit in August 2020.
- 20.** Secretary of United Nations, General António Guterres has appointed **Simon Stiell** as the new executive secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
Note: He will replace Patricia Espinosa of Mexico. Responsibilities: Keeping countries on track to meet international climate goals.
- 21. William Ruto** has been elected as the President of Kenya.
Note: He has won with 50.49% of the vote, defeated veteran opposition leader and former Prime Minister, Raila Odinga (contesting his fifth election). With this win, he become the fifth President of Kenya since independence. His party, Kenya Kwanza coalition, has also won a majority of seats in Senate of Kenya, the upper house of the parliament.
- 22. Mohammad Mustafa** has been recommended by the Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB) for the post of NABARD Chairman.
Note: He is an IAS officer 1995 batch, UP cadre and served as the Chairman and Managing Director of Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI). He had also served as a Joint Secretary in the Department of Financial Services; as CMD of NHB and as MD of CERSAI.
- 23.** Lakshya Sen, Kidambi Srikanth, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty have been signed as the brand ambassadors of **mastercard** to promote digital payment in India.
Note: Focus: To spread awareness about safety, security, and convenience of digital payments in India. This partnership will build up the efforts of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and PM Modi's vision of Digital India. The company had also signed Shiv Kapur and Anirban Lahiri as brand ambassador in 2021.
- 24. Anuj Poddar** has been appointed as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Bajaj Electricals.
Note: The company has separated the post of Chairman & Managing Director to mark the company's commitment to strong corporate governance standards. Shekhar Bajaj will continue as Executive Chairman of the company. Bajaj Electricals had a turnover of Rs 4,813 crore in FY22.
- 25.** UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has appointed Alkesh Kumar Sharma to a panel of 10 eminent experts on internet governance. He is the Secretary of India in the ministry of **Electronics and Information Technology**.
Note: The panel includes: Vint Cerf, Hatem Dowidar, Lise Fuhr, Maria Fernanda Garza, Toomas Hendrik Ilves, Maria Ressa, Karoline Edtstadler, Gbenga Sesan, Lan Xue. Agenda: To deal with strategic and urgent issues of the Internet and provide solution
- 26.** The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has appointed Indian philanthropist, Ashish Dhawan, to its board of trustees, is a founder and CEO of **Convergence Foundation**.
Note: The foundation has also appointed Dr Helene D Gayle, president of Spelman College, US. Dhawan is also the chairperson of Ashoka University and Central Square Foundation. The Gates Foundation has been working with the Indian government and other partners since 2003 on various issues like health.
- 27.** Shareholders of One97 Communications have approved the re-appointment of **Vijay Shekhar Sharma** as managing director and chief executive officer of Paytm.
Note: According to the scrutinizer report, 99.67% votes were in favour of Sharma's re-appointment while only 0.33% voted against the resolution. Remuneration of Vijay Shekhar will remain fixed for the next three years without any annual increment.
- 28. RBL Bank** has appointed Gopal Jain and Dr. Sivakumar Gopalan as the non-executive directors.

- Note:** Gopal Jain: He cofounded Gaja Capital in 2004 and is a Managing Partner at firm. He has also been a member of Alternative Investment Policy Advisory Committee of SEBI since 2018. Dr. Sivakumar Gopalan: He has been a faculty of the Dept of Computer Science and Engineering, IIT Bombay, since 1991.
29. **Mali** 's military has appointed Colonel, Abdoulaye Maiga as the interim Prime Minister of the country.
Note: He replaced civilian Prime Minister of Mali, Choguel Kokalla Maiga, as he was admitted to hospital. Prior to this, he was working as a government spokesman and Minister of Territorial Administration and Decentralisation. Mali is governed by a military that promised to organise democratic elections in 2024
30. **Debasisa Mohanty** has been appointed as the director of the National Institute of Immunology (NII).
Note: He is currently working as the staff scientist with the institute. In another order, Revenue Secretary, Tarun Bajaj has been given additional charge as Corporate Affairs Secretary. Rajesh Verma, a 1987-batch IAS officer of Odisha cadre, was appointed as the Secretary to President, Droupadi Murmu.
31. **Credit Suisse** investment banking company has appointed Dixit Joshi as chief financial officer with effect from October 1, 2022 and Francesca McDonagh as group chief operating officer from September 19, 2022.
Note: Prior to this, Dixit Joshi was group treasurer at Deutsche Bank and also worked at Credit Suisse from 1995 to 2003. He replaced David Mathers, who stepped down from the post.
32. **VVS Laxman** has been named interim head coach of Team India in Dubai for the 2022 Asia Cup.
Note: This decision was confirmed by BCCI, as Rahul Dravid, India's head coach, did not travel with the team after testing positive for COVID-19. Rohit Sharma and KL Rahul will lead the team as captain and vice-captain respectively for the Asia Cup 2022.
33. **Vikram Doraiswami** has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to the UK.
Note: He started his career as the journalist and joined the Indian Foreign Service (IFS) in 1992. He had also served as the Third Secretary in the Indian Embassy in Hong Kong in May 1994.
34. The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has appointed **Dr Samir V Kamat** as chairman, from the date of his assumption of charge till 60 years or until further orders, whichever is earlier.
Note: He will replace G Satheesh Reddy, who has been named as scientific adviser to Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh. Presently, He is serving as the Director General, Naval Systems & Materials (NS&M).
35. **KV Subramanian** has been appointed as the Executive Director for India at the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
Note: His term will begin from November 2022 and will continue for a period of three years or until further orders, whichever is earlier. He will replace the eminent economist, Surjit S Bhalla as ED (India), IMF whose tenure will end on 31 October, 2022.
36. India's first premium sports experiences and travel platform, DreamSetGo has appointed **Sourav Ganguly** as its first brand ambassador.
Note: He will play a key role in promoting DSG's curated experiences through its key partnerships with Manchester City, Chelsea FC, ICC Travel and more. DreamSetGo became the 'Official Travel Agent' of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup Australia 2022 and the 'Official Tour Operator' of the Australian Open 2023. DreamSetGo was founded by Monish Shah in 2019.
37. **Senior RJD MLA Awadh Bihari Chaudhary** has been elected as the Speaker of Bihar Assembly under Nitish kumar-RJD led Mahagathbandhan.
Note: Election for the post of Speaker was necessitated following the resignation of Vijay Kumar Sinha from the post in the changed political scenario in Bihar.
38. **Ananth Narayan Gopalkrishnan** has been appointed as the fourth whole-time member (WTM) of Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).
Note: He has been appointed for an initial period of 3 years. Other WTMs: SK Mohanty, Ashwani Bhatia, Ananta Barua Prior to SP Jain, Narayan was the Regional Head of Financial Markets for ASEAN and South Asia at Standard Chartered Bank
39. Luxury carmaker, Mercedes-Benz has appointed **Santosh Iyer** as the Managing Director & CEO of the Indian operations with effect from January 1, 2023.
Note: He is currently serving as the Vice President of Sales & Marketing. He will succeed Martin Schwenk who will take charge as the President and Chief Executive Officer of Mercedes-Benz Thailand. He joined Mercedes-Benz as VP of Customer Services & Retail Training business in 2016.

July 2022

1. **Eknath Shinde** has become the 20th Chief Minister of Maharashtra.
Note: 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.
2. **Yair Lapid** has been officially became the 14th prime minister of Israel, after replacing Naftali Bennett.
Note: 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.
3. **Shahid Kapoor** has been appointed as a brand ambassador of PokerBaazi.
Note: 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.
4. **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).
Note: 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.
5. **Rahul Narwekar** was elected as the 16th Speaker of the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly after defeating Rajan Salvi (Shiv Sena candidate).
Note: The post of the Maharashtra Speaker was vacant after Nana Patole (Congress) resigned from the office in February 2021.
6. **Asit Rath** has been appointed as the new chief executive officer and managing director of Aviva India, with effect from July 11, 2022.
Note: He will replace Amit Malik, who is leaving the business after 10 years. Currently, He is working as the CEO of Prudential Myanmar Life Insurance.
7. **Ravi Shastri** has been appointed as the new brand ambassador for FanCode.
Note: FanCode is set to host some of the best cricketing action with exclusive rights to India's tour of the West Indies and ECB's The Hundred. Shastri will bring out FanCode's 'fan-first' proposition by leading the upcoming campaigns for these properties.
8. **Suranjan Das** has been appointed as the president of the Association of Indian Universities (AIU).
Note: is 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.
9. **VP Nandakumar** has been reappointed as MD & CEO of Manappuram Finance with effect from 27 July 2022 upto 31 March 2024.
Note: He is post graduate in science with additional qualifications in Banking & Foreign Trade. He started his banking career with Nedungadi Bank. In 1992, he promoted Manappuram Finance and has been a director of the company since then.
10. **Smriti Irani** has been assigned the charge of Ministry of Minority Affairs after the resignation of Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi.
Note: Jyotiraditya Scindia has been given the additional charge of the Ministry of Steel after the resignation of Ram Chandra Prasad Singh.
11. **Lt Gen Mohan Subramanian** has been appointed as Force Commander of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS).
Note: He succeeds Lt Gen Shailesh Tinaikar (India). Presently, he is serving as the Commandant of Defence Services Staff College, Wellington.
12. **Amitabh Kant** has been appointed as India's new Sherpa for the G-20.
Note: 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.
13. **R Dinesh** has been elected President Designate of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) for 2022-23.
Note: 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. anjiv Bajaj (Chairman and Managing Director, Bajaj Finserv Ltd) continues to be the President of CII for 2022-23.
14. **Paritosh Tripathi** has been appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the private non-life insurer SBI General Insurance with effect from 5th July 2022.
Note: He succeeded P.C. Kandpal, who has been posted as Deputy Managing Director (DMD)-(P&RE) at SBI. He has more than 32 years of banking experience and has worked in various departments including MSME, mid-corporate segment, international banking and bancassurance.
15. **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.
Note: IFAD 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
16. **Brajesh Kumar Upadhyay** has been appointed as the Chairman & Managing Director of Goa Shipyard

- Limited (GSL) for a period of five years, with effect from 10th July 2022.
- Note:** Earlier, he was serving as the Director of Operations within the company (GSL). He will be responsible for the efficient functioning of the company for achieving its corporate objectives.
17. **Meena Hemchandra** has been appointed as part-time chairman of the Karur Vysya Bank for three years.
Note: Previously, she worked as an additional director under Independent Category of the bank. She worked as Executive Director of RBI from June 2015 to November 2017 and served as secretary to the Board of Note Mudran for four years.
 18. **Madhulika Bhaskar** has been appointed as CMD of the New India Assurance Company Ltd (NIACL) for three months.
Note: She has replaced Atul Sahai, whose tenure had ended on February 28, 2022 following his superannuation.
 19. **G Rajkiran Rai** has been recommended by the Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB) as Managing Director at the National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID).
Note: He served as the MD & CEO of Union Bank of India for five years, till the date of his superannuation in May 2022. FSIB was incorporated on July 1, 2022. The erstwhile Banks Board Bureau (BBB) was revamped into FSIB with certain amendments in its mandate.
 20. **Ashish Kumar Chauhan** has been appointed as the new managing director and CEO of the National Stock Exchange for five years.
Note: He will be taking over the helm of NSE from Vikram Limaye. He is currently served as the MD and CEO of BSE, tenure of Chauhan is scheduled to end in November 2022. He is a technocrat from IIT and IIM and considered as the father of modern financial derivatives in India due to his work at NSE from 1993-2000.
 21. **La Ganesan (Manipur Governor)** has been given the additional charge as the new Governor of Bengal, after the resignation of Jagdeep Dhankhar.
Note: He will discharge the functions of the governor of West Bengal, in addition to his own duties from the date he assumes charge of the office until regular arrangements are made. Jagdeep Dhankhar has filed his nomination as the Vice-President candidate by the National Democratic Alliance (NDA).
 22. **Justice Vineet Saran** has been appointed as the BCCI's ethics officer and ombudsman.
Note: He has succeeded Justice (Retd) D K Jain, whose term ended in June 2021. He is a former Chief Justice of Odisha High Court, and also served as a judge in Karnataka and Allahabad High Court.
 23. **Manoj Kumar** has been appointed as the chairman of Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC).
Note: KVIC's former Chairman Vinai Kumar Saxena has moved on to take charge as the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi. Manoj Kumar was earlier part of KVIC as the Expert Member (Marketing) and has professional experience in the areas of marketing and rural development.
 24. **V K Singh** has taken charge as Director (Technical) of REC Limited with effect from 12th July, 2022.
Note: V K Singh had been Executive Director in REC holding portfolio of key business areas including Private Sector Project Management, Entity Appraisal and Procurement. He is also a Director on the Board of REC Power Development and Consultancy Limited.
 25. **Ranil Wickremesinghe** has been sworn-in as the eighth president of Sri Lanka at the parliament premises before Chief Justice Jayantha Jayasuriya.
Note: He has secured 134 votes in the 225-member House while his rival Dullas Alahapperuma got 82. He had took over as the Acting President after ex-President Gotabaya Rajapaksa fled the country. He will complete the tenure of Rajapaksa's term, which ends in November 2024.
 26. **Droupadi Murmu** has been elected as the 15th President of India, after securing 64% of the votes.
Note: She is the first tribal woman and the second woman (First: Pratibha Patil) to hold the position of President of India. CJI, N V Ramana will administer the oath of office to Droupadi. She was born in Mayurbhanj district of Odisha. Tribe: Santhal. She served as Governor of Jharkhand from 2015 to 2021.
 27. **Seif Ahmed (Egypt)** has been appointed as acting president of the International Hockey Federation (FIH) after the resignation of Indian administrator Narinder Batra from the post.
Note: Batra has resigned as FIH president and also quit as chief of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA). He also gave up his International Olympic Committee (IOC) membership which was directly linked with his IOA position.
 28. **Rajarshi Gupta** has appointed as MD of ONGC Videsh Ltd, is an overseas investment arm of state-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC).
Note: He has replaced Alok Gupta who was superannuated in June 2022. He has more than 33 years of experience in supervisory, managerial and strategic planning capacities in domestic and international operations of ONGC and ONGC Videsh.
 29. **Dinesh Gunawardena** has been appointed as the new **Prime Minister of Sri Lanka** along with 17 other cabinet ministers.
Note: Along with Prime Minister ship, he has additional charge of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Council, and Local Government.
 30. **Rama Subramaniam Gandhi** has been appointed as an additional independent director of YES bank for a period of five years, effective from July 23, 2022.

- Note:** He is currently serving as a financial sector policy expert and adviser. He was a Deputy Governor of the RBI for three years from 2014 to 2017. He had a three-year secondment to the SEBI and also served as Director of the Institute for Development and Research in Banking Technology (IDRBT), Hyderabad.
- 31. Ennarasu Karunesan** has been named as the official representative of the International Association of Ports and Harbors' (IAPH) in India.
Note: He has started his career in the port industry with the Mumbai port and later worked as the general manager of operations and CEO of the Westport Container Terminal in Port Klang, Malaysia (from 2001 to 2004). IAPH is the world's port industry's forum for cooperation and excellence.
- 32. Akshaya Moondra** has appointed as new chief executive officer of Vodafone Idea with effect from August 19, 2022 for a period of three years.
Note: He will succeed Ravinder Takkar. Takkar will continue to be a non-executive and non-independent director of the company post completion of his term as the MD & CEO. Moondra has over 30 years of international experience and over 14 years' experience in the Indian telecom sector.
- 33. Indermit Gill** has been appointed as a new Chief Economist and Senior Vice President for Development Economics of World Bank, will be effective September 1, 2022.
Note: He will succeed American economist, Carmen Reinhart. He is currently serving as the Vice President for Equitable Growth, Finance, and Institutions. He will be the second Indian to serve as chief economist after Kaushik Basu who was Chief Economist of the World Bank from 2012 to 2016.
- 34. Ahmad Nawaf Al Ahmad Al Sabah** has been appointed as the Prime Minister of **Kuwait**.
Note: He succeeded Sheikh Sabah Al Khaled, who resigned in April 2022. He is a retired Kuwaiti military with the rank of Lieutenant-General at the Ministry of Interior and the First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior since March 9, 2022.
- 35. Ravi Kishan Takkar** has been appointed as the Additional Director (Independent) of LIC Housing Finance Ltd (LIC HFL), effective from July 25, 2022.
Note: He served as an MD & CEO of UCO Bank for three years till November 01, 2018.
- 36. Nakul Jain** has been appointed as the CEO of Paytm Payments Services Ltd (PPSL).
Note: He replaced Praveen Sharma, who is now serving as the acting CEO of PPSL. Praveen Sharma has been promoted to oversee the organisation's commerce vertical in addition to his other duties. Nakul Jain has served as managing director of private banking, priority banking, deposits and branch banking at Standard Chartered Bank.
- 37. Bajram Begaj** has been sworn-in as the President of the **Republic of Albania** and becomes the ninth president of the country.
Note: He was elected as president on June 4, 2022 after receiving 78 votes in favour out of 83 votes. He was a major general and hold the post of chief of general staff of the Albanian Armed Forces.

June 2022

- 1. Natarajan Sundar** has been appointed as a managing director and CEO of National Assets Reconstruction Company Ltd (NARCL).
Note: He has served SBI for over 37 years and retired as Deputy MD and Chief Credit Officer of the bank on April 2022.
- 2. Rajesh Gera** has been appointed as the Director General of National Informatics Centre (NIC) under the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) with effect from 31st May 2022.
Note: Earlier, he was on deputation in the Ministry of Defence as CEO, DPIT and joined back NIC as Deputy Director General.
- 3. Dr Swati Dhingra** has been appointed as the first Indian-origin woman as an external member of the Bank of England's interest rate-setting committee.
Note: She is an Associate Professor of Economics at the London School of Economics (LSE) and having a specialisation in international economics and applied microeconomics. She will join the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) on August 9, 2022 for a three-year term.
- 4. Zulfiqar Hasan** has been appointed as new directors general of the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS).
Note: S L Thaosen as the directors general of the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) respectively. Hasan is a West Bengal-cadre IPS officer and now serving as the special director general of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) in Delhi. Thaosen is a Madhya Pradesh-cadre IPS officer and working in the same capacity in the Border Security Force (BSF).
- 5. Sachin Tendulkar** remains as the Goodwill Ambassador UNICEF, working for the welfare of underprivileged children.
Note: He has been associated with UNICEF for long for various causes. He was chosen to take lead in the initiative to create awareness and promote polio prevention in India in 2003.

- 6. A Manimekhalai** has been appointed as a MD of Union Bank of India for the period of three years with effect from the date of assumption of office.
Note: She has replaced Rajkiran Rai G, who retired on May 31 after a five-year stint. She also becomes the first woman managing director of Union Bank of India. Government has also appointed Swarup Kumar Saha as head of Punjab & Sind Bank. He replaced S Krishnan, who also superannuated on May 31.
- 7. Mahendra Singh Dhoni** has been appointed as a brand ambassador of Garuda Aerospace company.
Note: Garuda Aerospace is among the four drone startups that had been selected by Swiggy for a pilot project which involve carrying out supply runs for its grocery service Instamart.
- 8. Alok Kumar Choudhary** has been appointed as Managing Director of State Bank of India after replacing Ashwani Bhatia.
Note: He has replaced Ashwani Bhatia, who was appointed as a whole-time member of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). He is responsible for the Retail Business & Operations of the lender.
- 9. Bajram Begaj** has been elected as the new president of Albania.
Note: Prior to this, he holds the position of Chief of General Staff of the Albanian Armed Forces (AAF). He is the 8th president of Albania and the 3rd from the military ranks.
- 10. Satish Pai** has been appointed as the new chairperson of the International Aluminium Institute.
Note: He succeeded Ben Kahrs, who is a chief innovation officer of Alcoa Corporation. He earlier worked with Schlumberger, where he was responsible for Schlumberger's operations globally.
- 11. Krishna Srinivasan** has been appointed as a Director of the Asia and Pacific Department (APD), International Monetary Fund.
Note: He will succeed Changyong Rhee whose retirement from the IMF was announced on March 23. He has joined IMF in 1994 in the Economist Program.
- 12. Mayank Kumar Agrawal** has been given additional charge as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Prasar Bharati.
Note: He succeeded Shashi Shekhar Vempati, who was serving at this position since 2017.
- 13. N J Ojha** has been appointed as the ombudsman under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGA).
Note: An ombudsman has the power to receive complaints from MGNREGA workers, consider such complaints, pass awards within 30 days from the date of receipt of the complaint, and issue directions for conducting a spot investigation.
- 14. Amandeep Singh Gill** has been appointed as United Nations Secretary-General's envoy on technology.
Note: Amandeep Singh Gill has been India's permanent representative to the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva from 2016-to 2018. He is now the chief executive officer of the International Digital Health and Artificial Intelligence Research Collaborative (I-DAIR) project at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva.
- 15. R Subramaniakumar** has been appointed as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of RBL Bank.
Note: Subramaniakumar is a former managing director and chief executive director of state-run Indian Overseas Bank. He was appointed the administrator of Dewan Housing Finance Co Ltd after the mortgage financier's board was superseded.
- 16. Bhimanagouda Sanganaagouda Patil** was sworn in as the Lokayukta of Karnataka.
Note: Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot administered the oath of office to Justice Patil. The post of the head of the anti-corruption ombudsman in Karnataka was vacant after the end of the tenure of Justice P. Vishwanath Shetty in January 2022, who served in the post for five years.
- 17. Four** persons have been appointed as part-time non-official Directors on the Central Board of RBI.
Note: The Central Government has nominated Anand Gopal Mahindra (Chairman of Mahindra group), Venu Srinivasan (TVS Motor's Chairman), Pankaj Ramanbhai Patel (ZyduS Lifescience's Chairman) and Ravindra Dholakia (IIM Ahmedabad's ex-faculty) as part-time non-official Directors on the Central Board of RBI.
- 18. Arati Prabhakar** has been appointed as the head of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy by US president, Joe Biden.
Note: She succeeded Eric Lander. She would be the first woman and the first person of color to serve as science adviser to the President of the United States.
- 19. Pramod K Mittal (President of Jio Infocomm)** has been appointed as the new Chairperson of the Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) for 2022-23.
Note: He will replace Ajai Puri as the COAI Chairperson, who held the position for the two consecutive terms. COAI members include Reliance Jio, Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea (VIL).
- 20. Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai** has been appointed as the Chairperson of Press Council of India.
Note: She succeeded former Supreme Court judge Justice CK Prasad, who held the office from 2014 to 2022. She became the first women chairperson of Press Council of India
- 21. P.N. Vasudevan** has been reappointed as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO) of Equitas Small Finance Bank (SFB).

- Note:** He founded Equitas in 2007 as a microfinance institution (MFI) and was later converted into bank in 2016. Earlier, the bank had received SEBI approval for the amalgamation of Equitas Holdings with the bank.
- 22. Justice Vipin Sanghi** will be appointed as the Chief Justice of **Uttarakhand HC**.
Note: Justice Rashmin M Chhaya of the as the Chief Justice of the Gauhati High Court. Telangana Chief Justice, Satish Chandra Sharma will be appointed to the Delhi HC. Justice Amjad A Sayed and Justice SS Shinde will be elevated as the Chief Justice of the Himachal Pradesh HC and Rajasthan HC respectively. Justice Ujjal Bhuyan will take over as the Chief Justice of the Telangana HC.
- 23. Gustavo Petro** has won presidential election of Colombia and becomes the first ever leftist president in the history of country.
Note: He defeated construction magnate, Rodolfo Hernandez with a margin of more than 700,000 votes. Petro is a former mayor of capital Bogota and current senator. He was also a former member of the M-19 guerrilla movement.
- 24. Ruchira Kamboj** has been appointed as the Permanent Representative of India to UN.
Note: She will replace T S Tirumurti. She has joined the Indian Foreign Service (IFS) in 1987, was the All India women's topper of the 1987 Civil Services batch and the topper of the 1987 Foreign Service batch.
- 25. Minerva Punjab FC, Ranjit Bajaj** has been appointed as the chairperson of the 12-member committee formed by the Committee of Administrators (CoA).
Note: The CoA took charge of the AIFF, after the Supreme Court removed the Praful Patel led office bearers for not holding elections on time. Aim: To look the day-to-day matters of various departments of the All India Football Federation (AIFF).
- 26. Dr D J Pandian** has been appointed as the Director-General of New Development Bank (NDB), India Regional Office in Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City).
Note: In May 2022, the NDB had announced to set up IRO in the Gift city. The NDB has also approved 20 projects in India worth of USD 7.2. billion. The IRO will support the effective and efficient implementation of these projects and work closely with Project Implementation Agencies.
- 27. Tapan Kumar Deka** has been appointed as Director of Intelligence Bureau for a tenure of two years from the date of assumption of the charge.
Note: He is a 1988 batch Himachal Pradesh cadre IPS officer. He will succeed incumbent Intelligence Bureau Director, Arvind Kumar.
- 28. Parameswaran Iyer** has been appointed as the new CEO of Niti Aayog for two years.
Note: He will replace Amitabh Kant. He is a 1981-batch IAS officer of the Uttar Pradesh cadre. In 2016, Iyer was appointed to implement government's Swachh Bharat Mission.
- 29. Dinkar Gupta** has been appointed as the Director-General of National Investigation Agency (NIA).
Note: He will replace Director General of CRPF, Kuldeep Singh, who was given an additional charge of the NIA after the retirement of Y C Modi. He will hold this post till March 31, 2024. NIA is a counter-terrorist task force of India.
- 30. Nitin Gupta** has been appointed as the new chairman of Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT).
Note: He will replace Sangeeta Singh who had been given an addition charge after the retirement of JB Mohapatra on April 30. The CBDT is headed by a chairman and may consist of six members in the rank of Special Secretary.
- 31. Anil Khanna** has been appointed as the acting President of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA).
Note: The Delhi High Court has passed an order, that Narinder Dhruv Batra cannot continue as the President of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) in a contempt proceeding. While hearing a contempt proceeding filed on behalf of former Olympian Aslam Sher Khan against Batra, IOA secretary general Rajeev Mehta and Sports Secretary.
- 32. Justice Satish Chandra Sharma** has sworn-in as the new Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court by lieutenant governor Vinai Kumar Saxena.
Note: He succeeded Justice DN Patel, who retired on March 13. Earlier, he served as the Chief Justice of the Telangana High Court. He has also served as an acting chief justice of Karnataka high court.
- 33. Mohammed Jalood** has been appointed as president of the International Weightlifting Federation (IWF) at an event held in Tirana, Albania.
Note: Jalood is the first permanent president since Tamás Aján has stepped down in 2020 after controlling the IWF for 44 years. Earlier, he has worked as a IWF General Secretary. He has worked as spending the last five as IWF General Secretary.
- 34. The board of Reliance Jio Infocomm** has approved the appointment of **Akash Ambani** as its chairman.
Note: He has joined the Reliance Jio in 2014. The board has also approved the appointment of Raminder Singh Gujral and KV Chowdary, as additional directors of the company. The appointment of Pankaj Mohan Pawar as MD of Jio has also been approved.

35. Sandeep Kumar Gupta has been selected as the head of India's largest gas utility GAIL (India) Ltd by the Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB).

Note: He will replace Manoj Jain, who will be retired on August 31, 2022. He has more than 31 years of

May 2022

1. Anshul Swami has been appointed as managing director and chief executive officer Shivalik Small Finance Bank.

Note: The appointment of Swami has already been approved by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). He has replaced Suveer Kumar Gupta, who is a co-founder of the bank. Prior to Shivalik SFB, he was worked with RBL Bank as Head – Retail & Inclusion, Products.

2. Joydeep Karmakar has been appointed as the chief national rifle coach by National Rifle Association of India (NRAI).

Note: He will oversee Indian continent till 2025, including the Paris Olympics 2024. He had missed a bronze medal by a whisker in men's 50-metre rifle prone event at 2012 London Olympics. He has been running his own shooting academy in Kolkata since 2015. NRAI was founded in 1951 to promote and popularize the shooting sports in India.

3. Nand Mulchandani has been appointed as the first-ever Chief Technology Officer (CTO) of Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), first line of defense for the United States.

Note: Prior to this, he served as the CTO and acting director of the Joint Artificial Intelligence Centre under US Department of Defence. He served as the CEO of multiple successful startups like Oblix (acquired by Oracle), Determina, OpenDNS and ScaleXtreme .

4. Tarun Kapoor (Retired Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer and former Petroleum Secretary) has been appointed as the advisor to Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Note: He will superannuate as the secretary of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas on November 30, 2021. Apart from him, Senior bureaucrats Hari Ranjan Rao and Atish Chandra have been appointed as the additional secretaries in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO).

5. Rajiv Ranjan has been appointed as the ex-officio member of the monetary policy committee by RBI's central board.

Note: He replaced Mridul Saggar, who retired last month. Prior to this, he was an advisor in-charge in the monetary policy department, before he was elevated as an executive director. MPC is a 6-member body and is headed by RBI governor. There are 3 members from RBI and 3 members nominated by Govt.

working experience at Indian Oil Corporation (IOC). He is working as a Director (Finance) of IOC since August 3, 2019.

6. Sangeeta Singh has been given additional charge of Chairman, Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) for a period of three months or till a regular Chairman is appointed.

Note: She has replaced JB Mohapatra who retired as the head of the direct taxes administration body on April 30. She is currently holding charge of Audit and Judicial and an additional charge of Income Tax and Revenue and Tax Payers services.

7. Arvind Krishna (IBM Chairman and CEO) has been elected to the Board of Directors as a Class B director of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

Note: He will remain in the office for the remaining portion of a three-year term ending December 31, 2023. He has been an undergraduate from the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur and a PhD from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He was senior VP of Cloud and Cognitive Software and also headed IBM Research.

8. Alkesh Kumar Sharma has assumed charge as Secretary of Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY).

Note: Prior to this, he served as the Additional Secretary and Secretary in Cabinet Secretariat. He was also chairman of Indian Highways Management Company and implemented FASTAG system of toll collection. Minister of Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY): Ashwini Vaishnav.

9. Sudarshan Venu has taken over as the Managing Director of TVS Motor Company.

Note: Prior to this, he was the Joint Managing Director of the company. His elevation coincides with the appointment of Prof Sir Ralf Dieter Speth as the Chairman of the company. He succeeded Venu Srinivasan, who has become the Chairman Emeritus of the company. TVS Motor Company: Indian motorcycle manufacturer headquartered in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. It is the 3rd largest motorcycle company in India.

10. M. Narayanan takes charge as a part-time chairman of City Union Bank Ltd. for a period of two years w.e.f. May 4.

Note: Narayanan replaced R. Mohan, who laid down the office after completing a three-year term. Narayanan is a graduate in Mathematics from Loyola College. He is a qualified chartered accountant, cost accountant and system auditor.

11. John Lee Ka-Chiu becomes the chief executive of Hong Kong.

Note: He will replace Carrie Lam. He will be the first security official to hold the Chief Executive position of Hong Kong which witnessed years of political unrest and recent debilitating pandemic controls.

12. Sahas Malhotra has been appointed as the CEO of JioSaavn, Music app.

Note: He joined JioSaavn from Amazon Music where he was leading his team as a Director. He has worked with Sony Music India and Tips Industries. He was leading the business at Tips Music and marketing for Tips Film production.

13. Before being elevated to the Supreme Court Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia was a Chief Justice of **Gauhati High Court**.

Note: President Ram Nath Kovind has confirmed the appointment of Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia and Justice Jamshed Burjor Pardiwala as Judges of the Supreme Court. Justice Pardiwala was elevated as an additional judge of the Gujarat High Court and later confirmed as a permanent judge.

14. Captain Rajesh Unni (Founder and CEO of Synergy Group) has been appointed as a Vice-Chair of the Maritime Anti-Corruption Network (MACN).

Note: In 2006 he launched his own vessel ownership and management company named Synergy Marine Group. Captain Unni is joint CEO of Alpha Ori Technologies (AOT) which he founded in 2017 and is a Governor at the Indian Institute of Management, Tiruchirappalli.

15. Rodrigo Chaves was sworn in as Costa Rica's president for a four-years.

Note: He will focus on reinvigorating one of Latin America's most stable economies, as foreign debt rises to 70% of GDP, the poverty rate of 23%, unemployment of 14% and public sector corruption. He was a senior official at the World Bank, where he worked for 30 years.

16. Yoon Suk-yeol (a conservative former prosecutor) has been sworn in as the president of South Korea in a ceremony held at Seoul's National Assembly.

Note: He served as South Korea's prosecutor general from 2019 to 2021 under Moon Jae-in (former president) rule. He played an important role in the conviction of Park Geun-hye (former President) as a chief prosecutor of South Korea.

17. Deepika Padukone has been appointed as Louis Vuitton's first-ever Indian brand ambassador.

Note: She was unveiled as part of a new handbag campaign with Emma Stone and Chinese actor Zhou Dongyu in a series of promotional shots. Recently, she

has been named as a part of an eight-member jury presided by French actor Vincent Lindon at 75th Cannes Film Festival.

18. Ranil Wickremesinghe (the United National Party leader) has taken an oath as the new Prime Minister of Sri Lanka for the fifth time after the resignation of Mahinda Rajapaksa.

Note: President Gotabaya Rajapaksa has administered his oath at a ceremony held in the President's office in Colombo. Wickremesinghe has been reappointed in an effort to bring stability to Sri Lanka, engulfed in a political and economic crisis.

19. Startup Policy and Implementation Plan – 2022, the startup policy of Madhya Pradesh was recently launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi via video conferencing.

Note: He also address the startup community during the Madhya Pradesh Startup Conclave held in Indore. Aim: To promote startups and encourage budding entrepreneurs in Madhya Pradesh. PM Modi will also launch the Madhya Pradesh Startup portal to promote the startup ecosystem.

20. Sanjiv Bajaj (Chairman of Bajaj Finserv Limited) has assumed the office of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) President for the year 2022-23 after replacing TV Narendran (CEO of Tata Steel).

Note: The Chairman and CEO of Hero MotoCorp Limited, Pawan Munjal has taken over as CII President-Designate for 2022-23. Executive Vice Chairman of TVS Supply Chain Solutions, R Dinesh has been appointed as a Vice President of CII.

21. Campbell Wilson has been appointed by the Tata Group as Air India's new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Managing Director (MD).

Note: Wilson is the second attempt of Tata Group as a CEO-MD for Air India after the former Turkish Airlines chairman Ilker Ayci (declined to take up the position). The appointment of a foreign national as CEO of an airline in India needs government clearance before it can proceed.

22. Rajiv Kumar has been appointed as the next Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) from May 15.

Note: He will replace CEC Sushil Chandra, who is due to retire. Rajiv Kumar took charge as the Election Commissioner of the Election Commission of India (ECI) on September 1, 2020. He had been the chairman of the Public Enterprises Selection Board. He joined as the PESB chairman in April 2020.

23. Manik Saha (Tripura BJP chief) has become the 12th Chief Minister of Tripura after Biplab Kumar Deb resigned from the post.

- Note:** Tripura's governor Satyadev Narayan Arya has administered the oath of office on May 15 at Raj Bhawan in Agartala (Capital city). Dr Saha is a dental surgeon by profession and joined BJP in 2016 after quitting Congress. Deb had taken oath as the CM of Tripura in 2018, ending the 25-year Communist rule in the state.
- 24. Nidhi Chibber** has been appointed as the chairperson of the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE).
Note: She is from 1994 batch IAS officer of Chhattisgarh cadre and currently working as an Additional Secretary in Ministry of Heavy Industries. Vivek Kumar Dewangan from a 1993 batch IAS officer of Manipur cadre has been named Chairman of REC Ltd. (Ministry of Power). S Gopalakrishnan has been appointed as Additional Secretary in Department of Health and Family Welfare.
- 25. Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan** has been elected as president of the United Arab Emirates after the death of former leader Sheikh Khalifa.
Note: Sheikh Mohamed was elected by the Federal Supreme Council, becoming the ruler of the oil-rich country which was founded by his father in 1971.
- 26. Vijayalakshmi Swaminathan** has been appointed as the company's new Chief People Officer of Pine Labs.
Note: Before joining Pine Labs, she worked with Amazon India where she was heading the Human Resources function. She was one of the founding Partners at CoCoon Consulting, a cross-sectoral boutique HR consulting firm. She has also worked with FMCG major Unilever for bolstering the company's employer brand.
- 27. Elisabeth Borne** has been appointed as the new Prime Minister of France.
Note: She becomes the second woman to hold this position after Edith Cresson (1991-1992) under President Francois Mitterrand. She joined Macron's centrist party in 2017. She is a former Transport, Ecology and Labour minister. She has succeeded Jean Castex, who had led the French cabinet since July 2020 and resigned recently.
- 28. Hassan Sheikh Mohamud** has been appointed as the new president of Somalia for four years.
Note: He defeated the current president, Mohamed Abudallahi Farmajo. Out of 328 MPs, Mohamud has received 214 votes and Farmajo won 110 votes only. Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, also served as Somalia's president between 2012 and 2017.
- 29. Sitikantha Pattanaik and Rajiv Ranjan** are two executive directors who have been recently appointed by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
Note: Ranjan will serve as an ex-officio member of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) while Pattanaik will serve as the Department of Economic and Policy Research (DEPR). Prior to being promoted, Pattanaik was an Adviser in the DEPR and Ranjan served as Adviser-in-Charge of Monetary Policy Department and Secretary to the MPC.
- 30. Gram Unnati (Agritech startup)** company has appointed former chief election commissioner Sunil Arora as the new non-executive chairman of its board.
Note: He is a retired civil servant (IAS) with an experience of over 36 years. He has served as secretary in the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting and the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.
- 31. Naveen Srivastava** has been appointed as the next ambassador to Nepal.
Note: He succeeded Vinay Kwatra, who has recently become the foreign secretary. He has played a key role in diplomatic and military talks with China to tackle the military standoff on the Line of Actual Control (LAC).
- 32. SS Mundra** has been appointed by the BSE as the Chairman of the board of directors of the company.
Note: He replaced Justice Vikramajit Sen who is the current chairman. Mundra was appointed as Public Interest Director at BSE in January 2018. He retired as Deputy Governor of the RBI on July 30, 2017, and also served as Chairman and Managing Director of the Bank of Baroda.
- 33. Dr. Kamal Bawa** has been elected to the U.S. National Academy of Sciences.
Note: He is a conservation biologist and President of the Bengaluru-based Ashoka Trust for Research and Ecology and Environment (ATREE). Election to the 170-year-old Academy is a recognition of the significant contributions to science by its members. Dr. Kamal Bawa is also an elected fellow of the Royal Society (London) and the American Philosophical Society.
- 34. B Govindarajan** has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Eicher Motors Limited (EML), the parent company of Royal Enfield.
Note: He had been serving as the Executive Director of Royal Enfield since August 2021 and prior to that, he was the Chief Operating Officer (COO) at the company since 2013. He will also serve as a Wholtime Director on the Board of EML. He has spent more than 23 years across Royal Enfield and Eicher Motors.
- 35. Pieter Elbers** has been appointed as new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of InterGlobe Aviation, the parent company of low-cost carrier IndiGo.

- Note:** He succeeds Ronojoy Dutta, 71, who has decided to retire on September 30, 2022. Since 2014, Mr Elbers, 52, has served as the President and CEO of KLM Royal Dutch Airlines. He is also a member of the executive committee of the Air France – KLM Group. MD of IndiGo: Rahul Bhatia
- 36. Vijay Shekhar Sharma** has been reappointed as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Paytm for another 5 yrs term.
Note: His tenure will be from December 19, 2022, to December 18, 2027. Madhur Deora has been appointed as the Whole-time Director of Paytm for a tenure of 5 years from May 20, 2022, to May 19, 2027. Deora will also continue to act in the capacity of Chief Financial Officer of Paytm. One 97 Communications is the parent company of Paytm
- 37. Salil Parekh** has been appointed as the CEO of Infosys for the period of five years on the recommendation of the Board of Directors from July 1, 2022, to March 31, 2027.
Note: He will be the only non-founder CEO to have managed to be at the helm of the company for a second term. He has been leading the role at Infosys since January 2018. He took over the role from then-interim CEO and MD and company veteran UB Pravin Rao.
- 38. Gyanesh Bharti** has been appointed as the new commissioner of the unified Municipal Corporation of Delhi.
Note: The Centre has appointed 1992 batch IAS officer Ashwani Kumar as the special officer in the unified MCD. He will take over the role of elected councilors and municipal Important Committees till the fresh civic polls are held. The unified Municipal Corporation of Delhi comes into effect on May 22, 2022.
- 39. Labour Party leader Anthony Albanese** was sworn in as Australia's 31st Prime Minister.
Note: Four key Cabinet members, including new Foreign Minister Penny Wong, Richard Marles is the new Deputy Prime Minister and Employment Minister, Jim Chalmers is Treasurer, and Katy Gallagher is Attorney General and Finance Minister. It is Australia's first Labour Government in almost a decade.
- 40. Jose Ramos-Horta (Former independence fighter and Nobel Peace Prize laureate)** was sworn in as president of East Timor.
Note: He defeated incumbent Francisco "Lu Olo" Guterres (his fellow independence fighter) in election. Ramos-Horta was prime minister from 2006 to 2007 and president from 2007 to 2012. East Timor is marking the 20th anniversary of independence for Asia's youngest country.
- 41. Vivek Kumar** has been appointed as the PS to Prime Minister Narendra Modi at joint secretary level.
Note: He will take over as PM Modi's private secretary from Sanjeev Kumar Singla. Kumar has joined the PMO as a deputy secretary in 2014. He is a BTech in chemical engineering from IIT Bombay and has served in diplomatic positions in Russia and Australia.
- 42. Vinai Kumar Saxena** has been appointed as the new Lieutenant Governor (L-G) of Delhi.
Note: He was appointed as the chairman of KVIC in October 2015. He has worked on various schemes and products: 'Honey Mission', 'Kumhar Sashaktikaran Yojana', 'Leather Artisans' Empowerment', Khadi Prakritik Paint, and many more. He has replaced former LG Anil Baijal, who headed Delhi's government for five years.
- 43. Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus** has been reelected as Director-General of WHO for the second term with effect from 16th August 2022.
Note: His re-election was confirmed during the 75th World Health Assembly in Geneva. He was the sole candidate. Dr Tedros was first elected in 2017. Before joining the WHO, Dr Tedros served as Minister of Foreign Affairs and as Minister of Health in Ethiopia.
- 44. Captain Abhilasha Barak** becomes the first woman officer to join the Army Aviation Corps as a combat aviator after successfully completing her training.
Note: She is from Haryana and was awarded the coveted wings along with 36 other army pilots by the DG and Colonel Commandant of Army Aviation in Nashik. She was commissioned into the Indian Army from the Officers Training Academy, Chennai in 2018. She has been assigned to the second flight of the 2072 Army Aviation Squadron.
- 45. Gaurav Sachdeva** has been appointed as the CEO of the e-commerce venture of the group JSW One Platforms.
Note: He will be responsible for creating a strong and healthy transparent platform that will ease buying and selling of steel and other products for manufacturing and construction MSMEs in the country. Prior to joining JSW Ventures, he worked in leading institutions like Citibank, Bank of America and Infosys.
- 46. Anwar Hussain Shaik** has been made the chair of the WTO's Committee on Technical Barriers on Trade(TBT).
Note: He replaced Elisa Maria Olmeda de Alejandro from Mexico.
- 47. Justice Pradip Kumar Mohanty** has been appointed as the acting Chairperson of Lokpal by President Ram Nath Kovind, after Pinaki Chandra Ghose completed his tenure as the Lokpal Chief.

Note: is tenure is effective from 28th May, till the appointment of a new Chairperson.

48. **Lovlina Borgohain** has been elected as the voting member and chair on the Board of Directors for the

Athletes' Committee, the International Boxing Association (IBA).

Note: She has received the highest number of votes at the 2022 Women's World Championships election

Important Days

1-15 September 2022

1. India has observed National Nutrition week every year on **September 1 to September 7**.
Note: Aim: To make people aware about the adequate nutrition in food while enjoying the different flavours of Indian cuisine. The theme of National Nutrition Week 2022 is to 'Celebrate a World of Flavours.'
2. World Coconut Day is observed annually on **September 2** to highlight the significance of coconut in our daily lives and how beneficial are they for health.
Note: Theme 2022: Growing coconut for a better future and life. Top exporters of coconuts: Indonesia, India, Philippines, Brazil and Sri Lanka.
3. The International Day of Charity is observed on **September 5**.
Note: September 5 was chosen to celebrate the day because it is Mother Teresa's death anniversary. Mother Teresa received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979 for "work undertaken in the struggle to overcome poverty and distress, which also constitute a threat to peace."
4. National Teachers' Day observed on **5 September** to mark the birthday of the country's first Vice President and second President of India, Dr Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan.
Note: He was born on September 5 in the year 1888. The first Teachers' Day in India was celebrated in 1962.
5. **Ministry of Women and Child Development** is celebrating the 5th RashtriyaPoshanMaah 2022 across the nation from 1st September till 30th September.
Note: RashtriyaPoshanMaah serves as a platform to bring focus to the discourse of nutrition and good health. The Central Theme of PoshanMaah 2022 is "MahilaaurSwasthya" and "BachaurShiksha".
6. **The Air We Share** is the theme of the third International Day of Clean Air For Blue Skies 2022 is observed annually on 7 September to raise awareness about the importance of clean air for health.
Note: On November 26, 2019, the Second Committee of the 74th session of UNGA adopted a resolution to designate the 7 September as the "International Day of Clean Air for blue skies". This day commemorates
- by the United Nations by hosting summits with member states.
7. International Literacy Day is celebrated annually on **September 8** to create importance about the literacy for individuals and societies.
Note: Theme 2022: Transforming Literacy Learning Spaces. The 14th session, General Conference of UNESCO on October 26, 1966 has declared September 8 as International Literacy Day. Since 1967, this day celebrations have taken place annually around the world.
8. World Suicide Prevention Day (WSPD) is observed annually on **10 September** to raise awareness about suicide prevention worldwide.
Note: The day is organized by the International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP) and endorsed by the World Health Organization (WHO). Theme 2022: Creating hope through action; it is the triennial theme for this day from 2021 to 2023.
9. World First Aid Day is celebrated every year on **Second Saturday** of September.
Note: This year, World First Aid Day falls on September 10. Aim: To raise public awareness of how First Aid can save thousands of lives in everyday crisis. The theme for World First Aid Day 2022 is 'Lifelong Frst Aid.'
10. The United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation is observed annually on **September 12** to highlight the importance of cooperation among people and countries in the global South.
Note: The day also aims at spreading awareness on the social, economic, and political developments made in the Southern region.
11. National Forest Martyrs Day is observed on **September 11** to pay tribute to those who sacrificed their lives to protect forests and wildlife.
Note: It is marked by several events aimed at creating awareness about protecting forests and the environment at large. The day holds a lot of significance in the present scenario when depleting green cover is among the greatest challenges in front of the world.
12. World EV Day 2022 is observed on **9th of September**.
Note: Aim: To emphasize the importance of e-mobility. World EV day helps to spread awareness about sustainable transport facilities to the people.

Air pollution is mainly caused by transportation, and EVs are one of the major alternatives to decrease air pollution.

13. The International Day to Protect Education from Attack is observed on **September 9**.

Note: The purpose of the day is to raise awareness regarding the importance of safeguarding schools as places of protection and safety for students and educators and the need to keep education at the top of the public agenda.

14. To promote the Hindi language and its usage across the nation, India observed Hindi Diwas annually on **September 14**.

Note: The day is also marks the birthday anniversary (September 14, 1916) of Beohar Rajendra Simha who played a crucial role in getting Hindi in Devanagari script. On September 14, 1949, the Constituent Assembly accepted Hindi in the Devanagari script as the official language of India. The first Hindi Day was celebrated on September 14, 1953.

August 2022

1. **World Breastfeeding Week** is observed annually on 1st -7th August.

Note: To highlight the regular breastfeeding for babies. Theme 2022: Step Up for Breastfeeding: Educate and Support. The World Health Organization (WHO) has created a memorandum in 1990 in association with United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF). The World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA) was established in 1991 and the inaugural World Breastfeeding Week was observed in 1992.

2. **Ministry of Culture** has organized "Tiranga Utsav", to celebrate the 146th Birth Anniversary of Pingali Venkayya in New Delhi.

Note: The event include the release of a commemorative Postal Stamp in honor of Pingali Venkayya for his invaluable contribution to the country. Pingali Venkayya was born on August 2, 1876, in Andhra Pradesh. He was the designer of India's National Flag.

3. The National Handloom Day in India has observed annually on **August 7** to highlight the contribution of the handloom industry in the socio-economic development.

Note: The National Handloom Day is celebrated across the country under the aegis of the Ministry of Textiles. The handloom sector is one of the largest economic sectors in the country. This sector played an important role during the Swadeshi Movement (August 7, 1905).

4. The International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples observed on **9th August** across the world.

Note: Aim: To highlight the role of indigenous people and the importance of preserving their rights, communities and knowledge. 2022 Theme: The Role of Indigenous Women in the Preservation and Transmission of Traditional Knowledge

5. World Biofuel Day is celebrated annually on **August 10** to mark the importance of non-fossil fuels as a replacement for conventional fossil fuels.

Note: On this date, Sir Rudolf Diesel (German) successfully ran his diesel engine on peanut oil. In India, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change started celebrating World Biofuel Day 2015 onwards. Three types of biofuels used in India: Bioethanol, biodiesel, and biogas

6. World Lion Day is observed globally on **10th August** to spread awareness of lions and the urgent need to strive toward their conservation.

Note: In 2013, the first World Lion Day was observed. Dereck and Beverly Joubert, from the Big Cat Initiative and National Geographic, founded it.

7. The Athletics Federation of India (AFI) is celebrating the second 'Javelin Throw Day' on **August 7, 2022**.

Note: The day was first observed in 2021 in honour of Javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra, who won India's first Olympic gold medal in athletics at Tokyo. Neeraj Chopra has scripted history at the Olympic Stadium in Tokyo. He threw the javelin to a distance of 87.58m to end India's medal drought in athletics at the Olympics.

8. World Elephant Day is celebrated on 12 August every year to raise awareness about the plight of elephants all over the world.

Note: This day was co-founded by Canadian filmmaker Patricia Sims and the Elephant Reintroduction Foundation of Thailand, an initiative of HM Queen Sirikit.

9. International Youth Day observed annually on **12th August** annually to create awareness about the issues faced by youth.

Note: Theme 2022: Intergenerational solidarity: creating a world for all ages. In 1999, the General Assembly has passed a resolution 54/120, and declared 12 August as International Youth Day. This decision was made after the recommendation made by the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth (Lisbon, 8-12 August 1998).

10. International Lefthanders Day is observed on **August 13** across the world.

Note: Aim: To raise awareness about being left-handed in a predominantly right-handed world.

