

Weekly Current Affairs

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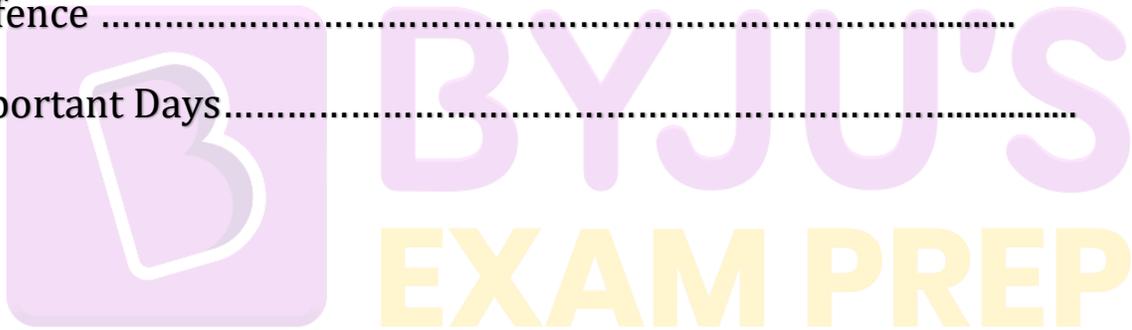
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International Relations

India emerges as Sri Lanka's largest bilateral lender overtaking China

Why in News:

- India has become the largest bilateral lender excluding China from Sri Lanka.

key points:

- In the four months of the year 2022, a total loan of US\$ 968 million has been provided by India to Sri Lanka.
- Prior to this, China has been the largest bilateral lender to Sri Lanka in the last five years from 2017-2021.
- In the year 2021, a total loan of 610 million dollars was provided to Sri Lanka by the Asian Development Bank (ADB).
- Earlier, India also provided food and financial assistance of 4 billion dollars to Sri Lanka.
- Sri Lanka has been battling an economic crisis since the beginning of 2022 and the government's lapses have made the situation worse.
- The economic crisis arising in Sri Lanka has affected a large number of people in the country.
- India and Sri Lanka are members of SAARC and BIMSTEC and India's trade with Sri Lanka is also the largest among SAARC countries.



Source: The Hindu

India takes over SCO rotating presidency and hosts SCO summit 2023

Why in News:

- The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Summit 2022 was held in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, in which India took over the presidency of the SCO for the year 2023.



key points:

- India will chair the SCO grouping for a year till September 2023 and next year, India will also host the SCO summit.
- The Samarkand Declaration has been signed by the leaders of the member countries of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) at the meeting of the Council of Heads of State in the city of Samarkand, Uzbekistan.
- During the SCO summit, member states discussed various global challenges and threats including the technological and digital divide, continued turbulence in global financial markets, instability in supply chains, increased protectionist measures, and uncertainty in the global economy.
- SCO is a permanent inter-governmental international organization, established in the year 2001.
- The SCO Charter was signed in the year 2002 and came into force in the year 2003.
- The SCO is a Eurasian political, economic and military organization whose goal is to maintain peace, security, and stability in the region.
- The SCO is primarily seen as a counterpoint to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), a nine-member economic and security bloc, and has emerged as one of the largest inter-regional international organizations.

Source: Business Standard

Typhoon Nanmadol

Why in News:

- In Japan, Typhoon Nanmadol brought severe winds and record rainfall to the west on September 19, making it one of the biggest storms to hit the country in years.



key points:

- Due to the Nanmadol storm in Japan, people living in the southwest have been warned to move to safer places.
- Nanmadol is classified as a super typhoon by the US Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC), a term applied to storms that have sustained wind speeds of 240km/h (150mph) or higher.
- Scientists have predicted a very active hurricane season this year influenced by a natural phenomenon called La Nia.