11. World Organ Donation Day is observed globally on the **13th of August**.
Note: This day is observed to spread awareness about the importance of donating organs. Theme for World Organ Donation Day 2022 is “let’s pledge to donate organs and save lives”.
12. World Photography Day is observed on **August 19** every year to celebrate the beautiful art of photography.
Note: Theme 2022: Pandemic Lockdown through the lens. This day was originated after the invention of the 'daguerreotype'. Daguerreotype is a photographic process that was developed in 1837 by Frenchmen Louis Daguerre and Joseph Nicéphore Niépce. On August 19, 1839, the French government has announced about the invention of the daguerreotype.
13. International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism is observed on **August 21** each year in memory of the victims of terrorism.
Note: The theme for 2022’s International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism is “memories,” as mentioned in a United Nations (UN).
14. World Senior Citizens’ Day is celebrated on **August 21** every year.
Note: It is also known as National Senior Citizens’ Day in the United States (US). World Senior Citizens’ Day has its roots back in the August 19, 1988 proclamation by the then President of the United States of America, Ronald Reagan.
15. World Mosquito Day is observed on **August 20** in order to honour Sir Ronald Ross who discovered the link between mosquitoes and the transmission of malaria in the year 1897.
Note: As per his discovery, it is the female mosquitoes that disseminate malaria among humans. The purpose of this day is to raise awareness about the causes of malaria and how it can be prevented.
16. India observes Akshay Urja Diwas or Renewable Energy Day on **20th August** every year.
Note: This day aims to spread awareness about the development and adoption of renewable energy in India. Akshay Urja Diwas was first established in 2004 to support renewable energy development programs in India and promote the usage of natural resources.
17. India celebrates Sadbhavna Diwas in memory of **Rajiv Gandhi** former PM birth anniversary.
Note: Sadbhavna Diwas 2022 commemorates the 78th birth anniversary of Rajiv Gandhi on 20th August 2022. Sadbhavna Diwas was instituted after the death of Rajiv Gandhi in 1992, by Congress.
18. World Humanitarian Day is celebrated on **August 19** date every year to recognise all aid and health workers who volunteer to help victims of disasters and crises against all odds.
Note: The 2022 campaign, according to the United Nations, shines a light on “thousands of volunteers, professionals and crisis-affected people who deliver urgent health care, shelter, food, protection, water and much more.”
19. The World Water Week 2022 is being organised from **3 August to 1 September**.
Note: The Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) has organized World Water Week to transform the global water challenges. Theme of World Water Week Conference 2022: Seeing the Unseen: The Value of Water. There will be six main sessions held from August 23 to September 1.
20. International Whale Shark Day is observed on **August 30** to raise awareness of the value of whale sharks and the need for their conservation.
Note: People can learn about the magnificent species on this day and take action to protect them on International Whale Shark Day 2022.
21. The International Day for People of African Descent is celebrated on **31 August** globally.
Note: The day was first celebrated in 2021, halfway through the International Decade for People of African Descent (2015-2024). This day was created only recently by the United Nations and is set to be celebrated internationally for the first time this year.
22. The National Small Industry Day is celebrated on **30 August** every year, to support and promote small Industries for their overall growth potential and opportunities received for their development in the year.
Note: The day recognises the contribution of small industries to the country’s growth. The day is also an opportunity for the central and state governments to encourage and support small industries.
23. International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances is observed globally on the **30th of August** every year by United Nations.
Note: To express deep concern about the rise in enforced or involuntary disappearances in different regions of the world including the incidents of arrest, detention and abduction.
24. International Day against Nuclear Tests is observed on **29th August** to raise awareness about the devastating effects of testing nuclear weapons.

- Note:** This year marks the thirteenth anniversary of the event. Aim: To create public awareness regarding the effects of nuclear weapons tests, and detonations and further highlights the requirement for cessation of such nuclear tests. Nuclear technology was developed under J. Robert Oppenheimer of the Manhattan Project.
25. The National Sports Day is celebrated on **29th August** in India to pay tribute to hockey legend Major Dhyan Chand who was born on this date in 1905.
Note: It was 2012 when the day was first designated and celebrated as India's National Sports Day. The president gives away sports awards such as the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award, Arjuna Award, Dronacharya Award, and Dhyan Chand Awards on this occasion.
26. Women's Equality Day 2022 is celebrated on **26th August**.
Note: In 1973, the first Women's Equality Day was celebrated across the world. Women's Equality Day 2022 theme is "Gender Equality Today for a Sustainable Tomorrow".
27. International Dog Day is celebrated annually on **August 26** to promote the adoption of dogs instead of buying them from pet shops.
Note: The day was founded by Animal Welfare Advocate and Pet Lifestyle expert Collen Paige. Aim: Promoting this day is to raise awareness about adopting these animals who are currently in rescue centres.
28. Internaut Day is celebrated around the world on **August 23** to mark the invention of the World Wide Web.
Note: An "internaut" is a person who possesses a thorough knowledge of how to use the Internet and its history. On this day, in the year 1991 for the first time by WWW inventor Tim Berners Lee as he allowed its access, CERN announced that the internet would be free to everyone and there would be no fee for its use.
29. World Gujarati Language Day 2022 is celebrated every year on **24 August**.
Note: This day is celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of the great writer of Gujarat 'Veer Narmad'. 'Gujarati Diwas' is celebrated because the poet Narmad was considered to be the creator of the Gujarati language.
30. The International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition is celebrated on **August 23**.
Note: The day was chosen by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to memorialize the transatlantic slave trade. The theme for this year is 'Decolonisation.'
31. International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism is observed on **August 21**.
Note: It is observed in memory of the victims of terrorism. The day is observed to show the victims of terrorism that they are not forgotten and they are respected and recognised across the world. The theme 2022 for this day is "memories".
32. International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief is observed on **August 22**.
Note: On this day, the international community honours the survivors and victims of religious-based violence. The day aims to remember the victims and survivors of evil acts on the basis of or in the name of religion or belief.

July 2022

1. The Chartered Accountants' Day or CA Day is observed on **1st July** annually in India.
Note: It is also known as ICAI Foundation Day. The day is marked to commemorate the foundation of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) on July 1, 1949.
2. National Doctors' Day has been observed annually in India by the Indian Medical Association (IMA) -- **1st July**.
Note: Theme 2022: "Family Doctors on the Front Line." First time, this day celebrated in 1991 on July 1 to honour Dr Bidhan Chandra Roy, whose birth and death anniversary, both fall on July 1.
3. The first Saturday of July has been observed as **International Day of Cooperatives**.
Note: This year, the International Day of Cooperatives is being observed on July 2. Theme 2022: Cooperatives Build a Better World.
4. The World UFO Day (WUD) is observed on **2nd July** annually.
Note: It is a day dedicated to the undoubted existence of Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO) by World UFO Day Organization (WUFODO). To raise awareness about the existence of UFOs.
5. World Sports Journalists Day is observed on **2nd July** every year.
Note: To celebrate the services of sports journalists for the promotion of sports. The International Sports Press Association (AIPS) established the World Sports Journalist Day in 1994.

6. International Plastic Bag Free Day observed annually on **3rd July**.
Note: To raise the awareness about the issue of plastic pollution on the planet. This day was first observed on July 3, 2008, by a member of Zero Waste Europe (ZWE) Rezero in Catalonia.
7. World Zoonoses Day is marked annually on **6th July** to commemorate the first vaccination administered against a zoonotic disease.
Note: To educate and raise awareness about zoonotic diseases that can transmit from animals to humans. It commemorates French biologist Louis Pasteur, who administered the first dose of the first vaccine against rabies.
8. World Kiswahili Language Day is observed on **7th July** annually.
Note: Kiswahili is one of the most widely spoken languages in Africa and the most widely spoken in sub-Saharan Africa. This is also the only African language that is an official language of the African Union.
9. National Fish Farmers Day is celebrated every year on **10th July** to demonstrate solidarity with all fisher folk, fish farmers and concerned stakeholders throughout the Country.
Note: It is 65th National Fish Farmers Day being celebrated across the Country. National Fisheries Development Board, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India celebrated the National Fish Farmers Day virtually at National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) Hyderabad.
10. The World Population Day is observed on **11th July** every year with an aim to increase the awareness of the people towards the worldwide population issues.
Note: The Day was first marked on 11th July 1990 in more than 90 countries. The theme for World Population Day 2022 is 'A world of 8 billion: Towards a resilient future for all - Harnessing opportunities and ensuring rights and choices for all.
11. World Paper Bag Day is observed annually on the **12th July** to raise awareness of the importance of using paper bags instead of plastic bags.
Note: The theme for Paper Bag Day this year is, "If You're 'fantastic', Do Something 'dramatic' To Cut The 'Plastic', Use 'Paper Bags'." Francis Wolle, an American inventor, created the first paper bag machine in 1852.
12. International Malala Day is celebrated every year on **12th July** to honour the young woman who has been advocating for female education.
Note: The day is used as an opportunity to appeal to world leaders to ensure compulsory and free education for every child.
13. World Youth Skills Day 2022 is observed annually on **July 15** to promote the need of essential skills for employment, work, and entrepreneurship.
Note: Every year, World Youth Skills Day is marked with a certain theme set by the United Nations. The theme for 2022 is 'Transforming youth skills for the future'.
14. World Day for International Justice is observed annually on **July 17** to celebrate the organisations that work for bringing justice to the victims of international criminal acts.
Note: 120 countries came together on July 17, 1998, to sign a treaty titled Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court. The establishment came to be known as the International Criminal Court, which came into force on July 1, 2002. Theme 2022: Achieving Social Justice through Formal Employment
15. The world marks Nelson Mandela International Day annually on **July 18** in the memory of the first democratically elected President of South Africa.
Note: The United Nations (UN) had declared July 18 as Nelson Mandela Day in 2009, a South African anti-apartheid activist who served as the first President from 1994 to 1999. The theme 2022: "Do what you can, with what you have, where you are". Nelson Mandela was conferred with the Nobel Peace Prize in October 1993.
16. World Chess Day is celebrated annually on **July 20** globally.
Note: The day marks the date of the establishment of the International Chess Federation (FIDE) in Paris in 1924. On 12 December 2019, the General Assembly proclaimed 20 July as World Chess Day to mark the date of the establishment of the International Chess Federation (FIDE) in Paris in 1924.
17. The General Assembly has declared to celebrate the International Moon Day annually on **July 20** to educate and promote awareness on the status and prospects for humanity.
Note: In cooperation with United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA), the International Moon Day 2022 will be observed as an annual event and general public celebrations will be held all over the world.
18. The World Fragile X Awareness Day is marked on **22 July** every year to celebrate families impacted by Fragile X.
Note: The FRAXA Research Foundation was launched in 1994, by Clapp and her husband Michael Tranfaglia, MD. The World Fragile X Day was initiated by the US-based FRAXA Research Foundation.
19. National Broadcasting Day is observed on **July 23** in India.
Note: Both the Azad Hind Radio of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and the Congress Radio helped rouse Indians against the British before independence.

Akashvani was also instrumental in helping Bangladesh gain independence from an oppressive Pakistan in the 1971 war.

20. The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has observed the 163rd anniversary of Income Tax Day on **July 24**.

Note: Income Tax was introduced for the first time in India by Sir James Wilson on 24 July 1860. Purpose: To compensate for the losses incurred by the British regime during the first war of independence against British Rule in 1857.

21. World Drowning Prevention Day is observed every year on **July 25**.

Note: It was established by the UN General Assembly Resolution "Global drowning prevention" from April 2021.

22. International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem is observed every year on **July 26**.

Note: The day is observed to raise awareness of the importance of mangrove ecosystems and to promote solutions for their sustainable management, conservation and uses. The UN Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) General Conference established the day in 2015.

23. Kargil Vijay Diwas is celebrated by India on **July 26**.

Note: It is a historic win over Pakistan on July 26, 1999. The Indian Army successfully removed Pakistani forces who were illegally occupying a hilltop at the Indian side of the Line of Control (LoC) at Kargil, Ladakh. To commemorate this victory and

remember those who sacrificed their lives for this country, Kargil Vijay Diwas is celebrated annually in India on July 26.

24. World Hepatitis Day has observed annually on **28 July** to raise awareness and promote global action on viral hepatitis.

Note: Theme 2022: Bringing hepatitis care closer to you. The World Health Assembly has decided to celebrate the birthday of Baruch Samuel Blumberg (July 28) World Hepatitis Day, who discovered Hepatitis B in the 1960s. Viral Hepatitis is an inflammation of the liver.

25. International Tiger Day is observed every year on **July 29** to raise awareness about the importance of the conservation of tigers.

Note: As per World Wildlife Fund, approximately 95% of the population of tigers has declined in the last 150 years. Theme 2022: "India launches Project Tiger to revive the tiger population". 2,967 tigers have been recorded in India, as per the fourth round of the national assessment of tiger numbers done in 2018.

26. World Day Against Trafficking is observed annually on **30 July** to aware people about the ordeal of human trafficking victims and the ways to safeguard their rights.

Note: Theme 2022: Use and abuse of technology. The World Day Against Trafficking in Persons was observed for the first time in 2013. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) collect data and analysis ways to protect the rights of the victims since 2003.

June 2022

1. World Bicycle Day is observed on **June 3** every year to spread awareness about the benefits of using a bicycle.

Note: The United Nations had passed a resolution in 7th 2nd Regular Session of the United Nations General Assembly to celebrate World Bicycle Day on June 3.

2. World Environment Day is observed globally on **5th June**.

Note: 2022 marks the 50th World Environment Day and host by Sweden. Nodal agency: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The theme of World Environment Day 2022 is 'Only One Earth'.

3. The World Food Safety Day is observed annually on **June 7** to raise awareness of the health hazards associated with unsafe food, and to highlight the significance of hygiene in daily life.

Note: Theme 2022: 'Safer food, better health'. This day was marked by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on December 20, 2018.

4. World Brain Tumour Day is observed every year on **8th June**.

Note: It is a mass or growth of abnormal cells in your brain. There are two types of brain tumors, noncancerous (benign), and cancerous (malignant). The day also pays tribute to brain tumour patients, their families and healthcare professionals.

5. **Revitalization: collective action for the ocean** is the theme of World Oceans Day 2022 which is observed annually on June 8.

Note: World Oceans Day is observed on June 8 every year to raise the awareness among people of the importance of the oceans and the major role they play in everyday life. The World Oceans Day concept was first proposed by the UN in 1992 at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro.

6. World Accreditation Day (WAD) is celebrated every year on **9th June**.
Note: It aims to meet objectives such as increasing trade and addressing environmental, health and safety concerns. It also improves the general overall quality of output in an economy. This year the theme for World Accreditation Day 2022 is “Accreditation: Sustainability in Economic Growth and the Environment.”
7. **Together We Are Stronger** is the theme of World Brain Tumour Day 2022 which is observed every year on June 8.
Note: World Brain Tumor Day was first observed on June 8, 2000, by the German Brain Tumor Association (Deutsche Hirntumorhilfe e.V.), a non-profit organisation for serving and offering support to brain tumour patients. The theme for World Brain Tumor Day 2022 is “Together We Are Stronger.”
8. **United in making our voice heard** is the theme of International Albinism Awareness Day 2022.
Note: International Albinism Awareness Day (IAAD) is annually observed on 13th June, representing the importance and celebration of human rights of people with albinism.
9. **Universal Social Protection to End Child Labour** is the theme of World Day Against Child Labour’ 2022.
Note: The United Nations observes the 12th of June every year as the ‘World Day Against Child Labour’ to bring attention to the evil practices of child labour across the world. International Labour Organization (ILO) launched this day in 2002 to tackle this global issue against child labour.
10. International Albinism Awareness Day is observed by the United Nations every year on **13th June**.
Note: The day represents the importance and celebration of human rights of people with albinism. The United Nations Human Rights Council adopted this resolution and put its firm foot down for the prevention of attacks and discrimination against people with albinism. This day is mandated to remind people of the perils of the past and the path to the future in the case of albinism and the people living with it.
11. **Donating blood is an act of solidarity** is the theme of the World Blood Donor Day 2022.
Note: World Blood Donor Day is observed on 14 June every year to spread awareness regarding the need for “safe blood and blood products for transfusion”. The host nation for World Blood Donor Day 2022 is Mexico. The WHO initiated and declared June 14, the birth anniversary of Karl Landsteiner, as WBD in 2004.
12. World Wind Day, also known as Global Wind Day, is observed on **15th June**.
Note: Wind Europe (Brussels) initiated the Global Wind Day in 2007. Global Wind Day 2022 is based on the theme is celebrate to enjoy the benefits of Wind energy and providing education to individuals about the power and potential of wind energy to change the world.
13. World Elder Abuse Awareness Day is observed on **June 15**.
Note: To raise awareness about abuse and neglect of older persons. This year’s theme of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day 2022 is “Combating Elder Abuse”.
14. National Reading Day is observed annually on **19 June**.
Note: Observed in honour of P N Panicker who is considered as the Father of Kerala's Library and Literacy Movement. This day was first celebrated on June 19, 1996, by the Government of Kerala in association with the P N Panicker Foundation, National Reading Day, became a mass movement to promote literacy and the culture of reading in the state.
15. World Refugee Day is observed annually on **June 20** date to highlight the difficulties faced by refugees.
Note: 2022 theme: Whoever, Whatever, Whenever. Everyone has a right to seek safety.
16. The International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict is an international event conducted by the United Nations (UN) on **June 19**.
Note: The theme 2022: ‘Prevention as Protection: Enhancing structural and operational prevention of conflict-related sexual violence.’
17. The world observes Sustainable Gastronomy Day is observed on **18 June**.
Note: The objective of this day is to recognize the practices associated with sustainable food consumption, especially with the art of collecting and preparing the food we eat.
18. International Day for Countering Hate Speech falls on **June 18**.
Note: In July 2021, the UN General Assembly highlighted global concerns over “the exponential spread and proliferation of hate speech” around the world and adopted a resolution on “promoting inter-religious and intercultural dialogue and tolerance in countering hate speech”.
19. The World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought is observed on **17 June** each year to promote public awareness of international efforts to combat desertification.

Note: The theme of 2022 Desertification and Drought Day “Rising up from drought together”.

20. The International Day of Family Remittances (IDFR) was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly and is observed on **16 June**.

Note: Theme 2022: recovery and resilience through digital and financial inclusion.

21. The 8th edition of International Day of Yoga is being observed on **21st June**.

Note: Aim: To raise awareness worldwide of the many benefits of practicing yoga. 2022 theme: ‘Yoga for Humanity’. PM Modi will lead the mass Yoga demonstration at Mysuru in Karnataka.

22. International Olympic Day is observed annually on **June 23** across the world to commemorate the birth of modern Olympic games.

Note: The International Olympic Committee (IOC) was founded on 23 June 1894. The theme for the International Olympic Day 2022 is “Together For A Peaceful World”.

23. UN Public Service Day is observed on **June 23** with the aim to appreciate the value of public institutions and public servants.

Note: The 2022 theme: “Building back better from COVID-19: Enhancing innovative partnerships to meet the Sustainable Development Goals.”

24. The International Maritime Organization (IMO) is observed the International Day of Seafarer annually **June 25** to pay respect to Seafarers and sailors who help the entire world function by conducting sea transport.

Note: This day was proposed by International Maritime Organization in 2010. This day recognizes the invaluable contribution of seafarers to the worldwide commerce and economic system. 2022 theme: Your voyage – then and now, share your adventure.

25. The International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking is observed on **June 26**.

Note: Aim: To spread awareness about the physical and psychological impact of substance abuse, drug overdose deaths. The theme 2022: Addressing drug

challenges in health and humanitarian crisis. In 2022, the UNODC has started the campaign - “#CareInCrisis” - for World Drug Day.

26. The International Day in Support of Victims of Torture is observed annually on **June 26**.

Note: Aim: to promote the abolition of torture, support victims, and promote human rights. The United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution on December 12, 1997. Presently, the Convention has been ratified by 162 countries.

27. The World Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Day is observed annually on **June 27** to recognize the contribution of these industries in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Note: Theme 2022: Resilience and Rebuilding: MSMEs for Sustainable Development. The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) has marked the first World MSME Day by 74th Plenary on April 6, 2017. MSME minister: Narayan Rane

28. Union Government has observed National Statistics Day on **29th June** every year to mark the birth anniversary of late Professor Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis.

Note: Since 2007, this day is observed in recognition of his valuable contribution in the field of Economic Planning and Statistics. Theme 2022: Data for Sustainable Development.

29. International Day of the Tropics is observed annually on **29 June**.

Note: This day highlights the challenges faced by the tropic’s nations. The tropics nations are those that lies between the Tropic of Capricorn and the Tropic of Cancer.

30. World Asteroid Day is observed annually on **June 30** to raise the awareness about the asteroid hazardous impact.

Note: In December 2016, UNGA has adopted resolution A/RES/71/90 to declare 30 June International Asteroid Day. This day marked the anniversary of the Tunguska impact over Siberia, Russian Federation, on 30 June 1908.

May 2022

1. International Labour Day is observed on **1st of May**.

Note: Aim: To spread awareness about Labour’s rights and mark their achievements. In India, the first Labour Day was celebrated by the Labour Kisan Party of

Hindustan on May 1, 1923, in then Madras (now Chennai). May Day is also celebrated as the foundation day of Maharashtra Day and Gujarat Day.

2. World Tuna Day is being observed on 2nd May every year globally.
Note: Aim: Promoting the importance of sustainable fishing practices and educating people on how Tuna become endangered species due to high demand. UNGA has declared this day as World Tuna Day to create awareness to preserve species in 2016. Tuna is an important source of Omega-3 and it also contains minerals, proteins, and vitamin B12, among other advantages.
3. World Asthma Day is observed every year on the **first Tuesday of May** to spread awareness and care about asthma in the world.
Note: This year the theme is 'Closing Gaps in Asthma Care'.
4. World Press Freedom Day is observed globally on **3rd May**.
Note: It is also known as World Press Day. This year's World Press Freedom Day theme "Journalism under digital siege".
5. Coal Miners Day is observed on **4th May** every year to honour the coal miners.
Note: The day is celebrated to highlight the contributions of coal miners in meeting our energy demands.
6. International Firefighter's Day is observed every year on **4th May** to pay respect to those firefighting experts who have lost their lives in the line of duty.
Note: A tragic incident in Australia's Linton led to the establishment of International Firefighters Day. This historical accident happened on December 02, 1998, which led to the taking of the lives of 5 firefighters. Therefore, a proposal was passed on January 04, 1999, to honour the firefighters who lost their lives on duty.
7. World Hand Hygiene Day (WHHD) is annually observed across the globe on **May 5** to maintain global promotion, visibility, and sustainability of hand hygiene in health care.
Note: Theme – "health care quality and safety climate or culture. The slogan is "Unite for safety: clean your hands".
8. International No Diet Day 2022 is celebrated all over the world on **6 May**.
Note: On this day, people are made aware of body acceptance, leaving aside behaviour like body shaming, which includes people of all shapes and sizes. In the year 1992, International No Diet Day was celebrated for the first time in the UK by British lady Mary Evans.
9. World Red Cross Day is observed every year on **May 8** to mark the birth anniversary of Henry Dunant.
Note: Henry Dunant was a founder of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the recipient of the first Nobel Peace Prize (1901). The theme for 2022 is 'Be Human Kind'.
10. World Thalassaemia Day is observed on **May 8** every year to honour the struggles of patients suffering from thalassaemia and make people aware of the disease and its symptoms.
Note: Thalassaemia is a blood disease in which the body fails to create enough hemoglobin. The event was first observed by the Thalassaemia International Federation (TIF) in 1994. Theme 2022: Be Aware. Share. Care: Working with the global community as one to improve Thalassaemia knowledge
11. World Lupus Day is observed every year on **May 10** to raise awareness about Lupus disease that can cause damage to any part of the body.
Note: Lupus, autoimmune disease is one in which the immune system is unable to recognize the difference between healthy cells in the human body and the foreign cells it fights to remove. Common symptoms: Intermittent fever, recurrent mouth ulcers, joint and muscle pain, and extreme fatigue.
12. India observed National Technology Day on **May 11** to celebrate the achievements made by the scientists, engineers, teachers and researchers across the nation.
Note: Theme 2022: Integrated Approach in science and technology for a sustainable future. Atal Bihari Vajpayee (Former Prime Minister) declared 11 May as the National Technology Day as India has successfully carried out a series of nuclear tests in Pokhran on May 11, 1998.
13. International Nurses Day is celebrated worldwide on **May 12** to mark the contribution made by nurses to society, in health care set up and in a community.
Note: Theme 2022: 'Nurses: A Voice to Lead - Invest in Nursing and respect rights to secure global health'. The day marks the birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale (the founder of modern nursing).
14. **Sikkim** has observed its 47th State Day on 16th May .
Note: In 1975 the Sikkim has become a part of India as its 22nd state. On 15 May 1975, then-President of India Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed signed a 36th constitutional amendment and a day later, Sikkim became a complete Indian state. The rule of the Chogyal (last dynasty) was abolished.
15. On **17th May** World Hypertension Day is observed every year to raise awareness about the symptoms of hypertension.

Note: The theme of WHD for 2022 is Measure Your Blood Pressure Accurately, Control It, Live Longer. Hypertension or high blood pressure occurs when the blood pressure rises to an unhealthy level of 140/90. Hypertension is a major cause of cardiovascular disease and premature death worldwide.

16. On 17th May World Telecommunication and Information Society Day is observed every year to raise awareness about the benefit of the Internet and other information and communication technologies to society and economies.

Note: The 2022 theme for World Telecommunication Day is Digital Technologies For Older Persons And Healthy Ageing. The day is celebrated to mark the anniversary of the founding of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) on May 17, 1865.

17. On May 18 International Museum Day is observed annually.

Note: It is coordinated by the International Council of Museums. The 2022 theme of International Museum Day is "Power of Museums". The International Council of Museums has been organizing International Museum Day every year since 1977 for the museum community. The National Gallery of Modern Art has also organised special activities and programs to mark the celebration of Museum Day from May 16-20.

18. On 16th of May National Dengue Day is observed every year in India.

Note: National Dengue day was an initiative of the Ministry of health and family welfare. Aim: To make people aware of dengue and its prevention measures. It also has the people to know how to prepare and control dengue before the transmission season begins.

19. On 16th May the International Day of Light is celebrated each year to mark the anniversary of the first successful operation of the laser in 1960 by physicist and engineer, Theodore Maiman.

Note: This day is a call to strengthen scientific cooperation and harness its potential to foster peace and sustainable development. The laser is a perfect example of how a scientific discovery can yield revolutionary benefits to society in communications, healthcare and many other fields.

20. On 16th May the International Day of Living Together in Peace is held every year.

Note: Aims: To urge people to live together in a united and peaceful way. Individuals can attain this

by listening to each other and respecting one another despite their differences.

21. On 16th May the International Day of Families is observed every year.

Note: The United Nations works on topics that are critical to the well-being of families worldwide, such as health, education, children's rights, gender equality, work-family balance, and social inclusion, among others. The theme for this year 'Families and Urbanization'.

22. On 14 May and 8th October the World Migratory Bird Day is marked twice a year.

Note: The day is celebrated with an aim to safeguard migratory birds' breeding, non-breeding as well as stopover habitats while preserving a healthy bird population. The theme for World Migratory Bird Day 2022 is light pollution.

23. World Bee Day is observed annually on **20th May** across the world with an aim to recognise the importance of bees and other pollinators in the ecosystem.

Note: The theme 2022: "Bee Engaged: Celebrating the diversity of bees and beekeeping systems". The United Nations mark May 20 as World Bee Day to celebrate the birth anniversary of beekeeping pioneer Anton Jansa.

24. Anti-Terrorism Day is observed every year on **21st of May**.

Note: The day is highly important for the nation as it has been a victim of terror attacks for several years. The day came into being after on May 21, 1991, India's former PM Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated during a campaign in Tamil Nadu. He became the victim of a suicide bombing, which also resulted in around 14 other people being killed. Rajiv Gandhi was the youngest PM when he was sworn in at the age of 40.

25. International Tea Day is observed on **May 21** every year by the United Nations.

Note: The day aims to raise awareness of the long history and the deep cultural and economic significance of tea around the world. The UNGA in the year 2019 marked 21 May as International Tea Day. The theme of the first International Tea Day was 'harnessing benefits for all from field to cup.'

26. The International Day for Biological Diversity commemorates every year on **May 22**.

Note: The theme for International Day for Biological Diversity 2022 is "Building a shared future for all life".

Purpose: To raise awareness about the environment and all species that live on this planet. The United Nations General Assembly has designated May 22 as International Day for Biological Diversity in December 2000.

27. International Missing Children's Day is observed every year on **25th of May**.

Note: Aims of the day are to place a spotlight on the issue of child abduction, educate parents on safeguarding measures to protect their children and also honour those who have never been found and celebrate those who have.

28. World Thyroid Day is observed on **May 25** to promote awareness and understanding of thyroid diseases, their symptoms, prevention, and treatments.

Note: Thyroid Federation international has announced the theme, "It's not you. It's your thyroid."

29. **International Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories** day is observed by the United Nations from May 25 to 31.

Note: On December 06, 1999, the UN General Assembly called for the annual observance of the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories.

30. **May 23** is observed as World Turtle Day by American Tortoise Rescue, a nonprofit organization.

Note: This year's theme for World Turtle Day is "Shellebrate". The theme asks "everyone to Love and Save Turtles".

31. **Second Monday of March** is observed as a Commonwealth Day.

Note: However, India and a few other countries celebrate it on May 24. The theme for Commonwealth Day 2022 is 'Delivering a Common Future'

32. United Nations (UN) International Day to End Obstetric Fistula is marked on **23rd May** to promote action towards treating and preventing obstetric fistula.

Note: In 2003 the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and its partners launched the global Campaign to End Fistula, a collaborative initiative to prevent fistula and restore the health of those affected by the condition. The day was officially recognized in 2012.

33. World Metrology Day (WMD) is annually observed across the globe on **20th May**.

Note: To create awareness about the Metrology, the science of measurement and its application. The theme for World Metrology Day 2022 is Metrology in the Digital Era.

34. **People Peace Progress: The Power of Partnerships** is the theme of International Day of UN Peacekeepers 2022 which is observed annually on May 29.

Note: Captain Abdelrazakh Hamit Bahar of Chad has received posthumously the highest award in UN peacekeeping, the 'Captain Mbaye Diagne Medal for Exceptional Courage.

35. World No Tobacco Day is observed on this date every year to raise awareness about the destruction caused by consuming tobacco.

Note: The United Nations has adopted sustainable development agenda by 2030 with an aim to reduce tobacco-related deaths by one-third by that time. Theme 2022: Tobacco: Threat to our environment.

Important News – National (India)

1-15 September 2022

1. The Central Railways has set up atmospheric water generators (AWG), Meghdoot in six railway stations in **Mumbai, Maharashtra**.

Note: With the help this, machine can directly harvest water from the air and the commuters can refill their bottles for Rs 12 per litre and Rs 8 for 500 ml. The Railways has already installed 17 kiosks across six major stations, including five each at CSMT and Dadar, four at Thane, and one each at Kurla, Ghatkopar and Vikhroli.

2. As per the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy data, the unemployment rate of India has surged to **8.3%** one-year high in August 2022.

Note: In August, the urban unemployment rate has been increased to 9.6% and rural unemployment rate also increased to 7.7%. In July 2022, the unemployment rate was at 6.8% and the employment was 397 million. In August, the unemployment was the highest in Haryana (37.3%).

3. As per the Boeing report, by **2040** the air traffic of India will grow by an average of 7% per year.

- Note:** While the air traffic of India will grow 6.9% till 2040, the south-east Asian market will grow at an average annual rate of 5.5%. The Chinese, African and the Latin American market will grow at an average annual rate of 5.4%, 5.4% and 4.8% respectively, till 2040.
4. Union Minister of Science and Technology Jitendra Singh has launched India's first indigenously developed quadrivalent Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) vaccine for the prevention of cervical cancer. The name of the vaccine is **CERVAVAC**.
Note: DCGI had granted market authorisation to Serum Institute of India to manufacture an indigenously-developed vaccine against cervical cancer. Cervical cancer in India ranks as the second most frequent cancer among women between 15 and 44 years of age.
 5. Cabinet has approved anMoU with **Nepal** on biodiversity conservation to strengthen and enhance coordination and cooperation in the field of forests, biodiversity conservation, and climate change in September 2022.
Note: This MoU also aims the restoration of corridors and interlinking areas and sharing of knowledge and best practices, between the two countries.
 6. The All-India Council for Technical Education has partnered with **Adobe** software organisation to accelerate digital creativity skills across the country.
Note: As per the agreement, Adobe will offer courses and expertise for upskilling educators, and integrate digital creativity into the curriculum, to prepare students with the essential creative and digital literacy skills. Aim: To empower educators across higher education institutions with essential digital creativity skills by 2024.
 7. **Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)** has signed anMoU with Smiths Detection for offering advanced, high-energy scanning systems to the Indian market.
Note: The MoU will leverage the high-end, technological capabilities of both the firms to meet India's domestic security needs. The MoU was signed in line with the Indian Government's 'Make in India' initiative.
 8. **Home Minister, Amit Shah** has inaugurated 6th All India Prison Duty Meet in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
Note: It is a biennial event, organised by the Bureau of Police Research and Development. The event was attended by Gujarat Chief Minister, Bhupendra Patel and Minister of State for Home, Harsh Sanghavi. AIPDM was last organised in Ahmedabad in 2007, It was the second ever meeting. He has also participated in the closing ceremony of 11th KhelMahakumbh at TransStadia, Kankaria
 9. The first edition of "World Health Summit for Pride of Homoeopathy" was held in **Dubai, UAE** with the theme "Diseases caused by climate change and global warming".
Note: Aim: To educate and promote a homoeopathic system of medicine, drugs, and practices. The summit was organised by Burnett Homoeopathy Pvt Ltd. Burnett Homoeopathy Pvt Limited deals with homoeopathic dilutions, mother tincture, lower trituration tablets and various other homoeopathic medicines.
 10. **Hardeep Singh Puri (Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister)** has attended the Gastech Milan-2022 that scheduled to be held in Milan, Italy.
Note: The Minister will chair the "India Spotlight: Powering India's energy industry - new avenues for a sustainable future" panel discussion. He will also participate in the select Ministerial Panel of the Opening Ceremony along with Egyptian Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources and State Secretary of Energy of Portugal.
 11. The Centre has decided to rename Rajpath and Centre Vista lawns stretching from the Rashtrapati Bhavan to India Gate as **Kartavya Path**.
Note: PM Modi, will inaugurate the entire stretch on September 8, 2022, that has been renovated under the government's ambitious Central Vista redevelopment project. The New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) has convened a special meeting on September 7 and the proposal will be placed before it. Rajpath was known as Kingsway during British Rule.
 12. State run organisation **Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)** has topped all Ministries/Departments for resolving Public Grievances in the ranking in August 2022.
Note: Report published by: Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances. UIDAI has been a top performer in resolution of cases received through Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System. Its robust grievance redressal mechanism is enable to resolve around 92% of CRM Grievances within 7 days.
 13. The external debt of India has increased by **8.2%** per cent from USD 573 billion (March 2021) to over USD 620 billion (March 2022).
Note: Report title: 28th edition, Status Report on India's External Debt 2021-22. Released by: Department of Economic Affairs. The External debt as a ratio to GDP fell marginally to 19.9% (2022) from 21.2% (2021). The Commercial borrowings, NRIs deposits, short-term trade credit and multilateral loans together accounted for 90% of the total external debt
 14. **14,500** schools across the country, will be developed and upgraded under the Pradhan Mantri Schools For Rising India (PM-SHRI) Yojana.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Note: Place: Jaisalmer House. It was provided to NALSA would be utilised for the establishment of Legal Assistance Centre for Citizens, Legal Assistance Centre for NRIs, Training Centre, and Digital Command Centre for providing futuristic legal services across the country.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

panel is headed by **Former SEBI chairman, M Damodaran.**

Note: The committee will suggest steps for scaling up investment by VC and PE funds. Members: G

Mahalingam (former member Sebi); D P Nagendra Kumar (former member CBIC); Ashish Verma (former Principal Commissioner Income Tax) Poonam Gupta, and P R Acharya.

August 2022

1. Union Rail Minister, Ashwini Vaishnaw has flagged off the Badi Sadri-Udaipur City train service in **Chittorgarh.**
Note: The minister has inaugurated the Badi Sadri-Mavli gauge converted rail section. While, the Rewa-Udaipur City Special and Siuri-Sealdah-Siuri train services in West Bengal virtually. The railway stations that are currently in the redevelopment phase are being built with a plan keeping in mind the next 50 years.
2. The government has constituted a task force on monkeypox to closely monitor the emerging situation in the country. **Dr V K Paul, NITI Aayog member (health)** is the head of this task force.
Note: The task force will provide guidance to the government on expansion of diagnostic facilities in the country and explore emerging trends related to vaccination for the disease. The World Health Organisation (WHO) has recently declared monkeypox a global public health emergency.
3. Steel Ministry has constituted an advisory committee for secondary steel under the chairmanship of **Jyotiraditya Scindia.**
Note: Aim: To identify and deliberate on the issues pertaining to the steel sector especially the secondary steel industry. Secondary steel share in steel output of nation has been falling sharply from a level of 55% (2015) to 40% (now). The secondary steel sector wants higher allocation of coal from Coal India.
4. Conglomerate company **Tata Group** will launch the 'First in India' seating system for Vande Bharat Express trains from September 2022.
Note: The firm is also planning to invest Rs 3,000 crore on R&D by FY26. The Composites division of Tata Steel has received, a Rs 145 crore, bulk order for seating systems of the Vande Bharat express. It includes the supply of complete seating systems for 22 train sets, 16 coaches in each train set. The specially designed seats can rotate 180 degrees.
5. To meet the workforce requirements, **Air India** has raised the retirement age of pilots to 65.
Note: Earlier, the age of retirement of AI pilots was 58, but now post-retirement age on a contractual basis for 5 years extendable to 65 years. DGCA has also allowed pilots to fly till the age of 65 years.
6. **\$31 Billion** amount of Trade deficit of India has been recorded in July 2022, with decline in exports and increase in imports.
- Note:** According to the data released by the commerce ministry, the merchandise exports have been declined to a five-month low at \$35.2 billion in July 2022 while imports eased sequentially to \$66 billion. It has almost tripled from USD 10.63 billion in the same month of the previous fiscal. Minister of Commerce and Industry: Piyush Goyal
7. According to the data published by the Indian consultancy Coalmint, **Russia** has become the third-largest coal supplier of India in July 2022.
Note: Russia has historically been the sixth-largest supplier of coal to India, after Indonesia, South Africa, Australia, and the United States, with Mozambique and Colombia alternately featuring in the top five. Imports of India from Russia have increased nearly five times to over \$15 billion ever since Russia-Ukraine war.
8. India has added 10 more sites to Ramsar list, Now the total number of Ramsar sites in the country – **64.**
Note: Ten new wetland sites are from TN, Goa, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Odisha. TN: Koonthankulam Bird Sanctuary, Gulf of Mannar Marine Biosphere Reserve; Vembannur Wetland Complex; Vellode Bird Sanctuary; Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary; Udhayamarthandapuram Bird Sanctuary
 - Odisha: Satkosia Gorge
 - Goa: Nanda Lake
 - Karnataka: Ranganathittu BS
 - Madhya Pradesh: Sirpur wetland
9. **Ministry of Culture** has organized Amrit Mahotsav named 'Badhe Chalo', to create a youth centric activation.
Note: It is being held across 10 cities every day from 5th to 11th August 2022. Ten locations include: Lal Chowk, Ashtley Hall, Akashdeep Market, Central Mall, Telibandha Talab, CMR Mall, Gaurav Tower, Maharaja Sayajirao University, Alpha One Mall and Keshav Vatika. These events will be ended on the 12th August, at Talkatora Stadium in New Delhi.
10. **Indian Navy** has signed an MoU with the Indian Space Research Organisation's (ISRO) Space Applications Centre (SAC) on data sharing and cooperation on satellite-based naval applications in oceanology and meteorology.
Note: This MoU is an extension of the MoU signed in 2017. Aim: Rapid development in the field of satellite data retrieval and applications.
11. As per the Ministry data **Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Karnataka** are the top states providing highest

power subsidy bill, accounting for ₹48,248 crore (36.4%).

Note: Madhya Pradesh has spent ₹47,932 crore between 2018-19 and 2020-21 and Rajasthan spent ₹40,278 crore. About 1,70,000MW of electricity generation has been added since 2014.

12. **HM Amit Shah** has e-launched the onboarding of cooperatives on GeM portal, now all eligible cooperatives will be able to place orders on the Government e-Marketplace (GeM) portal.

Note: Total 589 cooperatives have been shortlisted as eligible for onboarding. National Cooperative Union of India has prepared data of cooperatives with turnover and deposits of 100 crore rupees. GeM has been set up as the National procurement portal to provide an end-to-end online marketplace.

13. PM Narendra Modi has dedicated to the nation the 2nd Generation (2G) Ethanol Plant in **Panipat, Haryana**.

Note: The 2G Ethanol Plant has been built by the Indian Oil Corporation Limited, at an estimated cost of over 900 crore rupees. The project will utilise about two lakh tonnes of rice straw (parali) annually to generate around three crore litres of Ethanol per annum. It will also contribute to a reduction of Greenhouse Gases.

14. **Google** has launched the 'India ki Udaan' project to celebrate the 75 years of Independence of India.

Note: It was executed by Google Arts and Culture. It is based on the theme 'Unwavering and undying spirit of India over these past 75 years'. The project will use rich archives and feature artistic illustrations to tell the story of India.

15. The Union Cabinet has approved the signing of an audio-visual (AV) co-production treaty between India and **Australia** country to promote co-production of films.

Note: Under this umbrella agreements, private, quasi-government or governmental agencies enter contracts to produce films together. So far, India has signed 15 audio visual co-production treaties with foreign countries. Australia has emerged as a preferred destination for shooting of Indian films.

16. India's first Saline Water Lantern was unveiled by Union Minister, Jitendra Singh -- **Roshni**.

Note: It uses the sea water to power the specially designed LED lamps. It will bring Ease of Living to the fishing community living along the 7500 km long coastal line of India. Saline water-powered Roshini LED lamps will boost and supplement Prime Minister Narendra Modi's UJALA scheme. It has been developed by the National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Chennai.

17. **HM Amit Shah** has announced the roll-out of model by-laws to govern all Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS) in the country during a national conference on rural cooperative banks.

Note: It was organized by Ministry of Cooperation and National Federation of State Cooperative Banks (NAFSCOB) at Vignan Bhavan, New Delhi. There are more than 95,000 PACS currently, of which only about 63,000 PACS are functional.

18. Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, Virendra Kumar has launched the 'SMILE' initiative in New Delhi. What is the full form of SMILE (**Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise**).

Note: It aims to make cities, towns, and municipal areas begging-free and make a strategy for comprehensive rehabilitation of the persons engaged in the act of begging through the coordinated action of various stakeholders. Total budget for smile-75: Rs 100 crores till 2025-26.

19. India has added 11 more wetlands to the list of Ramsar sites. The total number of Ramsar sites in India (August 2022) -- **75 Ramsar sites**.

Note: These 11 new sites include, 4 in Tamil Nadu, 3 in Odisha, 2 in Jammu and Kashmir and 1 each in MP and Maharashtra. Total of 28 sites have been declared as Ramsar sites in 2022. Tamil Nadu (14) has maximum number of Ramsar sites, followed by UP (10).

20. **Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA)** has commenced Basmati crop survey to estimate acreage, assess crop health and expected yield of aromatic and long grain rice during 2022-2023 kharif crop season using climate-based yield modelling.

Note: It is being executed under Basmati Export Development Foundation (BEDF), APEDA. Final survey report will be finalized by Dec 2022. India has exported USD 12 billion Basmati in the last three years.

21. The World's highest railway bridge's 'Golden Joint' has been inaugurated in **Reasi district** of Jammu & Kashmir.

Note: The joints of bridge is connecting two ends of the deck of the world's highest railway bridge. Chenab Bridge is located in Chenab river, will be 35 meters higher than the Eiffel Tower (after completion of project). Aim: It will provide direct connectivity to the Kashmir valley.

22. IT company **Microsoft** has become the first global Big Tech Company to join the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC).

Note: ONDC is an Indian government initiative for developing a first-of-its-kind open network for digital commerce. Microsoft has intended to introduce social e-commerce via its app in the Indian market later this year. Initially, the network began its pilot in De-lhi, Bengaluru, Coimbatore, Bho-pal and Shillong.

23. National Highways Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL) has signed an MoU with **National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)** to

take up multiple initiatives contributing towards making India the Skill Capital.

Note: Signed by: MD of NHIDCL, Chanchal Kumar and COO & Officiating CEO of NSDC, Ved Mani Tiwari. NHIDCL is a fully owned company of the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways. NSDC is PPP model under Ministry of Skill Development

- 24. Ministry of Ayush** has signed MoU with Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) for providing technical support to Ministry of Ayush for digitalization of Ayush Sector under Ayush Grid project for 3 years.

Note: Ayush Grid project was initiated in 2018 by the Ministry for creating a comprehensive IT backbone for the entire sector. Digitalization of the entire Ayush Sector will lead to its transformation in fields of health care delivery at all levels.

- 25. Regional Standardization Forum of International Telecommunication Union (ITU) for Asia and Oceania region** has been hosted by the **Ministry of Communications**.

Note: Theme of 'Regulatory and Policy aspects of Telecommunications'. MoS for Communications, Devusinh Chauhan has inaugurated the Regional Standardization Forum. More than 250 delegates from 20 countries has been participated in the Forum, to provide an insight from policy and regulatory perspective.

- 26. Election Commission of India (ECI), India** has hosted a virtual meet of the 'Asian Regional Forum' on August 11, 2022 on the theme of Making our Elections Inclusive, Accessible and Participative.

Note: This Regional Forum meet was a precursor to the "Summit for Electoral Democracy" that to be hosted by the National Electoral Institute of Mexico in the coming month. Chief Election Commissioner of India: Rajiv Kumar

- 27. The government of India** has made revised the rules of **Atal Pension Yojana (APY)**, will be effective **October 1, 2022**.

Note: No citizen who is or has been an income taxpayer will not be eligible to join the APY. If an income tax-payer joins the APY scheme on or after October 1, 2022, the APY account will be liable to be closed. Currently, all citizens of India between the age group of 18-40 years are eligible to join the scheme, irrespective of their tax-paying status.

- 28. Space Kidz India** has unfurled the Indian flag about 30 kilometres above the Earth on Independence Day.

Note: The flag was sent to an altitude of 1 lakh 6 thousand feet above the planet on a balloon that unfurled it. Space Kidz India is creating 'young scientists for the country. The organization has launched a satellite into Low Earth Orbit. AzadiSAT

was developed by 750 girl students from across India to mark the 75 years of Independence.

- 29. 23rd** edition of the India International Seafood Show (IISS) will be held in the Biswa Bangala Mela Prangan, Kolkata from February 15-17, 2023.

Note: The Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) has collaborated with the Seafood Exporters Association of India (SEAI) to organise the event. This show will provide an ideal platform for interaction between Indian exporters and overseas importers of India's marine products.

- 30. According to a survey, conducted by Ipsos India, Defence forces** is the most trusted institutions in the country.

Note: Followed by RBI, Prime Minister of India, Supreme Court of India. Followed by the Central Bureau of Investigation. Defence Forces with at least 2 in 3 (65% of respondents) reposing faith in them followed by RBI with 1 in 2 (50%). Prime Minister of India as an institution was at the third spot with 49% citizens having trust in it.

- 31. Delhi International Airport Limited** has announced to launch with a beta version of DigiYatra app for Android platform.

Note: Aim: To provide contactless, seamless processing of passengers at Airports. The 'DigiYatra' is a Biometric Enabled Seamless Travel experience (BEST) based on Facial Recognition Technology. This unique initiative of government of India, is coordinated by the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

- 32. Ministry of Mines** has announced to launch an individual portal of the ministry, under **Prime Minister Gati Shakti National Master Plan**.

Note: The portal is being created by the Indian Bureau of Mines. The portal will have two data layers, in which the first layer covers the spatial data of Mineral concessions and the second layer includes mineral auction blocks.

- 33. Border Roads Organisation** will construct a pilot road using steel slag Arunachal Pradesh, which can withstand heavy rains and adverse climatic conditions.

Note: If this found successful, then this can become a big solution for building durable roads along the strategic areas. This project has been initiated after the success of using 100% steel slag on a port connectivity road in Gujarat, which has longer life and built at low cost.

- 34. Railway Protection Force (RPF)** has launched a pan-India operation known as Operation Yatri Suraksha to provide round-the-clock security to passenger's.