- Warmer sea surface temperatures in the Atlantic and Caribbean may also have an effect as a result of climate change.
- It had an atmospheric pressure of 975 hectopascals at its center, with maximum gusts of 234 km/h (145 mph).
- The potential of this typhoon is equivalent to category four or five hurricanes.
- A tropical cyclone that occurs along the coasts of the western Pacific Ocean and in the China Sea, in which the winds move very fast (more than 12 outwards on the Beaufort Wind Measurement), is called a typhoon.
- The diameter of typhoons is generally 150 to 650 km. And due to the greater difference (10 to 50 millibar) in the air pressure of its center and circumference, the right gradient is high, due to which the winds move with great speed.
- Cyclones also come on the southeast coast of America and are called 'hurricanes' there.

Source: The Hindu

Poland opens new canal at Vistula Spit

Why in News:

- For ships to be able to cruise to the ports of the Vistula Lagoon without having to rely on the Pallava Strait, Poland has constructed a new maritime canal between the Baltic Sea and the Gulf of Gdansk in Russia.



Key Points:

- The 83rd anniversary of the Soviet invasion of Poland during World War II saw the opening of the new canal.
- It was done in order to allegorically represent the cessation of Russian influence over the economy and growth of the nation.
- By around 100 kilometers, this halves the distance between Baltic and El blog.
- Smaller vessels and boats can currently utilize this channel, but cargo ships are currently prohibited until the port of Elblag's entry is 5 meters deep.
- This project has a USD 2 billion price tag overall.
- In the Baltic Sea, the Vistula Spit is an aeolian sand spit or peninsular portion that divides the Vistula Lagoon from Gdansk Bay.



- Given that the border between Poland and Kaliningrad Oblast, a Russian semi-exclave, runs through the spit, it is politically divided between Poland and Russia.

Source: Indian Express

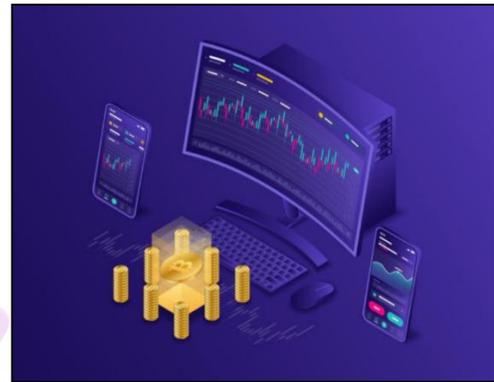
India ranks 4th in the Global Crypto Adoption Index 2022

Why in News:

- India ranks fourth in the Global Crypto Adoption Index 2022 with an index score of 0.663.

key points:

- Vietnam ranks first in cryptocurrency adoption for the second year in a row with an overall index ranking.
- The Philippines is placed second in the index after Vietnam with an overall index score of 0.753, and Ukraine is ranked third in the index with an overall index score of 0.694.
- This is the third edition of the Global Crypto Adoption Index.
- Vietnam, Philippines, Ukraine, India, Pakistan, Nigeria, Morocco, Nepal, Kenya, and Indonesia have been included in the list of ten lower middle-income countries in the Global Crypto Adoption Index 2022.
- Brazil, Thailand, Russia, China, Turkey, Argentina, Colvin, and Ecuador have been included in the list of eight upper middle-income countries in the Global Crypto Adoption Index 2022.
- The United States and the United Kingdom have been included in the list of two high-income countries in the Global Crypto Adoption Index 2022.
- The Global Crypto Adoption Index ranks 154 countries based on the following five sub-indices, which include-
 - On-chain cryptocurrency prices received on centralized exchanges, weighted by per capita power parity (PPP)
 - On-chain retail price received on centralized exchanges, weighted by PPP per capita
 - Peer-to-peer (P2P) exchange trade volume, weighted by PPP per capita and number of Internet users
 - Mass-chain Cryptocurrency value derived from the Defoe protocol weighted by PPP per capita



- The on-chain retail value derived from the Defoe protocol weighted by PPP per capita

Source: The Hindu

National

SCALE app launched for skill development in leather sector

Why in News:

- The SCALE (Skill Certification Assessment for Leather Employees) app has been launched by the Minister of Education and Skill Development Shri Dharmendra Pradhan for skill development in the leather sector at CSIR- Central Leather Research Institute, Chennai.



key points:

- The SCALE App has been developed to provide a one-stop solution for the skilling, learning, assessment and employment needs of the Leather Industry.
- The Android App SCALE has been developed by the Leather Skill Sector Council to change the way in which skill development programs are designed and delivered to the apprentices in the leather industry.
- The SCALE STUDIO app developed by Leather SSC allows people of all age groups interested in leather crafts to access live stream classes online from a state-of-the-art studio in their office.
- Leather sector plays a major role in generating large scale employment in the country with more than 44 lakh people currently working.
- CSIR-CLRI plays a vital role in the development of this sector which has the right mix of academics and skill development.
- CLRI is also promoting entrepreneurship amongst the youth and also provides assistance in setting up several startup companies.