Note: It facilities surveillance through CCTV, checking on active criminals, presence of a person at different stations to reduce crime. The RPF has launched a month-long pan-India drive against criminals who loot passengers in July 2022. The RPF caught 365 suspects

- who were handed over to the concerned GRPs for legal action.
- 35. Cabinet has approved interest subvention of 1.5 percent** on short term agriculture loan upto 3 lakh rupees.
Note: This increase in Interest Subvention support requires additional budgetary provisions of 34,856 crore rupees for the period of 2022-23 to 2024-25 under the scheme. Aim: To ensure the sustainability of credit flow in the agriculture sector as well as ensure financial health.
- 36. PM Narendra Modi has virtually addressed the Har Ghar Jal Utsav, that was organized in Goa** under the Jal Jeevan Mission.
Note: The event will be attended by the Union Minister of Jal Shakti, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and Goa CM, Pramod Sawant. During the event, the QR code payment system for water bills was also launched. Goa is the first State, and Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu is the first UT in the country, to achieve 100% Har Ghar Jal certification.
- 37. The National Fisheries Development Board (NPFDB) has conducted the 9th governing body meeting in New Delhi, chaired by Parshottam Rupala (Minister of Fisheries).**
Note: During the event, he has also launched an online marketplace feature - 'Aqua Bazar' app. The app will help the fish farmers and stakeholders to source the inputs such as fish seed, feed and medicines required for fish culture. He has released a book on Super Success Stories from Indian Fisheries.
- 38. Ministry of Civil Aviation's flagship program Regional Connectivity Scheme UDAN (UdeDeshkaAamNagrik) has completed 5 years of success.**
Note: Aim: An enhanced aviation infrastructure and air connectivity in tier II and tier III cities. In 2014, there were 74 operational airports, but after the launch of the UDAN scheme this number has been increased to 141 by now. Under the scheme, more than 1 crore passengers have been benefited till August 4, 2022.
- 39. Switch EiV 22 is India's first electric double-decker air-conditioned bus, that has been unveiled by Union minister for road transport and highways, Nitin Gadkari in Mumbai.**
Note: The electric bus was designed, developed and manufactured in India by Switch Mobility, Ashok Leyland's electric vehicle arm. The double decker has a lightweight aluminium body construction that provides higher passenger-to-weight ratio and a competitive cost per km, per passenger.
- 40. Ratan Tata has invested in Goodfellows, a senior companionship startup that provides companionship services to senior citizens.**
Note: The startup is designed to pair senior citizens with young graduates to form meaningful friendships. The company offers a freemium subscription model in which the first month is free only to understand the concept without actually going through it. The second month onward, the user has to pay a small subscription fee.
- 41. The 17th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas 2023 will be held in Indore.**
Note: Secretary, Consular, Passport and Visa Division, Ausaf Sayeed and Chief Secretary of Madhya Pradesh Iqbal Singh Bains signed an MoU for hosting the Pravasi Bhartiya Divas. PBD is celebrated every year on the 9th Jan to mark the contribution of the overseas Indians to the development of India.
- 42. India's first database, NIDAAN has been made operational for use by various central and state prosecution agencies tasked to enforce anti-drugs laws in the country. The full form of NIDAAN is National Integrated Database on Arrested Narco-offenders.**
Note: Developed by: Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB). This platform will sources its data from the ICJS (inter-operable criminal justice system) and e-Prisons (a cloud-based application) repository. This is a part of Narcotics Coordination Mechanism (NCORD)
- 43. Vice Admiral, Biswajit Dasgupta has inaugurated Composite Indoor Shooting Range (CISR), a first of its kind firing range for all primary and secondary weapons in the Navy, on the premises of INS Kalinga near Bheemili, Andhra Pradesh.**
Note: The CISR is a self-contained, 25m, six lane, live firing range for all primary and secondary weapons in the Navy. The range has been set up to contemporary international standards by an Indian firm.
- 44. Central Power Research Institute (CPRI) has signed an MoU with the Chhattisgarh government for setting up a regional testing laboratory in Raipur district.**
Note: The national-level testing unit will be established on an area of 10 acres in sector-30 of Nava Raipur Atar Nagar. Test facilities: Transformers, energy meters, transformer oil, switch fuse unit and other electricity-related equipment. Power companies will receive a rebate of 20% in the testing of equipment.
- 45. Flipkart e-commerce organisation has signed an agreement with the Indian Institute of Millets Research (IIMR) to give Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) and Self-Help Groups (SHGs) access to markets.**
Note: As part of the partnership, Flipkart aims to empower local farming communities and SHGs by providing a pan-India market access to more than 400 million customers. ICAR-IIMR will extend support with infrastructure and necessary approvals to take the partnership forward.
- 46. India Meteorological Department (IMD) has partnered with Japan, and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on Climate Change.**
Note: Aim: To hasten climate action across 10 states and Union Territories in India. 10 States: Bihar, Delhi-

- NCR, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, and Uttar Pradesh. UNDP India has received climate grant of \$5.16 million from Japan for the project of IMD-UNDP.
- 47. Amit Shah (Home Minister)** has inaugurated a two-day National Security Strategies (NSS) Conference in New Delhi.
Note: Aim: To ensure a safe and secure nation by strengthening all aspects of national security mechanism. During the conference, he has also inaugurated the National Automated Fingerprint Identification System (NAFIS) that was developed by NCRB. NAFIS will help in quick and easy disposal of cases with the help of centralized finger print database.
- 48. Om Birla** will led Indian Parliamentary delegation while attending the 65th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference scheduled to be held in Halifax, Canada from August 20-26.
Note: The Conference will also be attended by 23 Presiding Officers and 16 Secretaries from State Legislatures in India who are also members of the CPA. Om Birla will participate as a panellist in Workshop 'C' titled "A People's Parliament: Accessibility through Innovation".
- 49. Union Minister of State, Jitendra Singh** has unveiled country's first hydrogen fuel cell bus.
Note: The eco-friendly bus has been built by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and KPIT Limited. Hydrogen fuel cell: It works like conventional batteries of electric vehicles, but they don't need to be recharged with electricity. It provides a better alternative to completely eliminate the on-road emissions.
- 50. The Centre govt has amended SC Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Act, 1958** for providing additional post-retirement benefits to retired Chief Justices and SC judges.
Note: Those judges, who retire from SC will be entitled to a rent free Type-VII accommodation at Delhi (other than the designated official residence) for a period of 6 months from the date of retirement. The retired SC CJI and judges will get a chauffeur and secretarial assistant for 1 year.
- 51. IIT Guwahati** institution has developed a new method, ultrasound-assisted fermentation, to produce a safe sugar substitute called 'Xylitol' from sugarcane waste.
Note: Xylitol is a sugar alcohol derived from natural products. It has potential antidiabetic and anti-obesogenic effects and is a mild prebiotic and protects teeth against caries. The research team was led by Professor VS Moholkar. Other team members: Dr. Belachew Zegale Tizazu and Dr. Kuldeep Roy.
- 52. Anurag Singh Thakur** has launched 'Azadi Quest, a series of online educational mobile games.
Note: This game has been developed by Zynga India in collaboration with the Publications Division and Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR). The Azadi Quest games are available for android and iOS devices in English and Hindi from September 2022. Zynga India was established in 2010 in Bengaluru.
- 53. Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)** and NITI Aayog will establish more than **500** Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs) in Jammu and Kashmir to nurture an innovative mind-set among high school students.
Note: It will encourage young minds in the field, and challenge students to become producers of products themselves instead of consumer AIM was launched to create and promote an ecosystem of innovation and entrepreneurship across the country via school, university, research, MSME, etc.
- 54. AirAsia India** airlines has come into a partnership with CAE to integrate the CAE Rise™ Training System into the airline's simulator training program.
Note: With this partnership, AirAsia India becomes the first airline in India to adopt a data-driven training program using CAE Rise™. As long-time collaborators, both companies have worked together since 2014 on pilot training at CAE network training centers.
- 55. 'Swachh Sagar, Surakshit Sagar'** union minister has participated in the 'Swachh Sagar, Surakshit Sagar' campaign organised at Puducherry.
Note: Aim: To promote environmental sustainability. This campaign is a 75-day citizen-led initiative to improve the coastal and ocean health via community action. The campaign was spearheaded by the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) in partnership with MoEFCC, NDMA, and other central organisations and social organisations.
- 56. The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA)** has observed its Silver Jubilee in New Delhi on **August 29**.
Note: On the occasion, Chemicals and Fertilizers Minister, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya has also launched an Integrated Pharmaceutical Database Management System 2.0. It is an integrated responsive cloud-based application. It will provide a single window for submissions of various forms as mandated under Drug Price Control Order, 2013.
- 57. PM Modi** has inaugurated the Smriti Van memorial to celebrate the courage shown by people during the devastating 2001 earthquake in **Gujarat (Epicentre: Bhuj)**.
Note: The grand structure is spread over 470 acres on Bhujiyo Hill near Bhuj town. It celebrates the strength and resistance of people of Kutch. It also has a state-of-the-art Smriti Van Earthquake Museum. He also inaugurated the 300m long 'Atal Bridge' for pedestrians across the Sabarmati River.
- 58. Indian Oil Corp (IOC)** has planned to invest more than Rs 2 lakh crore (or \$25 billion) to achieve net-zero emissions from its operations by 2046.

- Note:** The target set is in line with India's aim to reach net-zero emissions by 2070. IOC oil refining and petrochemicals business has a total emission of 21.5 million tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO₂). IOC has already prepared a road map to achieve its net zero scope 1 and 2 emissions
59. Reliance Industries (RIL) chairman, Mukesh Ambani has announced to invest a whopping ₹2 lakh crore to build its Pan-India true 5G network.
Note: The Reliance Jio Infocomm has prepared an ambitious and fastest ever 5G rollout plan for the country. Jio plans to roll out Jio 5G by this Diwali 2022 in metropolises of Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, and Chennai. He also announced that Reliance will launch the Nita Mukesh Ambani Junior School.
60. The Home ministry has released Accidental Deaths & Suicides in India (ADSI) and Crime in India (CII) reports for 2021, were published by **NCRB**.
Note: Deaths by suicide has increased in India by 7.2% from 2020. Report says every year more than 1,00,000 people die by suicide in the country. Majority of suicides: Maharashtra, TN, MP, WB and Karnataka. Delhi has reported the highest number of suicides among UTs. Highest rate of crime against women in 2021: Assam
61. The 10th National Conference of Women Police has been started in Shimla, Himachal Pradesh, inaugurated by **Union Minister of State for Home affairs, Nityanand Rai**.
Note: The conference is being organised by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPRD) in collaboration with Himachal Police. Objective: To enhance the leadership potential of women police officers and discuss their problems and challenges.
62. **HM Amit Shah** has chaired the 23rd edition of Central Zonal Council meeting in Bhopal.
Note: Issues: connectivity, power, sharing of river water and other matters of common interests. The meeting was attended by CMs, ministers and senior officers of the member states. The Central Zonal Council comprises Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.
63. **Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh** has attended the SCO Defence Ministers' meeting at Tashkent in Uzbekistan.
Note: He also hold the bilateral meetings with his counterparts Lieutenant General, Bakhodir Kurbanov (Uzbekistan); Colonel, General Zhaksylykov Ruslan Zhaksylykov (Kazakhstan) and Lieutenant General, Viktor Khrenin (Belarus). Aim: The entire spectrum of defence cooperation with the three countries was reviewed to expand mutually beneficial collaboration.
64. **38th** edition of the meeting of Ministerial level Joint Rivers Commission (JRC) of India and Bangladesh was held in New Delhi.
- Note:** Aim: Finalized the text of MoU on 'Interim Water Sharing of Kushiyara river'. Both sides have finalized the design and location of the water intake point on the Feni River to meet the drinking water needs of Sabroom town in Tripura, as per the October 2019 India-Bangladesh MoU on the subject. The JRC of India and Bangladesh was constituted in 1972.
65. **LG, J&K, Manoj Sinha** has inaugurated the 8th India International MSME Start-up Expo & Summit at New Delhi.
Note: This Expo provides a platform to SMEs, startups, trade, industry, service providers to explore new opportunities for buyers and sellers, and exchange information about federal, state, and local programmes. J&K has one of the fastest growing horticulture markets in the country.
66. **Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA)**. has signed an agreement with Mahatma Phule Renewable Energy and Infrastructure Technology Ltd (MAHAPREIT) to provide loans for green energy projects.
Note: IREDA will provide financial facilities and techno-financial consultancy to MAHAPREIT for renewable energy. MAHAPREIT is a wholly owned subsidiary of MPBCDC (49% of Govt. of India and 51% of Govt. of Maharashtra).
67. Royal Enfield and **UNESCO** have been partnered to promote and safeguard the 'Intangible Cultural Heritage' of India.
Note: UNESCO has been running a movement to identify, document and preserve the Intangible Cultural Heritage of India. India is one of the 178 countries, who had adopted the 2003 UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, for decades.
68. **Godrej Agrovet** has signed an MoU with Assam, Manipur and Tripura governments for the development and promotion of oil palm cultivation.
Note: Godrej Agrovet would be allotted land across the three states for the promotion and development of sustainable palm oil plantations in the region under the National Mission on Edible Oils-Oil Palm (NMEO-OP) scheme. Godrej Agrovet is a diversified food and agri conglomerate.
69. **Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment** has signed an MoU with National Health Authority for providing an Comprehensive Medical Package to Transgender Persons.
Note: Recently, the Ministry has launched SMILE (Support for Marginalised Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise) scheme which includes several comprehensive measures for Transgender Community. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is a nodal Ministry for matters related to Transgender Persons.

70. National Highways Logistics Management Limited (NHLML) has signed the tripartite agreement with Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI), and Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) for centralizing the freight consolidation and reduce logistics costs from 14 % to less than 10 % of GDP at par with International Standards.

Note: Multi Modal Logistics Parks (MMLP) will ensure that cargo is swapped or shifted from and to Waterways, Dedicated Freight Corridors, and Road Transport.

71. Airports Authority of India (AAI) has signed MoU with LFV Air Navigation Services of Sweden at Headquarters of AAI in New Delhi.

Note: It will bring together two air navigation service providers, India and Sweden, with demonstrated capabilities in building and operationalizing the next generation of sustainable aviation technology, to explore smart aviation solutions. It will pave the way for bi-lateral exchange of aviation expertise and technology between the two countries.

72. The researchers of **IIT Madras** have joined hands with Inspire Institute of Sports, Karnataka to develop an advanced boxing analytics platform named Smartboxer.

Note: Aim: To increase India's boxing medal tally at the 2024 Olympics. This multi version software is being

developed by the Center of Excellence for Sports Science and Analytics at IIT Madras. Feature: Provide feedback and performance assessments using Internet of Things (IoT)-enabled wearable sensors and video cameras.

73. Indigo Airlines has joined a sustainability initiative led by the World Economic Forum (WEF).

Note: The airline has become a signatory to "Clear Skies for Tomorrow" coalition campaign of India. Commitment of Indigo: To deploy sustainable programmes to achieve the significant scale of SAF (sustainable aviation fuel), and achieve critical mass and cost-effectiveness for widespread adoption in India. Clean Skies for Tomorrow was launched in January 2019.

74. Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy has signed an MoU with the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission for Inter-Ministerial cooperation for promotion and facilitation of One Herb, One Standard.

Note: The MoU will also help in promoting exchange of information in the area of standardization of Traditional medicine by sharing of scientific information and drug raw materials or extracts, seminars, workshops, training and brainstorming programs.

July 2022

1. The government of India has banned the single-use plastic from **July 1, 2022**.

Note: 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.

2. **Andhra Pradesh** state has topped the 'Top Achievers' list as per the Business Reform Action Plan (BRAP)- 2020, was released by FM Nirmala Sitharaman.

Note: 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.

3. PM Narendra Modi has participated in **Udyami Bharat** programme to launch various key initiatives to ramp up the MSME sector.

Note: Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance: Aims to scale up the implementation capacity and coverage of MSMEs. Capacity Building of First-Time MSME Exporters: To encourage MSMEs to offer goods and services of international standards for the global market. Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme

4. **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.

Note: 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.

5. PM Narendra Modi has virtually inaugurated Bosch India's first smart campus in **Bengaluru**, was built at a cost of Rs 800 crore.

Note: 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.
6. The theme of Digital India Week 2022, that was inaugurated by PM Narendra Modi at Gandhinagar in Gujarat on July 4, 2022 -- **Catalyzing New India's Techade**.
Note: 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.
7. **Vivek Express** train holds the title of the longest train route in the country (both in terms of distance and time), runs from Dibrugarh in Assam to Kanyakumari in Tamil Nadu.
Note: The train covers total of nine states: Assam, Nagaland, Bihar, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu. The announcement of the Vivek Express was made in presentation of the railway budget for 2011-12 by Mamata Banerjee (then Railway Minister of India).
8. India's largest floating solar plant is now fully operational in **Ramagundam, Peddapalli district of Telangana**.
Note: 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.
9. **National Health Authority (NHA)** has developed a National Health Claims Exchange as a digital platform to settle health claims in association with IRDAI.
Note: 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.
10. **Gujarat** has been selected as the 'Best Performer State' for the third time in the States' Startup Ranking 2021.
Note: 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: J&K
Startup leaders:
 ➤ **Category A:** Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Assam
- **Category B:** Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
11. **Odisha** state has come before Uttar Pradesh as the top state in the State Ranking Index for National Food Security Act (NFSA).
Note: 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)
12. **Union Minister Jitendra Singh**. has launched the TiHAN, a Testbed for Autonomous Navigation for both ground and aerial vehicle testing at IIT Hyderabad.
Note: Aim: to promote collaborative research between academia, industry and R&D labs. TiHAN refers to Technology Innovation Hub on Autonomous Navigation.
13. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved **Google International LLC**. to acquire minority and non-controlling stake of 1.28% of equity capital of Bharti Airtel Limited.
Note: Along with this investment agreement, both companies have also entered into 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.
14. Energy company **ReNew Power** has collaborated with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and Self-Employed Women's Association of India (SEWA) to launch 'Project Surya'.
Note: 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.
15. Greenko has signed MoU with **IIT Hyderabad** to launch nation's first dedicated school for sustainable science and technology.
Note: Aims: Fill the gap in research, education and skills in the sustainable development space. The school will also promote studies in climate change mitigation; artificial intelligence and space technology; energy transition and industrial transformation.
16. India has signed MoU with **Armenia** country on High Impact Community Development Projects, with financial and technical assistance from India,

- Note:** The MoU was signed at the 8th India-Armenia Intergovernmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific and Technological, Cultural and Educational Cooperation (IGC) held in Yerevan. Later, Mahatma Gandhi Auditorium was inaugurated at the Yerevan State Medical University (YSMU).
- 17.** The centrally sponsored scheme, Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro food processing Enterprises (PMFME) was launched in **29th June 2020**.
Note: By the Ministry of Food Processing Industries under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan. Aim: formalising the food processing sector and celebrating their tremendous support towards the economy.
- 18. Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change**, organize “Hariyali Mahotsav” on 8th July, 2022 at Talkatora Stadium, New Delhi.
Note: Aim: To create awareness about the importance of trees in the life. This is being organized by Ministry of Environment in association with the State Governments, Police Institutions and Schools of Delhi for undertaking plantation drives.
- 19. Google** has announced the launch of Startup School India (SSI) as part of its Startups initiative.
Note: Through this platform, the Google will bring together investors, successful entrepreneurs and programmers. Aim: To reach out to at least 10,000 startups with this programme. This is a nine-week program, which will be delivered virtually.
- 20.** First floating terminal of India for liquefied natural gas (LNG) is located at which place that is expected to be operational in the second half of 2022 **at Jaigarh in Maharashtra**.
Note: 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.
- 21.** CBSE Board has launched a portal named ‘Pariksha Sangam’.
Note: To connect students, school regional offices and CBSE board headquarters to integrate examination-related processes. A single window is available for board examination results, sample papers, and other details. The pariksha sangam portal can be accessed at parikshasangam.cbse.gov.in. The portal is divided into three parts, namely- Schools (Ganga), Regional Offices (Yamuna) and Head Office (Saraswati).
- 22.** PM Narendra Modi attended first ‘Arun Jaitley Memorial Lecture’ (AJML), held in **Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi**.
Note: First AJML keynote address was delivered by Mr. Tharman Shanmugaratnam (Senior Minister, Government of Singapore). Organized by: Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance in recognition of Shri Arun Jaitley’s invaluable contribution to the nation.
- 23. 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.
Note: 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
- 24. Maharashtra**. state 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.
Note: 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
- 25.** Union Minister **Hardeep Singh Puri** has launched ‘SVANidhi’ Mahotsav to celebrate the success of PM SVANidhi Scheme.
Note: 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.
- 26. Panchayati Raj** ministry has signed an MoU with Union Health Ministry Ministry to eliminate TB in India by 2025.
Note: The MoU was signed by Dr. Bijaya Kumar Behera, Economic Adviser on behalf of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj and Dr. P Ashok Babu, Joint Secretary on behalf of the Ministry of Health. This MoU will shape the inter-Ministerial collaboration and strategic partnerships to achieve the Prime Minister’s ambitious target of eliminating TB in India.

- 27. PM Narendra Modi** has unveiled the 6.5 metre-tall National Emblem on top of the new Parliament building (under construction).
Note: 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.
- 28. Ola Electric** has unveiled India's first indigenously developed lithium ion cell _____.
Note: The company will begin mass production of the cell (NMC 2170) from its Chennai-based Gigafactory by 2023. The company was recently allocated 20GWh capacity under the ACC PLI scheme by the govt for developing advanced cells in India. The Ola Electric had launched its first electric vehicle in August 2021 and has also set up the world's largest two-wheeler manufacturing facility in India.
- 29.** As per the data released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), retail inflation of India in June 2022 -- **7.01%**.
Note: The CPI inflation has breached the upper limit of RBI's tolerance band (2-6%) for the sixth consecutive month. The India's Index of Industrial Production (IIP) has surged 19.6% in May, as against 7.1% rise in April 2022.
- 30. Safran Helicopter Engines** has signed an agreement with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) to create a new joint venture intended to develop helicopter engines.
Note: 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 partred for Shakti engine.
- 31.** PM Modi participates in the first-ever I2U2 (**India-Israel-UAE-USA.**) Leaders' Summit Virtually.
Note: 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.
- 32.** As per Nomura, what would be the 2023 forecast for economic growth in India -- **4.7%**.
Note: Its earlier projection of 5.4% amid recession fears and rising interest rates. Reason: Higher inflation, monetary policy tightening, dormant private capex growth, the power crunch and the global growth slowdown. Retail inflation rate of India - the CPI has been recorded 7.01% as compare to 7.04% in May, the sixth consecutive month that the CPI inflation has remained above RBI set limit.
- 33. National Rail and Transportation Institute** in Gujarat have been upgraded to a central university and renamed as the Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya.
Note: The Union Cabinet gave its approval to introduce a Bill in Parliament, namely, the Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2022 to amend the Central Universities Act, 2009 for setting up of Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya (GSV). This is the second central university in the state following the Central University of Gujarat.
- 34. Department of Consumer Affairs** has set up a committee in developing a framework for the 'Right to Repair'.
Note: The committee will be chaired by Nidhi Khare (Additional Secretary of Department of Consumer Affairs). Aim: To empower consumers and product buyers in the local market, harmonize trade between the original equipment manufacturers and the third-party buyers and sellers. Countries like the U.S.A, U.K, and European Union have already recognized the Right to Repair
- 35.** Paper Import Monitoring System will come into effect from **1st October 2022**.
Note: An importer need to provide advance information online about the import of papers and obtain a registration number. It is applicable on import by a Domestic Territory Area unit on a wide range of paper products covering 201 tariff lines, such as newsprint, handmade paper, tissue paper, toilet paper and cartons.
- 36. AadhaarFaceRd** has been launched by UIDAI to perform face authentication through mobile app from anywhere and at any time.
Note: Through this verification, an Aadhaar holder's real identity is validated and recorded in the databases of UIDAI which was captured at the time of Aadhaar enrolment. Aadhaar Face Authentication technology has been developed inhouse by UIDAI. Benefits of Aadhaar FaceRD: Jeevan Pramaan, Ration Distribution (PDS)
- 37. Nasscom Foundation** 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".
Note: Aim: To help women farmers scale up their business. This pilot project is being conducted in six states — Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Haryana and Rajasthan. Nasscom Chairperson: Krishnan Ramanujam

- 38.** Total length (**296KM**) of the Bundelkhand Expressway, inaugurated by PM Narendra Modi at Kaitheri village in Orai tehsil of Jalaun district in UP.
Note: Bundelkhand Expressway will benefit the industrial growth of the region. Agriculture-based industries will flourish and it will help the defence corridor resulting the overall development of the region. Four-lane Bundelkhand Expressway passes through seven districts, Chitrakoot, Banda, Mahoba, Hamirpur, Jalaun, Auraiya and Etawah.
- 39.** According to the Ministry of Education's National Institutional Ranking Framework, **IIT Madras** has bagged the top spot among educational institutions in the country for the 4th consecutive year.
Note: Indian Indian Institute of Science is the best university in India Rankings-2022. IIM, Ahmedabad is the best management institute in the country. AIIMS, New Delhi is the best medical college. Savitha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences in Chennai is the best dental college
- 40.** Varanasi has been declared as the first Cultural and Tourism Capital of the SCO for 2022-23.
Note: It was announced by Secretary General of the bloc Zhang Ming. It is a new rotating initiative by the eight-member organisation to promote people-to-people contacts and tourism among the member states. The holy city of Varanasi is showcasing India's culture and traditions over the ages. Members: China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, India and Pakistan.
- 41.** According to the National Statistical Office, **Jammu & Kashmir** has recorded the most number of unmarried youth was observed in 2019.
Note: J&K was followed by Uttar Pradesh, Delhi and Punjab. In about 8 years from 2011-2019, the proportion of unmarried persons within the age bracket of 15-29 years has increased from 17.2% to 23%. In the National Youth Policy 2014, those aged 15 to 29 years are classified as youth.
- 42.** The flagship scheme of Women and Child Development (WCD) Ministry, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao will be extended across the country, was launched in **2015**.
Note: BBBP is the Centre's flagship scheme for women's empowerment. It focuses on the education of girls child and improving the sex ratio. To address sex-selective abortion. It is a joint initiative of the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Ministry of Education
- 43.** **Ministry of Women and Child Development** has issued detailed guidelines for 'Mission Shakti' scheme that came into effect from April 1st, 2022.
Note: Mission Shakti is an integrated women empowerment programme for the safety, security and empowerment of women for implementation during the 15th Finance Commission. 'Mission Shakti' has two sub-schemes: 'Sambal' and 'Samarthya'. Sambal: Safety and security of women. Samarthya: Empowerment of women.
- 44.** Mascot (**Jagruti**) launched by the Department of Consumer Affairs for empowering consumers and generating awareness about their rights.
Note: Themes includes: Consumer Protection Act 2019, Hallmarking, National Consumer Helpline no. 1915, provisions of weights and measures Act, decisions of the Central Consumer Protection Authority and grievance redressal. Tagline "Jago Grahak Jago" in all its media campaigns.
- 45.** Mobile Electric Charging platform has been launched along with 'Phy-gital' by Union Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), Narayan Rane -- **Repos Pay**.
Note: Repos Pay: One can order a Mobile Electric Charging Vehicle on app and charge their vehicles. Phy-gital: It is a Fintech Platform that will bring credit to fuel consumers (Buy Now Pay Later) through Technology. Repos: Founded by Aditi Bhosale Walunj and Chetan Walunj in 2017.
- 46.** **NITI Aayog** has launched the Mapping and Exchange of Good Practices initiative for mainstreaming millets in Asia and Africa in association with the World Food Programme.
Note: Both organisations will jointly prepare a compendium of good practices for scaling up the production and consumption of millets in India and abroad. The event will be inaugurated by NITI Aayog Vice Chairman, Suman Bery.
- 47.** **Hindalco Industries Ltd.** has signed MoU with Israel based, Phinergy, and IOC Phinergy Pvt Ltd to develop Aluminium-air batteries for electric vehicles and energy storage.
Note: Hindalco, Phinergy and IOP partner on R&D and pilot production of aluminium plates for Aluminium-Air batteries, and recycling of aluminum after the usage in these batteries. Hindalco Industries is a subsidiary of Aditya Birla Group. IOC Phinergy, a JV between Phinergy and Indian Oil Corporation.
- 48.** **Jawaharlal Nehru Port** has become first 100% Landlord Major Port of India, all berths is being operated on public-private partnership (PPP) model.
Note: Aim: Improve the utilization in crane and berth productivity of the terminal and reduce transit time, and logistics cost. With this the total handling of JNPT has increased to 1.8 million Twenty-foot Equivalent Units (TEUs) from the present capacity of 1.5 million TEUs. Minister of Ports and Shipping: Sarbananda Sonowal
- 49.** The Centre has set up a Committee on Minimum Support Price under the chairmanship of **Sanjay Agrawal (Former Agriculture Secretary)**.

Note: Aim: The minimum support price (MSP) more effective and transparent. The committee will also suggest measures to promote zero-budget natural farming and crop diversification to fulfil the changing needs of the nation.

50. Karnataka state has been topped category of major states in Niti Aayog's third innovation index.

Note: Followed by Telangana and Haryana. This index examines the innovation capacities and ecosystems at the sub-national level. Karnataka topped the index for the third year in a row. States and UTs were divided into 17 Major States, 10 North-East and Hill States, and 9 Union Territories and City States, for effectively comparing their performance.

51. India has signed an MoU on wildlife conservation and sustainable biodiversity utilization for reintroducing the cheetah in India with **Namibia**.

Note: The MoU was signed between Bhupender Yadav (Union Environment Minister) and Netumbo Nandi Ndaitwah (Namibia Deputy PM and Foreign Minister). Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh will receive the first tranche of eight cheetahs by August 15, 2022. The species of cheetahs in India was officially declared extinct in 1952.

52. Niti Aayog has released its report on digital banks, offering a template and roadmap for licencing and regulatory regimes.

Note: Report titled: A proposal for Digital Banks in India: Licencing and Regulatory Regime. Report recommendations: (1) Issuing a restricted digital bank licence. (2) Inclusion (of the licensee) in a regulatory sandbox framework enacted by RBI (3) Issuance of a "full-scale" digital bank licence

53. India's first passenger drone **Varuna** launched by PM Narendra Modi.

Note: This drone is capable of carrying one person, equipment, or supplies from one moving warship to another with the help of autonomous take-off and landing features. It can also be used for medical evacuation.

54. Burhanpur, Madhya Pradesh has become the first certified Har Ghar Jal district in India, where all people have access to safe drinking water through taps.

Note: At the time of the launch of Jal Jeevan Mission, the district had only 36.54% households can accessed the potable drinking water through tap connections. Jal Jeevan Mission was launched: 15th August 2019. Aim: Supply 55 liters of water per person per day to every rural household through Tap by 2024.

55. NITI Aayog has released India Innovation Index 2021, that stated the Gross expenditure on research and development (GERD) of India is one of the

lowest in the world (just \$43 per capita or as a percentage of GDP of 0.70%).

Note: India needs to boost this expenditure and at least be on a par with countries like Russia (\$285), Brazil (\$173), and Malaysia (\$293). This is lower than Brazil (1.16%), South Africa (0.83%) and others. Only Mexico (0.31%) had a lower share of GERD.

56. Union Minister for Road Transport, Nitin Gadkari has inaugurated the Savner-Dhapewada-Goundkhairi section of National Highway 547-E in **Nagpur**.

Note: The length of this section is 28.88 km. The four-laning of the Savner - Dhapewada - Goundakhairi section will provide better connectivity to the pilgrims like Ganesha Temple at Adasa and the Vitthal-Rukmini Temple at Dhapewada in the area. The bridge is over the Chandrabhaga river will relieve traffic jams in Dhapewada .

57. Parshottam Rupala has launched NDDB MRIDA Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary company of National Dairy Development Board (NDDB).

Note: Aim: To provide structured impetus to manure management efforts. NDDB has established NDDB MRIDA Limited (Unlisted Public Limited Company) under the Companies Act, 2013 on July 1, 2022. This will help in savings to the farmers by virtue of the replacement of cooking fuel with biogas.

58. With the addition of five new wetlands, then the total number of Ramsar sites in the India-- **54**.

Note: Tamil Nadu: Karikili Bird Sanctuary, Pallikarandai Marsh Reserve Forest & Pichavaram Mangrove. Mizoram: Pala wetland. Madhya Pradesh: Sakhya Sagar. The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (international treaty) aims at the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands.

59. Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India (ECGC) has launched a new scheme to provide enhanced export credit risk insurance cover to the extent of 90% o support small exporters.

Note: Under the Export Credit Insurance for Banks Whole Turnover Packaging Credit and Post Shipment (ECIB- WTPC & PS). This scheme will benefit small-scale exporters availing of export credit with banks which hold the ECGC WT-ECIB covers.

60. India has signed an agreement with **United Kingdom** to provide student mobility and academic collaboration between higher education institutions (HEIs).

Note: Signed by: James Bowler, Permanent Secretary, Department of International Trade of United Kingdom (UK) and K Sanjay Murthy, Secretary (Higher Education), Ministry of Education,

India. In May 2021, a comprehensive Roadmap to 2030 was adopted for an enhanced bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

- 61. Alok Sharma** has launched two significant initiatives E-AMRIT and the Report on Advanced Chemistry Cell Battery Reuse and Recycling Market in India along with NITI Aayog.

Note: E-AMRIT refers to Accelerated e-Mobility Revolution for India's Transportation, is a mobile application, will raise the awareness on electric mobility. India is among 42 leaders to back and sign up to the UK's Glasgow Breakthroughs, which was launched at the COP26 climate summit.

- 62. Maldives** 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.

Note: This is the eighth MoU signed between India and other countries in the field of Judicial Cooperation. India was among the first to recognize the Maldives after its independence in 1965 and shares good diplomatic relations with the country.

- 63. Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL)** has signed an agreement with the Indian Institute of Management-Kozhikode (IIMK) to boost start-ups in the maritime sector.

Note: Aim: Create an ecosystem for supporting startups in the maritime sector from the technical, regulatory, financial, and marketing. The CSL and IIMK's business incubator Laboratory for Innovation Venturing and Entrepreneurship (LIVE) plans to bring the stakeholders together.

- 64. Hindalco Industries** has signed a strategic pact with Aequs for long-term collaboration and joint business development in the commercial aerospace sector.

Note: Aequs has signed for supply of raw materials including, billets and extrusions by Hindalco Industries Ltd (Hindalco) through its manufacturing units and/or its subsidiary, Hindalco Almex Aerospace Ltd (HAAL). It will be ultimately consumed by commercial aerospace OEMs (original equipment manufacturers).

- 65. Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC)** has signed a gas-selling agreement with GAIL India and Assam Gas Company Ltd (AGCL) at Khubal under Panisagar of North Tripura.

Note: The ONGC will supply 50,000 standard cubic metres (per day) of gas to GAIL and AGCL and a total 0.1 million standard cubic metres per day (MSCMD) gas will be supplied from ONGC's Khubal gas collecting station. Khubal station would have a capacity to process 0.44 MSCMD of gas.

- 66. BF Infrastructure** has partnered with Talgo with an aim to manufacture high speed trains in India.

Note: Talgo, is a wholly owned subsidiary of Patentes Talgo, it is Spain-based high speed passenger train manufacturer. Focus: To bring high-speed rail technology and solution to Indian Railways. Recently, the government has floated a tender for 100 Vande Bharat trains with maximum speed of 200kmph.

- 67. Tata Steel** has inked a pact with Aarav Unmanned Systems (AUS) for drone-based mining solutions for effective mine management.

Note: Primary goal: To jointly develop and offer sustainable and end-to-end integrated solutions that will focus on efficiency, safety, and productivity of open cast mining operations. These end-to-end mining solutions are economical, demand fewer on-foot exploration requirements, and improve production, efficiency, and site safety.

- 68. Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC)** has signed an MoU with renewable energy company Greenko ZeroC to make green hydrogen.

Note: Aim: To pursue opportunities in renewables, and other derivatives of green hydrogen. This MoU is in line with the National Hydrogen Mission of the government that aims to transform the country into a global green hydrogen hub. India is targeting to produce 5 million tonnes of green hydrogen per annum by 2030.

- 69. 13th 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.

Note: Agriculture Census is conducted every 5 years, but it was delayed due to corona pandemic. He has released the Handbook on Operational Guidelines for Census for the use of States/UTs, and launched the Data Collection Portal/App.

- 70. ReNew Power** has signed an agreement with the Egyptian government to invest as much as \$8 billion to produce green hydrogen manufacturing facility at the Suez Canal Economic Zone in Egypt.

Note: ReNew will produce 220,000 tonnes of the clean fuel annually in Egypt in the coming years. ReNew is supported by investors including Goldman Sachs Group Inc and Abu Dhabi Investment Authority.

- 71. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)** has signed a contract worth over \$100 million with Honeywell.

Note: Aim: For the supply and manufacture of 88 TPE331-12B engines/kits along with the maintenance and support services to power the Hindustan Trainer Aircraft (HTT-40). The TPE331-12B engine is a single shaft turboprop engine with integral inlet and gearbox, two stage centrifugal compressor, power turbine, gearbox, three stage axial turbine and turbine exhaust diffuser.

72. Narendra Modi addressed the inaugural session of the first All India District Legal Services Authorities (DLSA) meeting conducted by National Legal Services Authority (NALSA).

Note: Aim: Creation of an integrated procedure in order to bring homogeneity and synchronisation across DLSAs. There are a total of 676 DLSAs in the country and are headed by the District Judge, acts as Chairman of the authority.

73. PM Narendra Modi has participated in the grand finale of **Ujjwal Bharat Ujjwal Bhavishya – Power @2047** via video conferencing to revamp the distribution sector scheme.

Note: During the event, he launched the revamped distribution sector scheme. He also laid the

foundation stone of various green energy projects of the National Thermal Power Corporation Limited. The initiative proposes to provide financial support to discoms with an outlay of more than Rs 3 lakh crore for five-year period till FY 2025–26.

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

Note: The government had selected these companies to build a total of 50 gigawatt hours of battery storage capacity. It is estimated that the PLI scheme for Advanced Chemistry Cell (ACC) battery storage will result in direct investments of around Rs 45,000 crore in manufacturing projects.

June 2022

1. PMBI has crossed 100 crore rupees sales May 2022. The full form of PMBI is **Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI)**.

Note: PMBI is the implementing agency of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP). The central government has also set a target to increase the number of Jan Aushadhi Kendras to 10,000 by March 2024 with a view to provide quality medicines at an affordable rate.

2. NTPC Limited has renewed the Biodiversity Policy 2022 to set up a comprehensive vision and guiding principle for conservation, restoration, and enhancement of biodiversity.

Note: The objectives of policy are aligned with environmental and sustainability policies. NTPC was the first PSU to issue Biodiversity Policy in 2018.

3. IIM-Ahmedabad (IIM-A) has joined hands with an e-marketplace for agricultural land, SFarms India, to develop a farmland price index based on the sales and purchases done on the platform.

Note: The index has been designed to record and present the "quality-controlled" data on the prices of agricultural land in the country.

4. one km is the minimum distance has been prescribed by the Supreme Court of India for an Eco Sensitive Zone (ESZ).

Note: The SC said that mining within the national parks and wildlife sanctuaries shall not be permitted and no permanent structure will be allowed within the ESZ

5. 'Lifestyle for the Environment (LiFE) Movement has been launched by PM Narendra Modi on the occasion of World Environment Day.

Note: Aim: To initiate 'LiFE Global Call for Papers' inviting ideas and suggestions from academics to influence and persuade individuals, communities and organisations to adopt an environment conscious lifestyle.

6. The Ministry of Housing has launched a 'Clean and Green' campaign on Environment Day.

Note: Urban Local Bodies across the nation will conduct an awareness programmes to free the country from single-use plastic and contribute to improve the environment. The Ministry has instructed to state and Union Territories to ban Single-Use Plastic by 30 June.

7. India has signed MoUs with **Senegal's** renewal of Cultural Exchange Programme (CEP) for the period 2022-26.

Note: Second MoU is related to visa-free regime Official which will strengthen the cooperation between the two countries. Third MoU, seeks to enhance bilateral cooperation in youth matters. Senegal Capital: Dakar; Currency: West African CFA franc

8. Blue Dart delivery company has signed the 'Climate Neutral Now' (CNN) pledge by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

Note: The Climate Neutral Now is an Initiative to encourage and support the interested stakeholders to act now in order to achieve a climate neutral world by 2050. Blue Dart, is a part of the Deutsche Post DHL

(DPDHL) Group. The Group has adopted a package of measures worth up to 7-billion Euros to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.

9. ₹436 is the revised premium rate for PMJJBY.

Note: Earlier it was ₹330 and PMSBY hiked from ₹12 to ₹20. Government set a target to increase the coverage to 15 crore under PMJJBY and to 37 crore under PMSBY in the next five years .

10. eSanjeevani telemedicine service has been integrated with the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM).

Note: This will now enable users of eSanjeevani to create their 14-digit unique Ayushman Bharat Health Account (ABHA) and use it to link their existing health records. eSanjeevani is a telemedicine service of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW).

11. Union Minister of social Justice and empowerment, Dr. Virendra Kumar has launched **SHRESHTA** Scheme for residential education for students in High school in Targeted Areas.

Note: The Scheme for Residential Education for Students in Targeted Areas (SHRESHTA) has been formulated with the objective to provide quality education and opportunities for even the poorest Scheduled Caste students.

12. Finance Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman has launched the Single Nodal Agency Dashboard during the Iconic Week Celebrations of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.

Note: The Iconic Week of the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Corporate Affairs was launched by PM Modi. Aim of this dashboard: It also ensures about Centrally Sponsored Schemes fund utilization, tracking of funds, pragmatic and just-in-time release of funds to the States.

13. Home Minister, Amit Shah has inaugurated the National Tribal Research Institute (NTRI) in New Delhi as a part of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebration by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

Note: NTRI will be a leading national institute for tribal concerns, issues and executive and legislative fields. It will also monitor projects of Tribal Research Institutes and set up norms for improvement in the quality of research and training.

14. Biotech Startup Innovations: Towards AatmaNirbhar Bharat is the theme of Biotech Startup Expo - 2022, which was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi.

Note: This 2022 Expo is organised to mark completion of ten years of setting up of Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC). The theme of the 2022 Expo is 'Biotech Startup Innovations: Towards AatmaNirbhar Bharat'.

15. Usha Throat has been chaired the 25-members advisory committee on mutual funds, which was restructured by the market regulator, Securities and Exchange Board of India.

Note: Earlier, the committee had 24 members Aim: Advice SEBI on problems relating to MF regulation and development, and on disclosure requirements and takes necessary for a change in the legal framework.

16. Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore has been ranked 155th in the QS World University Ranking 2023.

Note: Indian Institute of Science (IISc) ranked 155th as the top research university in the world with a perfect score of 100 in the citation per faculty parameter. IIT Bombay placed at the 172nd rank and IIT Delhi has been ranked 174.

17. India ranked 7th among the top recipients of foreign direct investment (FDI), as per UNCTAD's World Investment Report 2022.

Note: FDI inflow into India declined to \$45 billion in 2021 from \$64 billion in the preceding year.

18. Rs 50 crores is the enhanced limit of funding under Technology Development Fund (TDF) scheme.

Note: It is executed by Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) and supports indigenous development of components, products, systems, and technologies by MSMEs and start-ups.

19. NHA enters Guinness World Record for laying 75 km highway in 105 hours and 33 minutes between Amravati and Akola districts. It is a part of which of **NH 53**.

Note: National Highways Authority of India (NHA) has created a Guinness World Record for the longest continuously laid bituminous lane of 75 kilometres in 105 hours and 33 minutes between Amravati and Akola districts in Maharashtra.

20. National Commission for the Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has launched 'CiSS application' under **Baal Swaraj portal**.

Note: It has been launched for online tracking and digital real-time monitoring mechanism of children in need of care and protection.

21. Second edition of National e-Governance Service Delivery Assessment 2021 (NeSDA 2021) covers services across **7 sectors**.

Note: Union Minister Jitendra Singh has released 2nd edition of the National e-Governance Service Delivery Assessment 2021 (NeSDA 2021). It covers services

across 7 sectors: Finance, Labour and Employment, Education, Local Governance and Utility Services, Social Welfare, Environment and Tourism sectors.

22. PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the headquarters of the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACE) at **Ahmedabad**.

Note: The establishment of IN-SPACE was announced in June 2020. It is an autonomous and single window nodal agency in the Department of Space for the promotion, encouragement and regulation of space activities of both government and private entities.

23. The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship will be organising the Pradhan Mantri National Apprenticeship Mela in 200+ locations in India. **Dharmendra Pradhan** is present Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Minister of India.

Note: The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship will be organising the Pradhan Mantri National Apprenticeship Mela every month now on. Aim: to connect the youth with more opportunities for on-ground training within corporates and further a chance to get employment.

24. The central govt has decided to distribute fortified rice in **291** aspirational and high-burden districts across the country through Public Distribution System in 2022-23.

Note: Govt has planned to provide 175 lakh MT of fortified rice during this phase. The focus will be on to cover all Integrated Child Development Services Centre, PM - Poshan and Mid-Day Meal schools. During 2021-22, around 17 lakh MT of fortified rice have been distributed under ICDS and PM- Poshan.

25. Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh has released the NeSDA 2021 Report **Kerala** provides suggestions for governments to further enhance their e-Governance service delivery systems, which state had the highest overall compliance score amongst all the States and UTs.

Note: Punjab, Tamil Nadu, and Rajasthan are the leading states with compliance of more than 75 percent across all parameters for their Services Portals. Jammu and Kashmir scored the highest amongst all UTs for six sectors

26. **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport, Mumbai** airport has become India's first airport to launch a one-of-its-kind Vertical Axis Wind Turbine & Solar PV hybrid (Solar Mill) to explore the possibility of utilization of wind energy at the airport.

Note: WindStream Energy Technologies India Pvt Ltd has developed this technology. The energy

generated through this technology can be customized on a need-specific basis.

27. India's rank in the Asian economies as per the annual World Competitiveness Index 2022 is **37th**.

Note: The Index has been compiled by the Institute for Management Development. Denmark has moved to the top of the 63-nation list from the third position last year, while Switzerland slipped from the top ranking to the second position and Singapore regained the third spot from the fifth.

28. The CCEA chaired by PM Narendra Modi has approved the proposal for the development of Phase I of New Greenfield Airport at **Dholera, Gujarat**.

Note: The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 1305 crore and to be completed within 48 months. The project is being implemented by DIACL, a JVC of AAI, Govt of Gujarat and National Industrial Corridor Development and Implementation Trust.

29. The Indian Railways' 'Bharat Gaurav' scheme was flagged off between which two stations **Coimbatore and Shirdi**.

Note: Indian Railways had launched the operation of the theme-based Bharat Gaurav train in the month of November 2021. Aim: to showcase India's rich cultural heritage and magnificent historical places to the people of India and the world.

30. What is, As per the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) for 2020-21 (July-June) the unemployment rate of India is **4.2%**.

Note: The survey was released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme. The labour force participation rate has been raised to 41.6%. The unemployment rate was 4.8% and the labour force participation rate was 40.1% in 2019-20.

31. **Adani Transmission Limited (ATL)** has been tagged as 'green loan' by Sustainalytics for its USD 700 million revolving loan facility.

Note: ATL has also signed an energy compact goals as part of COP26 and the energy compact with the UN in November, 2021. This revolving facility project is being implemented in Gujarat and Maharashtra.

32. **Nitin Gadkari** has inaugurated Industrial Decarbonization Summit 2022 in New Delhi.

Note: Aim: Carbon Neutrality by 2070. He emphasized on maintaining balance between ecology, environment and development.

33. 10% of vacancies has been reserved by the Ministry of Home Affairs for recruitment in Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) and Assam Rifles for Agniveers under Agnipath scheme.

- Note:** Ministry has also decided to give 3 years age relaxation beyond the prescribed upper age limit to Agniveers. Age relaxation will be for 5 years beyond for the first batch of agniveer. The scheme will not only empower, discipline & skill youth with military ethos in civil society
- 34. Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan** has inaugurated National Yoga Olympiad 2022 and quiz competition in New Delhi.
Note: It is being organized jointly by Ministry of Education and National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT). The Olympiad will be participated by about 600 students from 26 states and UTs and Demonstration Multipurpose Schools of Regional Institutions of Education
- 35. PM Narendra Modi** has inaugurated the Brain Cell Research Centre in **Bengaluru**.
Note: It cost 450 crore rupees, which was donated by Kris Gopalakrishnan (co-founder of Infosys). PM will also lay foundation stone for an 850 bed Bagchi-Parthasarathy Research hospital at IISc being funded by MindTree IT company.
- 36. LinkedIn** company has invested \$5,00,000 (₹3.88 crore) in association with UN Women to create employment opportunities for women.
Note: The pilot project will launch in Maharashtra to cultivate the digital, soft and employability skills of 2,000 women. After the completion of 15-month of the pilot project, the UN Women and LinkedIn will incorporate lessons learned and evaluative feedback.
- 37. Israel government** has signed a joint declaration with Haryana in integrated water resources management and capacity building.
Note: The joint declaration was signed by ambassador Eynat Shlein, Head of MASHAV- Israel's Agency for International Development Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State of Israel and the Irrigation and Water Resources Department, Government of Haryana, India.
- 38. Zomato** food delivery app has collaborated with the Jio-bp to support its commitment towards "The Climate Group's EV100 initiative of 100% EV fleet by 2030".
Note: This partnership will accelerate EV adoption in the rapidly growing Indian delivery and transportation segment. Zomato will get the EV mobility services from Jio-bp and access to 'Jio-bp pulse' battery swapping stations for last-mile delivery.
- 39. India** holds first physical Joint Consultative Commission Meeting in New Delhi with which **Bangladesh**.
Note: JCC meet will be co-chaired by External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and his Bangladesh counterpart A. K. Abdul Momen. It will review the entire gamut of bilateral relations, including cooperation in the wake of COVID-19, border management and security, trade and investment, connectivity, energy, water resources, development partnership and regional-multilateral issues.
- 40. India and European** will be re-launching negotiations for India-EU Free Trade Agreement, after a gap of **nine years**.
Note: Negotiations for an Investment Protection Agreement and GI Agreement has also been launched at a joint event at the EU headquarters in Brussels. Among the most significant FTAs for India as the EU is its 2nd largest trading partner,
- 41. A 3-day National Conference of Chief Secretaries** is being organized in **Dharamsala, HP**.
Note: It will deliberate to further strengthen the partnership between the Central and State Governments. PM Narendra Modi will chair over 1st National Conference.
- 42. In a major boost to the export of mangoes, APEDA** launched an eight-day-long Mango Festival in **Bahrain**.
Note: At the show, 34 varieties of mangoes from eastern states of West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh and Odisha, are being displayed at eight different locations of Bahrain's Al Jazira group supermarket.
- 43. The Eighth Global Conference of Young Parliamentarians** has been started in **Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt** to address climate change.
Note: The two-day conference is being jointly organized by the House of Representatives and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU). Nagaland's first woman elected as Member of Parliament to Rajya Sabha, S. Phangon Konyak is representing India at the Conference.
- 44. 'NIPUN'** initiative was started by Minister of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Hardeep Singh Puri for skill training of construction workers.
Note: NIPUN refers National Initiative for Promoting Upskilling of Nirman workers. MoHUA has launched this initiative under its flagship scheme of the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM).

- 45. Minister of State for Tribal Affairs and Jal Shakti, Bishweswar Tudu** has inaugurated the 20th Folk Fair (National tribal/folk song & dance festival) and 13th Krishi Fair 2022 at Saradhabili in Puri, Odisha.
Note: Aim: At preserving tribal culture and promoting innovation in agriculture respectively
- 46. Union Health & Family Welfare Minister, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya** has virtually addressed the inaugural session at the G20 Health Ministers meeting at **Yogyakarta, Indonesia**.
Note: Indonesia has hosted two Health Working Group Meetings in Yogyakarta and Lombok. Priority issues: Harmonizing Global Health Protocol Standards and Building Global Health System Resilience.
- 47. Apollo Hospitals** has signed an agreement with Imperial Hospital Ltd to operate and manage the latter's 375 bedded multi-specialty tertiary care hospital in Chittagong, Bangladesh.
Note: The state-of-the-art facility in Chittagong was built with the support of World Bank and will be rebranded as Apollo Imperial Hospital.
- 48. Vanijya Bhawan** is the name of new premises of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, launched by PM Modi in New Delhi.
Note: He has also launched a new portal named NIRYAT (National Import-Export Record for Yearly Analysis of Trade). The portal was developed as a one stop platform to get all the required information related to India's foreign trade.
- 49. Business tycoon Gautam Adani** has pledged to donate ₹60,000 crore to a range of social causes to celebrate the 60th birthday on June 24.
Note: This will be administered by the Adani Foundation, it is also to mark the birth centenary year of his father Shantilal Adani. As per the Bloomberg Billionaires Index, the net worth of Adani is almost \$92 billion.
- 50. Indian Oil Corporation (IOC)** state-owned company has unveiled a stationary, rechargeable cooking stove named Surya Nutan.
Note: It is a kitchen connected cooking stove that uses the sun's energy to cook food. This was developed by IOC's research and development division at Faridabad. It captures solar energy through a PV panel that placed outdoor or on the roof.
- 51. National Health Authority (NHA)** organisation has organised its first ever open-to-all hackathon series in the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission ecosystem.
Note: Aim: To drive ideation and innovations. The series of hackathon will begin on July 14, 2022. This also focus on the Unified Health Interface (UHI) and to mobilise the health start-up ecosystem in India.
- 52. Tata Power** solar system company has commissioned India's largest floating solar power project of 101.6 Megawatt Peak (MWp) in Kerala backwaters.
Note: The project has been installed on a 350-acre water body in Kayamkulam, Kerala. The installation was completed within the stipulated period, despite the various challenges of variable like water depths, high sea tides, and severe water salinity concern.
- 53. In Bengaluru, Karnataka,** the Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying (DAHD) has launched the One Health pilot.
Note: Aim: To bring the stakeholders from animal, human and environment health on a common platform to address challenges. DAHD has collaborated with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) and The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) to implement the One-Health framework in the states of Karnataka and Uttarakhand.
- 54. As per the new report of Nasscom,** the adoption of artificial intelligence (AI) and data utilisation strategy can add **\$500 billion** to India's GDP by 2025.
Note: Four key sectors of AI adoption -- BFSI, consumer packaged goods (CPG) and retail, healthcare, and industrials/automotive. These four sectors can contribute 60% of the total \$ 500 billion opportunity. The current rate of AI investments in India is growing at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 30.8%.
- 55. Communications Minister, Ashwini Vaishnav** and MoS Communications Devusinh Chauhan have launched 'Dak Karmayogi'. It is an **e-learning portal**.
Note: This portal is developed under the vision of 'Mission Karmayogi'. This portal will develop the competencies of about four lakh Gramin Dak Sevaks and departmental employees.
- 56. Jammu and Kashmir** has been selected to host the G-20 meetings in 2023.
Note: The UT government has also set up a five-member high-level committee for the coordination of G20 summit. Piyush Goyal (Commerce and Industry Minister) was appointed as India's Sherpa for the G20 in September 2021. India will take the G-20 presidency from December 1, 2022.

57. Dr Jitendra Singh has been participated in the “2022 UN Ocean Conference” at Lisbon, which started from June 27.

Note: The conference is co-hosted by the Governments of Kenya and Portugal. He will deliver the Keynote address at the Conference on the theme 'Scaling up Ocean Action based on Science and Innovation for the implementation of Goal 14: Stock taking, Partnerships and Solutions'.

58. Forecasting Penetration of Electric Two-Wheelers in India is the name of the report which has been released by the NITI Aayog and TIFAC, stated that there will be 100% penetration of electric two-wheelers in the Indian market by FY 2026–27.

Note: TIFAC, is an autonomous organization set up in 1988 under the Department of Science & Technology.

59. Renesas Electronics Corp Japanese chipmaker has joined hands with Tata Motors, formed a strategic partnership to design, develop and manufacture semiconductor solutions for domestic and global markets.

Note: Renesas will also work with Tejas Networks (subsidiary of Tata Group company) on wireless network solutions including 5G. In March 2022, the next-generation EV Innovation Center (NEVIC) was jointly set up by the Renesas and Tata Elxsi (Tata Group).

60. Union Minister of Tribal Affairs, Arjun Munda has launched the second phase of the Going Online As Leaders (GOAL) Programme in New Delhi.

Note: The GOAL 1.0 has changed the lives of tribal youth through the digital mentorship programme. This programme will also create a platform for Self-Help Groups and ten lakh families associated with TRIFED to take their products global. Aim: To digitally upskill the youth from tribal communities of the country.

61. Rajnish Kumar, Controller General of Defence Accounts (CGDA), Ministry of Defence has launched the Pay Roll Automation for Disbursement of Monthly Allowances (PADMA) for **Indian Coast Guard**.

Note: PADMA is an automated Pay & Allowances module for the Indian Coast Guard. It is developed under the aegis of Defense Accounts Department. It will be operated by Pay Accounts Office Coast Guard, Noida.

62. Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad has joined hands with an e-marketplace for agricultural land, SFarms India, to develop a farmland price index.

Note: The index has been designed to record and present the “quality-controlled” data on the prices of agricultural land in the country. The index will track the price movements in the marketplace and come up with a composite pricing mechanism on a monthly basis.

May 2022

1. **103** percent of Pharma exports of India have been recorded since 2013-14 to 2021-22.

Note: 90, 415 crores rupees in 2013-14 to 1,83,422 crores rupees in 2021-22. The export of Pharma Sector has performed best export performance in 2021-22. The exports grew by almost 10 billion US dollars in 8 years. The pharma exports in 2021-22 have shown positive growth despite the drop in demand for COVID-related medicines and global trade disruptions.

2. India has signed Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) with **UAE** on 18 February 2022 which is officially entered into force.

Note: BVR Subrahmanyam (Secretary, Department of Commerce) has flagged off the first consignment of goods comprising Jewellery products from India to UAE. The agreement is expected to escalate the total value of bilateral trade in goods and trade in services to

over US\$100 billion and US\$ 15 billion respectively, within five years.

3. **Rs 1,67,540** is the Revenue collection of GST in the month of April 2022.

Note: The gross revenue collection of Goods and Services Tax (GST) in the month of April 2022 is Rs 1,67,540 crore out of which CGST is Rs 33,159 crores, SGST is Rs 41,793 crores, IGST is Rs 81,939 crores. The gross GST collection in April 2022 is Rs 25,000 crores more than the collection in March 2022 (Rs. 1,42,095 crores). This is the tenth month in a row that the GST revenues have crossed Rs 1 lakh crore mark.

4. **Narayan Rane (Union Minister for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises)** has launched the MSME Sustainable Zero Defect Zero Effect (ZED) Certification Scheme.

Note: MSMEs will get subsidies as per the following structure, on the cost of ZED certification - Micro Enterprises: 80%; Small Enterprises: 60%; Medium Enterprises: 50%. An additional subsidy of 10% for the MSMEs owned by Women/SC/ST Entrepreneurs OR MSMEs in NER/Himalayan/LWE/Island territories/aspirational districts.

5. Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT)

software developer company has signed a pact with Ministry of Railways for the modernization of Telecommunication in Indian Railways for Public Safety and Security Services.

Note: It will be done using the LTE-R following world standards, 5G Use Cases in Indian Railways in line with Make in India policy, Internet of Things, Unified Network Management System, Network Management System, Chatting application, Routers and Switches.

6. In Bengaluru campus Union Minister for Home and Cooperation, Amit Shah has inaugurated National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID).

Note: We should have an in-built mechanism for continuous up-gradation and will create a database of modes operandi of various crimes committed within the country. It will be available to 11 central agencies and police of all States and Union Territories. Technology partner: C-DAC, Pune.

7. Railway Protection Force(RPF) has launched a focused effort under "Operation Satark" from 5th April to 30th April 2022.

Note: Aim: Taking action against illicit liquor/FICN/illegal tobacco products/unaccounted gold and any other items which are being transported through the railway network for the purpose of tax evasion and smuggling. RPF is an armed force under the ownership of the Indian Railways, Ministry of Railways.

8. The RailTel Corporation of India Ltd had designed and established a "Health Cloud" at Visakhapatnam premises of Andhra Pradesh Med Tech Zone (AMTZ).

Note: AMTZ is the world's first integrated medical device manufacturing hub. The "Health Cloud" has been inaugurated by Louise Agersnap (Head of WHO Innovation Hub). Health Cloud can also be operationalised on wheels and can dispense the medicines by Health ATM through Mobile App having a digital payment interface.

9. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has addressed the inaugural session of Jain International Trade Organisation's - JITO Connect 2022 by video conferencing.

Note: JITO is a global organisation which connects Jains all over the world. JITO Connect is an attempt to help businesses and industries by providing a direction for mutual networking and personal interactions. This is a three-day event being organized at Gangadham Annex, Pune from 6th May 2022.

10. The second phase of the mandatory hallmarking of Gold Jewellery and Gold Artefacts will come into effect on **June 1, 2022.**

Note: This phase will cover additional three caratages of gold jewellery and artefacts - 20 carats, 23 carats and 24 carats. BIS also has made a provision to permit a consumer to get the purity of their unhallmarked gold jewellery tested at any of the BIS recognized Assaying and Hallmarking Centres.

11. 180 km per hour is the speed of Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) train sets are being manufactured under Make In India initiative.

Note: India's first semi-high-speed train set for Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) has been handed over to National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) at Alstom's Savli plant in Gujarat. It will be brought to Duhai Depot in Uttar Pradesh. Implementing agency of India's first RRTS corridor between Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut: NCRTC.

12. Tata Sons company has approached the Competition Commission of India (CCI) for a merger of Air India with Air Asia India.

Note: AirAsia India was launched as a joint venture between the Tatas and Malaysia's AirAsia Group. Tatas had raised its stake in AirAsia India to 83.67% in December 2020. In January 2022, Tata acquired Air India and Air India Express. Tata group aviation companies: Air India, Air India Express, Vistara, AirAsia India and Air India SATS Airport Services

13. Mindtree company L&T Infotech has announced a merger to create India's fifth-largest IT services provider.

Note: This combined entity will be known as LTIMindtree. This proposed integration will see Mindtree and LTI join strengths to create an efficient and scaled up IT services provider exceeding USD 3.5 billion. It will create a more distinctive employee value proposition.

14. Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has signed MoU with Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited (SECI) to promote renewable energy thereby moving towards a carbon neutral economy in Delhi.

Note: This MoU envisages collaboration between the two parties for jointly undertaking installation of Solar Rooftop PV Power Plants. Solar Energy Corporation of

India (SECI) has estimated the total solar power potential of 71.68 MWs in the campuses of CAPFs & NSG.

15. Railway Protection Force (RPF) has signed MoU with Association for Voluntary Action (AVA) for a trafficking free nation.

Note: It will enhance the scale, reach and effectiveness of Operation AAHT (Action against Human Trafficking) launched by RPF across the nation. RPF is entrusted with the responsibility of security of railway property, passenger area and passengers. RPF has also set up Anti Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs) at more than 740 locations across India

16. Shekhar Kapoor (Renowned Film Director) has inaugurated National Seminar titled 'Indian Cinema and Soft Power' in Mumbai.

Note: Organized by: Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR). Key topics: Cinematic colonialism, Indian Cinema as a Vehicle of spreading awareness about idea of India abroad, regional cinema and its global influence, Indian cinema's engagement with foreign audience, global influence of Indian cinematic music.

17. In association with Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (IIMA) the first International Research Conference on Insolvency and Bankruptcy was organised by the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI).

Note: Rao Inderjit Singh (Minister of State for Statistics and Programme Implementation) has highlighted the journey of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), 2016. Chairperson of IBBI: Dr. Navrang Saini

18. In Kevadiya in Gujarat Union Health Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya has inaugurated a three-day Swasthya Chintan Shivir (Health Summit).

Note: Aim: Detailed discussion on various topics and policies related to the health sector and recommend ways and means for better implementation of these policies/programmes. This summit is being organized as a part of the 14th Convention of the Central Council of Health and Family Welfare (CCHFV).

19. Union Minister, Kailash Choudhary has inaugurated Conference of Cluster-Based Business Organizations (CBBOs) and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) under Scheme of Formation and Promotion of 10,000 FPOs at Birla Auditorium in Jaipur.

Note: Focus areas: expectations from CBBOs, Knowledge sharing by CBBOs on best practices, discussion on Training and Capacity Building of Stakeholders, and Open discussion on various issues/suggestions.

20. India will be the Official 'Country of Honour' in 'Marche' Du Film in France upcoming film festival.

Note: The festival will be organised from 17th May 2022. This is for the first time when such an honour is being bestowed on any country. The theme of the India Pavilion 2022 is 'India the Content Hub of the World'. R Madhavan's film 'Rocketry: The Nambi Effect', based on the life of Nambi Narayanan will also premiere.

21. According to the annual report on Vital Statistics based on the Civil Registration System report 2020, Ladakh (1104) has recorded the highest sex ratio at birth in the country in 2020.

Note: Followed by Arunachal Pradesh, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Tripura and Kerala. Lowest sex ratio at birth: Manipur (880) followed by D& N Haveli & Daman & Diu (898) and Gujarat (909). Published by: The Registrar General of India (Ministry of Home Affairs).

22. Priyanka Mohite (Satara in western Maharashtra) the Maharashtra girl becomes the first Indian woman to scale five peaks above 8,000 metres after her 5th climb Mount Kanchenjunga.

Note: Priyanka received the Tenzing Norgay Adventure Award 2020. Mount Kanchenjunga (8,586 m) is the third highest mountain on the planet. She had climbed world's highest peak Mount Everest (8,849 m), Mount Lhotse (8,516 m) in 2018, Mount Makalu (8,485 m), Mount Kilimanjaro (5,895 m) in 2016, Mt Annapurna (8,091 m).

23. Mini Ratna PSU RailTel has launched Prime Minister Wi-Fi Access Network Interface (PM-WANI) scheme based on access to its Public WiFi services across 100 railway stations across the country.

Note: This service was virtually launched by RailTel chairman and managing director Puneet Chawla. Android users can access this WiFi network by downloading the mobile app 'Wi-DOT' from Google Play Store. This app has been developed in association with C-DOT.

24. Ministry of Tourism has participated in the Arabian Travel Market (ATM), Dubai-2022 under its 'Incredible India' brand line.

Note: Showcase India's tourism potential and provide a platform to the tourism stakeholders. It also aimed to promote India as a 'Must See, Must Visit' destination. The India Pavilion was inaugurated in the presence of Satpal Maharaj (Uttarakhand Tourism Minister) and other dignitaries.

25. Etsy (global marketplace) has partnered with the North Eastern Handicrafts and Handloom

Development Corporation (NEHHDC) and signed an MoU to support small sellers, weavers and artisans.

Note: This will help to provide them with market access and enablement support. To equip artisans, creators and small entrepreneurs in the Indian handicrafts sector to start and manage online businesses.

26. 33 domestic cargo terminals will be set up by 2024-2025.

Note: Civil Aviation Minister, Jyotiraditya Scindia addressing the annual event of the Air Cargo Forum India. It will allow India's cargo sector to flourish and grow. Industry players need to focus on the transportation of smaller cargo loads from Tier II and III cities to metros to achieve the target of 10 million metric tons in cargo.

27. Prasar Bharati has signed an MoU on cooperation and collaboration in Broadcasting withh ORTM (Office de la Radio et de la Television) in Madagascar.

Note: It was signed by Abhay Kumar (India's Ambassador to Madagascar) and ORTM DG Belalahy Jean Yves. This MoU will give international exposure to the Prasar Bharati as Madagascar National Television (TVM) will broadcast programmes from internal productions of Prasar Bharati.

28. National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) has collaborated with Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has started the Centre of Excellence for Khadi (CoEK) at Delhi campus.

Note: To make Khadi trendier by diversifying its fabrics and clothing line and upgrading the quality standards. Narayan Rane (Union Minister of MSME) also launched CoEK spokes in Gandhinagar, Shillong, Kolkata and Bengaluru virtually.

29. Northern Zone of Indian Railways has added a 'baby berth' to their trains, an unusual setup allows women to travel by train while sleeping peacefully next to their children.

Note: On the occasion of Mother's Day, the Lucknow Division of Northern Railways experimented with a baby berth in coach No.194129/B4, berths 12 and 60. The infant seat is collapsible and has a safety stopper. Division of Northern Railways: Lucknow and Delhi collaborated on the infant berth.

30. Ministry of Tourism has initiated the establishment of 'YUVA Tourism Clubs' as a part of the 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebrations.

Note: To nurture and develop young ambassadors of Indian tourism. To support this initiative, the Central

Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has come forward and issued directions to all CBSE affiliated schools regarding the formation of Yuva Tourism Clubs.

31. BHARAT TAP initiative was launched by the Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs & Petroleum and Natural Gas, Hardeep S Puri at the 'Plumbex India' exhibition.

Note: This exhibition caters to a fundamental service in the development of the nation: water and sanitation. He also launched NARDECO MAHI's 'Nirmal Jal Prayas' initiative which will work for saving 500 crore ltr of water per year.

32. The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with **United Nations Development Programme** for the implementation of combined agriculture credit and crop insurance.

Note: Aim: To provide technical support towards the Centre's aspirational Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana scheme (PMFBY) and Kisan Credit Card - Modified Interest Subvention Scheme. Chief Executive Officer of PMFBY: Ritesh Chauhan

33. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has participated in the Second Global COVID Virtual Summit on the invitation of the President of the USA, Joseph R. Biden.

Note: The theme of the summit: Preventing Pandemic Fatigue and Prioritizing Preparedness. Highlights: India adopted a people-centric strategy to combat the pandemic; India plays an active role by sharing its low cost indigenous COVID mitigation technologies.

34. GatiShakti Sanchar portal (www.sugamsanchar.gov.in) portal launched by the Union Minister for Communications, Electronics & IT and Railways Ashwini Vaishnaw for Centralised Right of Way (RoW) approvals in line with the PM GatiShakti National Master Plan.

Note: The portal has been developed keeping in view the vision areas of the National Broadband Mission (NBM). NBM was set up by the Department of Telecommunication in 2019.

35. Bhupender Yadav (Environment Forest and Climate Change Minister) has led an Indian delegation at the 15th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP-15) of the UNCCD at Abidjan in Cote d'Ivoire.

Note: The theme of COP 15: Life. Legacy: From scarcity to prosperity. Aim: To bring together world

leaders to drive progress in the future sustainable management of land and will explore links between land and other key sustainability issues.

36. Amit Shah has formally inaugurated the National Cyber Forensic Laboratory (NCFL) in Hyderabad.

Note: The premium laboratory was inaugurated at the premises of the Central Forensic Science Laboratory located at Ramanthapur in the city. The Cyber and Information Security Division of the Home Ministry has set up the NCFL under Cyber Crime Prevention against Women and Child scheme.

37. Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve in Rajasthan is the 52nd Tiger Reserve of India which is recently announced by Bhupender Yadav (Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change).

Note: It will help to conserve biodiversity and bring ecotourism and development to the area. The newly notified tiger reserve includes the tiger habitat between Ranthambore Tiger Reserve and Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve.

38. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has addressed Silver Jubilee Celebrations programme of TRAI through video conferencing. The full form of TRAI is **Telecom Regulatory Authority of India.**

Note: During the programme, PM Modi also launched a 5G Test Bed, developed as a multi-institutional collaborative project by a total of eight institutes led by IIT Madras. TRAI was established in 1997 through the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997.

39. Suresh Bhai Kotak will be the chairperson of the first meeting of the formation of the Cotton Council of India.

Note: The first meeting of the proposed council has been scheduled for the 28th of May 2022. The council will discuss, deliberate, and prepare a robust action plan for bringing out a tangible improvement in this field. The import of cotton will be permitted duty-free till the bill of lading is dated September 30, 2022.

40. Ministry of Rural Development has signed an MoU with Amazon Seller Services Private Limited to promote products listed by SHGs through the Saheli Storefront.

Note: With the help of this MoU SHG entrepreneurs under NRLM can be able to offer their products to buyers across India through AmazonSaheli Storefront. MoRD will conduct workshops for

awareness creation and assist the sellers in listing their products with Amazon.

41. As per the report on the State of Inequality in India 51.5% is the labour force participation rate in the country in 2019-20.

Note: The Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM) has proposed the implementation of an urban employment guarantee scheme on the lines of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS). Participation of educated till higher secondary from 2017-18 to 2019-20 was low at 40-43%.

42. c-TB is the newly approved skin test for tuberculosis (TB) diagnosis.

Note: Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya has announced to launch of c-TB while addressing the 35th board meeting of the Stop TB Partnership through video-conferencing. This TB Kit will be cost-effective and provide immense benefit to other high burden countries as well. He also announced to launch of a new initiative "Adopt people with TB".

43. Ministry of Heavy Industries has signed an MoU with National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) for the enhancement of competitiveness in the Indian capital goods sector.

Note: Aim: Evaluation and review of the scheme, management of intellectual property rights, and commercialization support for the products developed under the Capital Goods Scheme. Vision: Make India a global hub for the manufacturing of capital goods. Heavy Industries Minister: Mahendra Nath Pandey

44. Centre for Development of Telematics(C-DOT) has signed an MoU with Vodafone Idea Limited on the occasion of "World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD)".

Note: Aim: To help both the organizations leverage each other's expertise in their respective domains to develop and deploy IoT/M2M solutions in India. C-DOT is a telecom R&D organization under the Ministry of Communications, Government of India.

45. Assam Rifles of the Indian army has inked a Tripartite MoU with Axis Bank and National Integrity and Educational Development Organisation (NIEDO) to establish a Centre of Excellence and Wellness to secure a better future for the youth of Nagaland.

Note: The centre named after Late Capt N Kenguruse MVC Centre of Excellence and Wellness

will be located at Chieswema in Kohima district. Free residential coaching will be provided to 30 children from economically weaker sections of Nagaland.

46. Government eMarketplace (GeM) has signed an MoU with Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA) for the advocacy, outreach, mobilization and capacity-building of last-mile women-led enterprises.

Note: The MoU was signed by the Chief Executive Officer of GeM P. K. Singh and Vice-President of SEWA Rehana Riyawala. GeM will train SEWA members to assist and enable women-led small enterprises with GeM processes related to seller registration and onboarding on the platform.

47. The Centre for Cellular and Molecular Platforms (C-CAMP) has signed an MoU with the Centre for Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI) to foster innovation in agriculture.

Note: The agreement will initiate a joint effort in nurturing deep-science innovation in agriculture, food technology, and allied areas toward sustainability and food security in India's agriculture sector. C-CAMP is India's premier bio-innovation hub.

48. 42nd edition of the Executive Committee, the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) has approved 11 water infrastructure projects worth around Rs 660 crore.

Note: The meeting was headed by G Asok Kumar (DG, NMCG). During the meeting, a project for sewerage management for cleaning of River Hindon in Saharanpur (Uttar Pradesh) was also approved. The estimated cost of the project is Rs 577.23 crore including the construction of 135 MLD STP, creation of interception etc.

49. Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) gas producer company has become the first Exploration and Production (E&P) company in India to trade domestic gas on Indian Gas Exchange.

Note: The first online trade was made on 23 May 2022 by Anurag Sharma (ONGC Director (Onshore) In-charge Marketing) on India's first automated national level Gas Exchange, IGX. The gas traded is from ONGC Krishna Godavari 98/2 block.

50. The World Economic Forum (WEF) has announced the Alliance of CEO Climate Action Leaders to supercharge India's climate action and decarbonization efforts.

Note: The alliance will continue its efforts to achieve the India vision, 'Mission 2070: A Green New Deal for a Net Zero India', on India's low-carbon transition by 2070. Aim: To bring together the government, businesses, and other key stakeholders to achieve PM Narendra Modi's ambitious 'Panchamrit' pledge.

51. Dr Jitendra Singh (Union Minister of State (IC Ministry of Science and Technology)) has launched Single National Portal for Biotech researchers and Start-ups, named Biological Research Regulatory Approval Portal (BioRRAP).

Note: This will cater to all those seeking regulatory approval for biological research & development activity in the country. India will figure among the top 5 countries of the world by 2025 in Global Bio-manufacturing Hub.

52. PM Narendra Modi has the head of the Inter-State Council which has been reconstituted recently.

Note: It works to promote and support cooperative federalism in the country. The council comprises chief ministers of all states and six Union ministers as members. It will also have 10 Union ministers as permanent invitees. The government has also reconstituted the standing committee of the Inter-State Council with Union HM Amit Shah as head.

53. Waste to Wealth is the theme of the 8th Edition of Swachh Survekshan - 2023 under Swachh Bharat Mission Urban 2.0.

Note: The survey would give priority to the principle of 3 Rs- Reduce, Recycle and Reuse. Swachh Survekshan was introduced by MoHUA in 2016 as a competitive framework to encourage cities to improve the status of urban sanitation.

54. National Health Authority (NHA) has announced the launch of a revamped Ayushman Bharat Health Account (ABHA) mobile application under its flagship scheme of Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM).

Note: The ABHA mobile application enables an individual to create an ABHA address (username) that can be linked with the 14 digit randomly generated ABHA number. Existing ABHA app users can also update their previous app versions to the latest one. CEO of NHA: Dr RS Sharma

55. PM Narendra Modi has inaugurated India's biggest drone festival at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi and interacted with kisan drone pilots as well as witnessed open-air drone demonstrations.

Note: Bharat Drone Mahotsav 2022' is a two-day event being held on May 27 and 28. Many government officials, foreign diplomats, armed forces, public sector undertakings, private companies, central armed police forces, and drone startups will participate in the event.

56. Department of School Education and Literacy has released the National Achievement Survey (NAS) 2021 report to assess the health of the school education system in the country.

Note: The survey has evaluated the children's learning competencies at classes 3, 5, 8, and 10th with a cycle period of three years. The survey was conducted in 22 regional languages. About 34 lakh students of 1.18 lakh schools in 720 districts from both rural and urban areas have participated in NAS 2021.

57. Ashwini Vaishnaw (Union Minister of Railways, Communications) has approved Rs 8.34 crore collaboration for **Hyperloop Technology (high-speed transportation system)** project with the IIT Madras.

Note: Hyperloop is the 5th mode of transportation that travels in a near vacuum tube. The reduced air resistance allows the capsule inside the tube to reach speeds of more than 1,000 km/h. The model proposed by Team Avishkar can achieve a top speed of over 1,200 Km/hr.

58. Just Transition Research Centre (JTRC), IIT Kanpur has signed an agreement with the Energy Security and Climate Change Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), Washington D.C., to work on just energy transition globally including in India.

Note: Among Indian states, IIT- CSIS collaboration will engage with Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, and Telangana.

59. The Indian cricket board has now decided to examine using NFT. The full form of NFT is **Non Fungible Token**.

Note: The Indian cricket board has unveiled FanCraze (cricket metaverse company) as its official associate partner for the Women's T20 Challenge. FanCraze is also the ICC partner alongside being on board with West Indies cricket. The women's T20 challenge will feature three team (the Supernovas, Trailblazers and Velocity) and will compete at Maharashtra Cricket Association (MCA) Stadium.

60. The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) has signed two quadripartite agreements for the development of sewage infrastructure and management.

Note: First agreement: NMCG, Kolkata Metropolitan Development Authority, M/s. Maheshtala Waste Water Management Private Limited and Union Bank of India, to stop the flow of sewerage into River Ganga from the town. The other agreement is a Substitution Agreement between NMCG, KMDA, MWWMP and Oesterreichische Entwicklungsbank.

61. PM Modi has inaugurated World's first Nano Urea (Liquid) Plant constructed at Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Ltd (IFFCO) in **Kalol, Gandhinagar, Gujarat**.

Note: Nano Urea Liquid Plant has been built at the cost of around Rs 175 crore to boost productivity and increase farmers' income. It will produce about 1.5 lakh bottles of 500 ml.

62. Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog has organized 'National Outreach Meet' for the 2nd edition of Atal New India Challenge (ANIC) in **International Centre Goa**.

Note: Hosted by: Atal Incubation Centre at Goa Institute of Management (AIC-GIM Foundation)

63. Union Minister, Anupriya Patel has launched Indian Business Portal in New Delhi to serve as an international trade hub for Indian exporters and foreign buyers.

Note: Developed by: Federation of Indian Export Organizations

64. President of India, Ram Nath Kovind has inaugurated a two-day National Women Legislators' Conference-2022 in **Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala**.

Note: It is being hosted by Kerala Legislative Assembly as a part of 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav'. It was attended by 120 delegates from different states across India.

65. US has replaced China to become India's top trading partner in 2021-22.

Note: The bilateral trade between the two countries stood at \$119.42 billion (2021-22) against \$80.51 billion in 2020-21, according to the data of the commerce ministry. Other top trading partner: China (\$115.42 billion), The UAE (\$72.9 billion), Saudi Arabia (\$42.85 billion), Iraq (\$34.33 billion) and Singapore (\$30 billion).

66. Dr. Jitendra Singh (Union Minister) has inaugurated the nation's first Lavender Festival in **Jammu's district Baderwah**.

Note: Lavender cultivation has changed the destiny of farmers in Jammu and Kashmir under the government initiative of 'Aroma Mission or Purple Revolution'. Baderwah is in the Doda district and is the best place for lavender cultivation in terms of land and climate.

67. **Delhi Custom** has inaugurated project 'NIGAH' at ICD Garhi Harsaru, Gurugram with an aim to track containers by using ICTM (ICD Container Tracking Module).

Note: This initiative will help in better visibility of the container movement inside the ICD and also help Customs to speed up the long-standing containers and monitor timely clearances.

68. India has signed an MoU with the **United Arab Emirates** to establish a framework to facilitate and enhance bilateral cooperation on climate action.

Note: Objective: To contribute towards implementing the Paris Agreement 2015. United Arab Emirates will host COP28 in 2023.

69. **Jan Samarth** the credit-linked portal will be launched by PM Narendra Modi will launch for delivery of various schemes.

Note: Aim: improve the ease of living for the common man. Initially, the new portal will launch with the 15 credit-linked government initiatives.

70. **National Health Authority (NHA)** has launched a public dashboard for near real-time information on the scheme under its flagship scheme of Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM).

Note: Dashboard displays: Detailed information on the core registries under the mission – Ayushman Bharat Health Account (ABHA) numbers, Healthcare Professionals Registry (HPR) and Health Facility Registry (HFR).

71. **Bima Ratna** is the name of the new life insurance product launched by LIC.

Note: A non-linked, non-participating, individual savings life insurance product that combines protection and savings. The sum assured on death is greater than 125% of the Basic Sum Assured or 7 times the annualized premium.

72. PM Narendra Modi has released the 11th installment of **Rs 21,000 crore** for the PM Kisan Samman Nidhi on May 31.

Note: He has interacted with beneficiaries of about 16 schemes run by 9 Central Ministries/Departments of the Government of India.

73. The Government has approved the continuation of the Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) till **2025-26**.

Note: Total outlay of Rs 13,554.42 crores. Aim: to create sustainable employment opportunities for about 40 lakh persons in five years.

Important News – State

1-15 September 2022

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

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

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

Note: The scheme also aims the social and economic development of women through credit. CM Ashok Gehlot has announced in the budget 2022-23 about the 'MahilaNidhi' scheme through Rajasthan Rural Livelihood Development Council. The scheme will

disburse loans of up to Rs 40,000 within 48 hours, and above Rs 40,000 within 15 days.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Note: It has been carved out of Rajnandgaon district. Rajnandgaon district had a large area and people spend their entire day to reach the headquarters. This has been reduced to 70 kilometres with the inauguration of the new district. He is scheduled to inaugurate Sarangarh-Bilaigarh and Khairagarh-Chhuikhadan-Gandai as the 30th and 31st districts of the state.

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

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

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

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

government has also launched 26 Schools of Excellence and 15 Model Schools.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Note: Benefits: To create a huge ecosystem for ancillary industries and help our MSMEs. Total Investment: Rs 1.54 lakh crore. Display Fab Unit: This unit will set up with an investment of Rs 94,500 crore. The Integrated Semiconductor Fab Unit and OSAT (Outsourced semiconductor assembly and test) facility with an investment of Rs 60,000 crore.

August 2022

1. **Karnataka** government has launched Vidyanidhi Programme, under which, govt will provide scholarship from Rs 2,500 to Rs 11,000 to the children of farmers, weavers, taxi drivers and fishermen, who studying in 11th class.

Note: Swami Vivekananda Yuva Sangha: provide training to the youths to evolve into entrepreneurs. SC/ST families will be provided free power supply up to 75 units

2. After carving out new districts from the existing West Bengal districts, **30** will be the new number of districts in West Bengal.

Note: Earlier there were 23 districts in Bengal, after this, West Bengal will have 30 districts. Seven new districts: Sunderban, Ichhemati, Ranaghat, Bishnupur, Jangipur, and Behrampur. One more district will be named from the Basirhat region. Aim: Smaller units would make governance easier and benefit the people by bringing the administration closer to them.

3. **Assam** government has launched Mission Bhumi Putra, a digital way to issue digitalised caste certificates to students.

Note: He has also inaugurated a Bhumi Putra Portal at a programme held at Srimanta Sankardev Kalakshetra. This initiative was implemented by the Departments of Tribal Affairs (Plain) and Social Justice Empowerment. The certificates issued will be available in the digi locker under the IT Act with digital signature of the respective DC.

4. **Haryana** state government has recently launched the "Chief Minister Equal Education Relief, Assistance and Grant (Cheerag)" scheme for EWS students.

Note: Under the Cheerag scheme, government school students whose parents have an annual verified income of less than Rs 1.8 lakh can enroll in private schools from Class II to XII. The government will reimburse: Rs 700 per student from Classes II to V. Rs 900 per student from Classes VI to VIII. Rs 1,100 per student from Classes IX to XII

5. **Uttar Pradesh** government has announced the 'Panchamrut Yojana' will help to double the farmers' income.

Note: This can be achieved by introducing cost-effective technical measures and promotion of co-cropping method. The UP Government has increased the sugarcane support price by Rs 350 in the last crushing season in advance, which included Rs 340 for normal and Rs 335 for species declared unsuitable.

6. **Telangana** government has launched 'Nethanna Ku Bima' Scheme, an insurance scheme, which covers handloom and powerloom weavers in the State.

Note: This scheme was launched by Telangana Handlooms Minister, KT Rama Rao virtually on the occasion of National Handloom Day. The insurance coverage scheme will be implemented in association with LIC. In case of natural or accidental death of a weaver, Rs. 5 lakh would be deposited into the nominees' account within 10 days.

7. **Jammu and Kashmir** UT has inaugurated "UMEED Market Place" under AVSAR Scheme of Airport Authority of India.

Note: A similar Marketplace was also opened at Jammu Airport and both the outlets will exhibit products of all 20 districts. Aim: To support local art and artisans of Self Help Groups of J&K Rural

- Livelihood Mission. The products of Self Help Groups will get exposed to the national market.
8. Agasthiyarmalai Elephant Reserve is fifth elephant the reserve of **Tamil Nadu**.
Note: The Union Environment Ministry has approved the proposal to designate 1,197.48 sq.km in Kanyakumari and Tirunelveli as the Agasthiyarmalai Elephant Reserve. The forest department may be eligible for additional financing through the centrally sponsored Project Elephant after notifying the Agasthiyarmalai Elephant Reserve.
 9. The Ministry of Home Affairs has sanctioned the approval for the creation of Village Defence Guard Scheme 2022 in **Jammu and Kashmir**.
Note: This scheme has come into effect from August 15, 2022. Earlier, this scheme was known as Village Defence Committee in which volunteers from villages were trained by Indian Army and Police. Under this scheme, rifles were provided to VDC's to protect their villages from terrorist attacks in mountainous areas of Jammu region.
 10. **Sikkim** has launched two welfare schemes for women - 'Aama Yojana' and 'Vatsalya Yojana'.
Note: Aama Yojana: All unemployed mothers in the state will receive Rs 20,000 annually. Amount will be deposited in their bank accounts. Vatsalya Yojana: An aid of Rs 3 lakh will be provided to childless women for in vitro fertilization treatment. The amount will be given in two phases (Rs 1 lakh in the first and Rs two lakh in the last phase).
 11. The Uttar Pradesh Cabinet has approved the proposal for India's first night safari in Kukrail forest area, is located **Lucknow**.
Note: It would be developed on the tunes of Singapore. As part of the project, the government will establish a zoological park on around 150 acres and night safari on 350 acres without disturbing the dense 2,027-hectare forest. The 75 acres of Kukrail would be dedicated for leopard and tiger each while 60 acres for wild bear.
 12. **Delhi CM, Arvind Kejriwal** has launched the 'Make India No. 1' mission to make India the number one country in the world.
Note: Five-point vision of this initiative: Free education; Free treatment; Employment for youth; Equal rights, dignity and security for women; and Fair price to farmers for their produce. This mission was launched at the Talkatora Stadium of Delhi. During the launch, he urged every citizen to join thin mission and make India No. 1 in the world.
 13. Kerala state government has launched an app named 'Lucky Bill App' to curb Goods and Service Tax (GST) evasion.
Note: The app was launched by chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan. Aim: To encourage the citizen to ask for a bill every-time they make a purchase. The users need to upload original bills of their purchases to win prizes, including a cash prize of ₹25 lakh. The app will also offer rewards such as gift packs from Kudumbashree and Vanashree as well as KTDC tour packages.
 14. Union government has awarded Geographical Indication (GI) tag to Mithila Makhana, is associated with **Bihar**.
Note: It is a special variety of aquatic fox nut, that cultivated in Mithila region of Bihar and Nepal. Once a product gets this tag, any person or company cannot sell a similar item under that name.
 15. The Central government has planned to collaborate with **Arunachal Pradesh** government to develop a "district good governance portal".
Note: Aim: To monitor the performance of each district of the state on a monthly basis and help in benchmarking performance. Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG), under the Ministry of Personnel, in collaboration with the Arunachal Pradesh government will develop the portal.
 16. **Maharashtra** govt will take a loan of 4,000 crore rupees from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for setting up medical colleges in 12 districts of the state.
Note: 12 districts: Jalgaon, Satara, Alibaug, Sindhudurg, Usmanabad, Parbhani, Amravati, Ratnagiri, Gadchiroli, Bhandara and Ambarnath. Asian Development Bank has agreed to provide 4,000 crore rupees for setting up medical colleges in these districts. The target is to complete all of these projects within the 2 years.
 17. Rajasthan's Chief Minister, Ashok Gehlot has inaugurated R-CAT in Jaipur and three incubation centres in Kota, Bikaner and Churu that will promote the start-up culture in the state. The full form of R-CAT is **Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Advanced Technologies**.
Note: The inauguration ceremony of RCAT was held on DigiFest 2022 at Birla Auditorium. RCAT would provide an opportunity for the state's youth to learn advanced and emerging technologies in areas like Artificial Intelligence, Cloud Computing.
 18. **Punjab and Haryana** state governments have been agreed to rename Chandigarh's international airport after the freedom struggle icon Shaheed Bhagat Singh.
Note: The collective decision was taken by Punjab Chief Minister, Bhagwant Mann and Haryana Deputy CM, Dushyant Chautala. The terminal building of airport falls in Punjab's Mohali town. This airport project is a joint venture of the Airports Authority of India (AAI) and the governments of Punjab and Haryana.
 19. **Uttar Pradesh** is planning to build an education township in the state, will be developed on the idea of

'Single Entry, Multiple Exit' (come like a blank paper and carry multiple skills).

Note: Aim: To enhance quality education in the state. This will provide high-quality education to the youth and equip them with a variety of professional skills in a single place. The similar education township concept has already exist in the city of Pittsburgh, USA.

20. **Tamil Nadu** state government has launched its Footwear & Leather Products Policy 2022 with a vision to transform the State into a favoured destination for footwear and leather products manufacture in Asia.

Note: This policy will offer a special package for footwear and leather products (FLP) manufacture and incentives for FLP Design Studios. The State government has also signed MoUs with five companies - KICL SEMS; Wagon International; KICL; Walkaroo and KICL (footwear cluster)

21. The first commercial space situational awareness observatory of India will be set up in the Garhwal region of **Uttarakhand** state by Digantara, a space sector start-up.

Note: Aim: To track objects as small as 10 cm in size orbiting the earth. The space situational awareness (SSA) observatory will help in tracking any activity in space. This observatory will strengthen indigenous capabilities of India to monitor space activity over the subcontinent providing a strategic advantage.

22. Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has announced to establish and provide all possible

support to the first 'Divyang Park' in **Nagpur** district of Maharashtra.

Note: It will have different kind of facilities for Divyangjans like sensory garden, textile Pathway touch, smell garden, skill training facility, rehabilitation facility, Sports-infotainment etc. During the occasion, 'Samajik Adhikarita Shivir' for distribution of aids and assistive devices to Senior citizens was also held.

23. **Nagaland CM, Neiphiu Rio** has officially flagged off the first passenger train service name the Donyi Polo Express from Shokhuvi Railway station (Second station of state) in Choumukedima District.

Note: Dimapur was the first station, opened in 1903. Shokhuvi Railway station is part of the Dimapur-Zubza Railway project. This railway station is an alternative train route for Nagaland and Manipur passengers to Guwahati.

24. The central government has given its nod to the **Uttar Pradesh** government Family ID plan named the Parivar Kalyan Card.

Note: Aim: To establish a comprehensive database of the family units for its various schemes. It will provide a unique 12-digit ID number for each family. The initial collection of data for families will be conducted through ration cards. The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MEITY) has allowed the UP government to link Aadhaar data with the PKC.

July 2022

1. **Himachal Pradesh** Chief Minister **Jai Ram Thakur** has launched the 'Naari Ko Naman' scheme to provide 50 % concession on fares in state buses to women commuters within the state boundaries.

Note: He has also announced a reduction in the minimum bus fare from Rs 7 to Rs 5 to all passengers across the state.

2. NTPC signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with **Rajasthan** government for the development of 10 GW Ultra Mega Renewable Energy Power Park.

Note: The MoU was signed in the presence of Rajasthan Energy Minister Bhanwar Singh Bhati. In addition to this, the NTPC REL is developing one UMREPP of 4.75 GW capacity in Rann of Kutch, Gujarat.

3. Tata Power has signed an MoU with **Tamil Nadu** government to invest Rs 3,000 crore for setting up a

greenfield 4GW solar cell and 4 GW solar module manufacturing.

Note: The plant will be set up in Tirunelveli district of Tamil Nadu. Tata Power has also built a manufacturing unit in Bangalore, which has a production capacity of 635 megawatts of modules and 500 megawatts of cells.

4. Electricity company **BESCOM** has developed 'EV Mitra' mobile app with an aim to provide information about EV charging stations.

Note: 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.

5. **Rajasthan** state government is planning to introduce in the Assembly the Right to Health Bill, the first of its kind in India.

- Note:** 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.
6. **Delhi government** has launched the 'Mission Kushal Karmi' programme.
Note: Aim: 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). The programme conducted by the Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University, Simplex, NAREDCO and India Vision Foundation.
 7. **Rajeev Chandrasekhar** has inaugurated two new Internet Exchange Points (IXP) of NIXI at Durgapur and Vardhman to improve internet connectivity in West Bengal.
Note: 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.
 8. **Jharkhand** state has been ranked first in the Delta Ranking for the month of June under the Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Rurban Mission.
Note: 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.
 9. **Chhattisgarh** state government has received in-principle nod from the Centre for \$300 million school education project which is funded by the World Bank.
Note: 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 institutions like World Bank.
 10. **Tripura** government has launched a new scheme named "Earn with Learn" to bring back those who had dropped out of schools following the outbreak of Covid-19.
Note: This scheme is a part of the Vidyalaya Chalo Abhiyan (Let's go to school). About 8,000 students between the age group of 6 to 14 had dropped out of school during the pandemic. The state government will pay Rs 500 per admission to each college student as reward for bringing back such dropouts to school again.
 11. **Delhi** government joined hands with UNICEF to create employment opportunities for students.
Note: 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.
 12. **Meghalaya** state government is ready to invest Rs. 300 crores from the externally aided projects to make investment in early childhood education programmes.
Note: Chief Minister of Meghalaya, Conrad K Sangma has inaugurated the new building of the Directorate of Education Research and Training (DERT), Shillong. The state govt has also prepared a road map to invest in early childhood education programmes.
 13. **Delhi** government has launched a SAH-BHAGITA scheme to increase the involvement of the Residential Welfare Association (RWAs) in optimal tax collection and waste management systems.
Note: RWAs will get 15% of the total collection of property tax for development works in their areas. On achieving 90% tax collection from their societies, the RWA can recommend development work to the tune of 10% of the tax collection subject to a ceiling of Rs 1 lakh in their areas.
 14. **Uttarakhand** government 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.
Note: 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.
 15. Pushkar Singh Dhami has launched an e-FIR service and the state police app.
Note: All five online services of the Uttarakhand police, are integrated into the police app to provide better services to the public. Five online services: Lakshya Nasha Mukt Uttarakhand, Meri Yatra, Gaura Shakti, traffic eye, and public eye. Additionally, the app also linked to the cyber hotline number 1930 and the emergency number 112.
 16. 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 **Jaipur, Rajasthan**.
Note: The digital Lok Adalat by Rajasthan State Legal Services Authority (RSLSA) was designed and developed by Jupitice Justice Technologies (technology partner).

- 17. Kerala** state's Fibre Optic Network has received the Internet Service Provider (ISP) license from the Department of Telecommunications.
Note: With this, Kerala has become the first and only state in the country to have its own internet service. The KFON is envisaged to provide free internet to BPL families and 30,000 government offices. The previous Left government had declared internet connection as a basic right and launched the Rs 1,548-crore KFON project in 2019.
- 18. Bonalu** is a popular hindu festival celebrated in **Telangana (Hyderabad and Secunderabad)**.
Note: This festival is dedicated to Goddess Mahakali. During this festival, the different forms of Mahakali are worshipped, including Mysamma, Dokkamma, Pedamma, Pochamma, Yellamma, Poleramma and Ankamma. Bonalu is celebrated in the month of Ashada (July-August).
- 19. Himanta Biswa Sarma (CM of Assam)** has launched a scheme named 'Swanirbhar Naari', to empower indigenous weavers.
Note: Under the scheme, the state government will procure handloom items directly from the indigenous weavers via a web portal. Government has also urged the Handloom & Textiles department to promote Assamese gamosa (traditional scarf or towel), which is a unique handloom product, across the country.
- 20. Himachal Pradesh** 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).
Note: Vehicles can be tracked anywhere in the country through VLTD. It will be monitored by both the police and the transport department. CM also introduced the facility of panic button for the safety of women and children in public vehicles.
- 21. Uttar Pradesh** has launched a scheme Deen Dayal Upadhyaya State Employees Cashless Medical Scheme.
Note: Aim: To provide cashless medical facility to state government employees, pensioners and their dependents. The eligible people will receive cashless medical facilities at government-run institutions, medical colleges and hospitals without any financial limit.
- 22. Hemant Soren** has launched Jharkhand Tourism Policy 2022, to prepare a roadmap for tourism to thrive in the state.
Note: The state new tourism policy focuses on eco-tourism and incentives to bring in investors into the state. The policy also focusing to civic amenities and adopting ways of beautification for sites like Deoghar, Parasnath, Madhuban and Itkhori.
- 23. Assam** has approved the proposal for the creation of Barak Bhuvan Wildlife Sanctuary (second wildlife sanctuary) in Barak Valley.
Note: The Barak Bhuvan Wildlife Sanctuary will be spread over an area of 320 sq Km between the Barak river and Sonai river. Eight recorded species: Slow loris, Rhesus macaque, Pig-tailed macaque, Stump-tailed macaque, Assamese macaque, capped langur, phayre's leaf monkey and hoolock gibbon. It is also an important habitat for king cobra.
- 24. Health Minister of Karnataka Dr K Sudhakar** has inaugurated India's first brain health clinic under the Karnataka Brain Health Initiative (Ka-BHI) at Jayanagar General Hospital.
Note: The inauguration ceremony was held on World Brain Day (22nd July). Two more such centres will come up in Chikkaballapura and Kolar districts in association with Nimhans. Karnataka Brain Health Initiative (Ka-Bhi) ambassador, Robin Uthappa, had also participated in the event.
- 25. Karnataka** state cabinet has gave their approval to the state Employment Policy 2022-25' for increasing job opportunities in the state.
Note: If an industry is planning to increase the working capital by ₹50 crore, it has to create a minimum of 30-50 jobs. For increasing investment up to ₹100 crore, the minimum 35 jobs should be created for locals. For ultra mega units, which were earlier required to create a minimum of 400 jobs, will now have to generate 510.
- 26. Union home minister, Amit Shah** has launched an e-FIR filing system in **Gandhinagar** to enable citizens to file FIRs online, without visiting a police station.
Note: With the help of this system, citizens will not need to go the police station to register a complaint for a vehicle theft or mobile phone theft. The e-FIR service has been linked with the Gujarat state police CCTV command and control centre.
- 27. The Asian Development Bank** has approved \$96.3 million loan for safe drinking water and sanitation project to **Himachal Pradesh**.
Note: The loan has been provided under the Himachal Pradesh Rural Drinking Water Improvement and Livelihood Project. Aim: To provide piped water to all rural households by 2024. This also upgrade water supply infrastructure and strengthen institutional capacity to ensure safe, sustainable, and inclusive rural water supply and sanitation services.
- 28. 'Smart E-Beat'** has been launched by Haryana CM for police attendance and real-time monitoring of patrolling by personnel in Gurugram.
Note: This system has been introduced in Gurugram under the 'Smart Policing Initiative' (SPI). Before this, the policemen deployed at the beat, used to mark

their attendance manually. But, this GIS-based system will enable more effective monitoring.

- 29. Gujarat** has become the first state to launch a Semiconductor Policy 2022-27, with an aim to boost manufacturing of semiconductors in the state.

Note: The policy also offers incentives and subsidies to manufacture semiconductors. The state government has also set up Gujarat State Electronics Mission, as the nodal agency for the policy implementation. The eligible projects will be given 75% subsidy on purchase of the first 200 acre land for setting up manufacturing units.

- 30. Kerala** government is set to launch its own e-taxi service named 'Savari' from August.

Note: This online taxi hiring service is being rolled out by the state Labour Department which is linking the existing auto-taxi networks in the state. Aim: To ensure safe and dispute-free travel for the public at affordable rates prevailing in the state. The new

service would be launched in a function to be held at Kanakakkunnu Palace.

- 31. M K Stalin** has announced to roll out a breakfast scheme for state-run school children of Classes 1 to 5.

Note: The project incurs the cost of Rs 33.56 crores. The breakfast meal included sambar and vegetables, will be provided to children in all working schools. Every student is to be provided a 150-500 gram breakfast with sambar with vegetables.

- 32. Chhattisgarh** state Women Commission has organised 'Mukhyamantri Mahtari Nyay Rath Yatra' to make the women of the state aware of their constitutional rights and laws.

Note: CM Bhupesh Baghel has flag off the 'Mukhyamantri Mahtari Nyay Rath' (chariots) on the occasion of Hareli Tihaar festival. The Information regarding women's rights and concerning laws spread through short films, messages and brochures.

June 2022

- 1. Tamil Nadu** government has signed an MoU with the India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) for obtaining life certificate from pensioners through doorstep services of the Postal Department.

Note: As per the MoU, the IPPB would render the doorstep services at a cost of ₹70 only per digital life certificate.

- 2. Gujarat** state Climate Change Department has signed an MoU with Isha Outreach to join the worldwide 'Save Soil' initiative.

Note: The MoU was signed between the Founder and Spiritual Leader of Isha Outreach, Sadhguru and Gujarat Chief Minister, Bhupendra Patel in Ahmedabad.

- 3. Rajasthan** state government has launched a Special Health Care Abhiyan 'Anchal' in the Karauli district for pregnant women.

Note: This unique campaign was started on the initiative of District Collector Ankit Kumar Singh. Aim: To ensure all necessary medical aid to pregnant women at the pre and post-natal stage.

- 4.** The luxury cruise liner **Empress** has been flaged off by the Tamil Nadu CM, MK Stalin from Chennai port.

Note: This is the eleven-storey tourist vessel which can accommodate up to two thousand passengers and about 800 crew members.

- 5.** Manipur Handloom & Handicrafts Development Corporation (MHHDC) has signed a pact with

Amazon to provide an e-market platform for traditional handloom and handicraft items.

Note: Both representatives, signed the MoU at the opening function of Manipur Heritage Expo, 2022. As per the National Handloom Census Report, 2019, Manipur is a home of around 2.12 lakh handloom weavers, around 2.11 lakh looms and around two lakh handicraft artisans.

- 6. Sikkim** state govt has declared Blue Duke (Bassarona durga) as the state butterfly.

Note: Blue Duke was selected as the state butterfly after securing 57% votes in an online poll conducted by the Forest Department. It was discovered in the state in 1858.

- 7. Tamil Nadu** state govt has launched the Nalaya Thiran programme to skill the college student with the knowledge of technology.

Note: Under this programme, government will train nearly 50,000 college students with knowledge in computer science, electronics and IT domains, skilling them on problem-solving using technologies.

- 8. Andhra Pradesh** state's Anti-Corruption Bureau has launched the '14400 app' to report corrupt government officials in the state.

Note: This app is developed by the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB). With the help of this app, people can lodge corruption-related complaints against officials in the State.

- 9.** Indian coastal state **Goa** has launched a 'Beach Vigil App' to ensure the management of beaches and the security of tourists.

- Note:** This app shall benefit the institutions working in the beach tourism sector and tourists. With the help of this app, the Drishti workers, police, and other stakeholders can raise issues for safeguarding tourists' interests. The state government also plans to make the coastal state among the top 25 destinations for start-ups in Asia by 2025.
10. **Tamil Nadu** state ranked first in the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India's (FSSAI), 4th State Food Safety Index in the large state category.

Note: Aim: To measure the performance of states across five parameters. Tamil Nadu topped the list among large states followed by Gujarat and Maharashtra. Smaller states: Goa(1st) followed by Manipur and Sikkim. UTs: Jammu & Kashmir, Delhi and Chandigarh
 11. In **Goa**, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurates "Dharohar - the National Museum of Customs and GST".

Note: Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has inaugurated "Dharohar - the National Museum of Customs and GST" in Panaji Goa. It is a two-storey 'Blue building', which was earlier known as Alfandega, during Portuguese rule in Goa and has been standing on the banks of Mandovi River in Panaji for more than 400 years.
 12. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated Jagatguru Sreesanth Tukaram Maharaj Shila Mandir in **Maharashtra**.

Note: He will inaugurate Jagatguru Sreesanth Tukaram Maharaj Shila Mandir at Dehu near Pune. The city of Dehu is sanctified by the Jagadguru Sant Tukaram Maharaj, a renowned poet and worshipper of Lord Vithala, from 17th century.
 13. **Himachal Pradesh** becomes the first Indian state to approve a policy for drones.