Source: Business Standard



PM CARES Fund: Government appoints industrialist Ratan Tata as trustee

Why in News:

- According to the Prime Minister's Office, veteran industrialist Ratan Tata, former Supreme Court judge KT Thomas and former deputy Lok Sabha speaker Kariya Munda have been named as trustees of the PM Cares Fund.



key points:

- The meeting of the Board of Trustees of PM CARES Fund was chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, which was attended by Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.
- Both Amit Shah and Sitharaman are trustees of the PM Cares Fund.
- It has also been decided by the Trust to nominate other eminent persons to constitute the Advisory Board for PM CARES Fund.
- PM Cares Fund was created during the Kovid-19 pandemic.
- The primary objective of the PM CARES Fund is to deal with any kind of emergency or crisis situation, such as arising out of a pandemic, and to provide relief to the affected persons.

Source: Livemint

USAID and UNICEF launch a series titled 'Door Se Namaste'

Why in News:

- The Doordarshan and YouTube series titled "Door Se Namaste" was launched by the US Agency for International Development and UNICEF at an event in New Delhi.



key points:

- The event featured a theatrical film Door Se Namaste, showing the audience through the main story, how vaccine promotion and COVID-19 Appropriate Practices (CAB) messages are intertwined in an entertainment education series.



- Door Se Namaste is a new television series aimed at promoting healthy behavior in the post-pandemic world.
- Door Se Namaste television series will be telecast every Sunday from 11 am to 12 noon.
- The series is produced by National Film Award winner and Padma Shi, Neel Madhav Panda's production house, Eleanora Images Pvt Ltd.

Source: Indian Express

KRITAGYA 3.0

Why in News:

- KRITAGYA 3.0 has been launched by ICAR with an aim to promote "Speed Breeding" for crop improvement.



key points:

- Indian Council of Agricultural Research along with its National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP) and Crop Science Division has launched a hackathon KRITAGYA 3.0 with an aim to promote speed breeding for the improvement of crops.
- This initiative will help in providing opportunities to students, faculties, entrepreneurs, innovators, and others to showcase innovative approaches and technological solutions for crop improvement.
- Along with achieving desired solutions in the crop sector, it will also encourage wider adoption of technology-enabled solutions in the agriculture sector.
- It will provide an opportunity to learn, innovate and solve problems faced in the crop sector and will also boost employment and entrepreneurship in the country.
- KRITAGYA 3.0 has been launched in line with the National Policy on Education, 2020.
- The National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP) was launched in November 2017 by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research with the assistance of the World Bank.
- The main objective of the National Agricultural Higher Education Project is to assist the participating agricultural universities and ICARs in providing high-quality education to the students.

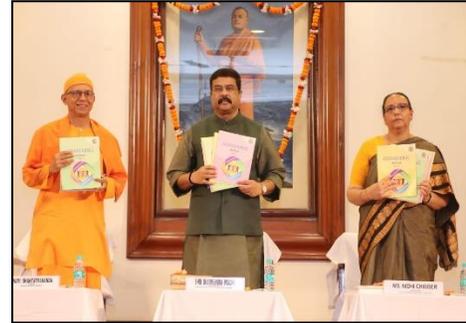
Source: PIB



Dharmendra Pradhan launched Ramakrishna Mission's Awakening program

Why in News:

- The 'Awakening' program of Ramakrishna Mission has been launched by the Union Minister of Education and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Shri Dharmendra Pradhan for the students of classes 1st to 5th.



key points:

- Under Ramakrishna Mission, Delhi Branch, since 2014, Awakening Citizen Program (Awakened Citizen Program/ACP) for Middle School students is being successfully conducted.
- About 6,000 schools (Kendriya Vidyalaya's, Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya's, government, and private schools) comprising 55,000 teachers and 12 lakh students have benefitted under the ACP.
- A program called 'Awakening' which is closely linked to the National Policy on Education (NEP) 2020 has been designed and conducted in 126 schools.
- During the COVID pandemic, this pilot program has provided great consolation to struggling teachers, parents, and students, as shown in the encouraging response received from the participants.
- This 'Awakening' program is an initiative towards ensuring holistic personality development of a child in line with the philosophy of National Policy on Education (NEP), 2020.
- Ramakrishna Mission was established by Swami Vivekananda in the year 1897, with the aim of bringing the best ideas by Swami Vivekananda to the doorsteps of the poorest and most deprived people, through the Ramakrishna Mission.
- Ramakrishna Mission works in the field of value-based education, culture, health, women empowerment, youth, and tribal welfare, and relief and rehabilitation.

Source: The Hindu



Election Commission of India launches BLO e-Patrika

Why in News:

- The 'BLO e-Patrika' has been released by the Election Commission of India with an aim to ensure direct communication with the booth-level officials.

key points:

- The themes of the bi-monthly e-Patrika include EVM-VVPAT training, IT-related applications, special summary revision, minimum sweep activities at polling stations, postal ballot facilities, accessible elections, electoral literacy clubs, unique voter awareness initiatives, and National Voters' Day.
- BLO e-Patrika also includes informal interactions with BLOs, their success stories, and best practices followed across the country.
- The BLO e-Patrika will be available in English, Hindi, and regional languages which can be accessed by accessing the English and Hindi versions of the BLO e-Patrika through the ECI website or the ECI's Twitter handle (@ECISVEEP).
- The institution of BLO was created by the Commission in the year 2006 primarily to ensure an inclusive, up-to-date, and error-free electoral roll which is the first step toward free, fair, and participatory elections.
- On this occasion, the Commission has organized the first-of-its-kind interaction with BLOs spread across the country with an aim to share experiences.



Source: PIB

India Home to Cheetahs After 70 Years

Why in News:

- After more than 70 years of extinction in India, the cheetah was rehabilitated at Kuno-Palpur National Park (KNP) in Madhya Pradesh on 17 September.

key points:

- Eight African cheetahs – five females and three males aged between four and six years – have been brought to India from Namibia at Kuno-Palpur National Park (KNP) in Madhya Pradesh.



- This is the first time in the world that a large carnivore has been transferred from one continent to another.
- The cheetah has an ancient history in the country, a Neolithic cave painting of a 'thin-spotted cat hunting' has also been found in Chaturbhuj Nala in Mansoor, Madhya Pradesh.
- In India, the cheetah was found from Jaipur and Lucknow in the north to Mysore in the south and from Kathiawar in the west to Deogarh in the east.
- The Cheetah was officially declared extinct by the Government of India in the year 1952.
- Since the 1940s, cheetahs were also declared extinct in 14 other countries – Jordan, Iraq, Israel, Morocco, Syria, Oman, Tunisia, Saudi Arabia, Djibouti, Ghana, Nigeria, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, and Afghanistan.
- After bringing back the cheetah, India has become the only country where all the five members of the 'Big Cat' species-tiger, lion, panther, snow leopard, and cheetah are present.

Source: Indian Express

State

India's first MotoGP to be held at the Buddhist Circuit in Noida in 2023

Why in News:

- MotoGP, the premier motorcycle racing event, will be held for the first time in India next year (2023) at the Buddh International Circuit in Greater Noida.

key points:

- This has been announced by Pushkar Nath, Chief Operating Officer, Noida-based race promoters Fairstreet Sports.
- Dorna Sports, the owner of the commercial rights to MotoGP, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Fairstreet Sports to organize the championship in India for seven years.



- Prior to this, the car racing championship Formula One also held the "Indian Grand Prix" from 2011 to 2013 only at the Buddh International Circuit.
- MotoGP is also planning to introduce the MotoE - the electric motorcycle racing event - in India, but currently, the focus is on successfully holding the "Grand Prix of India".