Note: The 'Himachal Pradesh Drone Policy 2022' was approved by the chief minister Jai Ram Thakur. The policy envisions creating a holistic drone ecosystem built upon the foundation of Governance and Reforms Using Drones (GARUD). With this new drone policy, Himachal Pradesh has become the first state in the country to formally acknowledge the public use of drones.
 14. **Tamil Nadu** state has launched the Ennum Ezhuthum scheme to bridge the learning gap that was created due to the COVID-19 pandemic among students aged below eight.

Note: Aim: To ensure foundational literacy and numeracy by 2025. Under this programme, the education department of state will provide workbooks to students from Classes 1 to 3.
 15. **Gujarat** state has become the first state in the nation to launch 'Balika Panchayat' with an aim to strengthened girl power in the state.

Note: This unique initiative was started in several villages of Gujarat's Kutch district. This initiative was started by the Women and Child Development Welfare department of the Gujarat Government under the 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' campaign.
 16. The three days international literary festival "Unmesh" was held in **Shimla, Himachal Pradesh**.

Note: This festival was organised by the Union Ministry of Culture and the Sahitya Akademi in association with the state Department of Art and Culture. The festival was inaugurated by Minister of State for Culture, Arjun Ram Meghawal.
 17. PM Narendra Modi has launched Mukhyamantri Matrushakti Yojana in **Gujarat government** under its Integrated Child Development Services, Poshan Abhiyan.

Note: The scheme will cover 7 lakh women to deal with the dietary deficiency within the first 1,000 days of the conception of a child. The scheme will also distribute 2 kg chickpeas, 1 kg toor daal and 1 litre fortified ground nut oil.
 18. **Andhra Pradesh** state government has signed an MoU with BYJU's to provide quality education to government school students.

Note: The government will provide tablets to 4.7 lakh (approximately) students of class VIII at an estimated cost of Rs 500 crore. Aim: More efficient, quality-oriented and presentable
 19. **Assam** state government has operationalised the Centre's 'One Nation, One Ration Card' programme, with this, it is implemented across the country.

Note: Beneficiaries can get their quota of subsidised foodgrains from any electronic point of sale device (ePoS)-enabled fair price shops. Beneficiaries can use their existing ration cards with biometric authentication.
 20. **Gujarat** state government has launched the 17th 'Shala Praveshotsav'.

Note: To increase the enrollment of students in primary schools in the state. This is a three-day enrollment drive, starts from Memadpur primary school in Vadgam taluka (Banaskantha district).
 21. **Indira Gandhi International Airport** has become India's first airport to run entirely on hydro and solar power since June 1.

Note: Presently, the airport met its electricity requirement of 6% (approx) from onsite solar power plants and rest 94% by hydropower plants. Delhi Airport has signed a power purchase agreement with Himachal Pradesh to supply hydroelectricity for the airport until 2036.

22. Maharashtra state energy department has signed an MoU with Adani Green Energy Group Ltd (AGEL) to generate green power.

Note: It would require an investment of Rs 60,000 crore and generate employment. AGEL will set up Pumped Storage Projects (PSP) in the next five years and will produce 11,000 MW power.

23. Karnataka state government has launched the 'Kashi Yatra' project.

Note: It offers cash assistance of ₹5,000 to each pilgrims, take up a pilgrimage to the Kashi Vishwanath Temple in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. The government will be using funds of up to ₹7 crores

from the accounts head of 'Assistance to Manasa Sarovara Pilgrims'.

24. Kerala state government will launch the MEDISEP scheme - Medical insurance scheme for State Government employees, pensioners and their eligible family members from 1st July, 2022.

Note: It will provide cashless medical assistance with a comprehensive coverage up to 3 lakhs per year. The annual premium would be Rs 4,800 plus 18% GST for the policy period of 2022-24. Monthly premium: Rs.500

25. Telangana CM, K Chandrashekhar Rao has inaugurated the T-Hub 2.0, nation's leading innovation and startup catalyst.

Note: This facility will support over 2000 startups under one roof, with a total built-up area of 5,82,689 sq. ft, making it the world's largest innovation campus. With the help of this hub, young Indians launch their startups with a collaborative innovation ecosystem.

May 2022

1. In Purnia district, CM Nitish Kumar has inaugurated India's first ethanol plant in Bihar.

Note: The plant has been set up by Eastern India Biofuels Private Limited at a cost of ₹105 crores. Bihar came up with an ethanol production promotion policy in the first half of 2021. It is the country's first grain-based ethanol plant. Ethanol production will help to reduce the cost of petrol and generate fresh employment opportunities in the state.

2. In Puducherry Mega Health Festival has been inaugurated.

Note: Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan(LG of Puducherry) and CM N. Rangasamy have inaugurated a Mega Health Festival, which is jointly organised by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Puducherry Health and Family Welfare Services Department. The Mela is being organised at the Puducherry Rock Beach. Super-speciality medical consultation to the common public would be given free of cost.

3. Karnataka state government has signed an MoU with ISMC Analog Fab Private Limited (Israel-based) for setting up a semiconductor fab plant in the state at a cost of Rs 22,900 crore (USD 3 billion).

Note: The project will be implemented over a period of seven years and generate 1,500 jobs. The ISMC has also requested 150 acres of land in Mysuru's Kochanahalli Industrial area. Karnataka Governor: Thawar Chand Gehlot; Chief minister: Basavaraj Bommai

4. Maharashtra state government cabinet has approved to set up of a gene bank project in the state to conserve native and endangered animals and biological species.

Note: The Gene Bank will work on freshwater, grassland biodiversity, protection, marine, crop, veterinary, and management of forest right areas, and regeneration of forests. An amount of ₹172.39 crores will be spent on these seven focus areas. The project will be implemented by the Maharashtra State Biodiversity Board (MSBB).

5. Narayan Rane (Union Minister for MSME) has inaugurated the Maharashtra MSME Expo 2022 in Mumbai.

Note: The MSME sector contributes 50% of the country's total exports and 30% to economic growth. MSME will set up 37 clusters in Maharashtra in the next two years. During an event, he also launched the magazine 'Maharashtra MSME Achievers'. The event was organized in collaboration with the MSME ministry and MSME Development Organization named "Zhep, Udyoginichi" and "We MSME".

6. Khandra, Panipat, is the native village of **Neeraj Chopra** where Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar has announced to build a stadium.

Note: A stadium would cost ₹10 crores to the government. In 2021, Chopra (Javelin thrower) became the first Indian to win a gold medal in the Olympic track and field. Khelo India Youth Games-2021 will be

- organised by the Haryana Government from June 4 to June 13.
7. **Chhattisgarh** state government has launched a doorstep delivery scheme named Mukhyamantri Mitaan Yojna (Mitaan stands for a friend).
Note: The scheme will be implemented as a pilot project in 14 civic bodies. Citizens of Chhattisgarh can avail around 100 public services, including delivery of birth, caste, income and marriage certificates, at their doorstep under a new scheme launched by the state government.
 8. **Telangana Government** state government has announced the extension of insurance coverage to handloom and power loom weavers under 'Nethanna Bima' (Weaver's Insurance) Scheme.
Note: The State Government has extended the insurance coverage of 5 lakh rupees for weavers under the Insurance Scheme on par with Rythu Bima insurance scheme. The insurance coverage would be extended to weavers in the age group of 18 to 59 years. Telangana Governor: Tamilisai Soundararajan; CM: K. Chandrashekar Rao
 9. **Haryana** state government has launched a Vehicle Movement Tracking System (VMTS) mobile app to track the vehicles carrying sand and other mining material.
Note: The app will be used at different checkpoints in all the districts of Haryana. All vehicle details including vehicle type, vehicle number, moving from, moving to, and driver details will be stored in it. The non-registered individual will not be permitted to enter the zone of sand mining.
 10. **Manipur** state has launched the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) for 18,000 registered farmers under Horticulture Department for Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCNDR), Phase- III (2020-23).
Note: DBT of Rs. 11,250 per farmer, for the components of assistance for on-farm input for both 1st year and 2nd year and for off-farm inputs production for 1st was transferred to the individual registered farmer's account.
 11. By the year **2030**, Delhi government has set a target to encourage, facilitate, and support 15,000 startups.
Note: The Delhi cabinet has approved the "Delhi Startup Policy" with an aim to create an ecosystem for people to launch startups and provide them with fiscal and non-fiscal incentives, collateral-free loans, and free consultancy from experts, lawyers, and CA. The 20 members task force will be set up including government officials and experts from business and trade.
 12. **Odisha** state has come up with an observatory that will establish a repository on the health of the tribal population in the state.
Note: This will be India's only tribal health observatory. An MoU was signed between the ST and SC Development Department and the RMRC (Regional centre of ICMR). It will perform systematic and ongoing observation on disease burden, health-seeking behaviour and healthcare delivery system pertaining to tribal health in the state.
 13. **Tamil Nadu** state government has announced that all government primary school students from 1st to 5th standards will be provided nutritious breakfast on all working days.
Note: Tamil Nadu is set to become the first state to offer breakfast along with midday meals. This includes the launch of integrated urban health centres within the Corporation and Municipal limits. Earlier, he also announced schools with modern facilities will be established.
 14. Under **e-Adhigam scheme** Haryana government distributed nearly three lakh tablets to government school students of Classes 10 and 12.
Note: These tablets have pre-loaded content along with personalised and adaptive learning software, and 2GB of free data. The country has set a target to implement the New Education Policy (NEP) by 2030, but the Haryana government it is 2025.
 15. **Shaili App** is the mobile application launched by the Kerala government to diagnose and control lifestyle diseases among people in the southern State.
Note: The app will help the citizen to provide an accurate picture of such ailments both locally and at the State-level. The app was set up under the e-Health initiative, and will provide data to the government so that health plans can be formulated to control such diseases.
 16. Poumai tribe of **Manipur** has declared that Poumai inhabited areas to be a Drug-Free Zone supporting the State government's War on Drug campaign.
Note: Tribes also informed CM N. Biren Singh that the poppy plantation will not be allowed in the Poumai areas. The Poumai Naga are one of the major Naga tribes in Manipur.
 17. **Ayodhya** 's crossing of Uttar Pradesh will be named after legendary singer late Lata Mangeshkar _____.
Note: The Ayodhya administration has received directions from CM Yogi Adityanath to identify a prominent crossing in Ayodhya and send a proposal to the state government in the next 15 days for

renaming it. Construction of the Ram temple is likely to be completed by December 2023.

18. Delhi government will provide free sewer connections under the Mukhyamantri Muft Sewer Connection Yojana to 25,000 households in East Delhi.

Note: These free connections will be provided in 12 colonies in Karawal Nagar and Mustafabad. The household sewage system will be connected to the existing sewer network, which will carry the waste to the Yamuna Vihar sewage treatment plant. The decision was taken by the DJB chaired by Water Minister Satyendar Jain.

19. Haryana, JP Dalal (Haryana agriculture minister) state government has launched the 'Chaara-Bijae Yojana' scheme to provide financial assistance of Rs 10,000 per acre to grow fodder framers.

Note: Farmers need to grow fodder on up to 10 acres of land around the gaushalas (cowsheds) and provide it to them through mutual consent. The amount will be credited to the bank accounts of farmers through direct benefit transfer (DBT) mode.

20. Near Haji Ali in Mumbai, Maharashtra the nation's first organic waste-powered EV charging station has been inaugurated.

Note: The station will generate 220 units of electricity from food waste collected from its nearby areas. This station powers street lights and charge electric vehicles too. The project was done by the civic body in association AeroCare Clean Energy.

21. Chhattisgarh government has issued a notification to restore the old pension scheme effective from April 1, 2022.

Note: Also, the 10% deduction for monthly contribution from the salary of government employees as a contribution to the new pension scheme will be abolished from April 1, 2022. However, a minimum of 12% of the basic salary will be deducted as per the General Provident Fund rule.

22. Punjab (CM: Bhagwant Mann) state government has launched the first-of-its-kind public interaction programme Lok Milni to hear the grievances of people and issued directions for their redressal.

Note: Aim: Providing a single-window platform to the people for redressal of their complaints. Previously, the Lok Milni program was named 'janta darbar'. This event helps to facilitate the people for resolving their long-pending administrative issues

23. Tamil Nadu state government has named the Nanjarayan lake as the 17th bird sanctuary in Tiruppur.

Note: The government also set up an information centre to raise awareness about the bird population in the lake. The Nanjarayan Tank also known as Sarkar Periyapalayam Reservoir, is located in Tirupur city near Koolipalayam, Tami Nadu. A Detailed Project Report (DPR) will be prepared for setting up another wildlife sanctuary for the endangered Slender Loris in Dindigul and Karur.

24. Kerala state government will launch a state-owned over-the-top (OTT) platform named 'Cspace' on November

Note: Offers: An array of movies, short films and documentaries of their choice. This is an initiative of Kerala State Film Development Corporation (KSFDC) on behalf of the state government through video conferencing at a function in Kalabhavan Theatre. The films will be streamed on CSpace only after their theatrical release.

25. Delhi Government has undertaken a unique initiative of using robots for extinguishing fires in the city _____.

Note: These remote-controlled fire fighting robots will have greater accessibility to places and will be able to navigate narrow lanes, reach spaces inaccessible to humans and perform tasks too risky for people. These robots will also be capable of releasing high water pressure at the rate of 2,400 liters per minute.

26. Maharashtra Government has signed MoUs worth 30,000 crore rupees with 23 companies from different parts of the world at the World Economic Forum in Davos.

Note: Subhash Desai (Maharashtra Industries Minister) and other ministers from Maharashtra Cabinet were in Davos to attract investment opportunities. Microsoft will set up its Data Centre in Pune with an investment of 3,200 crore rupees. More than 55% of investment would come from Singapore, Indonesia, the USA, and Japan.

27. Redcliffe Labs lab has come up with its first commercial drone flight in the country's healthcare sector.

Note: The company has recently opened its commercial drone corridor between Uttarkashi and Dehradun. The distance from Uttarkashi to Dehradun by road is 144 km and takes 6-8 hours by road and

- during landslides 12 hours, but this distance was covered in 88 minutes with drone technology.
28. **Tamil Nadu** state government has launched the 'Kalaingarin All Villages Integrated Agricultural Development Programme'.
Note: The programme has been proposed in all the 15,525 village panchayats through a convergence of Union and State government schemes. Aim: To bring 11.75 lakh hectares of land under net area cultivated in the next 10 years and increase the double-cropping area to 20 lakh hectares.
 29. **Tripura** state government has decided to adopt the Electric Vehicle Policy 2022 to promote electric vehicles to convert 10% of state's vehicles to electric mode in 5 years.
Note: Electric vehicles would reduce air pollution and would be helpful in promoting eco-friendly tourism. If it is implemented, then Tripura would become the 15th state and third in the Northeast region after Assam and Meghalaya to adopt the electric vehicle policy.
 30. India's first 'Olympic Values Education Programme' (OVEP) by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) was launched in **Odisha**.
Note: The OVEP was officially launched by Naveen Patnaik (Odisha CM), Nita Ambani (IOC Member) along with other members. This programme will be integrated into the school education system of Odisha. The programme is being developed in partnership with the Department of School and Mass Education (Odisha) and the Abhinav Bindra Foundation Trust.
 31. **Minister for energy and urban development (UP)** has launched 'SAMBHAV' (sambhav.up.gov.in) platform/portal to monitor the grievances, schemes, programmes and policies of the departments.
Note: SAMBHAV is a multi-modal platform, it helps to dispose public grievances swiftly and effectively and provide good governance and make the public service delivery transparent and accountable. SAMBHAV will work as an Information and Communication Technology (ICT) platform.
 32. The fourth edition of the Shirui Lily Festival has began in **Ukhrul district, Manipur**.
Note: The four-day festival was inaugurated by the Governor La Ganesan, which is taking place after a gap of two years. The Shirui Lily blooms from late May to early June only on the Shirui village hilltop.
Aim of festival: To spread awareness about the rare Shirui flower and encourage tourism in Manipur.
 33. Union Minister Jitendra Singh has inaugurated North India's first Industrial Biotech Park at **Ghatti, Kathua, Jammu**.
Note: Biotech Park will act as hub for incubation of new ideas and will act as a robust platform to support Agri-entrepreneurs, Startups, farmers, scholars, and students.
 34. **Anurag Thakur** has inaugurated Khashaba Jadhav Sports Complex of the Pune University.
Note: The complex is spread over 27-acre land and it has synthetic athletic track, football, Astro turf lawn tennis court, international standard shooting range, state of art gymnasium.
 35. **Uttarakhand** state govt has announced to form 5-member drafting committee to implement the much-debated Uniform Civil Code (UCC) in the state.
Note: Head of the committee: Ranjana Desai (retired Supreme Court judge). Members: Delhi High Court judge Pramod Kohli, ex-state chief secretaries Shatrughan Singh, Manu Gaud and Surekha Dangwal
 36. **Kolkata, WB** has become the first major metropolitan city in India to make a detailed biodiversity register.
Note: The 520-page long document listed 399 species of plants which include 138 trees, 126 Chinese vegetables, 33 medicinal plants and nearly 100 other plants.
 37. **Telangana** state government will launch a pilot project on single-pick cotton on about 50,000 acres.
Note: Currently, the farmers pick cotton bolls at least three to four times, this method will help the farmers to extend the harvest by a few weeks and allow farmers to complete the harvest all at once.
 38. **Rajasthan** becomes the first state to attempt systematize of health accounts to track and monitoring of health expenditures over time and can serve as an important tool for evidence-based policy making.
Note: This project of Rajasthan will be aid by the WHO India country office by providing technical and financial support for conducting the first round of health accounts.
 39. **Gujarat's Kutch district** has become the first time in the country where the Department of Indian Posts has delivered mail using a drone.
Note: This attempt was done by the drone from Habay village in Bhuj taluka to Ner village in Bhachau

taluka of Kutch district by the postal department under the guidance of the Union Ministry of Communications.

40. **AAJU** is the name of the new health and wellness app which was launched by Karnataka CM, Basavaraj Bommai.

Note: Developed by: Swami Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhana Samsthana (S-VYASA) in partnership with RESET TECH (an AI-driven integrated health-tech platform).

Important News – World

1-15 September 2022

1. India has surpassed **UK** to become the world's 5th biggest economy.
Note: The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has forecasted that India is overtaking the UK in terms on an annual basis this year. Top four: The US, China, Japan and Germany. The calculation is based in US dollars and India has extended its lead in the first quarter. By contrast, the Indian economy is forecast to grow more than 7% in 2022-23.
2. Data Protection Commission (DPC) of **Ireland** has imposed fine on Instagram of USD 402 million (405 million euro) for breaching regulations on the handling of children's data.
Note: The DPC has launched an investigation in late 2020. Reason: How the Instagram platform handles children's personal data. Findings: The platform had operated a user registration system whereby the accounts of 13-17-year-old users were set to "public" by default.
3. **Australian** parliament has passed government legislation to reduce carbon emissions by 43% by 2030 and further bring it to zero by 2050.
Note: The legislation needs royal assent before it officially becomes law. To achieve this target, the government bodies such as clean energy and infrastructure financing agencies, requires to take emissions targets into account in their decisions. Minister for Climate Change and Energy of Australia: Chris Bowen
4. As per the United Nations Development Program report, India has ranked **132nd** among 191 countries and territories on the 2021 Human Development Index.
Note: India had ranked 131st among 189 countries in 2020 report. Findings: The data show that the performance of the country has declined due to fall in life expectancy. Top five: Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, Hong Kong, Australia Last four: Central African Republic (188), Niger (189), Chad (190), South Sudan (191)
5. As per the US Embassy, the United States has issued a record of 82,000 student visas to **India** in 2022 that is highest than any country.
Note: This is also the highest number of visas given to Indian students ever by the US Mission in India. The Open Doors report in 2021 stated that there were 167,582 students from India in the 2020-2021 academic year. Indian students comprise nearly 20% of all international students studying in the United States.
6. The first Indian Defence Minister to visit Mongolia, Rajnath Singh was gifted a majestic horse **Tejas** by President Ukhnaagiin Khurelsukh.
Note: Seven years after Prime Minister Narendra Modi received a similar gift from the leadership of this country. In 2015, Prime Minister Modi received a special gift a brown racehorse from his then Mongolian counterpart Chimed Saikhanbileg during his historic visit to this country. The horse was named Kanthaka'.
7. **Suella Braverman** is UK's new Home Secretary.
Note: Priti Patel, who is of Indian descent, will be replaced in the position by Suella Braverman. Suella Braverman, Conservative Party member from Fareham in southeast England, previously worked for the Boris Johnson administration as the attorney general.
8. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is all set to travel to **Samarkand in Uzbekistan** for the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit, to be conducted on September 15 and 16.
Note: This will be the first in-person summit after June 2019 when the SCO summit was held in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

August 2022

1. Ibrahim Mohamed Solih, who has arrived in India on a four-day visit to India, is a president of **Maldives**.
Note: He will hold talk with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and several agreements are expected to be

- signed after the talks. He also scheduled to meet President Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan. Both countries share common perspectives on maritime security issues in the Indian Ocean.
2. **India** will host the special meeting of United Nations Security Council (UNSC) on counter-terrorism on October 29, 2022.
Note: The tenure of India as a non-permanent member at the UN Security Council will be ended on December 2022. Theme: Mindful of the increasing threat posed by the misuse of new and emerging technologies. Non- permanent members: Albania, Brazil, Gabon, Ghana, India, Ireland, Kenya, Mexico, Norway and the UAE
 3. According to the latest Fortune Global 500 list, **LIC** has entered into Fortune Global 500 list, and ranked 98th with revenue of USD 97.26 billion and a profit of USD 553.8 million.
Note: While Reliance Industries has jumped 51 places to 104 on the 2022 list. The list has been topped by US retailer, Walmart. Indian companies: IOC (142nd); ONGC (190th); Tata Motors (370th); Tata Steel (435th); Rajesh Exports (437th); SBI (236th) and Bharat Petroleum Corporation (295th).
 4. **Bangladesh** has signed an agreement with the World Bank for USD 300 million financing.
Note: Aim: To strengthen its local urban institutions to respond and recover from the Covid 19 pandemic and improve preparedness for future shock. It will also help cities and towns of Bangladesh to build back better as they recover from the pandemic and prepare for future shocks. The project will carry out labour-intensive public works to ensure water supply.
 5. **Singapore** country has declared its 200-year-old iconic green open space Padang as its 75th national monument as the country celebrates its 57th National Day (9th August).
Note: From this site, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose had given his 'Delhi Chalo' slogan in 1943. From now, the Padang has been preserved and accorded the highest level of protection in Singapore under the Preservation of Monuments Act.
 6. According to the UN, **India's** population has owned 7.3% digital currency and ranked seventh in the list of top 20 global economies for digital currency ownership as share of population.
Note: Ukraine topped the list with 12.7%, followed by Russia (11.9%), Venezuela (10.3%), Singapore (9.4%), Kenya (8.5%) and the US (8.3%). It also been observed that the global use of cryptocurrencies has increased exponentially during the COVID-19 pandemic (including developing countries).
 7. Two countries **Latvia and Estonia** have withdrawn from a cooperation group amid the Western criticism of China over escalating military pressure on Taiwan.
Note: Reason: Both countries will continue to work towards constructive and pragmatic relations with China. Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia are among countries that remain in the cooperation format.
 8. British govt has officially declared certain parts of southern, central, and eastern of **England** as drought areas after a prolonged period of hot and dry weather.
Note: England suffered its driest July in 2022 since 1935, with only 35% of the average rainfall for the month, and parts of England and Wales are now in the middle of a 4-day extreme heat alert. All water companies have reassured essential supplies and are prepared than ever before for periods of dry weather.
 9. Clade IIb, is in news, is a variant of **Monkeypox**.
Note: The World Health Organisation (WHO) has announced new names for variants of the monkeypox virus that are currently in circulation. The former Congo Basin clade (group of variants) in Central Africa as Clade I. The former West African clade as Clade II. The latter consists of two sub-clades, Clade IIa and Clade IIb, of which Clade IIb was the main group of variants circulating during the 2022 outbreak. The monkeypox virus was first discovered in 1958.
 10. **International Labour Organisation** has released the Global Employment Trends for Youth 2022 report, which states that the unemployment rate for 15 - 24-year-olds stands at 15.6%.
Note: The report is a part of Global Call to Action for a "human-centred recovery from the Covid-19 crisis", which was adopted by the ILO in June 2021. In 2022, 27.4% of young women globally are employed as compared to 40.3% of young men.
 11. **Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Authority** has authorized a Covid-19 vaccine tailored to the Omicron variant, setting the stage for an autumn booster campaign using Moderna's two-strain shot.
Note: It has granted conditional authorization to the vaccine, which targets both the original strain of the virus and Omicron BA.1. This makes the UK, the first country in the world to approve an original Covid-19 jab.
 12. **4th** is the rank of India in the report titled "Best Under A Billion" published by the Forbes Asia of the best 200 mid-sized companies in the Asia-Pacific region.
Note: Taiwan has the greatest number of companies listed at 30, followed by Japan with 29 and South Korea has 27. China placed 5th in the list with 22 firms.

- 13. Seven** artifacts, including a stone door jamb stolen from a Hindu temple in Uttar Pradesh, have been transferred back to India by Glasgow's museums.
Note: This is the part of Scotland's "largest-ever" repatriation of objects from a single collection. Glasgow Life, a charitable organization that runs the city's museums, had confirmed the handover earlier this year and the arrangement was formalized. The 7 antiquities include a ceremonial Indo-Persian talwar or sword.
- 14.** Kyriakos Mitsotakis has announced that it has exited the enhanced surveillance framework of European Union after 12 years, he is a prime minister of **Greece**.
Note: Economic performance and policies of Greece have been monitored under the framework since 2018 to ensure it implemented reforms promised under three international bailouts. Greece was badly hit with the pension cuts, spending constraint, tax increases and bank controls after it was forced to seek its first bailout in 2010.
- 15. Mack Rutherford** has become the youngest person to fly solo around the world in a small aircraft.
Note: He landed on an airstrip of Sofia (Capital of Bulgaria) to complete his task and claimed two Guinness World Records. Rutherford is also the youngest person to circumnavigate the globe in a microlight plane. His solo trip flying around the world was sponsored by the web hosting company ICDSOFT, is headquartered in Sofia.
- 16. Germany** has launched the world's first fleet of 14 hydrogen-powered passenger trains, replacing 15 diesel trains that previously operated on non-electrified tracks in the state of Lower Saxony.
Note: These 14 trains use hydrogen fuel cells to generate electricity that powers the engines. They have a range of up to 1,000 km (621 miles) and a maximum speed of 140 kmph (87 mph). It is manufactured by French company Alstom and are operated by regional rail company LNVG.
- 17.** President of India, Droupadi Murmu has met with the Queen Máxima of **Netherlands** at Rashtrapati Bhavan to discuss the various aspects to strengthen the bilateral relation.
Note: Queen Máxima of Netherland is on a three day visit to India (29-31 August 2022). During their discussion, both leaders discussed the universal financial inclusion initiatives.

July 2022

1. **Burman family** has now become an official promoter of Eveready Industries.
Note: The investment firms of the Burman family entities had acquired a 14.55% share of Eveready Industries from the open market and now collectively own a majority stake. Prior to this, the family had acquired a 23.83% stake in Eveready Industries. Besides Dabur, the Burman family owns other businesses which include Aviva Life Insurance Co, Lite Bite Foods, HealthCare atHOME (HCAH).
2. 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.
Note: 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.
3. Jayshree V Ullal has been named on the eighth edition of Forbes' list of America's richest self-made women among Indians. She is the president of **Arista Networks**.
Note: Other Indian American: Neerja Sethi, Neha Narkhede, Indra Nooyi, Reshma Shetty Diane Hendricks, co-founder and chairman of ABC Supply has topped the list.
4. **London** city has emerged as the best city for students, according to the QS Best Student Cities Ranking 2023.
Note: Focus area of study: Affordable, student facilities, and university standard among other factors. Top four (2nd to 5th): Seoul, Munich, Zurich and Melbourne. India's highest-ranked student city is Mumbai at 103 spot, followed by Bengaluru at 114 ranks. Chennai and Delhi have made their entries to the list this year at 125 and 129, respectively.
5. As per the 27th edition of the UN World Population Prospects 2022, India is projected to surpass **China** country as the world's most populous country in 2023.

- Note:** 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.
6. **Deutsche Bahn (DB)** is ready to become the world's first Intermodal Partner of Star Alliance.
Note: 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.
 7. 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 **2022-2026** cycle.
Note: The elections for the Intergovernmental Committee was 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.
 8. **India** has become the 68th country to join the Interpol's international child sexual exploitation (ICSE) database. **Note:** This allow 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, and Tamil Nadu.
 9. As per the World Economic Forum has released the Global Gender Gap Index for 2022, India's rank is **135** out of 146 -countries.
Note: India was ranked 140 out of 156 countries in 2021. Top 10: Iceland, Finland, Norway, New Zealand, Sweden, Rwanda, Nicaragua, Namibia, Ireland, Germany. Worst performing: Afghanistan (146), Pakistan (145), Congo (144), Iran (143). India's neighbouring countries: Bangladesh (71), Nepal (96), Sri Lanka (110), Maldives (117) and Bhutan (126).
 10. **British government** has launched an "Aviation Passenger Charter" with an aim to help passengers know their rights.
Note: The new charter will help passengers know what to do if they are confronted by cancellations, delays or missing baggage. The passengers will be properly compensated if things don't go to plan, and the chaotic scenes at airports are unacceptable. In June 2022, the UK government has published a 22-point support plan to avoid further disruption.
 11. **Kerala and Ahmedabad** have been listed among the TIME magazine 50 extraordinary destinations to explore the World's Greatest Places of 2022.
Note: Kerala: It is one of India's most beautiful states. With spectacular beaches and lush backwaters, it's known as "God's own country" for good reason. Ahmedabad: India's first UNESCO World Heritage City, Ahmedabad, boasts both ancient landmarks and contemporary innovations.
 12. **Infosys** 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.
Note: The BASE life science brings Infosys domain experts commercial, medical, digital marketing, and clinical. It will also help to deepen the life sciences domain capabilities and strengthen its footprint across Europe. The BASE collaborates with software technology providers such as Veeva, IQVIA, and Salesforce.
 13. **Mexico** has topped the Expat Insider Rankings for 2022 published by the InterNations.
Note: Followed by Indonesia, Taiwan, Portugal, Spain, UAE, Vietnam, Thailand. India has ranked 36 out of the 52 countries, between Egypt (35th) and the UK (37th), China was placed in 33rd position. Bottom 10: Kuwait (52), New Zealand (51), Hong Kong(50), Cyprus (49), Luxembourg(48), Japan (47), South Africa (46th), Turkey (45th), Italy (44th), Malta (43rd)
 14. According to the Forbes' Real-Time Billionaires List, **Gautam Adani (Chief of Adani Group)** has become the world's 4th richest person with the net worth of \$115.5 billion.
Note: Adani's wealth has been surged by \$2.9 billion due to sharp run-up in Adani Group stocks. He has surpassed Microsoft cofounder, Bill Gates, who has announced to donate \$20 billion of his wealth to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Mukesh Ambani was placed at 10th on the Forbes list (net worth: \$87.7 billion).
 15. According to the 2022 Henley Passport Index from Henley & Partners (an immigration consultancy), India's rank in the list of world's most powerful passports -- **87th**.
Note: Top 10: Japan, Singapore, South Korea, Germany, Spain, Finland, Italy, Luxemburg, Austria,

Denmark. India neighbouring countries: Bhutan (93rd), Myanmar (99th), Sri Lanka (103rd), Bangladesh (104th) and Pakistan (109th), China (69th). Worst passport in the world: Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria

16. **Microsoft** 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.

Note: This platform is designed to give employees across multiple roles and functions, what they need to feel connected. This social app builds on the existing capabilities of the Communities app for Teams and Microsoft 365.

17. According to a World Health Organisation report, **\$87 billion** amount has been received by India as remittances in 2021 and becomes the top remittance recipient.

Note: The United States was the largest source country for remittances in 2020, followed by the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia and Switzerland. In 2021, the top five remittance recipients in current US dollars were India, China, Mexico, the Philippines (36 billion dollars) and Egypt (33 billion dollars).

18. **Bavarian Nordic (BAVA.CO)** has received the European Commission's approval for its Imvanex vaccine, to protect against monkeypox.

Note: Imvanex has been approved in the EU since 2013 for the prevention of smallpox. This is considered a potential vaccine for monkeypox because of the similarity between monkeypox and smallpox. Recently, the WHO has declared monkeypox a public health emergency of international concern.

19. India has contributed **USD 2.5 million** amount to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).

Note: India is a dedicated donor to UNRWA and donated USD 20 million in support of core UNRWA services to Palestine refugees across the Middle East since 2018. The UNRWA was established as a humanitarian agency in 1949. This agency is fully funded through voluntary contributions and grants from donor countries.

20. Mountaineer **Wasifa Nazreen** has become the first Bangladeshi to scale the second highest mountain peak K2, that is administered by Pakistan).

Note: She has climbed the 8611 metres high K2 mountain peak. Wasifa Nazreen has also climbed Mount Everest in 2012 and became the second woman from Bangladesh to do so. The team consisted of 21 mountaineers, including some of the most renowned climbers in the world like Mingma Tenzi Sherpa, Mingma David Sherpa, and Nirmal Purja.

21. According to the Airports Council International, published World Airport Traffic Dataset, Delhi Airport on the list of the world's busiest airports for 2021 -- **13th**.

Note: IGIA has witnessed 3.7 crore passenger footfall in 2021. The Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (ATL) has topped the 2021 ranking with 7.6 crore footfall of passengers. Airports Council International HQ: Montreal, Canada. International Civil Aviation Day: 7 December

22. As per the Kotak Private Banking-Hurun list, Roshni Nadar Malhotra has been crowned as the wealthiest woman in India with a fortune of Rs 84,330 cr in 2021, she is a chairperson of **HCL Technologies**.

Note: Falguni Nayar (founder and CEO of Nykaa) has ranked second richest women in India with a net worth of ₹57,520 cr. Falguni Nayar has also emerged as the richest self-made woman. Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw (founder and CEO of Biocon) placed on third with the net worth of ₹29,030 cr.

23. **Zimbabwe** has launched gold coins named "Mosi-oa-Tunya" to control an inflation spike that has eroded the country's unstable currency.

Note: The move was announced by the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe (central bank), which has disbursed 2,000 coins to commercial banks. Coins have been given the status of liquid asset, which can be easily converted into cash. Coins can be used by Individuals or companies. They can purchase coins from banks and other authorised outlets.

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

Note: She replaced China's Yang Huiya, with the net worth of \$11.0bn. Huiyan, who controls largest real estate developer Country Garden Holdings of China has lost half of his wealth drop from nearly \$24 billion last year to \$11 billion. Savitri Jindal became the chairperson of the Jindal Group, after the death of her husband OP Jindal.

June 2022

1. **Israel** has signed a free trade deal with the United Arab Emirates on May 31, its first with an Arab country.

Note: The agreement helps to increase bilateral trade in goods and services, increase Israeli exports to UAE. The UAE was the first Gulf country

to normalise ties with Israel and only the third Arab nation to do so after Egypt and Jordan.

- Bangladesh** has become the top recipient of Covid-19 vaccine doses with the delivery over 190 million doses of vaccines under UNICEF's COVAX programme.

Note: COVAX is a global initiative which is led by the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovation, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, and the World Health Organization with UNICEF. Under the COVAX programme, more than 62% of the doses has been delivered to Bangladesh.

- To mark the diplomatic ties of 30 years, **Israel** has adopted a "vision statement" with India to strengthen the defence cooperation in future.

Note: During the bilateral meeting between the Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and his Israeli counterpart Benny Gantz, leaders discussed defence cooperation and the prevailing global and regional scenario. Benny Gantz has been honoured with a Tri-Service Guard of Honour in the presence of Rajnath Singh.

- After the United Nations has approval **Türkiye** is the new name of Turkey.

Note: The country has begun the move to change its internationally recognised official name in English to Türkiye in December. The move comes after Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has released a memorandum and asked the public to use Türkiye to describe the country in every language.

- 42nd** is the rank of the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore in The Times Higher Education (THE) 2022 edition of the Asia University Rankings.

Note: China's Tsinghua and Peking universities placed first and second place respectively. India being the third most-represented country with 71 universities making it to the list, behind China (97) and Japan (118).

- Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)** has released a report which states that the global usage of plastic is set to increase by three times by the year 2060.

Note: The world that is destroy by severe plastic pollution, has need to take up several measures to combat the the use of plastic. Currently, nearly 100 million tonnes of plastic waste is either

mismanaged or allowed to leak into the environment.

- RIL Chairman and MD, Mukesh Ambani** has regained the position of India as well as Asia's richest man after replacing Adani Group Chairman, Gautam Adani, according to Bloomberg Billionaire Index.

Note: The net worth of Mukesh Ambani has risen to \$99.7 billion, while Gautam Adani's net worth stood at \$98.7 billion. Mukesh Ambani is ranked the eighth richest person in the world as per the Bloomberg Billionaire index.

- AMBER alerts** feature will be launched by Instagram in 25 countries to help in finding the missing child.

Note: With the help of this alerts, users will get notifications of missing children in the area. This feature was already available on Facebook and helped to find hundreds of children since it was introduced in 2015. This was developed in partnership with the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children in US and International Centre for Missing & Exploited Children.

- By the year **2035**, European Parliament Members have voted to ban the sale of new petrol and diesel cars.

Note: Aim: To fight against climate change. The EU assembly voted in Strasbourg, France to require automakers to cut carbon-dioxide emissions by 100% by the middle of the next decade. The mandate would amount to ban on the sale in the EU nations of new cars powered by gasoline.

- Sri Lanka** will receive the humanitarian assistance of \$48 million from the United Nations in June 2022.

Note: India has already provided financial assistance worth over \$3 billion since January to provide essential items, including food, fuel, cooking gas, and medicines. Sri Lanka needs \$6 billion to keep the country afloat for the next six months, adding that \$5 billion is required to ensure day-to-day living and another \$1 billion to strengthen the Sri Lankan rupee.

- India** will host special ASEAN Foreign Ministers' meet 2022.

Note: It will be the first meeting hosted by India in New Delhi. ASEAN members: Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam

- USA** is the top recipient of FDI as per the UNCTAD's World Investment Report 2022.

Note: In its latest World Investment Report released on Thursday, UNCTAD said FDI inflows into India declined to \$45 billion in 2021 from \$64 billion in the preceding year. While the USA (\$367 billion) remained the top recipient of FDI, China (\$181 billion) and Hong Kong (\$141 billion) also retained second and third position respectively.

- 13. UNGA** has adopted an India-sponsored resolution on multilingualism that mentions the Hindi language for the first time.

Note: The resolution urges United Nations to continue spreading vital communications and messages in both official and non-official languages, including Hindi.

- 14.** The twelfth WTO Ministerial Conference is being held in **Geneva, Switzerland.**

Note: The twelfth WTO Ministerial Conference is being held in Geneva, Switzerland from 12th to 15th June 2022. Key areas: WTO's response to the pandemic, Fisheries subsidies negotiations and Agriculture issues including Public Stockholding for Food security.

- 15. China** has released a new geological map of the moon, which it says is the most detailed to date.

Note: The new map, which has details of craters and structures not charted before, will assist in further research of the moon. USGS Astrogeology Science Centre had, for the first time, mapped and classified the entire lunar surface in collaboration with NASA and the Lunar Planetary Institute in 2020.

- 16. Central African Republic** has become the 2nd country in the world to adopt bitcoin as its official currency, after El Salvador.

Note: The CAR is the first country in Africa to adopt Bitcoin as legal tender. This move places the Central African Republic on the map of the world's boldest and most visionary countries. Currently, The country uses the French-backed CFA franc as its currency, along with most other former French colonies in Africa.

- 17. Google** company has announced a program for women founders, 'startup accelerator program', which will help them address challenges such as fundraising and hiring.

Note: The first batch of the Google for Startups Accelerator India – Women Founders will enroll up to 20 women-founded co-founded startups in the country, and support them through a three-month program. The selected Startups will receive support and mentorship around AI/ML, Android, Web, Product Strategy and Growth.

- 18.** Japanese Prime Minister **Fumio Kishida** will attend North Atlantic Treaty Organization

(NATO) summit, which will be held in Madrid and becomes the Japan's first leader to join NATO summit.

Note: Sweden and Finland will also send delegations to the summit and South Korea's new President Yoon Suk-yeol will also become the first leader from his country to join the meeting.

- 19. Kerala** state of India has been ranked as the best in Asia and fourth in terms of Affordable Talent, as per the Global Startup Ecosystem Report (GSER).

Note: Bengaluru city, has been moved up to number 22 in the ranking. The report also showed that the Bengaluru's tech ecosystem value is at \$105 billion which is higher than that of Singapore at \$89 billion and Tokyo at \$62 billion. Top five: Silicon Valley, followed by New York City, London, Boston, and Beijing.

- 20.** Globally India's ranked **68th** in the Coursera latest Global Skills Report (GSR) 2022.

Note: In Asian countries, India stands at the 19th position. West Bengal leads the Indian states in terms of skills proficiency. For the second consecutive year, Switzerland had the highest-skilled learners followed by Denmark, Indonesia, and Belgium.

- 21.** India's rank in the REN21 Renewables 2022 Global Status Report (GSR 2022) is **third.**

Note: India's total renewable power capacity additions in 2021 was 15.4 GW. Top performer of the report: China (136 GW) and US (43 GW). India installed 843 MW of hydropower capacity in 2021, brings the overall capacity to 45.3 GW.

- 22.** Khuvsgul Lake National Park of **Mongolia** has been added to the World Network of Biosphere Reserves of UNESCO.

Note: This decision was made during the 34th session of the International Co-ordinating Council of the Man and the Biosphere Programme taking place in Paris, France.

- 23.** The 12th Ministerial Conference (MC12) of the World Trade Organisation concluded on 16th June 2022 in **WTO headquarters in Geneva.**

Note: The Conference was co-hosted by Kazakhstan and chaired by Mr Timur Suleimenov (Deputy Chief of Staff of Kazakhstan's President).

- 24. Australia** has announced to provide 50 million US dollars support to Sri Lanka for meet urgent food and health care needs.

Note: Presently, Sri Lanka is facing its worst economic crisis in 70 years, which leads to food shortage, medicine and fuel. Australia will provide 22 million dollars to the World Food Programme (WFP) for emergency food assistance to meet their daily nutritional needs and 23 million dollars in development assistance to Sri Lanka in 2022-23.

25. TCS, HDFC Bank, Infosys and LIC four Indian companies have been featured in the top 100 global biggest brands, along with companies like Apple, Google, Amazon and Microsoft.

Note: TCS has been placed on the 46th spot of the list with an estimated of \$50 billion by Kantar Brands 2022. HDFC Bank placed on 61st with \$35 billion brand value. Infosys was ranked at 64th position and LIC placed on 92nd. Top 10: Apple, Google, Amazon, Microsoft, Tencent, McDonalds, Visa, Facebook, Alibaba, Louis Vuitton.

26. Sri Lanka has raised the Minimum Age for women Migrant Domestic Workers to 21 years.

Note: The Cabinet of Ministers has also granted permission to revise the age limit, after considering the recommendations of the Cabinet-appointed Sub-Committee. For Saudi Arabia the minimum age is 25 years, and for other Middle Eastern Countries is 23 years, and for all other countries is 21 years.

27. Europe's biggest start-up conference, Vivattech 2020 has recognized India as the "country of the year".

Note: The country has been recognised with this honour, due to the global contribution of Indian start-ups. The start-up ecosystem of India is growing rapidly and has over 100 unicorns.

28. The US has signed the gun violence bill and toughen background checks for the youngest (21 years) gun buyers.

Note: Other reforms: \$ 13 billion in federal funding for mental health programs and school security upgrades. The funding will encourage the states to implement "red flag" laws to remove firearms from people considered a threat.

29. The UK, the United States, Japan and Canada will soon ban the new imports of gold from Russian, to tighten the sanctions squeeze on Moscow for its invasion of Ukraine.

Note: Countries will apply for newly mined or refined gold. This move will not affect previously exported Russian gold. Last year, the exports of Russian gold were worth 12.6 billion pounds.

30. During the Group of Seven (G7) Summit in Germany's Bavarian Alps, 600 billion dollar will be raised by the G7 leader to help developing countries tackle climate change.

Note: This will boost help to give a boost to the economies of countries. G7 is offering sustainable, quality infrastructure and will be listening closely to the recipient countries.

31. Iran has applied to become a member of the BRICS.

Note: BRICS is a group of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa. Iran is the world's second-largest gas reserves and membership in the BRICS group would added values for both sides.

32. According to a World Gold Council (WGC) report, India's rank as the recycler in the world is 4th.

Note: The country has recycled 75 tonnes in 2021. WGC report titled: Gold refining and recycling. Top three: China (recycled 168 tonnes), followed by Italy (80 tonnes) and the US (78 tonnes in 2021).

May 2022

1. Bangladesh country has discovered a new gas field with the capacity to produce 20 million cubic feet of gas per day (MMCFD) at the Koilastila Gas field.

Note: Koilastila Gas Field is one of the five gas fields which was purchased from the Shell Oil company by Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in 1975. Now, it is possible to supply 17-19 million cubic feet of gas daily to the national grid from the newly discovered well number 6 by May 10.

2. UN-Energy Plan of Action Towards 2025 plan was launched by the United Nations to catalyze large-scale action and support needed for transition to clean, affordable energy for all and net-zero emissions.

Note: Energy Compact Action Network was also launched to match those govt seeking support for their clean energy goals with those govt and businesses that have pledged over \$600 billion. It sets

- out a framework for collective action by nearly 30 UN and international organizations
3. **150th** is the rank of India in Reporters Without Borders (RSF) which has released the 20th World Press Freedom Index 2022.
Note: Index topped by: Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Estonia, and Finland. India's neighbouring countries: India (150th, falls 8 positions), Pakistan (157th), Sri Lanka (146th), Bangladesh (162nd), and Myanmar (176th). North Korea is placed at the bottom of the list of the 180 countries.
 4. **8** Indian universities have been placed in the top 300 universities in the world in the 2022 edition of Impact Rankings.
Note: The ranking is topped by Western Sydney University (Australia); followed by Arizona State University (The US), Western University (Canada). In India: Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham (41st), Lovely Professional University (74th). The Times Higher Education (THE) also publishes THE World University Rankings.
 5. **Kami Rita (Nepali Sherpa)** has scaled Mount Everest (Height: 8,848.86m) mountain for the 26th time along the traditional southeast ridge route leading 10 other Sherpa climbers.
Note: Rita scaled Mt Everest for the first time on May 13, 1994. Besides Mt Everest, he has also scaled Mt Godwin-Austen (K2), Mt Lhotse, Mt Manaslu and Mt Cho Oyu. He also holds the record for most climbs over 8000m.
 6. **India** has been unanimously elected as the new Chair of the Association of Asian Election Authorities (AAEA) for 2022-2024 at the meeting of the Executive Board and General Assembly in Manila, Philippines.
Note: Commission on Elections, Manila was the current chair of AAEA. The new member of the Executive Board now includes Russia, Uzbekistan, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Taiwan and the Philippines.
 7. **Czech Republic** has received approval from the UN General Assembly to replace Russia on the world organizations leading human rights body after its suspension over horrific rights violations by Russian soldiers in Ukraine.
Note: The Czech Republic was the only candidate for the seat on the 47-member Human Rights Council. Out of 193 members, 180 of the General Assembly have deposited ballots (157 countries in favour).
 8. **National Intelligence Service South Korea (spy agency)** has become the first in Asia to join NATO's Cyber Defense Group (CDG).
Note: The cyber defense group was founded in Tallinn in 2008 in response to a cyberattack that disrupted Estonia's state networks. It focuses on cyber security research, training, and exercises. NATO's Cooperative Cyber Defense Center of Excellence (CCDCOE) now includes 27 NATO member countries and five non-NATO partners.
 9. **Oil giant Saudi Aramco** has dethroned Apple Inc. to become the world's most valuable company, underscoring the recent surge in oil prices that have boosted the energy giant this year.
Note: The current worth of Aramco is about \$2.43 trillion as compared with Apple's \$2.37 trillion. Saudi Aramco has reported a 124% surge in net profit in the last year from \$49.0 billion in 2020 to \$110.0 billion in 2021. President and CEO of Saudi Aramco: Amin H. Nasser
 10. **Lionel Messi** has topped the list of Forbes Highest-Paid Athletes 2022 with a reported income of \$130 million, followed by Basketball player, LeBron James with \$121.2 million while Cristiano Ronaldo was third with \$115m.
Note: Messi had moved from Barcelona to Paris Saint-Germain in August 2021 and Cristiano Ronaldo rejoined Manchester United from Juventus in the same month. Forbes calculates the estimates based on prize money, salaries and bonuses, and sponsorship deals.
 11. **India** has topped the foreign remittance list by receiving USD 89 billion followed by Mexico at USD 54 billion, and China at USD 53 billion in 2021 as per the World Bank.
Note: The officially recorded remittance flows to low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) are expected to increase by 4.2% in 2022 to reach USD 630 billion. Bangladesh was the 7th highest recipient of remittance from abroad in 2021. Report: Migration and development brief
 12. India has been contributed **USD 800,000** to the United Nations to promote the Hindi language in the United Nations.
Note: India's Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations, R Ravindra handed over a cheque for the UN project (Hindi @ UN project) launched by India in 2018 to disseminate

information about the UN to the Hindi-speaking population across the world.

- 13. Kenton Cool from England** has scaled the world's highest mountain for the 16th time and becomes the first foreigner to climb the most Mt Everest summits.

Note: Kenton climbed the summit with his fellow guide Dorji Gyalzen Sherpa. Kenton also holds a record as the first British mountaineer who has climbed Mt Nuptse, Mt Everest and Mt Lhotse in a season in 2013.

- 14. Sky Bridge 721** is the name of the world's largest suspension bridge which is located in the Czech Republic.

Note: The bridge connects two mountain ridges and hangs 95 metres (312 feet) above a valley and can be accessed by cable car. It is 721 metres, or 2,365 feet, long. The Czech Republic Sky Bridge is 154 metres longer than Nepal's Baglung Parbat Footbridge, which currently holds the Guinness World Record for the longest suspension footbridge.

- 15. India** has hosted the meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization's (SCO's)-Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) from May 16th to 19th.

Note: The Security Advisers of the National Security Councils of India, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Pakistan and Uzbekistan participated in the meeting. India has taken the chairmanship of the Council of Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure of SCO last year for a period of one year.

- 16.** The Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR) has signed an MoU with **Lumbini Buddhist University** on the establishment of Dr. Ambedkar Chair for Buddhist Studies.

Note: Nepal and India have signed six MoU, during Prime Minister Modi's day-long visit to Lumbini (Nepal). An MoU between ICCR and Kathmandu University on the establishment of the ICCR Chair of Indian Studies. An Agreement between SJVN Ltd and Nepal Electricity Authority was also signed.

- 17. Adani Group** has acquired a controlling stake in Swiss-based Holcim AG's cement businesses in India in a \$10.5 billion deal.

Note: The Group has acquired 63.19% of Ambuja Cements Ltd and its subsidiary ACC in the bidding with companies. With this deal, Adani becomes the second biggest cement producer in the country after the Aditya Birla Group-owned UltraTech

Cement. The divestment of India businesses by Holcim is to reduce its reliance on carbon-intensive cement production.