Source: Business Standard

Bihar govt is set to introduce 'no-bag day' in schools

Why in News:

- The Bihar government plans to introduce a "no-bag day" rule in schools and a mandatory sports period at least once a week to ease the burden on students.



key points:

- There will be work-based practical classes on the weekly "No-Bag Day" and students will come to school with a lunch box at least once a week.
- This policy aims to involve students in various activities that can have a positive impact on their learning.
- The initiative aims to bring about a positive change in the students, which will also improve their learning ability.
- This initiative is in line with the National Education Policy 2020 and will be implemented in both government and private schools.
- State sportspersons according to their status in national level sports events, to avail the facility of sports kits, and a grant-in-aid for treatment and enrollment in the National Institute of Sports courses will also be provided with this scheme.
- In the year 2020-21, 70 players have been provided Rs 21.02 lakh as a grant-in-aid.
- Earlier, six medals have been won by the players of Bihar in the World Championship of Arnis Games held in the Philippines.

Source: Indian Express



A&N becomes the first state/UT in India to achieve 100% coverage of precautionary doses

Why in News:

- Andaman and Nicobar Islands have become the first Indian state/UT to achieve 100 percent coverage of the precautionary dose.

key points:

- Under a scheme by the Andaman and Nicobar Islands government, over 2,87,216 beneficiaries aged 18 years have been vaccinated with a precautionary dose.
- Health workers from Andaman and Nicobar Islands reached homes and several camps were organized by them to intensify the campaign.
- Under this scheme, the camps were organized in urban and rural areas which got a good response.
- The target set by the health activist group has been achieved before the deadline of 30 September.
- Under this scheme, the first Nicobar district has been fully vaccinated as a precaution, after which North and Middle Andaman and South Andaman districts have been fully vaccinated.
- Precautionary doses included Corbevax and Covishield vaccine.



Source: Livemint

India's 1st lithium-ion cell factory was inaugurated in Andhra Pradesh

Why in News:

- The pre-production run of India's first Lithium-Ion cell manufacturing facility has been launched at Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh by the Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology, Rajiv Chandrasekhar.



key points:

- This state-of-the-art facility has been set up by Chennai-based Munoth Industries Limited with an outlay of Rs 165 crore.
- The facility is located in one of the two electronics manufacturing clusters established in the temple town by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the year 2015.
- The plant currently has an installed capacity of 270 MW and can produce 20,000 cells of 10 AH capacity per day.
- These cells are used in power banks and the capacity is about 60 percent of India's current requirement.
- Cells will also be produced for other consumer electronics such as mobile phones, hearing aids, and wearable devices.
- At present, India imports the entire requirements of lithium-ion cells mainly from China, South Korea, Vietnam, and Hong Kong.
- Currently, battery cells, and lithium-ion batteries attract 18 percent GST, while the entire EV attracts only 5 percent GST.

Source: The Hindu

Kashmir to get its first multiplex in Srinagar

Why in News:

- Kashmir's first multiplex will be inaugurated in Srinagar by the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Manoj Sinha.



key points:

- After a gap of three decades, cinema halls will be constructed once again in Kashmir.
- The INOX-designed multiplex will be constructed in three movie theatres with a combined seating capacity of 520.
- A food court will also be constructed on the property to promote regional cuisine.
- After the special screening of Aamir Khan's film "Lal Singh Chaddha", the public will be allowed to enter the multiplexes.



- Due to the rise of terrorism, all cinema halls in the Kashmir Valley were closed on December 31, 1990.
- Three years after the abrogation of Article 370, and thirty years after the abrogation of Article 370, cinema halls will be started in the Union Territory at present.
- On the first day of the screening of the film, both the theaters will also screen various kid-friendly films including Laal Singh Chaddha.

Source: Times of India

Andaman and Nicobar Islands become India's first Swachh Sujal Pradesh

Why in News:

- Andaman and the Nicobar Islands have been declared as India's first Swachh Sujal Pradesh by Union Minister of Jal Shakti Gajendra Singh Shekhawat.



key points:

- With this achievement, all the villages in Andaman and Nicobar Islands have been granted Har Ghar Jal Certification and have been verified as Open Defecation Free.
- Safe and secure drinking water supply and its management is an important aspect of Sujal and Swachh.
- There are three important components of Sujal and Swachh State:
 - Safe and secure drinking water supply and management.
 - ODF Plus: ODF Sustainability and Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM) and
 - Cross-cutting interventions such as convergence, IEC, action plan, etc.
- On the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, there are 62,000 rural households spread over 266 villages in 9 blocks of three districts, the union territory supplying piped water to all 368 schools, 558 Anganwadi centers, and 292 public institution centers in the state.
- World Water Day, 22 March 2021, was announced by Andaman and Nicobar Islands to achieve 100% coverage of rural households with tap water connections.
- Andaman and Nicobar Islands has become the third state/UT in the country after Goa and Telangana to achieve 100% coverage with tap water supply to rural households.



Source: Business Standard

Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineering Limited (GRSE), Kolkata, has been awarded the 'Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar' by the Ministry of Home Affairs

Why in News:

- The Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, has awarded the "Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar" to Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineering Limited (GRSE), Kolkata.



Key Points:

- The Government of India has recognized Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineering Limited as having the best official language implementation among Public Sector Undertakings in Zone "C" for the fiscal years 2021–2022.
- During Surat's Hindi Divas festivities, the prize was given out.
- The Hon. Union Home and Corporation Minister Shri Amit Shah are in charge of organizing the celebrations during Hindi Diwas.
- For the best official language implementation in the years 2011–2012, 2012–2013, 2014–2015, 2015–2016, and 2016–2017, GRSE was awarded the "Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar."
- The highest honor bestowed by the Indian government in the area of official language implementation is called the "Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar."
- Only one Defense and Public Sector Undertaking in Kolkata, Garden Reach Shipbuilders, and Engineering Limited, has been recognized with this honor.

Source: Economic Times

Delhi Police First Force to Make Collection of Forensic Evidence Mandatory

Why in News:

- Delhi Police has become the first police force in India to make a collection of forensic evidence mandatory in crimes punishable by more than six years.



key points:

- After the meeting of the Zonal Council by Home Minister Amit Shah, Delhi Police Commissioner Sanjay Arora issued a 'Standard Order' to all police units.
- The change was one of the initial steps in making the collection of forensic evidence mandatory in criminal cases.
- Home Minister Amit Shah emphasized the fact that custodial torture has its roots in colonial India, however, the conviction of a criminal can be achieved on the basis of forensic evidence.
- Under this scheme, a forensic mobile van will be allotted to each district for the purpose of providing scientific and forensic assistance on the spot.
- Delhi is a Union Territory that the Ministry of Home Affairs has administrative jurisdiction over.
- The use of scientific procedures or skills to look into crimes or evaluate evidence that can be used in court is known as forensic science.
- An enormous range of topics are covered by forensic science, including anthropology, wildlife forensics, and DNA and fingerprint analysis.
- The first Central Fingerprint Bureau of India was founded in Kolkata in 1897 and put into operation in 1904.

Source: Dainik Bhaskar

Important News: Economy

Credit Suisse Global Wealth Report 2022

Why in News:

- The Credit Suisse Group, a large international investment bank based in Switzerland, has just released its yearly Global Wealth Report.

Key Points:

- The research draws attention to the gap between wealth growth and distribution in



different countries as well as the distribution of millionaires and billionaires globally.

- The annual Global Wealth Report states that wealth per adult increased by \$6,800 (8.4%) in 2021 to reach \$87,489, which is over three times the level seen at the turn of the century.
- In 2021, the number of UHNW individuals - those with more over 50 million dollars in assets - increased dramatically, according to a report by investment bank Credit Suisse, as increasing property prices and flourishing stock markets drove the ultra-rich. There are advantages.
- Over the past two years, more than 50% more persons have entered the UHNW category.
- Money is, in a broad sense, the total value of all the tangible and intangible assets that an individual, group of people, business, or nation owns, less any outstanding debts.
- The Credit Suisse Group was established in Switzerland in 1856 and has its headquarters there.
- International investment bank Credit Suisse Group serves as a global wealth manager.