- 18. Germany** has hosted the Group of Seven (G7) countries Finance Minister Summit in 2022_____ **Germany.**

Note: Group of Seven (G7) countries have agreed to provide financial support to Ukraine to meet its immediate financing needs. The US Senate has approved a USD 40 billion package of military, economic and humanitarian assistance to Ukraine. Christian Lindner (German Finance Minister) has announced a contribution of USD 1.1 billion to Ukraine's budget. The European Commission has pledged up to USD 9.5 billion of macro-financial assistance in the form of loans.

- 19. Climate scientist Baker Perry (Appalachian State University in the US)** has led the team of experts from the National Geographic Society (NatGeo), who has installed the "world's highest weather station" on Mt. Everest at an altitude of 8,830 meters.

Note: The automatic weather station was installed a few meters below the summit point (8,848.86 meters) as the snow and ice on the summit are not suitable for fixing equipment.

- 20. 13** are the total numbers of members in the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF).

Note: PM Narendra Modi has formalized India's entry into the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF), along with 12 other countries. Aim: To strengthen economic cooperation as a geostrategic counter. The other 12 countries that joined the IPEF: The US, Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.

- 21.** Three Indians who have been named among the world's 100 most influential people of 2022 by TIME magazine are **Gautam Adani, Karuna Nundy (SC lawyer), and Khurram Parvez (Kashmiri human rights activist).**

Note: Adani has been named under the Titans category, and Nundy and Parvez are named under the Leaders category. Recently, Gautam Adani with \$123.7 billion net worth has become the 5th richest person in the world (2022).

- 22. Kuwait** is planning to build the world's largest petroleum research centre by the end of the year (2022).

Note: The research center will have 28 laboratories and built in al-Ahmadi, south of Kuwait City.

23. According to the Fortune 500, **Elon Musk** has received the highest salary as a chief executive officer (CEO) in 2021.

Note: He has received a salary of around \$23.5 billion. Tim Cook, Apple with USD 770.5 Million placed at second followed by Jensen Huang, NVIDIA (USD 561 Million); Reed Hastings, Netflix (USD 453.5 Million); Leonard Schleifer, Regeneron Pharmaceuticals (USD 452.9 Million).

24. 21 Cardinals will be created by Pope Francis.

Note: Two Cardinals from India, Archbishop Filipe Neri António Sebastião di Rosário Ferrão (Archbishop of Goa and Damão) and Archbishop Anthony Poola (Archbishop of Hyderabad). The elevated ceremony will be held at the Vatican on August 27, 2022.

25. **India (61)** has topped the 7th edition of Forbes 30 Under 30 Asia List 2022 in terms of the number of entries.

Note: Edited by: Rana Wehbe Watson, India has topped the list in terms of the number of entries with 61, followed by Singapore (34), Japan (33), Australia (32), Indonesia (30) and China (28).

Government Schemes

1. Rajeev Chandrasekhar launches Digital India RISC-V Microprocessor (DIR-V) Program

- **Aim:** to enable the creation of Microprocessors for the future in India, for the world and achieve industry-grade silicon and Design by December 2023.
- It will see partnerships between Startups, Academia and Multinationals, to make India not only a RISC-V Talent Hub for the World but also supplier of RISC-V System on Chips for Servers, Mobile devices, Automotive and Microcontrollers across the globe.

2. Pilot project for Skilling tribal youth launched from Bhopal, MP

- Inaugurated by: Minister of State of MeitY, Rajeev Chandrasekhar has launched Pilot Project for Skilling Tribal Youth - Rural Tribal Technical Training at the Centre for Research and Industrial Staff Performance CRISP, Bhopal.
- Pilot project envisages training for 250 beneficiaries of 17 clusters of 17 districts of 6 states.
- Name of the Rural Tribal Technical Training Program: Grameen Udhayami Project.
- It envisages training for about 250 beneficiaries of 17 clusters of 17 districts selected from 6 states: Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Odisha

3. Madhya Pradesh govt launches 2nd phase of Ladli Laxmi scheme to make girls self-reliant

About the scheme

- It is an innovative initiative to encourage daughters to pursue higher education and make them self-dependent.
- In Madhya Pradesh, more than 42 lakh girls have been registered till April this year under Ladli Laxmi Yojana.
- So far, more than 9 lakh girl students have been paid a scholarship amount of Rs 231 crore.
- Birth rate of girl child in the state has also increased from 927 to 956 per thousand.

4. PMJJBY, PMSBY And Atal Pension Yojana (APY) Complete 7 Years of Providing Social Security Net

- These three social security schemes are dedicated to welfare of the citizens, recognizing the need for securing human life from unforeseen risks/losses and financial uncertainties.
- Aim: to ensure that the people from the unorganized section of the country are financially secure, the Government launched two insurance schemes: Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY); and introduced Atal Pension Yojana (APY) to cover exigencies in the old age.

5. Haryana Govt Launches 'e-Adhigam' Scheme

- Under this scheme, 3 lakh tablets were distributed to government school students of Classes 10 and 12.
- These devices come with pre-loaded content along with personalised and adaptive learning software, and 2GB free data.

1. **Chhattisgarh becomes first state to restore old pension scheme**
 - Chhattisgarh has sent a proposal to Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) for the withdrawal of Rs 17,000 crore accrued under National Pension Scheme since November 2004.
 - Old pension scheme will be effective from April 1, 2022.
2. **6 months extension of Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PM-GKAY)**
 - Centre has extended PM-GKAY from April to September 2022.
 - In 6th phase, each beneficiary will get an additional five kilos of free ration per person every month to the normal quota of food grain.
 - PM-GKAY was implemented first on 26th March 2020.
 - The program comes under Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.
3. **Karnataka government launched Vinaya Samarasya scheme on April 14.**
 - Aim: To eradicate untouchability in Gram Panchayats across the state.
 - This scheme was also added in the recently announced Karnataka Budget for 2022-23.
 - April 14 celebrates the birth anniversary of father of Indian Constitution, B R Ambedkar.
4. **MGNREGA wages revised for 2022-23**
 - 21 out of 34 states and Union Territories got less than a 5% hike, and 10 states got more than a 5 per cent hike.
 - States with no change in rates: Manipur, Mizoram, and Tripura.
 - The change will come into effect from 1st April 2022.
 - Maximum increase: Goa (Rs 315 per day)
 - Lowest increase: Meghalaya (Rs 226 per day)
 - MGNREGA: Indian labour law and social security measure that aims to guarantee 'right to work'.
5. **Centre extends existing foreign trade policy (FTP) by six months until September 2022**
 - Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry has announced an extension in the existing Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2015-20 by another six months till September 30, 2022, to ensure policy continuity in external trade.
 - This is the fourth extension to the existing FTP policy.
6. **Cabinet approves extension of Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) till March 2023**
 - 10% deduction for monthly contribution from the salary of government employees as a contribution to new pension scheme will be abolished from April 1, 2022.
 - Minimum of 12% of basic salary will be deducted as per the General Provident Fund rule.
7. **AAI launches 'AVSAR' Scheme**
 - Total budget expenditure of more than Rs 2000 crore has been allocated for 2022-23.
 - Objective: To create and promote an ecosystem of innovation and entrepreneurship across the country through interventions at school, university, research institutions, MSME and industry levels.
 - AIM was set up under the NITI Aayog, in accordance with Finance Minister's declaration in the 2015 Budget Speech.
8. **Phase II of 'SVANidhi se Samridhi' launched to cover 28 lakh street vendors**
 - Airport Authority of India (AAI) has launched 'AVSAR' initiative to encourage talent of women, artisans and craftsmen and provide them with the right opportunities.
 - AVSAR: 'Airport as Venue for Skilled Artisans of The Region'.
 - Under AVSAR, AAI will allocate space to Self Help Groups (SHGs) at its airports for selling/showcasing the self-made products of their region.
 - An area of 100-200 square feet has been earmarked at each AAI operated airport for this.
9. **Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package: Insurance Scheme for Health Workers fighting COVID-19 extended for 180 days**
 - It is an additional program of PMSVANidhi, launched by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA).
 - It maps the socio-economic profile of PM SVANidhi beneficiaries and their families and assess potential eligibility of the beneficiaries for various Central welfare schemes and facilitate the linkages to these schemes.
 - Phase I: Launched in 2020-21 in 125 cities to cover approximately 35 lakh street vendors and their families.
 - Phase II: launched in 126 cities to cover 28 lakh street vendors and their families.
 - A total target of 20 lakh scheme sanctions has been set under Phase II for FY 2022-23.
10. **Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package: Insurance Scheme for Health Workers fighting COVID-19 extended for 180 days**
 - This will be effective from April 19, 2022.

- The extension has been given to provide the safety net to the dependents of health workers who are deputed to take care of COVID-19 patients.
- PMGKP was launched in 2020 to provide comprehensive personal accident cover of Rs. 50 Lakh to 22.12 lakh healthcare providers, including community health workers and private health workers dealing with COVID-19 patients.

10. Atal Pension Yojana (APY) total enrolments crossed 4 crores

- This milestone is achieved by the active participation of all Banks.
- Around 71% of the enrolments are done by PSBs, 19% by RRBs, 6% by Private Sector Banks, and 3% by Payment and Small Finance Banks.
- Banks like SBI, Indian Bank, Bank of India, BoB, and Central Bank of India have achieved their annual targets in the Public-sector Bank category.

11. Haryana Cabinet gave nod to horticulture crop insurance scheme

- Haryana Cabinet has approved the implementation of Mukhyamantri Bagwani Bima Yojana (MBBY)
- MBBY: It is an assurance-based scheme to compensate crop losses due to adverse weather & natural calamities for farmers growing horticulture crops.

12. Stand-Up India Scheme completes 6 years

- The scheme re-imbursed loans of over '30,160 Cr sanctioned to over 1,33,995 accounts

15. Credit Guarantee Scheme for Subordinate Debt (CGSSD) extended up to 2022

- CGSSD was launched on 24th June 2020 under Distressed Assets Fund - Subordinate Debt for Stressed MSMEs component of Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Package
- Aim: Provide credit facility through lending institutions to promoters of stressed MSMEs like SMA-2 and NPA accounts who are eligible for restructuring as per RBI guidelines on the books of the Lending institutions

16. Mission Indradhanush: Odisha tops list of full immunization with 90.5% cover

- Odisha becomes the only state in the country to achieve 90.5% of immunization apart from the successful vaccination against Covid-19 infection under Mission Indradhanush 4.0
- 20 districts of Odisha were found above 90% in full immunization and the remaining 10 districts were less than 90%

- It was launched in 2016 to encourage entrepreneurship at the grassroots level especially for promoting economic empowerment and employment generation among SC, ST and women entrepreneurs.

13. Govt approves continuation of revamped Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan till March 2026

- It will be extended to all States and Union Territories of the country.
- It will develop governance capabilities of Panchayats Cabinet approved Rs 5,911 crores for Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan
- The scheme is a centrally sponsored scheme and aims to develop governance capabilities of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs).

14. Samba becomes first district in India to cover 100% households under ABPMJAY-SEHAT scheme

- In Jammu and Kashmir, Samba district of Jammu division has become the first district in India to cover 100% households under Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (ABPMJAY)- SEHAT scheme.
- It was achieved after the conclusion of special registration drive organized by State Health Agency (SHA).
- SEHAT: Social, Endeavour for Health and Telemedicine.

- **Mission Indradhanush** : Health mission launched in 2014 to drive towards 90% full immunization coverage of India.

17. Haryana CM ML Khattar announces Haryana Matrushakti Udaymita Scheme

- Aim: to provide financial support to women entrepreneurs.
- Under this, those women who wish to become entrepreneurs will be provided access to soft loans
- Eligibility: Women whose families annual income is less than Rs 5 lakh based on Parivar Pehchan Patra (PPP) verified data
- Maximum Loan amount: Rs 3 lakh
- Interest subvention of 7% will be provided

18. Narayan Rane launches MSME Innovative Scheme (Incubation, Design and IPR)

About the scheme

- **Incubation:** promote and support untapped creativity with assistance of up to Rs. 15 lakh per idea
 - **Design:** Bring Indian manufacturing sector and Design experts on a common platform with assistance up to Rs. 40 lakh for design project
 - **IPR (Intellectual Property Rights):** improve IP culture in India
- 19. Govt approved Modernization Plan-IV for Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs)**
- It will be in effect from 1st Feb 2022 to 31st March 2026
 - Total financial outlay: Rs.1,523 crore
 - It is to be implemented by the Ministry of Home Affairs
 - It will equip CAPFs with modern state-of-the-art weapons and equipment as per their operational requirement, keeping in view their deployment pattern in different theatres.
- 20. 'Stree Manoraksha Project'**
- Launched by: Women and Child Development Ministry and NIMHANS Bengaluru
 - Aim: to improve mental health of women
 - The project would focus on building on capacity building of One-Stop Center functionaries on the tools and techniques as to how to handle the cases of women approaching these Centres.
- 21. Govt launches Donate-a-Pension programme**
- About the programme:**
- It is an initiative under Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-dhan (PM-SYM) where citizens can donate the premium contribution of their immediate support staff such as domestic workers, drivers, helpers etc.
 - It will be implemented as Central Sector Scheme with an outlay of Rs 3,375 crores.
 - ICJS system would be made available through dedicated and secure cloud-based infrastructure with high-speed connectivity.
- 22. Govt approves continuation of BIM for 5 years**
- BIM: Border Infrastructure and Management
 - It is a Central Sector Umbrella Scheme
 - It is effective from 2021-22 to 2025-26
 - Total cost: Rs 13,020 crore.
 - It will strengthen the border infrastructure for improving border management, policing, and guarding the borders.
- 23. Centre approves continuation of National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme (NMMSS)**
- It has been approved for a period of five years from 2021-22 to 2025-26.
 - Financial outlay for the scheme: Rs 1,827 crores.
 - Income ceiling has been increased from Rs 1.5 lakh per annum to Rs 3.5 lakh per annum
 - Objective: to award scholarships to meritorious students of economically weaker sections.
 - It was launched in 2008-09.
- 24. Govt approves continuation of Capacity Development Scheme till 31st March 2026**
- Outlay: Rs 3,179 crores.
 - CD Scheme: Ongoing Central Sector Scheme of MoSPI (Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation)
 - Aim: to augment infrastructural, technical as well as manpower resources for enabling the availability of credible and timely official statistics.
- 25. Govt approves implementation of Inter-Operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS)**
- It will be effective from 2022-23 to 2025-26.
 - ICJS: national platform for enabling integration of main IT system used for the delivery of Criminal Justice in India
- 26. Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North-East, PM-DevINE scheme**
- It was announced in Budget 2022-23
 - It will be implemented through the North-Eastern Council.
 - An initial allocation of Rs. 1,500 crores will be made.
 - It will fund infrastructure, in the spirit of PM GatiShakti, and social development projects.
- 27. Swachhta Saarthi Fellowship 2022**
- Office of Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of under its '**Waste to Wealth**' Mission has announced **Swachhta Saarthi Fellowship 2022**.
 - **Aim:** to empower young innovators who are engaged in community work of waste management as Swachhta Saarthis and implement actions to reduce waste for a greener planet.
 - It is one of the nine national missions of the Prime Minister's PMSTIAC scheme
- 28. Rashtriya Yuva Sashaktikaran Karyakram**
- Central Government has decided to continue 'Rashtriya Yuva Sashaktikaran Karyakram' (RYSK) for another five years from 2021 -22 to 2025-26
 - Total outlay: around Rs 2,710 crore.
 - Aim: to achieve the objectives of developing the personality and leadership qualities of the youth and to engage them in nation-building activities.
- 29. 'Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana' (PMKSY)**

- Food processing ministry has extended its flagship scheme 'Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY)' till March 2026
 - Total allocation: Rs 4,600 crore.
 - It is a comprehensive package that will lead to the creation of modern infrastructure with efficient supply chain management from farm gate to retail outlet.
- 30. Social Justice & Empowerment Department launches 'SMILE'**
- It is an umbrella scheme
 - Aim: provide welfare measures to the Transgender community and the people engaged in the act of begging.
 - It includes two sub-schemes:
 - Central Sector Scheme for Comprehensive Rehabilitation for Welfare of Transgender Persons
 - Central Sector Scheme for Comprehensive Rehabilitation of persons engaged in the act of Begging
- 31. Social Justice and Empowerment Ministry launched Scheme for Economic Empowerment of DNTs (SEED)**
- It has been launched for the welfare of De-notified, Nomadic & Semi Nomadic Communities, who are the most neglected, marginalized, economically & socially deprived community.
- 32. Jal Jeevan Mission achieves 9 crore rural tap connections in 2.5 years**
- Govt has claimed to have provided tap water supply to more than 5.77 crore rural households, taking total number to 9 crores since it's launch in August 2019 under Jal Jeevan Mission of the Jal Shakti Ministry
 - 'Har Ghar Jal' is a term used for saturation coverage of tap water in a given rural habitation.
- 33. Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) Scheme**
- Govt has approved Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) scheme till 31st March 2026 or till further review, whichever is earlier.
 - Proposal entails an expenditure of Rs. 12929.16 crore out of which Central Share is Rs. 8120.97 crores and the State Share is of Rs. 4808.19 crores.
- 34. Govt approves ' New India Literacy Programme for FYs 2022-27**
- Govt has approved new scheme 'New India Literacy Programme for the period FYs 2022-2027
 - It will cover all the aspects of Adult Education to align with National Education Policy 2020
 - National Education Policy 2020 has recommendations for Adult Education and Lifelong Learning.
 - Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the scheme on Green Energy Corridor (GEC) Phase-II for Intra-State Transmission System (InSTS)
 - It will add 10,750 circuit kilometres of transmission lines and 27,500 MVA transformation capacity of substations
 - It will facilitate grid integration and power evacuation of 20 GW of Renewable Energy power projects in Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Rajasthan, TN, UP
 - Total estimated cost: Rs. 12,031.33 crores
- 35. PM releases 10th installment of financial benefit under PM-KISAN Scheme**
- Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Scheme is a centrally sector scheme, which was launched in 2019.
 - More than Rs 20 thousand crore have been transferred to over than ten crore farmer families.
 - Under PM-KISAN scheme, financial benefit of six thousand rupees per year is provided to the eligible family of farmers.
 - The fund is transferred directly to the bank accounts of the beneficiaries.
- 36. IT minister Ashwini Vaishnaw launched semiconductor mission**
- India Semiconductor Mission (ISM): specialized and independent business division within Digital India Corporation.
 - It has been set up with the aim to build a vibrant semiconductor and display ecosystem to enable India's emergence as a global hub for electronics manufacturing and design.
 - It is notified by Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.
- 37. Intra-State Transmission System of Green Energy Corridor Phase-II**
- 38. Smart cities and Academia Towards Action & Research (SAAR) program**
- Smart Cities Mission has launched SAAR program.
 - It is a joint initiative of Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, National Institute of Urban Affairs and leading Indian academic institutions of the country.
 - Under the program, 15 premier architecture & planning institutes of the country will be working with Smart Cities to document landmark projects undertaken by Smart Cities Mission.
- 39. Govt launches 6 brands developed as part of 'One District-One Product'**
- Union Minister Pashupati Kumar Paras has launched six brands developed as part of 'One District-One Product' approach under **Pradhan Mantri Formalization of**

Micro food processing Enterprises Scheme (PM-FMFPEs) in New Delhi

- **Six products:** Amrit Phal, Cori Gold, Kashmiri Mantra, Madhu Mantra, Somdana, and Whole Wheat Cookies of Dilli Bakes.
- **PM-FMFPEs:** centrally sponsored scheme to enhance the competitiveness of existing individual micro-enterprises in unorganized segment

40. Union Education Minister launches NEAT 3.0 ed-tech solutions

- It will help more than 12 lakhs socially and economically disadvantaged students have received free ed-tech course coupons worth over ₹253 crore
- National Educational Alliance for Technology (NEAT) is an initiative to provide the use of best-developed technological solutions in the education sector to enhance the employability of the youth on a single platform for learners' convenience.

41. UJALA scheme completes 7 years

- Power Ministry has successfully completed seven years of distributing and selling LED lights under its flagship UJALA programme.
- It evolved into the world's largest zero-subsidy domestic lighting programme with more than 36.78 crore LEDs distributed across the country.

42. Apple, Samsung to make smartphones worth Rs 37,000 crore under PLI scheme

- Apple and Samsung are set to manufacture smartphones worth Rs 37,000 crore (\$5 billion) in 2022 under government's Production Linked Incentive scheme.
- It will exceed the target set by the government by over 50%.
- PLI give companies incentives on incremental sales from products manufactured in domestic units.

43. Govt notifies Certification Scheme for Unmanned Aircraft Systems

- Govt of India has notified 'Certification Scheme for Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)' to ensure minimum safety and quality requirements of drones.
- UAS commonly known as Drones.
- It will boost indigenous manufacturing of Drones and has been notified under Rule 7 of liberalized Drone Rules, 2021, which replaced Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) 2021.
- Ministry of Civil Aviation had approved PLI scheme for drones and drone components with an allocation of Rs 120 crore.

Important Committee

1-15 September 2022

1. Sebi restructured panel on cyber security

- The Securities and Exchange Board of India has restructured its panel on cyber security that recommends measures to safeguard the capital markets from such attacks.
- The committee will be chaired by Navin Kumar Singh, DG at National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre (NCIIPC)
- Earlier, the committee had only four members but now it has six members.
- Other members: Sanjay Bahl, H Krishnamurthy, Sandeep Shukla and Debdeep Mukhopadhyay, Sugata Gangopadhyay

2. Govt sets up panel to address issues faced by venture capital, PE firms

- The Finance Ministry has set up a six-member, high-level panel to look into issues being faced by venture capital (VC) and private equity (PE) investors.
- The panel is headed by former SEBI chairman, M Damodaran.
- The committee will suggest steps for scaling up investment by VC and PE funds.
- Members: G Mahalingam (former member Sebi); D P Nagendra Kumar (former member CBIC); Ashish Verma (former Principal Commissioner Income Tax) Poonam Gupta, and P R Acharya.

August 2022

1. Steel ministry sets up advisory committee for secondary steel sector

- Steel Ministry has constituted an advisory committee for secondary steel under the

chairmanship of minister of civil aviation and steel Jyotiraditya Scindia.

- Aim: To identify and deliberate on the issues pertaining to the steel sector especially the secondary steel industry.
- Secondary steel share in steel output of nation has been falling sharply from a level of 55% (2015) to 40% (now).
- The secondary steel sector wants higher allocation of coal from Coal India.

2. Sebi restructures advisory committee on market data

- Sebi has restructured advisory committee on market data that recommends policy measures pertaining to securities market data access and privacy.
- The market data advisory committee will now have 20 members (earlier 21 members).
- Sebi has replaced former MD and CEO of NSE, Vikram Limaye by NSE current chief, Ashishkumar Chauhan.
- The committee is chaired by S Sahoo Professor at National Law University.

3. SEBI constitutes committee to attract foreign investment

- The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has constituted of Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) Advisory Committee.

- Aim: To increase the overseas flows into the country.
- The 15 members committee will be chaired by former Chief Economic Adviser KV Subramanian.
- Other members: Representing foreign banks, stock exchanges depositories and RBI.
- The committee will review investment avenues available for FPIs and to advise on the feasibility of new investment avenues.

4. Delhi High Court appoints 3-member committee to manage IOA affairs

- The Delhi High Court has passed an order to constitute a 3-member Committee of Administrators (CoA) to run daily affairs of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA).
- Agenda: To prepare the new constitution of IOA as per the Sports Code and the court rulings, and prepare the electoral roll in order to hold fresh elections.
- The CoA will be assisted by three sportspersons — Abhinav Bindra (Shooter), Anju Bobby George (former long jumper) and L Bombayla Devi (archer).

July 2022

1. Government sets up committee to develop framework on right to repair

- The Department of Consumer Affairs has set up a committee in developing a framework for the 'Right to Repair'.
- The committee will be chaired by Nidhi Khare (Additional Secretary of Department of Consumer Affairs).
- Aim: To empower consumers and product buyers in the local market, harmonize trade between the original equipment manufacturers and the third-party buyers and sellers.
- Countries like the U.S.A, U.K, and European Union have already recognized the Right to Repair

2. Defence ministry sets up committee to conduct performance, efficiency audit

- The defence ministry has set up an apex committee to conduct "performance and efficiency" audit of capital procurements, logistics, inventory and maintenance of assets of the armed forces.
- The committee is headed by the defence secretary.
- Committee will advise Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh on measures for overall improvement in strengthening of internal oversight and risk management framework in various aspects of functioning of the ministry.

3. Government forms Committee on MSP of agri produce

- The Centre has set up a Committee on Minimum Support Price under the chairmanship of Former Agriculture Secretary, Sanjay Agrawal.

- Aim: The minimum support price (MSP) more effective and transparent.
- The committee will also suggest measures to promote zero-budget natural farming and crop

diversification to fulfil the changing needs of the nation.

- Minister of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare: Narendra Singh Tomar

June 2022

1. SEBI forms advisory panel to hybrid securities to enable larger retail play

- Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), has set up 20-member advisory committee under the chairmanship of K V Kamath.
- Aim: recommends for giving a fillip to the growth of such instruments, including measures focusing on ease of issuance and attracting domestic and global capital.
- Sebi has reconstituted its research advisory committee of 16 members, chaired by V Ravi Anshuman.
- Aim: promotion, development, maintenance of databases relevant for regulation research.

2. Ranjit Bajaj appointed as Chairman of Advisory Panel Formed by CoA

- The former owner of I-League side Minerva Punjab FC, Ranjit Bajaj, has been appointed as the chairperson of the 12-member committee formed by the Committee of Administrators (CoA).
- The CoA took charge of the AIFF, after the Supreme Court removed the Praful Patel led office bearers for not holding elections on time.
- Aim: To look the day-to-day matters of various departments of the All India Football Federation (AIFF).

3. SEBI restructured Advisory Committee on Mutual Funds

- Securities and Exchange Board of India has restructured its advisory 25 member committee on mutual funds.
- The advisory committee will be chaired by former Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank India, Usha Thorat.
- Earlier, the committee had 24 members
- Aim: Advise SEBI on problems relating to MF regulation and development, and on disclosure requirements and takes necessary for a change in the legal framework.

4. 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 was 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

May 2022

1. Sebi constitute an advisory committee for ESG-related matters

- SEBI has constituted a committee for advising on Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) related matters in the securities market.
- Headed by: Navneet Munot, CEO, HDFC Mutual Fund
- The terms of reference of the committee include Enhancements in business responsibility and sustainability report, ESG ratings, and ESG investing.

- It will examine evolving disclosures/metrics relevant to the Indian context and suggest areas for assurance and a plan for implementation.

2. NMCG approves Rs 660 crore water infra projects

- The 42nd Executive Committee under the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) has approved 11 water infrastructure projects worth around Rs 660 crore.
- The meeting was headed by G Asok Kumar (DG, NMCG).
- During the meeting, a project for sewerage management for cleaning of River Hindon in Saharanpur (Uttar Pradesh) was also approved.

- The estimated cost of the project is Rs 577.23 crore that includes construction of 135 MLD STP, creation of interception etc.
- 3. RBI formed panel to review customer service standards in banks, NBFCs**
- The Reserve Bank of India has set up a committee to review the efficacy, adequacy and quality of customer service in banks, NBFCs, and other entities regulated by it.
 - The six-member committee headed by former RBI deputy governor B P Kanungo.
 - He will submit a report within three months from the date of its first meeting.
 - It will also review the evolving needs of the customer service landscape (evolving digital/electronic financial products and distribution landscape).
- 4. Inter-State Council reconstituted under the chairmanship of PM Modi**
- The Inter-State Council has been reconstituted under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, which works to promote and support cooperative federalism in the country.
 - The council comprises chief ministers of all states and six Union ministers as members.
 - It will also have 10 Union ministers as permanent invitees.
 - The government has also reconstituted the standing committee of the Inter-State Council with Union HM Amit Shah as head.
- 5. Indian officer Anwar Hussain Shaik is new chair of WTO's committee**
- Ten years later, an Indian government officer, Anwar Hussain Shaik has been made the chair of the WTO's Committee on Technical Barriers on Trade(TBT).
- He replaced Elisa Maria Olmeda de Alejandro from Mexico.
 - Aim: To ensure that standards and conformity assessment procedures, and technical regulations are non-discriminatory and do not create unnecessary obstacles to trade.
 - WTO is a 164 member organisation that formulates rules for global exports and imports.
- 6. Uttarakhand govt forms panel for Uniform Civil Code implementation**
- Uttarakhand govt has announced to form 5-member drafting committee to implement the much-debated Uniform Civil Code (UCC) in the state
 - Head of the committee: Ranjana Desai (retired Supreme Court judge)
 - Members: Delhi High Court judge Pramod Kohli, ex-state chief secretaries Shatrughan Singh, Manu Gaud and Surekha Dangwal
 - UCC: Common set of laws governing personal matters like marriage, divorce, inheritance and succession for all citizens, irrespective of religion, etc
- 7. Olympic medalist, Lovlina Borgohain elected as IBA Athletes Committee Chair**
- Olympics bronze medallist, Lovlina Borgohain has been elected as the voting member and chair on the Board of Directors for the Athletes' Committee, the International Boxing Association (IBA).
 - She has received the highest number of votes at the 2022 Women's World Championships election.
 - Shiva Thapa was elected by the boxers that participated during the men's world championships that was held in October 2021.
 - IBA Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland

Science and Defence

1-15th September 2022

- 1. Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) has collaborated with the Cyber Security Agency of Singapore to design and conduct the Cyber Security Exercise "Synergy" for 13 Countries.**
Note: It was a part of the International Counter Ransomware Initiative- Resilience Working Group. The Group is being led by India under the leadership of National Security Council Secretariat. Theme: "Building Network Resiliency to counter Ransomware Attacks".
- 2. HM, Amit Shah** has launched the Central Armed Police Forces' eAwas web-portal to operationalise the revised policy of allotment and bring transparency to the allotment process.
Note: The web-portal will enable online registration and allotment of residential quarters to eligible personnel of CAPFs and Assam Rifles. CAPF has been classified into three major categories: Border Guarding

- Forces; Forces for Internal Security; and Special Task Force
3. The Cabinet Committee on Security has approved the project **Tejas Mark-2** and sanctioned 6,500 crore rupees for designing and developing fighter jet with prototypes, flight testing, and certification.
Note: The allocation comes in addition to the existing 2500 crore rupees sanctioned to HAL. Tejas 2.0 will be equipped with more powerful GE- F414 engines in the 98 Kilonewton thrust class and carry additional payload and weapons as compared to the existing version.
 4. **Australia** has signed six space industry MoU with India's based organisation at the Bengaluru Space Expo (BSX) 2022.
Note: HEX20 - Skyroot Aerospace: For launch services, spacecraft avionics and components for Australian space initiatives. QL Space - Skyroot Aerospace: To develop launch facilities in Australia and support joint mineral exploration missions in space. QL Space - GalaxEye: To develop a hybrid optic and radar payload. QL Space - SatSure: To build satellite and AI-based solutions
 5. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully demonstrated a new technology with Inflatable Aerodynamic Decelerator (IAD), was designed and developed by **Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC)**.
Note: IAD is a game-changer with multiple applications for future missions including to Mars and Venus. The IAD was successfully test flown in a 'Rohini' sounding rocket from Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station.
 6. National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) of India and the UK Government in collaboration with **BAE Systems** to conduct the Cyber Security Exercise for 26 Countries.
Note: Aim: To simulate a large, wide-spread cyber security incident affecting organisations within a country. It is a part of the International Counter Ransomware Initiative- Resilience Working Group. This initiative is being led by India under the leadership of NCSC.
 7. The MOXIE has been successfully producing oxygen from Mars carbon dioxide-rich atmosphere since February 2021. **Mars oxygen in-situ resource utilisation experiment** is the full form of MOXIE.
Note: MOXIE, is a lunchbox-sized gadget that generated breathable oxygen on Mars which is equivalent to the effort of a tiny tree. MOXIE was landed on the Mars surface as part of Nasa's Perseverance rover mission. The MOXIE has met its objective of producing 6g of oxygen per hour in each run.
 8. NASA has selected **Axiom Space** to develop a moonwalking system for the Artemis III.
Note: Artemis will put humans back on the surface of the Moon for the first time in 50 years. The contract, with a base value of \$228.5 million is a task order to develop the next-generation Artemis spacesuit. The space agency used its 50 years of spacesuit experience to define the technical and safety requirements for the next generation of spacesuits.
 9. IIT-Madras and **University of Sydney** have entered into a research partnership to help address the energy challenges facing nations across the world.
Note: The partnership will see each of the institutions investing AU\$50,000 a year in joint funding for up to four research projects. The partnership will see experts from the two institutions working together to develop research and advanced technology in fields related to energy.
 10. DRDO and which armed force have successfully conducted six flight-tests of Quick Reaction Surface to Air Missile (QRSAM) system from Integrated Test Range, Chandipur off the Odisha coast _____.
Note: Aim: To check the pin-point accuracy of the weapon system with state-of-the-art guidance and control algorithms
 11. Army's Kharga Corps and **Indian Air Force** conducted a joint exercise to showcase the might and prowess of the armed forces.
Note: Termed "Gagan Strike", the exercise was conducted over a period of four days in several areas of Punjab, bordering Ambala in Haryana. The force multiplier effect of combining these machines with ground operations has enhanced the combat superiority of our forces.
 12. **Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd (MDL)** shipbuilder has launched the third Stealth Frigate of Project 17A "Taragiri".
Note: The vessel has an approximate launch weight of 3510 Tons. Designed by: Bureau of Naval Design, in-house design of Indian Navy. The ship is 149.02 M long & 17.8 M wide, is propelled by a CODOG combination of two Gas Turbines and 02 Main Diesel Engines. The keel of Taragiri was laid on the 10th of September 2020 and the ship is expected to be delivered by August 2025.
 13. Indian Army has been collaborated with **HPCL** to provide a learning platform to less-privileged girl students of Kargil Region in UT Ladakh.
Note: The platform named 'Kargil Ignited Minds', which provide coaching and mentoring to the aspiring girl students. Aim: To prepare 50 girl students for various National-level Engineering & Medical entrance examinations. Focus: To empower the underprivileged girls with limited resources, residing in extreme weather conditions.
 14. The navies of India and Japan are carrying out the sixth edition of Japan-India Maritime Exercise (JIMEX 22) hosted by the Indian Navy at **Bay of Bengal**.
Note: Aim: To enhance operational understanding. The Japan Maritime Self Defence Force (JMSDF) has deployed Izumo (helicopter carrier) and Takanami (guided missile destroyer) for this exercise. The Indian

Navy has represented by multi-purpose stealth frigate Sahyadri and anti-submarine warfare corvettes

Kadmatt.

August 2022

1. Third edition of Vietnam-India bilateral army exercise "Ex VINBAX 2022" has conducted at Chandimandir in Haryana till 20th August.
Note: Aim: To strengthen the bilateral relations between India and Vietnam. Theme of Ex VINBAX - 2022: Employment and deployment of an Engineer Company and a Medical Team as part of United Nations Contingent for Peace Keeping Operations.
2. The joint military Exercise "AL NAJAH -IV" between contingents of Indian Army and the Royal Army of Oman has conducted in **Bikaner, Rajasthan**.
Note: The contingent of Royal Army of Oman is comprising 60 personnel from the Sultan of Oman Parachute Regiment and the Indian Army is represented by troops from the 18 Mechanised Infantry Battalion.
3. Along with 13 countries, India will take part in **Pitch Black** exercise that has been organised by Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF), Australia.
Note: This mega air exercise is scheduled to be held from August 19 to September 6. Participants (17 countries): Australia, Canada, India, France, Germany, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand, the UAE, the UK and the US.
4. To commemorate the victory of the Indian Armed forces during the Kargil War, **Point 5140** at Drass in Kargil Sector was renamed as 'Gun Hill'.
Note: The Regiment of Artillery, with lethal and accurate firepower, was able to have a telling effect on the enemy troops and their defences. On July 26, 1999, the Indian Army announced the success of 'Operation Vijay'.
5. **18th** edition of India and US mega military exercise "Yudh Abhyas" will be held in Auli, Uttarakhand from October 14 to 31, 2022.
Note: Aim: To build the understanding, cooperation and interoperability between the two armies. The 17th edition of the exercise was held in Alaska in US.
6. Along with Indian army, **DRDO** organisation has successfully test-fired indigenously developed Laser-Guided Anti-Tank Guided Missiles (ATGM) from Main Battle Tank (MBT) Arjun.
Note: The missiles have hit the target successfully with the precision at two different ranges. Laser Guided ATGM employs a tandem High Explosive Anti-Tank (HEAT) warhead to defeat Explosive Reactive Armour protected armoured vehicles. This is currently under technical evaluation trials from MBT Arjun's 120 mm rifled gun
7. Five women officers of **INAS 314** have created history by completing the first all-women independent maritime reconnaissance and surveillance mission over the north Arabian Sea onboard a Dornier 228 aircraft.
Note: The INAS 314 is a frontline Naval Air Squadron based at Porbandar, Gujarat. Five women: Lt Commander Aanchal Sharma (Mission Commander); Lt Shivangi; Lt Apurva Gite; Lt Pooja Panda; Sub Lt Pooja Shekhawat
8. **South Korea** has successfully launched its first lunar mission, Danuri, from Cape Canaveral in Florida.
Note: It is also known as Korea Pathfinder Lunar Orbiter. This mission is jointly developed by Nasa and the Korea Aerospace Research Institute.
➤ South Korea has also planned to land its own spacecraft on the moon by 2030.
9. Which rocket launched by United Launch Alliance (ULA) from Space Launch Complex-41 at Cape Canaveral Space Force Station for carrying the Space Based Infrared System Geosynchronous Earth Orbit-6 (SBIRS GEO 6) mission for the U.S. Space Force's Space Systems Command _____ **Atlas V rocket**.
Note: SBIRS is an early missile warning system that will replace the Defense Support Program (launched in the 1950). The ULA is a joint venture between Lockheed Martin and Boeing.
10. Co-passenger satellite **Azaadi SAT** has been launched by the Indian Space Research Organization along with Earth Observation Satellite, EOS-02, but failed due to a technical anomaly in the cryogenic stage.
Note: It is a three-stage vehicle with all solid propulsion stages. The 'Azaadi Satellite' is designed by 750 girl students of government schools in rural areas from Kashmir to Kanyakumari.
11. **China** successfully launched a pilot reusable spacecraft with its Long March-2F carrier rocket.
Note: The unidentified spacecraft, which was launched from China's Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center, will return to a planned landing site after operating in the orbit for some time to provide technical validations for reuses. A similar mission was launched by China in 2020. Spacecraft will operate in orbit for some time and then return to the intended landing site in China.
12. **Indian Army** has conducted a pan-India exercise called 'Skylight', to test and validate its entire satellite-based communication network.
Note: Reason: To ensure operational readiness in case of a conflict in the future. The exercise involved all kinds of satellite communication from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands to Ladakh, where India and China have engaged in a military stand-off for the past two years.

- 13. Russian** Rocket has successfully launched an Iranian satellite named Khayyam, into orbit by the Soyuz rocket.
- Note:** It was launched from the Russia-leased Baikonur launch facility in Kazakhstan. The name of satellite was named after Omar Khayyam, a Persian scientist who lived in the 11th and 12th centuries. The satellite fitted with high-resolution camera will be used for environmental monitoring and will remain fully under its control.
- 14.** Indian Space Research Organisation has successfully completed the test-firing of the LEM of Crew Escape System from Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh. What is the full form of LEM (**Low Altitude Escape Motor**).
- Note:** Objective: Evaluation of motor ballistic parameters; Validation of motor subsystem performance. LEM is a distinctive special purpose solid rocket motor. It has four reverse flow nozzles. It generates a maximum sea level thrust of 842 kN (nominal) with a burn time of 5.98 seconds (nominal).
- 15.** India's first virtual space museum **SPARK** was launched by ISRO Chairman, S Somanath.
- Note:** To showcase the digital content related to different ISRO missions in an interactive manner. SPARK can be accessed through the official website of ISRO or at: <https://spacepark.isro.gov.in>. Presently, the space organisation has also launched an application, the beta version of SPARK on their website.
- 16.** India has officially began working with the Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) of **Bahrain**.
- Note:** Aim: To strengthen collaboration in regional security in the Western Indian Ocean. At the India-US 2+2 in April 2022, India had announced that it would join the CMF as an Associate Partner. CMF is a multi-national naval partnership (34 nation grouping) to promote security, stability and prosperity across the 3.2 million square miles of international waters.
- 17.** **13th** edition of the Indo-US Joint Special Forces exercise, "Ex Vajra Prahar 2022" has started at Bakloh of Himachal Pradesh.
- Note:** Aim: To share best practices and experiences and also improve inter-operability. The 12th edition was held at Joint Base Lewis Mcchord, Washington (USA) in October 2021. During the exercise, both armies would jointly train, plan and execute a series of Special Operations, Counter Terrorist Operations, and Air Borne operations.
- 18.** The 12th edition of the Defence Expo, India's flagship exhibition on Land, Naval and Homeland Security systems will be organised in **Gandhinagar, Gujarat**.
- Note:** The event will be held between October 18 and 22, 2022. Theme: Path to Pride. Focus: Live demonstrations showcasing the equipment and skill set of the Armed Forces, DPSUs and Industry. The exhibition is in line with the vision of PM Modi to achieve self-reliance in defence and achieve export of \$5 billion by 2025.
- 19.** A contingent of the Indian Air Force (IAF) has participated in a bilateral exercise named 'Udarashakti' with **Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF)**.
- Note:** Indian Air Force is participating in the air exercise with Su-30 MKI and C-17 aircraft while the RMAF will be flying Su 30 MKM aircraft. The four days of exercise will witness the conduct of various aerial combat drills between the two Air Forces.
- 20.** The Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh has handed over new weapons systems - F-INSAS, Nipun mines, LCA to the Indian army. The full form of F-INSAS is **Future Infantry Soldier As A System**.
- Note:** F-INSAS is designed to transform the infantry soldier into a self-contained fighting machine. Nipun mines: It will act as the first line of defence against enemy infantry or tanks or infiltration attempts by terrorists. Landing Craft Assault (LCA): It helps the Army more efficiently mobilise its forces.
- 21.** Indian army and Chinese Army will attend the Vostok 2022 military exercises that will be held in **Russia**.
- Note:** Other participants: Belarus, Mongolia and Tajikistan. The strategic command and staff exercise will be held under the chief of Russia's General Staff, Valery Gerasimov, at 13 training grounds of the Eastern Military District. In 2021, India had attended ZAPAD 2021 drills in Russia in which 17 countries including China and Pakistan.
- 22.** **3rd** edition of Ex VINBAX 2022 Bilateral Army Exercise between India and Vietnam has been concluded at Chandimandir, Haryana.
- Note:** Theme of Ex VINBAX – 2022: Employment and deployment of an Engineer Company and a Medical Team under United Nations Contingent for Peacekeeping Operations. Focus: Strengthening mutual confidence and interoperability. The next edition of VINBAX will be hosted in Vietnam in 2023.
- 23.** The Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) between the navies of India and **Australia** have been concluded.
- Note:** INS Sumedha participated with HMAS Anzac in the exercise reaffirming the strong navy-to-navy links and interoperability between Indian Navy and Royal Australian Navy. The MPX included cross deck landing of helicopters, tactical manoeuvres and a farewell steam past. Indian Navy's INS Sumedha was docked at Perth in Australia to celebrate India's 76th Independence Day.
- 24.** South Korea and the **United States** have started began their largest joint military drills, 'Ulchi Freedom Shield', and scheduled to end on 1st of September.

Note: South Korea has also launched the four-day Ulchi civil defence drills separately, that is designed to boost government readiness. Aim: To normalise the combined exercises and boost deterrence against North Korea. The exercise also aimed at improving the country's preparedness to match the changing patterns of war.

25. As per the official sources, PM Modi will commission the India's first indigenously-built aircraft carrier (IAC) Vikrant on **September 2, 2022**.
Note: The four trial phases of IAC Vikrant was completed on 10th July 2022. The IAC Vikrant was designed by Indian Navy's in-house Directorate of Naval Design (DND) and built by the Cochin Shipyard Limited. The IAC is 262 metres long, 62 metres wide and has a height of 59 metres. The construction of IAC Vikrant was began in 2009.
26. India has successfully test-fired VL-SRSAM from the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur off the Odisha coast. The full form of VL-SRSAM **Vertical Launch Short Range Surface-to-Air Missile**.
Note: The missile was tested by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Indian Navy. This missile is equipped with indigenous radio frequency (RF) seeker, intercepted the target with high accuracy. The missile system has been indigenously designed and developed by DRDO
27. **Indian Navy** has received the first made in India produced 30mm ammunition for AK-630 guns fitted on warships.

July 2022

1. Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh has inaugurated a new manufacturing facilities at the Bhanur Unit of Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) in **Telangana**.
Note: Includes: Warhead facility at the Bhanur Unit; a Radio Frequency (RF) Seeker facility at Kanchanbagh Unit. The RF Seeker Facility is an integrated Centre for the production and testing of RF seekers.
2. **DRDO** has conducted successfully the maiden flight of the Autonomous Flying Wing Technology Demonstrator from the Aeronautical Test Range, Karnataka.
Note: It is powered by a small turbofan engine. The unmanned aerial vehicle is designed and developed by Aeronautical Development Establishment. The aircraft system such as airframe, undercarriage and entire flight control and avionics systems had been developed indigenously.
3. Indian Navy has commissioned Indian Naval Air Squadron **324** in the presence of Vice Admiral, Biswajit Dasgupta at INS Dega, Visakhapatnam.

Note: Satyanarayan Nuwal (CMD of Economic Explosives Limited) has handed over the first consignment of the ammunition to Navy Vice Chief Vice Admiral SN Ghormade. It achievement has been done in 12 months and all components are indigenous. It is the first time that the services have placed an order on the Indian private industry for the delivery of gun ammunition

28. India and **Tanzania** has decided to set up a task force to prepare a five-year roadmap to boost bilateral defence cooperation.
Note: This decision was taken during wide-ranging talks between Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh and his visiting Tanzanian counterpart, Stergomena Lawrence Tax. Aim: To boost the bilateral defence ties as well as military-to-military cooperation. Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh has also invited Tax to the India-Africa Defence Dialogue and the DefExpo.
29. **Indian Coast Guard (ICG)** has concluded the 10th National Maritime Search and Rescue Exercise SAREX -22 in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
Note: Theme of 10th edition of the biennial exercise is "Capacity Building towards Marine Passenger Safety". This exercise was reviewed by Indian Coast Guard chief VS Pathania along with other agencies and foreign participants. The two-day exercise was conducted under the aegis of the National Maritime Search and Rescue Board (NMSARB)

Note: This is the first Naval Squadron on the Eastern Seaboard operating indigenously designed and built Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) MK III (MR) helicopters. This has been named as 'Kestrels', after a bird species, that has good sensory capabilities, symbolising the role envisaged of the aircraft and the air squadron.

4. 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.
Note: Earlier, only authorised public sector banks were allow 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.
5. Indigenous Aircraft Carrier **Vikrant** has successfully completed its fourth phase of Sea Trials.
Note: Vikrant has an indigenous content of 76%. The construction of the aircraft carrier began in 2009. The

- indigenous design and construction of Aircraft Carrier by Indian Navy and Cochin Shipyard Limited.
6. China has begun four-day naval exercises 'Sea Guardians-2' from the coast of Shanghai with **Pakistan**.
Note: This drill exercise involves Pakistan's most advanced China-built frigate. Taimur is the second of four powerful Type 054A/P frigates built by China, was delivered to the Pakistan Navy. Theme: jointly dealing with maritime security threats.
 7. Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh has launched **75** defence products powered by artificial intelligence at the first-ever 'AI in Defence' symposium and exhibition.
Note: This exhibition was organised by the Ministry of Defence in New Delhi. Products include: AI Platform Automation; Autonomous/Unmanned/Robotics systems; Block Chain-based Automation; Command, Control, Computer & Intelligence and many more. These products will open up new business avenues for the Defence PSUs.
 8. Space-tech start-up company **Agnikul Cosmos** has opened its Rocket Factory-1, India's first-ever rocket facility dedicated to 3D printed rocket engines at scale.
Note: The facility at IIT Madras Research Park was unveiled by N Chandrasekaran, Chairman, TATA Sons with ISRO Chairman S Somanath being the Guest of Honour. The IIT Madras incubated start-up became the first Indian company to sign an agreement with the Indian Space Research Organisation in December 2020.
 9. **Syngenta India** has launched a Biodiversity Sensor Project, a biodiversity monitoring technology in association with IIT Ropar.
Note: Syngenta also flagged off India's first Drone Yatra, that will travel 10,000 kms to create awareness on drone spraying among 10,000 farmers. The Yatra will travel to 13 states to demonstrate and educate farmers on use of drones. For the Biodiversity Sensor Project, Syngenta India is working with IIT Ropar & Fraunhofer Institute.
 10. SpaceX Cargo Dragon spacecraft **CRS-25** has launched from "launch complex 39A" of the Kennedy Space Centre.
Note: The spacecraft was lifted off on Falcon 9. CRS-25 was initially scheduled to launch in June 2022, but it was delayed due to a hydrazine leak on the spacecraft. Hydrazine: Used by Dragon's Draco thrusters and is highly corrosive to components not designed to interact with the fuel. SpaceX was founded in 2002 by Elon Musk.
 11. Dunagiri **Project 17A** has been launched into the Hooghly river at Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited, Kolkata.
Note: The ceremony was attended by Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh as the chief guest. It is christened after a 'Dunagiri', mountain range in the state of Uttarakhand. It is the fourth ship of P17A Frigates (Shivalik Class) with improved stealth features, advanced weapons and sensors and platform management systems.
 12. **INS Sindhudhvaj**, kilo-class submarine which has been decommissioned by the Indian Navy.
Note: It has been acquired from Russia in 1987. India had acquired 8 of the submarines, designated 877 EKM, between 1986 and 1991 and two more were acquired between 1998 and 2000. India has four Type 209 submarines of German origin and four of the indigenously manufactured Scorpene class of French origin. Two more Scorpene submarines will be delivered to the Indian Navy by 2023 end.
 13. The defence ministry has set up an apex committee to conduct "performance and efficiency" audit of capital procurements, logistics, inventory and maintenance of assets of the armed forces.
Note: Committee will advise Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh on measures for overall improvement in strengthening of internal oversight and risk management framework in various aspects of functioning of the ministry.
 14. **'SPRINT challenges'** launched by PM Modi with an aim to boost the usage of indigenous technology in the Indian Navy.
Note: This was unveiled at a naval seminar, which is organised by the Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation (NIIO) and Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers. SPRINT: Supporting Pole-Vaulting in R&D through iDEX (Innovations for Defence Excellence), NIIO and TDAC (Technology Development Acceleration Cell).
 15. **China** has successfully launched the Wentian laboratory module (23-tonne), second space module to its permanent space station.
Note: This has been launched on the Long March 5B from the Wenchang Space Launch Center on the southern island of Hainan. This module will help astronauts to carry out their scientific experiments, along with the other lab module. First space module was Tianhe, was launched in April 2021 and the third module, Mengtian, will be launched soon.
 16. **Russia** will withdraw from the International Space Station (ISS) after 2024.
Note: Russia and the United States have worked side by side on the space station which has been in orbit since 1998. ISS is the largest modular space station currently in low Earth orbit. Five participating space agencies: NASA (US), Roscosmos (Russia), JAXA (Japan), ESA (Europe), and CSA (Canada).

17. A Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) has been conducted between Indian Navy and Maritime Self Defense Force of **Japan**.

Note: INS Sukanya (offshore patrol vessel) and JS Samidare (Murasame class destroyer) undertook various exercises, which include seamanship activities, aircraft operations and tactical manoeuvres as part of the operational interaction. Aim: Enhancing interoperability and streamlining seamanship and communication procedures.