Source: The Hindu

RBI Governor launches 3 major digital payments initiatives at Global Fintech Fest 2022

Why in News:

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor, Shaktikanta Das launched three major digital payments initiatives at the Global Fintech Fest 2022.



key points:

- The three digital payment initiatives launched by the Reserve Bank of India are RuPay Credit Cards on Unified Payments Interface (UPI), UPI Lite and Bharat BillPay for cross-border bill payments.
- UPI Lite will provide users a convenient solution for fast and simple low value transactions.



- Currently, India is using Unified Payments Interface (UPI) for low-value payments, with 50 per cent transactions through UPI below Rs 200.
- The upper limit for UPI Lite payment transaction will be Rs 200.
- The total limit for UPI Lite digital payment mode on the wallet on the device will be Rs 2,000 at any point of time.
- Initially, customers of eight banks can use the UPI Lite digital payment system which includes- Canara Bank, HDFC Bank, Indian Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Punjab National Bank, State Bank of India (SBI), Union Bank of India and Utkarsh. Small Finance Bank.

Source: Indian Express

Federal Bank ranked 63rd among the best workplaces in Asia 2022

Why in News:

- Federal Bank Limited has been ranked 63rd in the list of Best Workplaces in Asia 2022.

key points:

- With this, Federal Bank also becomes the only bank in India to be listed by Great Place to Work, a global authority on building, maintaining, and recognizing a high-trust, high-performance culture at workplaces.
- The list is based on over 1 million survey responses across Asia and the Middle East, representing the experience of more than 4.7 million employees in the region.
- On average, 88% of employees at the best workplaces in Asia reported having a positive employee experience, according to data from Great Place to Work India.
- Whereas for the average global workforce, only 55% of employees share the same positive sentiment.



Source: Indian Express



Important News: Personality

Swati Piramal honored with France's top civilian honor

Why in News:

- Vice Chair of the Piramal Group and recipient of the Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur is Swati Piramal (Knight of the Legion of Honor).



Key Points:

- Piramal receives the highest civilian prize in France in honor of his great accomplishments and services in the disciplines of science, medicine, art, and culture on a national and international level.
- On behalf of President Emmanuel Macron and in the presence of the French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, Swati Piramal accepted this honor from H.E. Catherine Colonna.
- In addition, Swati Piramal received the second-highest civilian honor in France, the Chevalier de l'Ordre National du Merit (Knight of the Order of Merit), in 2006.
- Swati Piramal is a proponent of creating frameworks and policies to support women in leadership roles and a winner of the Padma Shri, one of India's highest civilian honors.
- Indian industrialist and scientist Swati Piramal works in the healthcare industry with a focus on public health and innovation.
- The Piramal Group, a commercial conglomerate with holdings in glass packaging, financial services, real estate, and medicines, is led by vice chairperson Swati Piramal.
- Swati Piramal has also served as a member of the Prime Minister's Scientific Advisory Council and the Business Advisory Council of India.
- Swati Piramal is now a member of Harvard Globule's Advisory Council.

Source: Times of India



UNICEF has appointed 25-year-old Ugandan climate activist Vanessa Nakate as the Goodwill Ambassador of the United Nations Children's Fund.

Why in News:

- On 15 September 2022, UNICEF appointed 25-year-old Ugandan climate activist Vanessa Nkate as the Goodwill Ambassador of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).



key points:

- Vanessa Nakate was born in 1996 in Kampala, Uganda (East Africa).
- In January 2019, Vanessa Nkate started her activism with the inspiration of Greta Thunberg of Sweden and was named Climate Activist of Uganda.
- Vanessa Nakate was a prominent member of the Friday for Future movement.
- The Rise Up Movement, a platform to raise voices for African climate activists, and a project to install solar panels in rural Ugandan schools were also founded by Vanessa Nakate.
- In the year 2020, the Year 2020 World Economic Forum was attended by Vanessa Nkate along with Thunberg and others in Davos, Switzerland.
- The Rise Up Movement is a movement to eradicate poverty, gender-based violence, human trafficking, and child abuse.
- Globally, 2.2 billion children live in one of 33 countries classified by UNICEF's Children's Climate Risk Index as being at "extremely high risk of the effects of climate change".