18. Fighter jets **MiG-21** will be retired by the Indian Air Force by 2022 September.

Note: Other three scheduled to be phased out by 2025. The old MiG-21s will be replaced with newer fighter jets. The air force received its first single-engine MiG-21 in 1963. The fighter jet has been participated in many operations like Safed Sagar (Kargil, 1999), operation of India in Pakistan in February 2019.

June 2022

1. The Defence Ministry has signed a contract of **2,971 crores** with Bharat Dynamics Ltd under the 'buy Indian' category.

Note: The contract was signed for the supply of the indigenously developed Astra Mk-I Beyond Visual Range air to air missiles and associated equipment for the Navy and the Indian Air Force. The Defence Acquisition Council headed by Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh had approved the purchase of 248 Astra-MK1 missiles (200 for the IAF and 48 for the Navy) in July 2020.

2. **INS Akshay and INS Nishank** two ships have been decommissioned by the Indian Navy after 32 years of service.

Note: While INS Nishank, a high-speed missile craft, was commissioned on September 12, 1989, INS Akshay was commissioned a year later on December 10, 1990, at Poti, Georgia. Both were part of the 22 Missile Vessel Squadron and 23 Patrol Vessel Squadron, respectively.

3. **Chandigarh** has signed an MoU with the Indian Air Force to set up a heritage center to showcase the role of the Indian Air Force in various wars and its overall functioning.

Note: The 'IAF Heritage Centre' will be set up jointly by the force and the Chandigarh administration. An MoU between the Union Territory of Chandigarh and the IAF for setting up of the center was signed.

4. **10th** edition of Ex SAMPRITI has been begun on June 5 at Jessore military station in Bangladesh.

Note: A joint military training exercise between India and Bangladesh. Aim: At strengthening the aspects of interoperability and cooperation between both armies. Indian contingent represented: Dogra regiment.

5. India has successfully test-fired a nuclear-capable Agni-IV ballistic missile from APJ Abdul Kalam Island in Odisha, **4,000 km** is the strike target of Agni-IV.

Note: This missile is the fourth in the Agni series of missiles which is earlier known as Agni II prime. This missile was designed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and manufactured by the Bharat Dynamics Limited.

6. **Ex Khaan Quest 2022** a multinational peacekeeping exercise has started in Mongolia.

Note: 16 countries are taking part in this exercise including India. This exercise has been inaugurated by the President of Mongolia, Ukhnaagiin Khurelsukh. Indian Army is represented by a contingent from the Ladakh Scouts.

7. Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) has accorded the Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) for Capital Acquisition Proposals of the Armed Forces amounting to **Rs 76,390 crore**.

Note: This will give boost to the Indian Defence Industry and reduce foreign spending significantly. The DAC meeting was headed by Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh.

8. In the year **1989** INS Nishank was commissioned, and which has been decommissioned by the Indian Navy on June 4, 2022.

Note: These two ships also participated in Operation Talwar and Operation Parakram. While INS Nishank, a high-speed missile craft, was commissioned on September 12, 1989, INS Akshay was commissioned a year later on December 10, 1990 at Poti, Georgia.

9. By the year **2029**, NASA set to launch "DAVINCI Mission" to explore the harsh atmosphere of Venus.

- Note:** The mission will fly by Venus and explore its harsh atmosphere in 2029. It will be the first mission to study Venus by means of both flybys and descent. Spacecraft is likely to explore layered Venusian atmosphere. It will reach Venusian surface by June 2031. The mission would capture data about Venus, that scientists are trying to measure since early 1980s.
10. India will launch first manned Human Ocean Mission in 2023.
Note: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences India Jitendra Singh said that India will achieve the unique distinction of simultaneously launching the first Human Space Mission "Gaganyaan" as well as the first manned Human Ocean Mission in 2023.
11. **China** has launched its third aircraft carrier named 'Fujian'.
Note: It is the most advanced as well as the first fully domestically-built naval vessel in China. Its launching ceremony was held at Shanghai's Jiangnan Shipyard.
12. Indian Short-Range Ballistic Missile **Prithvi-II** has been test fired successfully from an integrated test range in Chandipur, Odisha.
Note: This missile system is capable of striking targets with a very high degree of precision. It is an indigenously developed, surface-to-surface missile. Range: 250 km and can carry one-ton payload.
13. **The Eastern Region** of Indian Coast Guard has inducted the indigenously designed and developed Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) Mark III, the first aircraft of the newly created "840 Squadron".
Note: The new squadron will be stationed at the headquarters of the Eastern Region of the Coast Guard, Chennai. ICG will add three more ALHs to the inventory of '840 Squadron' soon.
14. Communication satellite **GSAT-24** has been successfully launched by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) from Kourou in French Guiana.
Note: It is built by ISRO for NewSpace India Limited (NSIL). It was launched by French company Arianespace. It is a 24-Ku band communication satellite, weight 4180 kg, pan-India coverage for meeting DTH application needs.
15. **South Korea** country has successfully launched satellites into orbit with its homegrown Nuri rocket.
Note: This is a crucial step for the country's space program expansion after a failed attempt last year. With this launch, South Korea becomes the 10th country to place a satellite with its own technology. Nuri is a three-stage rocket, more than 47 meters (154 feet) long and weighing 200 tons.
16. **Iran** country has launched a solid-fueled rocket, a 25.5 meter-long rocket into space.
Note: Rocket name: Zuljanah, This rocket is capable of carrying a satellite of 220 kilograms. It will gather data in low-earth orbit and promote Iran's space industry.
17. **38th** edition of the Coordinated Patrol with Indonesian Navy (IND-INDO CORPAT) has been conducted by India.
Note: INS Karmuk (indigenously built missile corvette) is based at the Andaman and Nicobar Command, along with a Dornier Maritime Patrol Aircraft. While the Indonesian Navy is being represented by KRI Cut Nyak Dien, a Kapitan Pattimura (PARCHIM I) class corvette. The closing ceremony is scheduled at Sabang, Indonesia on 23 June 22.
18. **Bharat Electronics Limited** aerospace company has signed an MoU with Defense Initiatives (DI), Belarus, and Defense Initiatives Aero Pvt Ltd, India (a subsidiary of DI Belarus).
Note: To supply of Airborne Defense Suite (ADS) for helicopters of the Indian Air Force (IAF). It would be supported by DI with transfer of technology (manufacturing and maintenance) for supply of advanced electronic warfare suite for helicopters under 'Make in India' category.
19. Shipborne weapon system, **Vertical Launch Short Range Surface to Air Missile (VL-SRSAM)** is developed by the DRDO, was successfully test fired from Chandipur in Odisha.
Note: This missile system has been designed to strike at the high-speed airborne targets. Range: 40km to 50km. This missile's design is based on Astra missile.
20. Indian Air Force has participated in Tactical Leadership Programme with **Egyptian Air Force** air force in Cairo west Airbase.
Note: Indian Air Force: Three Su-30MKI aircraft, two C-17 aircraft and 57 IAF personnel including C-17 contingent. Aim: Enhancing defence cooperation between the two countries and exchange of best practices.
21. Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully test-fired indigenously-developed Laser-Guided Anti-Tank Guided Missile (ATGM) from **Main Battle Tank (MBT) Arjun Tank**.
Note: The ATGM has been developed with multi-platform launch capability. It is currently undergoing technical evaluation trials from 120 mm rifled gun of MBT Arjun. The successful development of the laser guided ATGM will enhance the fire power of the MBT Arjun.
22. The indigenously developed, high-speed expendable aerial target (HEAT) **ABHYAS** has been tested successfully from the Integrated Test Range in Chandipur, Odisha.

Note: It can be used as an aerial target for evaluating various missile systems. It is developed and designed by Aeronautical Development Establishment, Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

23. Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has launched **PSLV-C53** with three Singapore satellites on 30th June, from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota.

May 2022

1. By **December 2024** the Indian Space Research Organisation is planning to launch a spacecraft to orbit Venus with an orbital manoeuvre.

Note: To study the Venus atmosphere. The Orbital manoeuvre is the use of propulsion systems to change the orbit of a spacecraft. It permits a spacecraft to enter a planet's orbit. ISRO eyeing the December 2024 window as Earth and Venus would be aligned in a manner so that the minimum amount of propellant would be required.

2. **Red Shield Division** of the Indian Army has signed an MoU with the State Bank of India Foundation (SIBF) and training partner National Integrity and Educational Development Organization (NIEDO) to establish a Centre for Excellence and wellness.

Note: The project is named Manipur Super 50 and will be fully functional for the first batch of 50 students by the first week of July 2022. Aim: To provide residential coaching for competitive examinations including the NEET and JEE.

3. Exercise **DEFENDER-Europe 22** was organised by the United States Armed Forces to build preparedness and interoperability between Allies and partners of the USA and NATO.

Note: Poland is one of the DE22 host countries and conduct training in Drawsko Pomorskie, Bemowo Piskie and Zagan. Apart from Polish troops, the forces from the USA, France, Sweden, Germany, Denmark and Great Britain will also participate. The exercises are scheduled to run from May 1-27.

4. **Indian Coast Guard** has commissioned its second Air Squadron, 845 Squadron (CG) at the Coast Guard Air Enclave at Nedumbassery in Kochi.

Note: The new Air Squadron was commissioned by Coast Guard Director General V S Pathania. It is equipped with indigenously developed Advanced Mark III (ALH Mark III) helicopters. This second squadron of these choppers will boost the security of the western seaboard and enhance India's search and rescue capability.

5. Scheme/portal '**CAPF Punarvaas**' was launched by the Ministry of Home Affairs through Welfare & Rehabilitation Board (WARB) to facilitate retired Central Armed Police Force (CAPF) and Assam Rifle personnel.

Note: PSLV-C53, is the second dedicated commercial mission of the NewSpace India Limited, Department of Space. Primary payloads: 365 kg earth observation satellite called DS-EO, a 155 kg NeuSAR satellite and the 2.8 kg Scoob-1 nano-satellite of the Nanyang Technological University, Singapore.

Note: This portal will help the retired personnel to find an appropriate job match by uploading their personal details on the WARB website. MHA also runs a portal under Private Security Agencies Regulation Act (PSARA) for the registration of Private Security Agencies (PSAs).

6. Human-rated solid rocket booster **HS200** has been successfully tested by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) for Gaganyaan at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.

Note: HS200 is part of the Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle MkIII (GSLV Mk III) rocket that will carry Indian astronauts to space. Stages of GSLV MK III: The first stage is powered by solid fuel, the second by liquid fuel and the third by liquid hydrogen and liquid oxygen.

7. **Surat and Udaygiri** are two frontline warships of the Indian Navy which was recently launched by the Defence Minister Rajnath Singh at Mazgaon Docks Limited, Mumbai.

Note: The first ship is Surat, which is the fourth and last of the stealth destroyers under the 'Project 15B' programme. The second ship is Udaygiri, part of the 'Project 17A' frigate programme. It is the third ship of Project 17A frigates.

8. **Defence Research and Development Organisation** has jointly conducted the flight test of the indigenously-developed Naval Anti-Ship Missile with Indian Navy successfully in May 2022.

Note: The missile was launched from a Naval Helicopter from Integrated Test Range, Chandipur off the coast of Odisha. It is the first indigenous air launched anti-ship missile system for the Indian Navy. Recently, Rajnath Singh has launched two frontline warships of the Indian Navy: INS Surat and INS Udaygiri.

9. **HANSA-NG** is the flying trainer Aircraft which has successfully completed an in-flight engine relight test at DRDO's Aeronautical Test Range (ATR) facility, Challakere, Karnataka.

Note: The aircraft was designed & Developed by CSIR-National Aerospace Laboratories (CSIR-NAL). The

flight test was carried out at an altitude of 7000-8000 feet with a speed range of 60 to 70 knots by Wg Cdr K V Prakash and Wg Cdr NDS Reddy.

- 10. 4th edition** of Indian and Bangladesh Navies has commenced two-day Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT) in Northern Bay of Bengal.

Note: Indian Navy: Two indigenously built Ships - Kora (a guided-missile corvette) and Sumedha (an offshore patrol vessel) are participating in the exercise. Bangladesh: Navy Ships BNS Ali Haider and BNS Abu Ubaidah are taking part in the coordinated patrol exercise.

- 11. 3rd edition** of Indian Navy and Bangladesh Navy Bilateral exercise, Bongosagar has commenced at Port Mongla, Bangladesh.

Note: Aim: Developing a high degree of interoperability and joint operational skills. The exercise includes two phases: Harbour Phase and Sea Phase

- 12. Army Training Command** of Indian army has signed an MoU with Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU) to develop first-of-its-kind simulation-based training

centre 'Wargame Research and Development Centre' in New Delhi.

Note: A prototype name 'WARDEC' has been given to this project and use artificial intelligence (AI) to design virtual reality wargames. The centre will be used by the Army to train its soldiers and test their strategies through "metaverse-enabled gameplay".

- 13. INS Gomati** has been decommissioned by the Indian Navy.

Note: INS Gomati was commissioned on 16 April 1988 by the then Defence Minister, KC Pant, at Mazgaon Dock Ltd, Bombay. During its 34 years of service, the ship participated in Operations Cactus, Parakram and Rainbow, and multinational naval exercises.

- 14. Param Ananta** supercomputer has been established at IIT Gandhinagar, under Phase II of the National Supercomputing Mission (NSM).

Note: NSM is a joint initiative of Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and Department of Science and Technology (DST). Its system is based on Direct Contact Liquid Cooling technology.

Honor & Awards

1st to 14th Sep 2022

- 1. SothearaChhim, Bernadette Madrid, Tadashi Hattori, GaryBencheghib** have been conferred with the 2022 Ramon Magsaysay Awards by the Ramon Magsaysay Awards Foundation.

Note: SothearaChhim (Cambodia): For mental Health; **Bernadette Madrid** (Philippines): For effort in child protection; **Tadashi Hattori** (Japan): For training local doctors who have treated Vietnamese; **Gary Bencheghib** (Indonesia): For fight against marine plastic pollution; Ramon Magsaysay Award was established in April 1957

- 2.** For the documentary **Our Great National Parks** of Netflix, the former President of the US, Barack Obama has won Emmy Award for his narration.

Note: The documentary has been released in five-parts, and produced by Barack and Michelle Obama's production company "Higher Ground". He has already won two Grammys and is now halfway to an EGOT- the achievement i.e. an Emmy, a Grammy, an Oscar, and a Tony. Barack Obama is 2nd US President to win Emmy, after Dwight D Eisenhower.

- 3. Warangal (Telangana), Thrissur (Kerala) and Nilambur (Kerala),** the three cities have joined the Global Network of Learning Cities (GNLC) of UNESCO.

Note: Reason: For their outstanding efforts to make lifelong learning a reality for all at the local level. These three cities are among the 77 cities from 44 countries which have joined this network of the world body. The

77 new members bring the total number of cities to 294 in 76 countries.

- 4.** President of Singapore, Halimah Yacob has conferred the prestigious military award of Singapore, the Pingat Jasa Gemilang (Tentera) or Meritorious Service Medal (Military) to **Sunil Lanba** former India Chief of Naval Staff.

Note: Reason: For enhancing the strong and long-standing bilateral defence relationship between the Indian Navy and Singapore Navy. The award has been presented by Defence minister of Singapore, Ng Eng Hen.

- 5. Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS)** has been conferred with the highest global recognition on Literacy- UNESCO International Literacy Prize 2022.

Note: This award has been given at a global award ceremony organised by UNESCO in Côte d'Ivoire on 8 September 2022. KISS is the fifth recipient from India and the first and only institute from Odisha to receive this International honour. It was founded by Dr Samanta, a well-known Educationist and Social Activist.

- 6. Lee Jung-jae, Actor of Squid Game (Netflix)** has won the 74th Emmy Award for Male lead actor, at the Microsoft Theater, LA, California.

Note: Zendaya has won the 74th Emmy Award for best lead actress in a drama Series for her best performance in Euphoria (HBO)

- Best Drama Series: Succession (HBO)
 - Best Comedy Series: Ted Lasso (Apple TV)
 - Best Limited or Anthology Series: The White Lotus (HBO)
 - Best Writing for a Drama Series: Succession - All The Bells Say (HBO)
7. **Pushpa: The Rise** has won the Tenth SIIMA Awards in the category of best movie in Telugu Cinema.

Note: While the Allu Arjun won the SIIMA Award in the category of best male lead role for his performance in 'Pushpa: The Rise' (Telugu Cinema)

- Best Actor: Late Puneeth Rajkumar for Yuvarathnaa (Kannada)
- Best Director: Sukumar for 'Pushpa: The Rise'
- Best Actor (Critics Choice): Naveen Polishetty for Jathi Ratnalu
- Best Actress: Pooja Hegde for 'Most Eligible Bachelor'.

August 2022

1. **SBI, PNB and Bank of India** has been awarded Agri Infra Fund awards in the category of Best Performing Banks.
Note: Narendra Singh Tomar (Minister for Agriculture) has presented Agri Infra Fund awards under various categories to honour Banks and State Governments. Banks valuable contribution category: Bank of Baroda, Central Bank of India, Canara Bank and Kotak Mahindra Best performing State: Madhya Pradesh
 - **PACS application:**
 - Best performer in sanction : Andhra Pradesh
 - Best performer in faster disposal: Karnataka
2. Indian American teenager **Aarya Walvekar (Virginia)** has been crowned with the title of Miss India USA 2022 in New Jersey.
Note: She is an advocate for Mental Health and Body Positivity Health at Every Size Movement and created various awareness campaigns. She is also the founder of Euphoria Dance Studio that provides affordable dance lessons to local children. Akshi Jain of Washington was crowned Mrs. India USA. Tanvi Grover of New York was crowned as Miss Teen India USA.
3. Indian professor **Ramadhar Singh** has been marked on the 'Heritage Wall of Fame' of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP) in the United States.
Note: Currently, he is a professor at the Amrut Mody School of Management, Ahmedabad. The Ohio State University, Columbus had nominated Ramadhar Singh for the induction to the 'Heritage Wall of Fame'. SPSP was established in 1974, is the world's largest organisation of personality and social psychologist.
4. 14th Dalai Lama (Tibetan spiritual leader) has been honoured with the 'dPal rNgam Duston' award, is the highest civilian honour of **Ladakh**.
Note: Reason: For his immense contribution to humanity, especially towards the union territory. The sixth award was conferred by Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC), Leh. The 'dPal rNgam Duston' is the celebration of the remarkable contribution and achievement of the heroes of Ladakh.
5. Architect, Marina Tabassum, who became the first person from the global south and first south Asian to win the prestigious Lisbon Triennale Millennium bcp

Lifetime Achievement Award, is belong to **Bangladesh** country.

Note: She will receive an original artwork by the Portuguese artist and sculptor Carlos Nogueira as award during the Lisbon Triennale. Marina Tabassum is known for her architectural designs that break away from commercialism and deeply embed environmental concerns.

6. Senior Congress leader **Shashi Tharoor** will be conferred with France's highest civilian award Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur for his writings and speeches.
Note: In 2010, he had received a similar honour from the Spanish government, when the King of Spain had bestowed upon him the Encomienda de la Real Order Espanola de Carlos III. He is a two-term Lok Sabha MP (Thiruvananthapuram constituency).
7. The south London home of **Dadabhai Naoroji** has been honoured with a commemorative Blue Plaque.
Note: The red-brick home now has a plaque which mentions: "Dadabhai Naoroji 1825-1917 Indian Nationalist and MP lived here". He was born in Mumbai, who known as the "grand old man of India". The Blue Plaque scheme is run by the English Heritage charity and honours the historic significance of particular buildings across London.
8. **Ranveer Singh** has won the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne 2022 best actor award for his movie 83.
Note: Shefali Shah (Jalsa) has been awarded the best actress award. Best Film: 83; Best Director: Shoojit Sircar (Sardar Udham) and Aparna Sen (The Rapist); Best Series: Mumbai Diaries 26/11; Best Actor in a Series: Mohit Raina (Mumbai Diaries 26/11); Best Actress in a Series: Sakshi Tanwar (Mai); Lifetime Achievement Award: Kapil Dev
9. **1082** police personnel have been awarded Police Medals on the occasion of Independence Day, 2022.
Note: 347 personnel were awarded the Police Medal for Gallantry, 87 with President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service. 648 personnel were awarded the Police Medal for Meritorious Service. 109 CRPF personnel and 108 J&K Police personnel have been awarded Police Medal for Gallantry. 38 personnel received the Correctional Service Medal for Meritorious Service.

10. Dr N V Sundara Chary the Indian neurologist, who has been elected as a Fellow of American Academy of Neurology (FAAN).

Note: It is regarded as one of the world's most prestigious honour in the field of neurology and medicine. This honour has been awarded by American Academy of Neurologists (AAN) to very few neurologists across the world for making valuable contributions in the field of neurology. He is a professor and HOD of neurology in Siddhartha Medical College, Vijayawada.

11. Fahmida Azim, Bangladesh has been selected for the 2022 Pulitzer prize under the category of Illustrated Reporting and Commentary is belong to which country.

Note: Presently, she is working for the Insider online magazine of US. She is among the four journalists including Anthony Del Col, Josh Adams and Walt Hickey of Insider, selected for their work on the Chinese oppression of the Uyghurs. Fahmida Azim is an illustrator and story teller. Her work centers on themes of identity, culture and autonomy

12. Volodymyr Zelenskyy will be conferred with the 2022 Liberty Medal, is a president of **Ukraine**.

Note: The National Constitution Center has announced that Zelenskyy will be honored in a ceremony in October 2022 for his heroic defense of liberty in the face of Russian tyranny. The Liberty Medal was established in 1988 to mark the U.S. Constitution's bicentennial. It is presented to individuals who strive to secure the blessings of liberty for people around the globe.

13. Former German chancellor, Angela Merkel has been awarded the 2022 Unesco Peace Prize for her efforts to welcome refugees.

Note: In 2015, Merkel has opened German borders for refugees (Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan and Eritrea) who were streaming into Europe. This honour is officially known as Felix Houphouet-Boigny- Unesco

14. The NITI Aayog has declared **Haridwar** in Uttarakhand as the best aspirational district on five parameters and has become entitled to receive additional allocation of ₹3 crore.

Note: The Haridwar district has been allocated to union commerce and industries minister Piyush Goyal. The allocated money will be used to improve the health sector including the hospitals in Roorkee and district hospital Haridwar. NITI Aayog Vice Chairperson: Suman Bery; CEO: Parameswaran Iyer

15. Divita Rai has won the prestigious title of Miss Diva Universe 2022.

Note: Pragnya Ayyagari from Telangana has been crowned LIVA Miss Diva Supranational 2022. Ojasvi Sharma was adjudged the LIVA Miss Popular Choice 2022. Sandhu was also awarded the Pride of India trophy by the Times of India Group ownership for her remarkable achievement of making India proud globally.

16. Shershaah has been awarded the 67th Filmfare award 2022 for best movie.

Note: This movie was directed by Vishnuvardhan, who has won the best director award for Shershaah.

- Best Actor: Ranveer Singh (83) as Kapil Dev
- Best Actress: Kriti Sanon, Mimi as Mimi Rathore
- Best Supporting Actor: Pankaj Tripathi (Mimi)
- Best Supporting Actress: Sai Tamhankar (Mimi)
- Filmfare Lifetime Achievement Award: Subhash Ghai

July 2022

1. Ashok Soota has been conferred with CII Quality Ratna Award 2021 for his contribution to building the competitiveness of the Indian industry through quality Initiatives.

Note: He is founder and Executive Chairman of Happiest Minds Technologies. The Annual CII Quality Ratna Award was constituted in the year 2019 for outstanding leadership, contribution, and distinguished service to the Quality Movement in India.

2. Tanuja Nesari (Director of AIIA) was awarded the Ayurveda Ratna Award by the UK Parliament.

Note: She received the award for her contribution to furthering the growth of Ayurveda in India and abroad. The All-Party Parliamentary Group on Indian Traditional Sciences was formed to promote the

knowledge of Ayurveda, Yoga, Jyotish, Vastu, Unani and Sangeetam in the United Kingdom and abroad.

3. Sini Shetty (Karnataka) has been crowned as the Femina Miss India World 2022 title at the grand finale of VLCC Femina Miss India.

Note: Rubal Shekhawat from Rajasthan has emerged as Femina Miss India 2022 first runner-up and Shinata Chauhan from Uttar Pradesh was named Femina Miss India 2022 second runner-up. She will represent India at the prestigious 71st Miss World pageant.

4. HCL Tech has been honoured with the 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).

Note: These awards have recognized the Microsoft partners that have developed and delivered

- outstanding Microsoft-based applications, services, and devices during the past year.
5. **NTPC** has been recognized as the "Most Preferred Workplaces of 2022" in the premier edition of "Most Preferred Workplaces 2022".
Note: It was organized by the Team Marksmen in association with India Today. It highlights that how the organizations manage the wellbeing of employee, engagement and productivity alongside organizational performance.
 6. **Maryna Viazovska (Ukrainian mathematician)** becomes the second woman to win the Fields Medal for Mathematics after Maryam Mirzakhani (Iranian), who received the prize in 2014.
Note: Other winners: Frenchman Hugo Duminil-Copin, Korean-American June Huh, Britisher James Maynard. The Fields Medal is awarded by the International Mathematical Union (IMU).
 7. **Michelle Poonawalla** has received the prestigious Shiromani Award from G. P. Hinduja, co-chairman of Hinduja Group at NRI World Summit 2022, United Kingdom for her contribution to the field of Art.
Note: She was a speaker at the House of Lords, UK. Other winners: Sadhu Bhramvihari, Lord Rami Ranger, Rita Hinduja Chhabria, Dr. Kamel Hothi OBE and Falguni Shane Peacock.
 8. Dr. Jitendra Singh, has announced to set up Memorial Award in public administration in the field of academic excellence in the memory of former President of India **Dr. Rajendra Prasad**.
Note: Dr. Rajendra Prasad has laid the foundation stone of the IIPA building complex in New Delhi. The 320th meeting of Executive Council of Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) was chaired by Dr. Jitendra Singh.
 9. **Gita Gopinath** has become the first woman and second Indian to feature on the 'wall of former chief economists' of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
Note: Gopinath was served as IMF Chief Economist for three years, since October 2018. Raghuram Rajan, was the first Indian who was featured on the IMF's wall of former chief economists. He served as IMF's Chief Economist and Director of Research between 2003 and 2006.
 10. The government of Japan has conferred the 'Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star' award to Narayanan Kumar, who is a Vice Chairman of **Sanmar Group**.
Note: He received this honour for his contribution towards strengthening economic relations between Japan and India. He was honoured by Taga Masayuki (Consul General of Japan) in Chennai. He also heads Indo-Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry and served as the president of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).
 11. **Pallavi Singh** has bagged the Mrs Universe Divine Title 2022 at the finals held at Yeosu City, South Korea.
Note: She hails from Kanpur, and was the only contestant from Asia in the Mrs Universe contest. Pallavi Singh has won the title of Mrs India held in Jaipur in 2020 and Mrs Indo-Asia Universe in the Asia-level competition.
 12. **Japan** has decided to award former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe with the highest order of nation, the Supreme Order of the Chrysanthemum posthumously.
Note: Shinzo Abe was the longest-serving PM of Japan and he will be the fourth former prime minister to receive the decoration under the postwar Constitution. He was conferred with the Padma Vibhushan (2021) for "exceptional and distinguished service" in the field of public affairs.
 13. **Dia Mirza and Afroz Shah** has been conferred with the Mother Teresa Memorial Award for 2021.
Note: For their outstanding work for the protection of the environment. Dia Mirza is a UN Goodwill Ambassador for Environment and Afroz Shah has been awarded 'UN Champion of the Earth' in 2016. The awards was instituted by the Harmony Foundation. Founder of Harmony Foundation: Abraham Mathai and Susan Abraham.
 14. **The National Academy of Agricultural Research Management** has bagged the Sardar Patel Outstanding ICAR Institute Award 2021 (in the Large Institute Category) for its overall performance.
Note: Ch Srinivasa Rao (Director of NAARM) has received the award from the Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar.
 15. **Kaushik Rajashekara** has won the prestigious Global Energy Prize for outstanding contributions to transportation electrification and energy efficiency technologies while reducing power generation emissions.
Note: He is an Indian-origin professor of engineering at the University of Houston. Only three people in the world were selected for the honor this year out of a record 119 nominations from 43 countries.
 16. **Suriya (for Soorarai Pottru)** has won the 68th National Film Awards 2022 for the best actor along with Ajay Devgn.
Note: Aparna Balamurali has been named as the best actor in the female category for her film 'Soorarai Pottru.' Best Feature Film: Soorarai Pottru. Best Director: Sachidanandan KR, Ayyappanum Koshiyum. Best Feature Film in Hindi: Toolsidas Junior. Most Film-Friendly State: Madhya Pradesh .Best Audiography: Dollu (Kannada)
 17. **Kamal Haasan** has received the prestigious Golden Visa from the UAE government for 10 years.

Note: Prior to Kamal Hasan, several actors including Nasser, Mammooty, Mohanlal, Tovino Thomas, Parthiepan, Amala Paul and Shah Rukh Khan have received this honour. The UAE Golden Visa is a long-term residence visa system, extending from five to 10 years. It is granted to achievers from various fields, professionals, investors and those with promising abilities.

- 18. Volodymyr Zelenskyy (Ukrainian President)** 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.
Note: He accepted the award by video link during a ceremony held at London office of Johnson. Churchill leadership award was first presented in 2006.
- 19.** Dinesh Shahra Foundation (DSF) has instituted a first-of-its-kind 'Dinesh Shahra Lifetime Award' for Excellence in **Music**.

June 2022

- 1. Director of Ruchi Foodline, Rashmi Sahoo** has been awarded the Third Times Business Award 2022 in the category of Eastern India's Leading READY -TO-EAT brand.
Note: She was given the award by renowned Bollywood actor and social activist Sonu Sood. She has established Frozit, which is Odisha's first frozen food company.
- 2. Darren Sammy** the Former skipper of West Indies, who has been conferred with the civil honour of Sitara-e-Pakistan award.
Note: It is considered as the third-highest civil award conferred by Pakistan. Sammy has represented West Indies in Tests (38), ODIs (126), and T20Is (68).
- 3. Jennifer Lopez** would be awarded the Generation Award at their forthcoming MTV Movie & TV Awards.
Note: MTV Movie & TV Awards recognizes actors who have diversely contributed to both film and TV industry and are known in every household. Jennifer Lopez will receive the lifetime achievement award.
- 4. Vicky Kaushal** has won the best actor award for his movie Sardar Udham at the 22nd International Indian Film Academy Awards in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.
Note: Best Actor (Female): Kriti Sanon (Mimi); Best Director: Vishnuvaradhan (Shershaah); Best Film: Shershaah; Best Supporting Actor Female: Sai Tamhankar (Mimi); Best Supporting Actor Male: Pankaj Tripathi (Ludo); Best Playback Singer Female: Asees Kaur (Raataan Lambiyan, Shershaah)
- 5. Turn Your Body to the Sun (Dutch movie)** has bagged the Golden Conch award at the 17th edition of

Note: The initiative is supported by the Indian Arts & Cultural Society. The Announcement of was made by Dinesh Shahra, Trustee of DSF, during a cultural event titled "Mausiqui" in Mumbai recently. The recognition will include trophy and also a significant cash component.

- 20. Jeffrey Armstrong** 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.
Note: He is the founder of the Vedic Academy of Science & Arts and author of The Bhagavad Gita comes Alive. The ICCR Distinguished Indologist award was instituted in 2015 during the First World Indology Conference.

the 2022 Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF) or documentary, short fiction and animation films.

- Note:** The award carries a golden conch, a certificate and cash prize of Rs 10 lakh. This documentary was directed by Aliona Van der Horst. Best Short-fiction: 'Saakshatkaaram' (Malayalam) & 'Brother Troll'. Best Animation Film: 'Prince in a Pastry Shop' (Poland)
- 6.** Indian American girl, **Harini Logan** has won the 2022 Scripps National Spelling Bee.
Note: She has spelled 21 words correctly to win the prestigious 2022 Scripps National Spelling Bee and defeated Vikram Raju in a marathon. Prize money: USD 50,000 cash prize and Scripps Cup trophy on top of awards from Merriam-Webster and Encyclopedia Britannica.
- 7.** In **Best use of Zero-Carbon Technology** category, Indian Railways have been conferred with the UIC International Sustainable Railway Awards (ISRA) for feeding Solar Energy directly to 25 KV AC Traction System.
Note: Use of alternate fuels like CNG. Improving water use efficiency through measures like water recycling and rain water harvesting.
- 8. Jennifer Lopez** among the following would receive the lifetime achievement award at MTV Movie & TV Award.
Note: MTV Movie & TV Awards recognizes actors who have diversely contributed to both film and TV industry and are known in every household. Vanessa Hudgens will host the Generation Awards. Jennifer Lopez will receive the lifetime achievement award.
- 9. Ramkrishna Mukavilli** has been named a Global Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Pioneer for

Water Stewardship by the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC).

Note: The United Nations Global Compact has named ten new SDG Pioneers, who are corporate leaders who are excelling in advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by implementing the UN Global Compact Ten Principles on human rights, environment, labour, and anti-corruption.

10. **Resource Centre for Tobacco Control, PGIMER** institution has been awarded with the Regional Director Special Recognition Award by WHO.
Note: WHO has awarded Resource Centre for Tobacco Control (e-RCTC) of the Department of Community Medicine and School of Public Health at Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER) in Chandigarh with Regional Director Special Recognition Award.
11. **Ratan Tata** has been conferred with honorary degree D.Litt at the first special convocation of the HSNC University.
Note: HSNC University was established as a joint venture between Ministry of HRD, Govt of Maharashtra, and the HSNC Board. It is the second cluster university in the city of Mumbai.
12. **The Kempegowda International Airport in Bengaluru** has been awarded the 'best regional airport in India and South Asia' title in the 2022 skytrax World Airport awards.
Note: The award is based on the customer experience from check-in to arrivals, transfers, shopping, security, immigration and arrangements in the departure's gates. Skytrax, is a UK-based, global consultancy firm that runs an airline and airport review and ranking site.
13. **Use the ICT in education** Initiative of Ministry of Education under a PM eVIDYA during the COVID-19 has received the UNESCO's recognition.
Note: The PM eVIDYA was started as part of Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan by the Ministry of Education in 2020 with an aim to use technology to minimise learning losses. National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has been awarded with the UNESCO's King Hamad Bin Isa Al-Khalifa Prize for the Use of ICT in Education for the year 2021.
14. **Bhikkhu Sanghasena (Ladakh)** from Ladakh who has been awarded the PM's award for outstanding contribution for promotion of Yoga for the year 2021.
Note: Other winners: Marcus Vinicius Rojo Rodrigues (Brazil); The Divine Life Society from Uttarakhand; and British Wheel of Yoga from United Kingdom. The winners will be felicitated with a trophy, certificate and cash award of 25 lakh rupees.

15. **Ruth Ozeki** the writer has won the 2022 Women's Prize for Fiction for her novel "The Book of Form and Emptiness".
Note: This is her fourth novel, which depicts the story of a thirteen-year-old boy who, starts to hear the voices of objects to talk to his father, after the tragic death of his father. She was received £30,000 prize at a ceremony in London.
16. Public transport service **Mo Bus, Odisha** has been honoured with a prestigious United Nations award.
Note: Reason: Role and efforts in helping the world recover better from COVID-19. Initiatives from Brazil, Canada, India, Ireland, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, and Ukraine have also been recognised.
17. **Vijay Amritraj** has been awarded the 2021 Golden Achievement Award by the International Tennis Hall of Fame and International Tennis Federation.
Note: This award is conferred to a person who has made important contributions internationally to tennis in the fields of administration, promotion, or education and has devoted long and outstanding service to the sport.
18. **IG Drones** drone start-up has been conferred with the "Best Drone Organization Start-up Category" by Airwards for its approach of helping local communities.
Note: Airwards, is the first panoptic global awards programme of its kind, which identify the positive drone use cases. IG Drones is developing disaster response technology and mitigate to increase the efficiency and efficacy of first responders' aid in emergency response.
19. **S M Krishna** the Former Karnataka CM who has been awarded the 'Kempegowda International Award'.
Note: Other winners: N R Narayana Murthy (Infosys founder) and Prakash Padukone (former badminton player). The award presented on the 513th birth anniversary of Kempegowda, the architect of Bengaluru city, on June 27 at Vidhana Soudha. Award: Cash prize of Rs 5 lakh along with a plaque.
20. Odisha state MSME Department has been awarded first prize in the category "National MSME Award 2022" to States/UTs for their outstanding contribution in the promotion and Development of MSME Sector.
Note: Bihar and Haryana have been placed second and third respectively. Kalahandi, Odisha won third prize in the category of Aspirational districts for outstanding contribution in the promotion and development of MSME Sector.

- 1. Doordarshan** TV network has won ENBA Award 2021 for the best in-depth Hindi series for its TV series based on pet care 'Best Friend Forever' at 14th edition of the Exchange4media News Broadcasting Awards (ENBA).

Note: Best Friend Forever: Half-an-hour weekly live phone-in show on DD National. Here, two pet experts guide people on how to take care of their pets, about their food, nutrition, routine health check-ups, vaccination and other pet related issues.

- 2. Bengaluru-based** neo banking startup **Open** has become the country's 100th unicorn after raising \$50 Mn from IIFL.

Note: Open operates neobank that offers small and medium-sized businesses as well as enterprises nearly all the features of the bank with additional tools to better serve the customer's needs. Co-founder and chief executive of Open: Anish Achuthan. The company is led by Google, Temasek, Visa, and Japan's SoftBank Investments.

- 3. Cynthia Rosenzweig** has been awarded World Food Prize 2022.

Note: She is an agronomist and climatologist and spent much of her career explaining how global food production must adapt to a changing climate. She was awarded \$250,000 prize in recognition of her innovative modeling of the impact of climate change on food production. She is a senior research scientist at the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies.

- 4. Reuters** photojournalist **Danish Siddiqui (Reuters)** has been posthumously honoured with his second prestigious Pulitzer Prize in the feature photography category with other three Indian journalists.

Note: Other three Indians: Adnan Abidi, Sanna Irshad Mattoo and Amit Dave. He was honoured with the prestigious award in 2018 for their coverage of the Rohingya crisis.

- 5. Union Home Minister, Amit Shah** presents the President's Colours award to **Assam** state Police for exemplary service during the past 25 years.

Note: Assam becomes the 10th state in the country to receive President's Colours honour. President's Colours is the highest honour that is given to any military or police unit in recognition of exceptional service rendered to the nation.

- 6. Gurusamy Krishnamoorthy (chief executive officer of Penlon)** will receive the Member of the Royal Order of British Empire (MBE) recognition

from the Queen to meet the Ventilator requirement challenges in British during the pandemic.

Note: He started his career with Wipro GE Medical Systems and later co-founded a Med-tech startup in Chennai. Penlon deals with the design and manufacture of anaesthesia ventilators, anaesthesia machines and vaporizers.

- 7. President Ram Nath Kovind** has conferred Gallantry Awards at Defence Investiture Ceremony-2022 at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi.

Note: He presented Shaurya Chakras (13) including six posthumous, to the personnel of the Armed Forces for displaying courage, gallantry, and devotion to duty. He also conferred Param Vishisht Seva Medals (14), Uttam Yudh Seva Medals(4), and Ati Vishisht Seva Medals (24) for distinguished service of an exceptional order.

- 8. Bengali** language translation of the French novel "Meursault, contre-enquête" (The Meursault Investigation) has won the 5th Romain Rolland Book Prize 2022.

Note: The award was given to translator Trinanjan Chakraborty and publisher Patra Bharati. Meursault, contre-enquêteto, originally written by Algerian writer and journalist Kamel Daoud. This is the first time Patra Bharati has received such a prestigious award.

- 9. Frank Wilczek** has been awarded the 2022 Templeton Prize.

Note: He received the 2004 Nobel Prize in Physics along with David J. Gross, and H. David Politzer for his 1973 breakthrough in explaining the unusual properties of the strong force. Templeton Prize was established in 1972 by the late philanthropist Sir John Templeton.

- 10. Mamata Banerjee** has been awarded the Bangla Academy Award for her Kabita Bitan.

Note: Mamata Banerjee's 'Kabita Bitan' was launched at the 2020 Kolkata Book Fair. The book contains 946 poems written by the TMC supremo. Mamta Banerjee was given the award at the "Ravi Pranam" function organised by the government's information and culture department on the occasion of Rabindranath Tagore's birth anniversary.

- 11. Anna Qabale Duba (Kenyan nurse)** has won the inaugural Aster Guardian Global Nursing Award.

Note: She worked at the Marsabit County Referral Hospital. She was promoting education and

campaigning against outdated cultural practices like Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) in her community. She has been rewarded with USD 250,000 (approx. Ksh.29 million) in prize money.

12. Drake has won the Billboard Music Awards 2022 in the top artist, male artist, rap artist, rap male artist and rap album (for Certified Lover Boy) category.

Note: BTS has also won three awards in the Top Duo/Group, Top Selling Song, and Top Song Sales Artist categories. Top New Artist: Olivia Rodrigo

- Top Female Artist: Olivia Rodrigo
- Top Billboard 200 Artist: Taylor Swift
- Top Radio Songs Artist: Olivia Rodrigo
- Top Billboard Global 2022 Artist (New): Olivia Rodrigo

13. Ajay Piramal (Chairman of Piramal Group) has received the prestigious Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) award from Queen Elizabeth II.

Note: He has been honoured with this award for his services to the UK-India trade relationship as India Co-Chair of the UK-India CEO Forum. President Rolls-Royce India, Kishore Jayaraman, also receives the Honorary Order of the British Empire for his services to International Trade and Investment.

14. Cécile Ndjebet (Cameroon activist) has received the 2022 Wangari Maathai Forest Champions Award in recognition of her contribution to preserving forests and improving the lives of people who depend on them.

Note: The award has been presented by the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), which is chaired by the Food and Agriculture Organization. This award was established in 2012 in memory of Kenyan environmentalist and Nobel Peace Prize winner Wangari Maathai.

15. Subhash Ola (Rajasthan innovator) has won the Amazon Smbhav Entrepreneurship Challenge 2022 award for saving energy in boilers by using recycling steam model.

Note: In addition, his enterprise "Geniusenergy Critical Innovation Private Limited" has also won the Start-up of the Year award. Geniusenergy Critical Innovation was incubated by the National Innovation Foundation (NIF). NIF is an autonomous body of the Department of Science and Technology.

16. Renowned vocalist Neyveli R Santanagopalan (2020) has announced the Sangita Kalanidhi and other awards for various artists from the years

2020-22, who have been awarded Sangita Kalanidhi for 2020.

Note: The Sangita Kalanidhi award will be given to: eminent mridangam artiste Tiruvarur Bhakthavathsalam (2021) and violin duo Lalgudi GJR Krishnan and Vijayalakshmi (2022). The Music academy also announced other awards including Nritya Kalanidhi for three recipients in the dance segment.

17. World Health Organisation (WHO) has honoured to India's one million all-women Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) workers for their 'outstanding' contribution to advancing global health.

Note: ASHAs workers worked to provide maternal care and immunization for children against vaccine-preventable diseases; community health care; treatment for hypertension and tuberculosis.

18. A Gopalakrishnan (Director of the ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute) has received the VASVIK (Vividhlaxi Audyogik Samshodhan Vikas Kendra) Industrial Research Award in the category of Agricultural Sciences and Technology for the year 2020.

Note: The award includes a cash prize of 1.51 lakh and a citation. The VASVIK research award is given to scientists and researchers who have demonstrated excellence in eight categories each year.

19. Geetanjali Shree and American translator Daisy Rockwell won the 2022 International Booker Prize for **Tomb of Sand**.

Note: The book "Tomb of Sand" was originally written in Hindi, it is the first book in any Indian language to win such a prestigious award. The prize money of 50,000 pound will be split between Shree and Rockwell.

20. Triangle of Sadness has won the Palme d'Or at the 75th Cannes Film Festival for the second time.

Note: Directed by Ruben Ostlund. Indian filmmaker Shaunak Sen has won the 'L'Oeil d'Or' award for his documentary 'All That Breathes'.

21. Nawazuddin Siddiqui has received the Excellence in Cinema award at the French Riviera Film Festival.

Note: He received the honor from the two-time Emmy winner American actor-producer, Vincent De Paul. Prior to this, he was chosen as one of the delegates to receive awards on behalf of the nation at the Cannes Film Festival.

22. Sanjit Narwekar has been awarded the Dr. V. Shantaram Lifetime Achievement Award at 17th edition of the Mumbai International Film Festival of India (MIFF 2022).

Note: The prestigious award includes cash prize of Rs. 10 lakhs, Golden Conch and a citation. Focus Country of MIFF 2022: Bangladesh

23. Radio Jockey, Umar Nisar has been awarded the 'O1 Best Content Award' and the Immunization Champion award by UNICEF at the annual Radio4Child 2022 Awards in Mumbai.

Note: He received an award for his excellent work during the pandemic in building awareness and countering rumours to reach audiences.

Sports News

1st to 14th Sep 2022

1. Colin de Grandhomme, who has announced his retirement from international cricket, was a player of **New Zealand**.

Note: He has played 29 Test matches scoring 1432 runs at 38.70, including centuries against the West Indies and South Africa. His best score was 120 not out. He has also registered 49 wickets in the format at an average of 32.95, including six for 41 on debut against Pakistan.

2. **Apeksha Fernandes** becomes the first Indian woman to reach the final of the World Junior Swimming Championships.

Note: She has finished eighth in the 200m women's butterfly summit clash in Lima, Peru. She clocked 2:19.14 to finish last in the eight-swimmer final. Her previous best was 2:18.39 set in June which is awaiting ratification by the Swimming Federation of India.

3. **Pallathuruthy boat club** team has won the 68th edition of Nehru Trophy for a boat race, was organised on Punnamadlake, Alappuzha district of Kerala.

Note: 'MahadevikkaduKattilThekkethil' by Pallathuruthy boat club won the trophy. While NCDC Boat club's 'Nadubhagam' of Kumarakam has secured the second place in the race. The boat of Pallathuruthy boat club has won the title by clearing the distance of 1.15 km in 4.30.77 minutes.

4. **Red Bull driver, Max Verstappen** has lifted the 2022 Formula One Dutch Grand Prix auto race, at the Zandvoort racetrack, in Zandvoort, Netherlands.

Note: Mercedes driver, George Russell of Britain has secured second place while the Ferrari driver, Charles Leclerc of Monaco has secured third place in the race. Mercedes's driver, Lewis Hamilton has placed fourth.

5. **Anishka Biyani** has won the gold medal in the Malaysian Age Group Rapid Chess Championship at Kuala Lumpur.

Note: She is a first-grade student of Dhirubhai Ambani School and achieved the feat in the Under-6 Open category. She has also qualified as one of the best under-7 players in the All India FIDE rating chess tournament held in Yousufguda, Hyderabad.

6. Union Home Minister, Amit Shah has launched the mascot and the anthem for **36th** edition of the National Games at Trans Stadia in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.

Note: Mascot: Savaj (means cub in Gujarati); Anthem is based on the theme of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat. The National Games will be organised in six cities of the state namely Ahmedabad, Gandhinagar, Surat, Vadodara, Rajkot and Bhavnagar. He has also launched the official website - www.nationalgamesgujarat.in and the mobile App NGGujarat.

7. Mushfiqur Rahim, who has recently announced his retirement from Twenty20 international cricket, is associated **Bangladesh**.

Note: He would continue to take part in the Bangladesh Premier League, other two formats of the game (Test and ODI) and other Twenty20 franchise tournaments. His decision came after Bangladesh lost their Group B matches in the Asia Cup against Afghanistan and Sri Lanka in UAE. He has played in 102 T20 matches for Bangladesh and scored 1,500 runs at 19.48.

8. Indian Cricketer who is fondly known as Mr. IPL, has announced his retirement from all formats of cricket, is **Suresh Raina**.

Note: Suresh Raina has represented India in 18 tests, 226 ODIs and 78 T20s in his 13 years of international cricket career. He has 5615 runs from 226 ODIs and 1605 from 78 T20s for India. He was part of the Indian cricket team that has won the 2011 World Cup and 2013 Champions Trophy under Dhoni's leadership.

9. **Mastercard** has become the title sponsor for all international matches (both women and men) held

on home ground, domestic cricket matches held in India for the 2022-23 season.

Note: Aim: At enhancing Mastercard's connection with cricket lovers across the country. Mastercard CEO: Michael Miebach; HQs: New York, United States.

10. Gold medallist javelin thrower, Neeraj Chopra has become the first Indian to win the prestigious Zurich Diamond League Final 2022 in Switzerland with best throw of **88.44m**.

Note: While, Olympic silver medallist, Jakub Vadlejch of Czech Republic has finished second with a best throw of 86.94m. Julian Weber of Germany was third with a best of 83.73metre. He was also awarded a USD 30,000 prize money and a wild card for the 2023 World Athletics Championships in Hungary.

11. In the 15th edition of the Asia Cup, **Sri Lanka** has lifted 6th Asia Cup title after defeating Pakistan by 23 runs at the Dubai International Stadium, UAE.

Note: Sri Lanka all-rounder, Wanindu Hasaranga has been selected as the Player of the Series. While Bhanuka Rajapaksa (Sri Lankan) has been named the Player of the Match for his batting performance in the final. International Cricket Council (ICC) HQ: Dubai, UAE; Chairman: Greg Barclay

12. Aaron Finch has announced his retirement from one-day international cricket following the final game of a three-match series against New Zealand, was former captain of **Australia captain**.

Note: He had an impressive record that includes over 5400 runs with 17 centuries under his name. He has made his debut against Sri Lanka at the Melbourne

Cricket Ground (MCG) in 2013 and smashed his maiden hundred against Scotland, scoring 148 runs.

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

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

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

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

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

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

August 2022

1. Olympic medallist, Mairaj Ahmad Khan has claimed gold medals in men's category of **Skeet** sports in the inaugural Digvijay Singh Memorial Shooting Championship.

Note: Raiza Dhillon has claimed gold medals in women's skeet events. Arjun Thakur of Madhya Pradesh has silver position and Gurjoat Singh from Punjab has settled for bronze in Men's category. Dhillon has bagged double gold after winning the Junior Women's Skeet competition over Parinaaz Dhaliwal from Punjab.

2. Indian weightlifter, Achinta Sheuli has bagged gold medal in **73 Kg** men's category.

Note: Erry Hidayat Mohammad (Malaysia) has clinched Silver medal with a total of 303 kg, while Darsigny (Canada) won Bronze with a total of 298 kg. Earlier, Mirabai Chanu and Jeremy Lalrinunnga have claimed gold medal while Bindyarani Devi and

Sanketh Sargar bagged silver and Gururaja Poojary has settled for bronze.

3. **England** team has defeated Germany by 2-1 in the final of the European Championship to win its first major women's soccer title at Wembley Stadium.

Note: Chloe Kelly (England) gave 2-1 win over Germany in the Women's European Championship final to claim their first-ever major title in front of a record crowd on home soil. England coach, Sarina Wiegman made history by becoming the first manager to win the Euros with two separate teams (England and Netherlands)

4. **Shushila Devi** has clinched silver in the women's judo **48kg category** at the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games.

Note: This is her second silver medal in CWG, she bagged her first silver in Commonwealth Games 2014 . While, Vijay Kumar Yadav has also bagged bronze

- medal in the judo men's- 60kg category in CWG 2022. In Weightlifting, Harjinder Kaur won the bronze medal in the women's 71kg category (logged 212kg (snatch - 93kg; clean and jerk - 119kg).
5. India's women team has clinched first ever gold medal in the lawn bowls after defeating **South Africa** country.
Note: Women team Lawn bowl include: Nayanmoni Saikia, Pinki, Lovely Choubey and Rupa Rani Tirkey. The Men's Table Tennis team clinched gold medal after defeating Singapore. Weightlifter, Vikas Thakur won the silver medal in men's 96-kilogram category. India's mixed badminton team settled for a silver medal.
 6. **Tulika Maan** has claimed Silver medal in Judo women's 78 kg category at Commonwealth Games 2022 in Birmingham.
Note: This is India's third medal in Judo this Commonwealth Games. Indian weightlifter, Gurdeep Singh won bronze medal in the men's 109-plus kg final. Indian Saurav Ghosal won bronze medal in squash men's singles. India's Tejaswin Shankar won bronze, India's first medal in athletics at CWG 2022 in the men's high jump.
 7. Para-powerlifter **Sudhir** clinched the gold medal in the Men's Heavyweight, after defeating Ikechukwu Obichukwu (Nigeria), in the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games, with the lift of 212kg
Note: He won India's first gold in Para-Powerlifting at Commonwealth Games. India's M. Sreeshankar has clinched silver in Men's long jump. India's Saurav Ghosal has bagged the bronze medal in squash men's singles.
 8. Sakshi Malik and Deepak Poonia presented a double gold delight at Commonwealth Games 2022 at Birmingham, are associated with **Wrestling**.
Note: Sakshi Malik stood atop the podium in the women's freestyle 62 kg category, while Deepak Ponia secured the gold medal in the men's freestyle 86 kg category. Sakshi was up against the Pan American champion – Ana Paula Godinez Gonzalez from Canada in the gold medal match.
 9. Indian para table tennis player **Bhavina Patel** has clinched gold medal in the para table tennis women's singles at the Commonwealth Games 2022.
Note: She defeated Ifechukwude Christiana Ikpeoyi of Nigeria Classes 3-5. **Other winners:** Indian para TT player, Sonalben Manubhai Patel won bronze medal in the women's singles Classes 3-5. Saurav Ghosal and Dipika Pallikal won Bronze in Squash Mixed Doubles. Vinesh Phogat won gold in the Women's Freestyle 53 kg Nordic category.
 10. **V Pranav** has become the 75th Grandmaster of India by winning the Limpedea Open in Baia Mare, Romania
Note: He had won his maiden GM norm at the Serbia Open in 2021 and the second in the Vezerkepzo GM round-robin tourney in Budapest, Hungary in June 2022. He is the 27th Grandmaster from Tamil Nadu (list include Viswanathan Anand, D.Gukesh and R.Praggnanandhaa among others).
 11. **India** has clinched the 4th edition of the SAFF U-20 football championship title by defeating Bangladesh by 5-2 goals in the final at Kalinga stadium in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
Note: India won this championship for the second consecutive time (first crown in 2019). Top scorer: Indian Gurkirat Singh(8 goals), he has scored four goals in final. Best player: Indian Gurkirat Singh
 12. **A. Sharath Kamal and Sreeja Akula** won gold in the mixed doubles table tennis after defeating Javen Choong and Karen Lyne (Malaysian) at Commonwealth Games 2022.
Note: India's Eldhose Paul wins first-ever gold medal in Men's Triple Jump. Boxer, Nitu Ghangas wins gold in women's 48 kg category. Boxer, Amit Panghal won the gold in the 48-51kg weight category. Avinash Sable becomes the first Indian Man claim a medal (silver) in men's 3000m steeplechase.
 13. **Indian** women's cricket team has settled for the silver medal in Birmingham after losing to five-time T20 champions Australia (won gold) by 9 runs in the Commonwealth Games 2022 final.
Note: Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand won the Bronze Medal in Badminton Doubles. Annu Rani won Bronze medal in Women's Javelin Throw. India's Eldhose Paul and Abdulla Aboobacker w on the gold and silver, respectively, in the men's triple jump final
 14. Badminton player **PV Sindhu** has defeated Michelle Li of Canada by 21-15, 21-13 to win her first gold medal at the 2022 Commonwealth Games in women's singles.
Note: She won silver at Gold Coast in 2018 and bronze medal at Glasgow in 2014. Badminton player, Lakshya Sen has also clinched gold after defeating Ng Tze Yong of Malaysia in the men's singles. Indian Men's Hockey Team won silver (Australia: gold). Sharath Kamal won gold in Men's Singles Table Tennis
 15. **Uzbekistan** men's team has won the 44th edition of the Chess Olympiad that has been concluded in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

Note: India 'B' team (Men's) comprising D Gukesh, R Praggnanandhaa, Raunak Sadhwani and Adhiban won the bronze medal after defeating Germany. India 'A' team (Women's) comprising Vaishali and Koneru Humphy, Tania Sachdev and Bhakti Kulkari won the bronze medal. Armenia clinched the silver medal in men's section

16. Serena Williams has announced her retirement from professional tennis, is associated with **America**.

Note: The US Open 2022 would be her farewell tournament. She has been ranked singles world No.1 by the Women's Tennis Association for 319 weeks. She has won 23 Grand Slam singles titles, the second most of all time by any player in the open history after an Australian player, Margaret Court (24). She won her first Grand Slam, the U.S. Open in 1999.

17. **Sunil Chhetri** has been named the AIFF Men's Footballer of the Year for the seventh time, for the 2021-22 season.

Note: While Manisha Kalyan named the AIFF women's footballer for the 2021-22 season. Chhetri and Kalyan were nominated as the winners by their respective national team coaches Igor Stimac and Thomas Dennerby. He is the third highest goal scorer among active international players.

18. **Indian fencer, Bhavani Devi** has secured gold medal in the women's senior individual sabre category at the Commonwealth Fencing Championships 2022 in London.

Note: She defeated Veronika (Australia), who has settled for silver in the event. Bhavani Devi hails from Tamil Nadu and was the first Indian fencer to qualify for the Olympics (Tokyo 2020). Fencing was recognised by the Commonwealth Games Federation as a sport.

19. **Shakib Al Hasan** has been named as the captain of the Bangladesh Cricket team for the Asia Cup, Tri-nation T-20 series with Pakistan.

Note: Host team of New Zealand starting in October as well as the World Cup 2022 in Australia. This decision was followed by the bad performance of the Bangladesh team in T-20 matches. BCB also announced a 17-member team for the Asia Cup.

20. The first ever Women's IPL will be held in **March 2023**.

Note: This will be held in a one-month window and in all likelihood with five teams. The BCCI officials have also discussed that the March window has been found for the tournament after the Women's T20 World Cup in South Africa.

21. **Shillong, Meghalaya** state is set to host the upcoming second edition of the North East Olympics from 30th October to 6th November.

Note: The first edition of Games was held in Manipur in 2018 with 12 disciplines. This edition of the Games will be special as Meghalaya is celebrating the 50th year of its Statehood. In this edition, about 4,000 participants from eight North Eastern States will be competing in 18 disciplines at 13 venues spread across Shillong.

22. The global football governing body FIFA has suspended India's football federation due to influence from third parties. Impact: The FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup 2022, scheduled to held in India, cannot currently be held in India as planned. The suspension will be lifted once an order to set up a committee of administrators to assume the powers of the AIFF Executive Committee has been repealed.

23. The Delhi High Court has passed an order to constitute a 3-member Committee of Administrators (CoA) to run daily affairs of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA). The committee will be assisted by **Abhinav Bindra (Shooter), Anju Bobby George (former long jumper) and L Bombayla Devi (archer)**.

Note: Agenda: To prepare the new constitution of IOA as per the Sports Code and the court rulings, and prepare the electoral roll in order to hold fresh elections.

24. **Bengaluru** will host FIBA U-18 women Asian Basketball championship from September 5th to 11th.

Note: The international event will be organised in the Sree Kanteerava Indoor stadium and Koramangala Indoor stadiums. Division A team will compete with Division B team in the championship to qualify for the FIBA World Championship to be held in July 2023 in Spain.

25. **Manisha Kalyan** has become the first Indian footballer to play at the UEFA Women's Champions League.

Note: She made her debut for Apollon Ladies FC in the European Club competition in Engomi, Cyprus. She replaced Cyprus' Marilena Georgiou in the 60th minute at the Makareio Stadium. She was recently awarded the AIFF Women's Footballer of the Year for the 2021-22 season. Kalyan is the 2nd player from Gokulam Kerala to sign for an overseas club.

26. **Wrestler Antim Panghal** has become the first Indian woman wrestler to win Gold medal at Under-20 World Wrestling Championship in Sofia, Bulgaria.

- Note:** She has defeated Atlyn Shagayeva of Kazakhstan in 53kg category. She belongs to Bhagana village in the Hisar district, Haryana. Two-time U17 world champion, Sonam Malik had to settle for silver after losing to Nonoka Ozaki in the final of the 62kg category. In the 65kg category, Priyanka had settled for silver.
- 27.** Paralympic medalists, Sumit Antil has set a new record of 68.62m in **Javelin throw** at the 4th Indian Open National Para Athletics Championships 2022 at Sree Kanteerava Stadium in Bengaluru.
Note: Discus thrower, Yogesh Kathuniya has also established new world records. Yogesh Kathuniya has set a record of 48.34m in Discus throw. Sumit Antil had won gold in the men's javelin F64/44 final at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.
- 28.** Indian men's volleyball team won bronze medal after defeating **South Korea** by 3-2 in the 14th Asian U-18 Championship in Tehran.
Note: In the preliminary league round, India defeated Korea but lost to Iran in the semifinal. The Indian U-18 team has been qualified along with Japan, Iran, and South Korea for the FIVB World U-19 Men's Volleyball Championship. Japan has secured the gold after beating Iran (Silver) in the final match.
- 29. Indian Grandmaster Arjun Erigaisi** has defeated Spain's David Anton Guijarro in the ninth and final round with 7.5 points and a performance rating of 2893 to win the 28th Abu Dhabi Masters chess tournament.
Note: He has gained 35 Elo rating points after the recently concluded Chess Olympiad in India. The second spot in the Abu Dhabi Masters was claimed by Uzbekistan's Javokhir Sindarov after defeating Iran's M Amin Tabatabaei.
- 30.** Tokyo Olympics gold medalist Neeraj Chopra has won the Javelin Throw competition at the Lausanne Diamond League with a best throw of **89.08 metre**.
Note: He became the first Indian to clinch the prestigious Diamond League Meet title. He has thus qualified for the Diamond League Finals, which will take place in Zurich, Switzerland on 7th and 8th September. He is also now qualified for the 2023 World Championships, which is to be held in Budapest, Hungary.
- 31. Linthoi Chanambam** has secured the India's first-ever gold medal in Judo World Championships at the World Judo Cadet (U18) Championships.
- Note:** She has defeated Bianca Reis of Brazil in the Women's 57kg category. She became the first Indian judoka to win a medal at any age-group of the World Championships. She has also won gold medal at the Sub-Junior National Judo Championships in 2017, since then she has been training at JSW's Inspire Institute of Sports judo programme.
- 32. Virat Kohli** has become the first Indian and the second player overall in international cricket history to have played 100 matches each in all three formats of the game.
Note: Kohli has now 100 T20Is to his name in addition to 102 Tests and 262 ODIs since his international debut in August 2008. New Zealand batter, Ross Taylor is the first player, who played 112 Tests, 236 ODIs and 102 T20Is between 2006 and 2022. Rohit has already played 132 matches in the shorter format.
- 33. Viktor Axelsen** has clinched his second BWF World Championships men's singles title after beating Kunlavut Vitidsarn from Thailand in Tokyo.
Note: The women's singles title has been retained by Akane Yamaguchi from Japan. She has defeated China's Olympic champion, Chen Yufei in the final. Men's Double: Malaysia Aaron Chia; Malaysia Soh Wooi Yik. Women's Double: China Chen Qingchen; China Jia Yifan. Mixed Double: China Zheng Siwei; China Huang Yaqiong
- 34. FIFA** organisation has lifted the ban imposed on the All India Football Federation (AIFF) after the Supreme Court terminated the mandate of the Committee of Administrators (CoA).
Note: FIFA has also cleared the decks for India to host the Women's U-17 World Cup in October 2022. Background: FIFA had suspended AIFF on August 15 for "undue influence from third parties" and the revocation came 11 days after that.
- 35. Max Verstappen** has clinched the F1 Belgian Grand Prix 2022.
Note: Sergio Perez (Red Bull's driver) and Carlos Sainz (Ferrari's driver) have finished at second and third positions respectively. Max Verstappen has won 9 races out of 14 races of this season. George Russell (Mercedes driver) has finished at fourth in the F1 Belgian Grand Prix 2022.

1. Indian Javelin thrower **Neeraj Chopra** has clinched silver medal with a massive throw of 89.94 meter, at the prestigious Diamond League meet in Stockholm.
Note: He broke his own national record (89.30m) for the second time in a month. Anderson Peters (Grenadian athlete) won gold medal with a best throw of 90.31 meter. Earlier, he clinched silver at PaaVo Nurmi Games in Turku (Finland).
2. Sports brand **Adani Sportsline** has become the principal sponsor with the Indian Olympics Association (IOA) for the upcoming games, Birmingham Commonwealth 2022, Hangzhou Asian Games 2022, and Paris Olympic 2024.
Note: This is the second time that the Adani Group has collaborated with IOA after the Tokyo Olympics.
3. Cricketer Eoin Morgan has announced his retirement from international cricket.
Note: Under his captaincy, England Men has clinched their first-ever ICC Men's Cricket World Cup trophy at Lord's in 2019. He has also competed for England in the 2010 ICC Men's T20 Cricket World Cup, which was held in the Caribbean.
4. **Carlos Sainz (Ferrari driver)** has won his maiden Formula One British Grand Prix 2022 at Silverstone.
Note: He beat Red Bull's Sergio Perez and Lewis Hamilton for Mercedes. World champion, Max Verstappen has finished at the seventh spot for Red Bull. Charles Leclerc has finished at fourth ahead of Fernando Alonso of Alpine and Lando Norris of McLaren.
5. **Jasprit Bumrah (India captain)** has defeated Stuart Broad for 29 runs to create a world record for maximum runs off a single over in Test cricket.
Note: He also breaks the legendary Brian Lara's feat by one run. The world record stayed with Lara for 18 years, he had hit South African left-arm spinner, Robin Peterson for 28 runs in a Test match in 2003-04.
6. **Viktor Axelsen (Danish)** has clinched 2022 Malaysia Open title after defeating Japan's Kento Momota.
Note: Women's singles: Ratchanok Intanon (Thailand). Men's doubles: Takuro Hoki (Japan), Yugo Kobayashi (Japan). Women's doubles: Apriyani Rahayu (Indonesia); Siti Fadia Silva Ramadhanti (Indonesia). Mixed doubles: Zheng Siwei (China), Huang Yaohong (China)
7. Two Indian female boxers, Alfiya Pathan (81 kg) and Gitika have won gold medals at the Elorda Cup held in **Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan**.
Note: Kalaivani Srinivasan and Jamuna Boro have signed off with silver medals. Alfiya has defeated 2016 world champion, Lazzat Kungeibayeva by a 5-0 margin. While Gitika has beat Kalaivani in all-Indian women's 48 kg final.
8. **New Zealand** has signed a five-year deal to pay women's players at both international and domestic level receive the same match fees as men across all formats and competitions.
Note: The deal will come into effect from August 1. As per the deal, professional women's players will receive equity in matters such as travel, accommodation, and the wider playing and training environment.
9. **Novak Djokovic** has clinched the Wimbledon 2022 title after beating Australian Nick Kyrgios in London.
Note: He became the fourth player in the open era after Roger Federer, Pete Sampras, and Bjorn Borg won four titles in a row. It is the 21st Grand Slam title of Djokovic. Kazakhstan tennis player, Elena Rybakina has clinched the Women's Singles title.
10. Team archery duo (**Abhishek Verma and Jyothi Surekha Vennam**) has won a bronze medal at the 11th edition of the World Games held at Birmingham, Alabama, USA.
Note: In the bronze medal round, the team defeated Canada's Andrea Becerra & Miguel Becerra. Abhishek Verma is the only Indian archer to win medals at all stages of compound archery (World Games, World Championship, World Cup Final, World Cup, Asian Games, Asian Championship).
11. The 36th National Games will be held in **Gujarat** state between September 27 and October 10.
Note: 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.
12. Indian Shooter **Arjun Babuta** has won his first gold medal in 10 m Air Rifle at the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup stage at Changwon in South Korea.
Note: He defeated Lucas Kozeniesky (USA), who has won silver medal in Tokyo 2020. Sergey Richter from Israel has settled for bronze with a score of 259.9

and Paarth Makhija from India finished at fourth position. This was India's first medal under new national foreign rifle coach Thomas Farnik.

13. **D. Gukesh** has won the Gijon Chess Masters 2022.
Note: GM Alexandr Fier of Brazil has finished second with 6.5 points while International Master, Pedro Antonio Gines of Spain has finished third scoring six points. Gukesh took his FIDE rating to 2693. If he crosses the Elo rating of 2700, Gukesh could well become the sixth Indian to do so after Viswanathan Anand, Krishnan Sasikiran, P. Harikrishna, Vidit Gujarati and B. Adhiban.
14. **Ferrari's Charles Leclerc** has clinched the title of FI Austrian Grand Prix 2022.
Note: Max Verstappen (Red Bull) and seven-time world champion, Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes) settled for second and third place respectively. The 2022 Austrian Grand Prix was a F1 motor race held on 10 July 2022 at the Red Bull Ring in Spielberg, Austria.
15. **Bhagwani Devi Dagar** has won gold in the 100m sprint at the 2022 World Masters Athletics Championships in Tampere, Finland.
Note: 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.
16. **Jonny Bairstow (England)** has been named as the International Cricket Council (ICC) has named the Player of the June 2022 in Men's category.
Note: Women's Player: Batter, Marizanne Kapp (South Africa). Jonny Bairstow has received this title after his remarkable performances against New Zealand in May 2022.
17. **Mehuli Ghosh and Shahu Tushar Mane(India)** has bagged second gold medal for India in the 10m Air Rifle Mixed Team at the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup stage in South Korea.
Note: Indian team defeated Eszter Meszaros and Istvan Pen from the Hungary by 17-13. Another Indian duo of Palak and Shiva Narwal bagged bronze in the 10m Air Pistol mixed event after defeating Kazakhstan's Irina Loktionova and Valeriy Rakhimzhan.
18. The Indian Olympic Association announced a 322-strong contingent including 215 athletes and 107 officials and support staff for the upcoming Birmingham Commonwealth Games.
Note: The Games are scheduled to be held in British city from July 28 to August 8. Team India will compete in 15 sporting disciplines as well as four disciplines in the para sports category.
19. Tokyo will host the World Athletics Championships in 2025.
Note: At the World Athletics Council Meeting held in Oregon, USA, the Council has also announced that the 2024 World Athletics Cross Country Championships will be held in Medulin and Pula in Croatia. The 2026 World Athletics Cross Country Championships will be held in Tallahassee, Florida. The 19th edition of the World Athletics Championships will be held in Budapest in Hungary(2023).
20. **R Praggnanandhaa** has won the Paracin Open 'A' chess tournament 2022 in Serbia.
Note: Alexandr Predke (Russian player) grabbed the second spot with 7.5 points ahead of Alisher Suleymenov (Kazakhstan player), who took third place. Young Indian International Master, V Pranav has ended in fifth place with 6.5 points and GM Arjun Kalyan from India settled for seventh place.
21. Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce has clinched her record fifth world 100m title in Eugene, Oregon, belongs to **Jamaica**.
Note: She has previously won the blue riband event in 2009, 2013, 2015 and 2019, won in a championship record of 10.67 seconds. Shericka Jackson (Jamaica) won silver in a personal best of 10.73sec and four-time Olympic sprint champion, Elaine Thompson-Herah (Jamaica) has claimed bronze (10.81). Fred Kerley from US won gold in the men's world 100m title.
22. **P V Sindhu.** 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.
Note: This is her first 500 or better since the world championship win in 2019. This is her first 500 or better final in 2022. Anthony Sinisuka Ginting (Indonesia) won the men's singles title at badminton's Singapore Open 2022 after defeating Japanese player Naraoka Kodai.
23. **Mairaj Ahmad Khan** has created history by becoming the first Indian shooter to win the gold medal in the men's skeet event at 2022 ISSF World Cup in Changwon, South Korea.
Note: He has recorded 37 hits out of a possible 40 in the final to win gold. Minsu Kim from South Korea has bagged silver medal, while Ben Llewelin of Great Britain won bronze. Women's 50m rifle 3 positions

team: Anjum Moudgil, Sift Kaur Samra and Ashi Chouksey won the bronze medal

24. **Aravindh Chithambaram** has won the 41st Villa De Benasque International Chess Open title, after defeating Robert Hovhannisyan (Armenia) and Raunak Sadhwani on the basis of tie-break score.

Note: Chithambaram, Hovhannisyan and Sadhwani finished on eight points from 10 rounds along with seven others. Raunak Sadhwani has finished in third place behind the Armenian. Chithambaram is also a former national champion.

25. **Harshada Garud** 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.

Note: Soumya Dalvi has bagged the bronze in the 45kg category of the youth event. In the men's 49 kg youth event, L Dhanush has won the bronze with an 85 kg effort.

26. Ben Stokes, who has announced his retirement from ODI cricket belongs to **England** cricket team.

Note: His last ODI against South Africa in Durham. His ODI debut was against Ireland in 2011, he has scored 2919 runs, including three centuries, and taken 74 wickets in this format. He won ICC's Player of the Year in 2019, Wisden's leading Cricketer in the World in 2020.

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

Note: He is the 34th player from Australia to be inducted. He has won the 2001 US Open and 2002 Wimbledon titles among 30 career ATP triumphs and was a part of two Davis Cup championship teams in 1999 and 2003. Hewitt won his last ATP title at Newport in 2014. He remained the No 1 player in the world and spent 80 weeks top-ranked.

28. The Indian men's team of Anish Bhanwala, Vijayveer Sidhu and Sameer clinched the silver medal in **25m rapid fire pistol** category, at ISSF World Cup Changwon 2022 in South Korea.

Note: With this medal, India retained the top spot on the medals table with five gold, six silver and four bronze. South Korea has finished with four golds, five silver and three bronze medals. This is the second time, when Indian shooters had topped the ISSF World Cup medals tally.

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

Note: He also becomes only the second Indian and first male track and field athlete to win a medal. Anderson Peters (Grenada) has bagged gold with a best throw of 90.54m while Jakub Vadlejch (Czech Republic) took the bronze with 88.09m. Legendary long jumper, Anju Bobby George was the first Indian to win bronze in the 2003 at Paris.

30. **Jonas Vingegaard (Denmark)** has defeated two-time defending champion, Tadej Pogacar of Slovenia by three minutes and 34 seconds to win his first Tour de France title.

Note: Last year, Vingegaard has finished second after Pogacar. The Tour de France is a prestigious multistage bike race, held annually in France. The race, also known as Le Tour or La Grande Boucle, includes 21 stages and covers 3,328 kilometers in 2022.

31. Women cricketer **Karuna** has announced her retirement from all forms of Cricket.

Note: She has played five Test matches out of which she made 195 runs with 40 as her highest score since making her debut against England at Delhi in November 2005. In August 2014, she has played her last Test for India against England at Wormsley. She has also played 44 ODIs and scored 987 runs with a solitary hundred and nine fifties and 103 as her highest score.

32. **Max Verstappen (Red Bull)** has won the 2022 French Grand Prix.

Note: While, the seven-time champion, Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes) finished second in his 300th Grand Prix. George Russell (Mercedes) has finished third in the 2022 French GP. Red Bulls's Sergio Pérez and Ferrari's Carlos Sainz Jr., finished at fourth and fifth respectively.

33. **India** will host 2025 ICC Women's ODI World Cup.

Note: The 2024 Women's T20 World Cup event will be host by Bangladesh, while the 2026 edition will be held in England. Sri Lanka has secured hosting rights for the 2027 Women's T20 Champions Trophy.

34. **Mastercard** would replace Paytm as the title sponsor for all international and domestic cricket matches, organised by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).

Note: The board has accepted the plea of Paytm for the reassignment of its title rights. Since 2015, Paytm has been the title sponsor of BCCI and renewed the contract in August 2019. The current agreement between Paytm and the BCCI runs from September 2019 to March 31, 2023.

35. 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).**
Note: The Indian men's hockey team has bagged bronze medal under the leadership of Manpreet Singh at the Tokyo Olympics (2021). The Sports Authority of India has also launched a new campaign "Create for India" to cheer for Team India.
36. Cambodia and Uzbekistan (Asia), and Cote D'Ivoire (Africa) have received the membership status of the International Cricket Council (ICC).
Note: With this addition, the total number of ICC members take to 108 countries which includes 96 Associates. The total count of Asian countries reached to 25 while Cote D'Ivoire is the 21st country from Africa.
37. 44th edition of FIDE Chess Olympiad held in Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
Note: The ceremony was attended by Tamil Nadu CM, MK Stalin, five-times chess champion Viswanathan Anand and several others. The competition is being hosted in India for the first time and in Asia after 30 years. A total of 343 teams from 187 countries are participating in the event. Chess Olympiad mascot: 'Thambi' (Chess Knight). Anthem: Vanakkam Chennai
38. **Sanket Mahadev Sargar** bagged silver in men's 55kg weightlifting, the India's first medal at the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham.
Note: He has lifted a total weight of 248kg (113+135). Bin Kasdan Mohamad Aniq from Malaysia has claimed gold medal with a total lift of 249kg (107+142).
- Dilanka Isuru Kumara Yodage of Sri Lanka has bagged bronze with a total lift of 225kg (105+120).
39. **Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL)** has come into partnership with Indian Olympic Association (IOA), which would involve the setting up of first-ever India House at Paris Olympics 2024.
Note: Aim: To elevate the performances of Indian athletes, support the national sports federations and build the credentials of India. This partnership will support Indian athletes in major events including the CWG, Asian Games, and the Olympics Games.
40. Indian women weightlifter **Saikhom Mirabai Chanu** has claimed first gold medal for India in the Women's 49Kg event at Birmingham 2022 CWG.
Note: She lifted total weight of 201Kg in snatch and clean and jerk category. Bindyarani Devi Sorokhaibam (Weightlifter) has bagged second Silver medal for India in Women's 55 Kg category.
41. **Max Verstappen (Red Bull)** has clinched the title of the 2022 Hungarian Grand Prix.
Note: Followed by Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes) and George Russell (Mercedes). With this title, he sealed his eighth victory of the 2022 Formula One season and the 28th of his career.
42. Gustav McKeon has become the youngest male player to score consecutive international hundreds in the T20 World Cup 2024.
Note: Europe Qualifier Group B match (second international match for the youngster). He made his record against Norway at the Kerava National Cricket Ground in Finland. He smashed five fours and eight sixes in his 53-ball 101 against Norway. Earlier, he smashed 61-ball 109 against Switzerland in Vantaa.

June 2022

1. In **10m air rifle** category, Indian women's shooting team has claimed the gold medal for India at the ISSF World Cup 2022 in Baku, Azerbaijan.
Note: Indian women's team includes: Elavenil Valarivan, Shreya Agarwal and Ramita. The Indian trio team defeated Denmark by 17-5 in finals.
2. **Para -Canoeist, Prachi Yadav** wins a bronze medal with a timing of 1:04.71 seconds at the 2022 ICF Paracanoe World Cup held in Poznan, Poland and become the first Indian to win a World Cup medal.
Note: Susan Seipel (Australia) and Brianna Hennessy (Canada) have bagged Gold and silver respectively.
3. After defeating Japan, the Indian men's hockey team clinch the bronze medal at Asia Cup men's hockey 2022 at Jakarta, Indonesia.
Note: Indian hockey team captain, Birendra Lakra wins the player of the match award for his sturdy defensive work. South Korea wins Asia Cup men's hockey 2022 for the 5th time (1994, 1999, 2009, 2013 2022) and Malaysia placed at second. Top scorer of the tournament: Razie Rahim of Malaysia (scored 13 goals)
4. **Argentina** team has claimed their win against European champions Italy in the 2022 Finalissima Championship at Wembley.
Note: Lionel Messi has received the Man of the Match trophy for the second time in his career, he won his first trophy in Barcelona (2011). Messi has made 46 goal contributions in the 45 finals that he has played in his career.

5. **Para-athlete, Vinod Kumar** the Discus throw player, has been banned by the Board of Appeal of Classification (BAC) for two years (Until 2023) for 'intentional misrepresentation'.
Note: He won the bronze medal in the discus throw event (F52 category) at the 2020 Tokyo Paralympics.
6. 4th edition of the Khelo India Youth Games 2021 begins in Panchkula, Haryana.
Note: The event was inaugurated by the union home minister Amit Shah. KIYG is the flagship event of the Indian government's Khelo India initiative. As many as 25 sports events will be organized at five venues namely Panchkula, Ambala, Shahabad, Chandigarh, and Delhi.
7. In **62kg** category of wrestling, India's Sakshi Malik has won gola medal at the 2022 Bolat Turlykhanov Cup wrestling tournament in Kazakhstan.
Note: Divya Kakran (68Kg) and Mansi Ahlawat (57kg) have won gold medal. Last time, Sakshi Malik won a gold was at the 2017 Commonwealth Championship. While, Pooja Sihag and Neeraj have settled for bronze in the 76kg and 63 Kg category respectively.
8. **Rafael Nadal (Spain)** wins his 14th title of the Men's 2022 French Open championship at Roland Garros and 22nd Grand Slam title overall.
Note: He defeated Casper Ruud by 6-3, 6-3, 6-0. Iga Swiatek (Poland) has defeated Coco Gauff to win the Women's French Open 2022. Men's Doubles: Marcelo Arévalo (El Salvador) & Jean-Julien Rojer (Netherlands). Women's Doubles: Caroline Garci and Kristina Mladenovic (France). Mixed Doubles: Ena Shibahara(Japan); Wesley Koolhof (Netherlands).
9. In the **10m air rifle standing SH1** category, Indian shooter, Avani Lekhara has won the gold medal at the 2022 Para Shooting World Cup in France.
Note: She also created a world record score of 250.6 in women's 10m air rifle standing SH1. Emilia Babska from Poland has bagged the silver medal with a total of 247.6, while Anna Normann of Sweden has settled for bronze medal.
10. The 4th edition of the Khelo India Youth Games 2021 is being organised at **five** locations.
Note: The event was inaugurated by the union home minister Amit Shah. KIYG is the flagship event of the Indian government's Khelo India initiative. KIYG 2021 will see participation from 37 States and Union Territories of India. As many as 25 sports events will be organized at five venues namely Panchkula, Ambala, Shahabad, Chandigarh, and Delhi.
11. After defeating **Poland**, India has won the final of the inaugural FIH Hockey 5s championship in Lausanne in Switzerland.
Note: India had topped the five-team league standings with three wins and one draw en route final, ending their campaign with an unbeaten record. Earlier, India has outplayed Malaysia by 7-3 before beating Poland 6-2 in the second match of the day.
12. Indian Women's cricketer **Mithali Raj** has announced her retirement from all forms of international cricket on Jun 8, 2022.
Note: She has represented India in matches (232) and scored 7,805 runs at an average of 50.68. She made her international debut in an ODI against Ireland, in June 1999. She became the first and is the only woman cricketer to have aggregated more than 10,000 international runs in over 350 matches across all three formats.
13. **Thambi** is the name of the official mascot of the 44th Chess Olympiad, launched by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin.
Note: It is a knight dressed in the traditional Tamil attire Veshti (Dhoti) with a shirt and is seen with folded hands, apparently extending the Tamil greeting 'Vanakkam'.
14. **Saanapathi Gurunaidu** has clinched gold medal in men's 55-kilogram event at IWF Youth World Championships 2022.
Note: Indian weightlifter Saanapathi Gurunaidu has clinched gold medal in men's 55-kilogram event at IWF Youth World Championships in Mexico with total lift of 230 kilogram.
15. **Avani Lekhara** won the gold medal at the Chateauroux 2022 World Cup.
Note: The Tokyo Paralympian has won in the R8 event- women's 50m rifle 3 positions SH1 with a score of 458.3. She beat Veronika Vadovicova of Slovakia to win this title and gold for India.
16. **R Praggnanandhaa** the Indian Grandmaster won the Norway Chess Group A open chess tournament.
Note: The 16-year old GM, the top-seed, was in fine form and remained unbeaten through the nine rounds. He finished the tournament with a win over fellow Indian V Praneeth, an International Master.

17. Manpreet Kaur is associated with **Shot Put** and sets a new National Record in the Inter-State Athletics Meet in Chennai.
Note: She held the previous record of 17.96m. Manpreet has previously threw the iron ball 18.86m at the Asian GP in 2017. Manpreet Kaur, who has recently returned after a 4-year doping ban.
18. **Haryana** state emerged as the champion at the 4th edition of Khelo India Youth Games 2021.
Note: Haryana tops the medal tally with 52 gold, 39 silver, and 46 bronze medals. While Maharashtra finished 2nd with 45 gold, 40 silver, and 40 bronze. Karnataka finished 3rd with 22 gold, 17 silver and 28 bronze.
19. **Swimmer** Aneesh Gowda won the highest number (six gold medals) of medals in the 4th Khelo India Youth Games 2021.
Note: Maharashtra swimmer Apeksha Fernandes and gymnast Sanyukta Kale won five gold medals each in the games. Host state Haryana becomes the champion at the 4th Khelo India Youth Games 2021.
20. **Max Verstappen** won the Azerbaijan Formula One Grand Prix 2022.
Note: He became the most successful driver in the Red Bull of all time. Red Bull's Sergio Perez came second and Mercedes' George Russell came at the third spot.
21. Star badminton player Viktor Axelsen belongs to **Denmark** has won men's single title at the BWF Indonesia Masters 2022.
Note: Axelsen (Denmark) defeated Taiwan's Chou Tien-chen in straight sets. While Chen Yufei (China) beats Thailand's Ratchanok Intanon. For Chen, triumph in Jakarta marks a first individual tournament victory since she won gold at the Tokyo 2020 Games.
22. Two Indian para-powerlifters (Men and Women individual) **Manpreet Kaur and Parmjeet Kumar** have won bronze medals in World Para-powerlifting 2022 Asia Oceania Open Championships at Pyeongtaek in South Korea.
Note: Manpreet Kaur (women's category) won bronze medal in the 41 kg category and had the best lift of 88 kg and the total lift of 173 kg. Parmjeet Kumar (men's category) also won the bronze medal in 49 kg category and lifted 160 and 163 kilograms in two rounds which were his lifetime best lifts.
23. **PM Narendra Modi** has flagged off the first ever-torch relay for the 44th Chess Olympiad, which will be held in Mahabalipuram between 28 July and 10 August.
Note: The International Chess Federation (FIDE) has instituted the torch relay for the very first time. President of FIDE, Arkady Dvorkovich handed over the torch to PM Modi, who gave it to Viswanathan Anand.
24. **Javelin thrower, Neeraj Chopra** has clinched gold in javelin throw in the 2022 Kuortane Games in Finland.
Note: He threw 86.69 metres. Keshorn Walcott of Trinidad has settled for silver with a throw of 86.64 metres. Anderson Peters has won the bronze with a throw of 84.75 metres. Sandeep Chaudhury from India got eighth position in the standings with a throw of 60.35 metres.
25. Mixed team of **Manu Bhaker and Shiva Narwal** has won the 10m air pistol mixed team title at the 20th Kumar Surendra Singh Memorial Shooting competition.
Note: They beat the duo of Amanpreet Singh and Shweta Singh of ONGC by 16-8 to clinch the gold medal. Esha Singh (Telangana) had teamed up with Kaushik Gopu to win bronze in both the senior and junior mixed team competitions.
26. **Neeraj Chopra** will lead the 37-member Indian athletics contingent in Birmingham, 2022 Commonwealth Games in July-August.
Note: The Athletics Federation of India (AFI) has named a 37-member contingent for the 2022 Commonwealth Games, Birmingham.
27. **Indian** team of women's Wrestling has clinched five medals to claim the Under-17 Asian Championship, held at Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.
Note: India has lifted the title with a total of 235 points (eight golds, one silver and one bronze). With 143 points, Japan finished at second and Mongolia at third with 138 points.
28. **Sunil Chhetri** has become the joint fifth highest goalscorer in the history of international football.
Note: He has achieved this feat during their AFC Asian Cup Qualifier clash against Hong Kong, where he scored his 84th goal. Presently, he is equal to the legendary Real Madrid and Hungarian player, Ferenc Puskas goals.
29. **Red Bull's driver, Max Verstappen** has clinched the 2022 Canadian Grand Prix title.
Note: Ferrari driver, Carlos Sainz and Seven-time world champion, Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes) have finished at second and third respectively.
30. Rumeli Dhar has announced her retirement. She is related to **cricket**.

Note: She has played her last international match in the tri-nation women's T20I series between India, Australia and England at Brabourne (2018). She has been featured in four Tests, 78 ODIs, and 18 T20Is.

31. The Indian women team of Deepika Kumari, Ankita Bhakat and Simranjeet Kaur has clinched for a silver medal at the World Cup Stage 3 in Paris, related to **Archery**.

Note: India has lost to Chinese Taipei by 1-5 in the women's recurve team final. India has concluded their campaign with one gold and two silver medals.

32. **Madhya Pradesh** has created history after defeating the 41-time champions, Mumbai by six wickets to win their first-ever Ranji Trophy title at M.Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru.

Note: Madhya Pradesh has chased down 108 in the fourth innings for the fall of four wickets. Madhya Pradesh has now become the fourth first-time winner of the Ranji Trophy in the last five seasons - joining Gujarat, Vidarbha (two-time winners now) and Saurashtra.

33. Indian cyclist, **Ronaldo Singh** has scripted history by winning Silver in the sprint event at the Asian Cycling Championships 2022.

Note: He also became the first Indian cyclist to win a silver medal (including the Elite category) at the Asian Track Championship. Ronaldo Singh

Laitonjam hails from Manipur and started cycling at the age of 14.

34. **Deepak Punia** has won a bronze medal in the U23 Asian wrestling championships 2022 in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

Note: He defeated Maksat Satybaldy in the 86kg freestyle weight category. He has lost to eventual gold medallist, Azizbek Fayzullaev of Uzbekistan and Nurtilek Karypbaev of Kyrgyzstan.

35. **Navjeet Dhillon** the Indian women's discus thrower, who has won the gold medal at the Qosanov Memorial 2022 athletics meet in Almaty, Kazakhstan.

Note: She won the women's discus throw with a 56.24m effort. Karina Vasilyeva (Kazakhstan) placed second with 44.61m and Uzbekistan's Yulianna Shchukina at third with 40.48m on the podium.

36. **Los Angeles, Toronto and Mexico City** have been named among the host cities for the 2026 FIFA World Cup in the United States, Canada and Mexico.

Note: USA: Seattle, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Kansas City, Dallas, Atlanta, Houston, Boston, Philadelphia, Miami and New York/New Jersey. Canada: Vancouver and Toronto. Mexico: Gadalajara, Mexico City and Monterrey.

May 2022

1. India has won a silver medal at the second Asian Girls Youth Beach Handball Championship which was held in **Bangkok, Thailand**.

Note: The team of Indian girls has defeated Hong Kong. India was represented by Anushka Chauhan, Jassi, Sanjana Kumari, Chetna Devi, Vanshika Mehta, and Isha Majumdar. With this medal, the team also earned a spot in the World Youth Beach Handball Championship. The senior women's team has finished with a bronze.

2. **Harshada Sharad Garud** has become the first Indian to win a gold medal at IWF Junior World Championships 2022 in Heraklion, Greece.

Note: She lifted 153-kilogram in the 45-kg weight category, that included 70 kg in Snatch and 83 kg in Clean and Jerk to finish on top of the podium. Turkey's Bektas Cansu bagged silver medal and Moldova's Teodora-Luminita Hincu won the bronze medal.

3. **Kerala** team has defeated the 32-time champion West Bengal in a penalty shootout to win its 75th Santhosh

Trophy National Tournament for the seventh time at the Payyanad Stadium in Malappuram, Kerala.

Note: This is the first time that Kerala has won on home soil since 1993. Player of the Tournament: Jijo Joseph (Midfielder, Kerala). Top goalscorer: Jesin Tk. Thonikkara (Forward, Kerala), 9 goals; Best goalkeeper: Priyant Singh (West Bengal)

4. **JAIN University(Deemed-to-be University)** has won the 2nd edition of the Khelo India University Games 2021 with 20 gold, 7 silver and 5 bronze medals.

Note: Lovely Professional University (LPU) with 17 golds has placed second and Punjab University placed third with 15 gold medals. Siva Sridhar has emerged as the star swimmer by winning 11 gold. The closing ceremony of KIUG was held at Sri Kanteerava Outdoor Stadium, Bengaluru.

5. **Ronnie O'Sullivan (English snooker player)** has won his seventh World Snooker Championship crown after beating Judd Trump (English snooker player) by 18-13.

- Note:** With this win, he has been equalled Stephen Hendry's modern-day record of seven world titles. O'Sullivan has won his first world title in 2001. He has also claimed snooker's biggest prize in 2004, 2008, 2012, 2013 and 2020 before his triumph over the Bristolian.
6. Olympian discus thrower **Kamalpreet Kaur** has been suspended by Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) for testing positive for a banned substance.
Note: The AIU has found the presence/use of the prohibited substance anabolic steroid called stanozolol in her sample. Kaur had finished sixth with a throw of 63.7m in the Tokyo Olympics final. Stanozolol was used by sprinter Ben Johnson during the Seoul Olympics in 1988.
7. **Shooter Dhanush Srikanth** has won gold in the men's 10m air rifle competition in the 24th Deaflympics at Caxias do Sul, Brazil.
Note: Shourya Saini has also won the bronze in the same event. Later, the Indian badminton team also won gold after beating Japan by 3-1 in the final to make it a double celebration for the country. Vedika Sharma won the bronze medal in the 10 m air pistol at the ongoing Deaflympics 2021 in Caxias do Sol, Brazil.
8. **India cricket team** has been ranked as the world's number one in ICC T20 team ranking.
Note: New Zealand has bagged the top spot in the ODI rankings, followed by England, Australia, and India. Men's Test Team Rankings: Australia, India, and New Zealand. International Cricket Council Chairman: Greg Barclay; CEO: Geoff Allardice; Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates
9. Khelo India Youth Games 2021 will be held in **Haryana**.
Note: Mascot, Logo and Jersey and theme song of Khelo India Youth Games were launched in a special ceremony held at Indra Dhanush Stadium in Panchkula, Haryana. The Mascot and theme was launched by Haryana's Chief Minister Manohar Lal along with Union Sports and Youth Affairs Minister Anurag Thakur.
10. Abhinav Deshwal has won the second gold medal for India in **Shooting** at the ongoing 24th Deaflympics in Caxias do Sul, Brazil.
Note: He was tied with silver winning Ukrainian Oleksii Lazebnyk before winning gold in a shoot-off. India has four medals in the shooting competition at the 24th Deaflympics. Men's 10m air rifle: Dhanush Srikanth (Gold); Shourya Saini (Bronze). Women's 10m air pistol: Vedika Sharma (Bronze).
11. **Max Verstappen** has won the inaugural Miami Grand Prix for Red Bull after defeating the Ferrari rival Charles Leclerc.
Note: Leclerc (Ferrari) finished second and Spanish teammate Carlos Sainz (Ferrari) placed third in the Miami Grand Prix 2022.
12. **Carlos Alcaraz (Spain)** has clinched the men's singles Madrid Open title 2022 after beating the defending champion Alexander Zverev (Germany).
Note: Alcaraz has also defeated Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic (world No.1) to reach the final. It is his second Masters 1000 crown after Miami 2022 and his fourth title of the year. Ons Jabeur (Tunisia) has clinched women's singles title to become the first African player to win a WTA 1000 event.
13. Indian Grandmaster **Indian Grandmaster D Gukesh** has won the first Chessable Sunway Formentera Open 2022 chess tournament in Punta Prima.
Note: GM Gukesh has defeated GM Haik M Martirosyan (Armenian) in the final round. This is his third title after he had previously won the La Roda tournament and the Menorca Open. He had defeated K Sasikiran (Indian) in the ninth and penultimate round.
14. Athlete **Jyothi Yarraji (from Andhra Pradesh)** has smashed the national record to clinch a gold medal in the women's 100m hurdles at Limassol in Cyprus International Athletics Meeting 2022 with a timing of 13.23 seconds.
Note: She break the 20-year-old national record (13.38 seconds) in the name of Anuradha Biswal in 2002. Another Indian athlete Lili Das has also won gold in the women's 1500 meter race and Amlan Borgohain won the bronze medal in the men's 200m.
15. Indian pistol pairs **Esha Singh and Saurabh Chaudhary** clinched the mixed team pistol gold at the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) Junior World Cup in Suhl, Germany.
Note: The team of Palak and Sarabjot Singh has settled for the silver medal in the same event. Ramita and Paarth Makhija also won silver in the 10m air rifle mixed team competition. In all, India has so far won 10 medals, including four gold.
16. The Indian team of women archers Parneet Kaur, Aditi Swami, and Sakshi Chaudhary has won India's first gold medal of the continental meet after defeating Kazakhstan which is being held in **Iraq**.
Note: The men's team of Prathamesh Fuge, Rishabh Yadav, and Jawkar Samadhan has won the second gold for India. The compound mixed duo of Prathmesh Fuge & Parneet Kaur won the third Gold Medal at Asia Archery Cup. Prathamesh Samadhan Jawkar has won the bronze medal in Asia Cup.
17. **India's Men's Badminton team** has scripted the history by winning the first-ever Thomas Cup after defeating 14-time Champions Indonesia in Bangkok.
Note: India has defeated Indonesia by 3-0 in the finals of the prestigious team championship. World Championships medallist Lakshya Sen, Kidambi Srikanth and world number 8 doubles duo of Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy had given their memorable performances.

- 18. Novak Djokovic (Serbian)** has defeated Stefanos Tsitsipas to capture the 38th ATP Masters 1000 crown (Italian Open).
Note: Novak Djokovic became the fifth man in the Open Era to earn 1,000 match wins after defeating Casper Ruud in the semi-finals. In Woman Single, Iga Swiatek has won the Italian Open title after defeating Ons Jabeur. Men's doubles: Nikola Mektić and Mate Pavić (Croatia). Women's doubles: Veronika Kudermetova and Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova
- 19. Sift Kaur Samra** has won the individual women's 50m rifle 3 positions (3P) like Prone, the Standing and the Kneeling positions, event to take India's gold medal tally to 10 at the ISSF Junior World Cup 2022 in Suhl, Germany.
Note: She beat Julie Johannessen (Norway) by 17-9 in the final. India's Ashi Chouksey has also won bronze in the same event. Presently, India leads the tally with 25 medals which include 10 gold, 12 silver and three bronze.
- 20. South Korea** has defeated China by 3-2 in the Badminton World Federation (BWF) 29th edition of the Uber Cup Final at Impact Arena in Bangkok.
Note: This is the second Uber Cup title for South Korea after their first victory in 2010 in Kuala Lumpur. Thomas and Uber Cup is the biennial international badminton championship contested by the men's and women's national teams of the member associations of Badminton World Federation (BWF).
- 21. A total 16 medals (including eight golds, one silver, and seven bronze)** India has won at the Deaflympics 2021 in Caxias do Sul, Brazil
Note: India has finished in the ninth position in the medal tally. India won three gold in shooting, three in Badminton, and each in Golf and Tennis.
❖ **Shooting:** Dhanush Srikanth, Abhinav Deshwal, Dhanush Srikanth/Priyasha Deshmukh, Shourya Saini, Vedika Sharma
❖ **Badminton:** Jerlin Jayaratchagan, Abhinav Sharma
❖ **Tennis:** Prithvi Sekhar/Dhananjay Dubey
- 22. Eintracht Frankfurt (German club)** has won their first European trophy in 42 years after defeating the Rangers by 5-4 on penalties in Seville, Spain.
Note: Goalkeeper, Kevin Trapp has saved at the end of extra time and another in the shootout to help give Frankfurt the 5-4 win on penalties. Rangers (Scottish club) was also trying to win its first European title since the Cup Winners' Cup in 1972. Man of the Match: Kevin Trapp (Eintracht Frankfurt)
- 23. Nikhat Zareen** India boxer has won the gold medal in 52kg (Category) after defeating Thailand's Jitpong Jutamas at the 2022 IBA Women's World Boxing Championships, Istanbul.
Note: Nikhat became the fifth Indian woman to secure a gold medal at the World Boxing Championships after Mary Kom, Sarita Devi, Jenny RL, and Lekha KC. It was also India's first gold medal since boxing great Mary Kom won it in 2018. Bronze winners: Manisha Moun (57 kg), Parveen Hooda (63 kg).
- 24. The Indian men's compound archery team** (Abhishek Verma, Aman Saini, and Rajat Chauhan) has defeated **France** in the final to win a gold medal at the Archery World Cup stages in Gwangju, South Korea.
Note: It was their second successive World Cup gold medal as the team had finished on the top step of the podium in Antalya, Turkey (April 2022). Archer Mohan Bhardwaj has also won a silver medal in the World Cup. The Compound Mixed duo of Abhishek & Avneet Kaur win bronze.
- 25. Manchester City (Football)** has been crowned 2021/22 Premier League champions their fourth title success in the last five seasons.
Note: Manchester City won over Aston Villa in the final game of the season. In Manchester City's 38 league matches this season, they have won 29, drawn six, and lost three, scoring 99 goals in the process. City has now won four Premier League titles and eight major trophies under Pep Guardiola since his arrival in the summer of 2016.
- 26. Haryana** Hockey team has emerged as the winners of the Hockey India sub-junior women's national championship 2022 after defeating Hockey Jharkhand by 2-0 in the final in Imphal.
Note: Uttar Pradesh Hockey has defeated Madhya Pradesh Hockey by 3-0 to secure third place in the tournament. Pushpanjali Sonkar, Manisha Patel, and Purnima Yadav scored a goal each to help Uttar Pradesh Hockey seal third place in the competition for the second consecutive time.
- 27. Odisha** team win Hockey India Senior Women's National Championship 2022 title.
Note: Hockey Association of Odisha became the champion of the 12th Hockey India Senior Women's National Championship 2022 after a victory over Hockey Karnataka in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. Earlier, Jharkhand Hockey team has defeated Hockey Haryana by 3-2 in the third-fourth place match. Punam Barla (34') has opened the scoring in the match in the third quarter as Odisha picked up the lead.
- 28. Punjab Kings batsman, Shikhar Dhawan** has become the first player to hit 700 fours in the history of the IPL.

Note: The batter has now a total of 701 IPL fours to his name, followed by David Warner (577) and Virat Kohli (576). He achieved this milestone during the match between PBKS and Sunrisers Hyderabad at the Wankhede. Dhawan also becomes the second player to score 6000 runs in IPL history after Virat Kohli.

29. Gujarat Titans has won the Indian Premier League (IPL) champions 2022 after defeating Rajasthan Royals by 7 wickets in the final at Narendra Modi Stadium, Ahmedabad.

Note: Aramco Purple Cap: Yuzvendra Chahal (27 Wickets) Aramco Orange Cap: Jos Buttler (863 Runs)

30. Real Madrid has become the European champion for a record-extending 14th time after defeating Liverpool by 1-0 in a Champions League final.

Note: The Real Madrid has claimed their fifth Champions League trophy in nine seasons.

31. Sergio Perez (Red Bull) has won Formula One Monaco Grand Prix after defeating Carlos Sainz Jr. (Ferrari).

Note: It was Perez's first win of the season. Mexican's Max Verstappen (Red Bull) has finished third, Leclerc at fourth.

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