Source: Times of India

Awards

Goalkeeper Global Goals Awards 2022

Why in News:

- 4 Changemakers have been honored with the 2022 Goalkeepers Global Goals Awards by



the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation as part of its annual Goalkeepers campaign.

key points:

- The Goalkeeper Global Goals Awards recognize communities and the world for their efforts to advance progress towards the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- The Gates Foundation's sixth annual Goalkeepers Report, "The Future of Progress", was also released during the event.
- The event is hosted by Tumello Mothotoen, senior anchor for South African news broadcaster ENCA.
- The Goalkeepers Global Goals Award ceremony was held at Lincoln Center, New York, United States (US).
- Goalkeepers is a campaign of the Gates Foundation to accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (Global Goals).
- The 2022 Goalkeepers Global Goals Awards are given in the following categories, which include-
 - 2022 Global Goalkeeper Award - Ursula von der Leyen
 - 2022 Campaign Award - Vanessa Nakate
 - 2022 Changemaker Award - Zahra Zoya
 - 2022 Progress Award - Dr. Radhika Batra

Source: Times of India

Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh presents INSPIRE Awards to 60 Startups

Why in News:

- INSPIRE Award – MANAK by Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (MoS) for Science and Technology has provided financial assistance to 60 startups and 53,021 students.



key points:

- The INSPIRE Award has been instituted by the Department of Science and Technology (DST).
- The annual INSPIRE Awards- MANAK competition in the year 2020-2021 attracts 6.53 lakh unique ideas and innovations from all the State and Union Territories (UTs) of the country.



- A total of 53,021 students out of 6.53 lakh were identified for financial assistance of Rs 10,000 to develop their prototypes and these innovators would be provided full incubation support for their entrepreneurship.
- 556 students have made their place in the 9th National Level Exhibition and Project Competition (NLEPC) as a synergy of scientists, researchers, scholars, and science and technology.
- In India, ideas and innovations have been represented in the INSPIRE Awards-MANAK scheme by 702 districts out of 766 districts.
- INSPIRE Awards- MANAK, a flagship scheme of the country, is implemented by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) jointly with National Innovation Foundation India (NIF).
- The objective of this project is to motivate the students in the age group of 10-15 years to study in classes 6 to 10.
- MANAK aims to innovate one million original ideas rooted in science and social applications to foster a culture of creative and innovative thinking in school children.

Source: Indian Express

Defence

HPCL collaborates with Indian Army for CSR project in Kargil

Why in News:

- The Indian Army and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) have joined forces to carry out a CSR project that would train and mentor less fortunate lady students in Kargil.



Key Points:

- The "Kargil Ignited Minds" CSR project's goal is to get 50 female students ready for various national-level engineering and medical admission exams.
- The Kargil Ignited Minds project will put a special emphasis on empowering poor girls who have few resources and must endure harsh weather.



- Students must successfully complete a number of procedures, including screening, preparatory exams, and interviews, in order to participate in the Kargil Ignited Minds project.
- The CSR project aims to improve students' knowledge, abilities, and personalities.
- The Kargil Ignited Minds project's MoU signing ceremony took place at 14 Corps in Leh.

Source: Indian Express

Indian Navy decommissioned INS Ajay after 32 years of service

Why in News:

- INS Ajay has been decommissioned after serving the country for 32 years.

key points:

- INS Ajay was docked in the traditional manner at Naval Dockyard, Mumbai.
- The national flag, naval ensign, and the ship's decommissioned ensign were last lowered at sunset, marking the end of the ship's commissioned service.
- INS Ajay was commissioned on 24 January 1990 at Poti, Georgia in the then USSR, and was part of the 23rd Patrol Vessel Squadron under the Operation Control of the Flag Officer Commanding, Maharashtra.
- INS Ajay was in active naval service for more than 32 years during its visit.
- INS Ajay has participated in several naval operations including Operation Talwar during the Kargil War and Operation Parakram in the year 2001.
- The decommissioning ceremony of INS Ajay was attended by over 400 personnel, including Flag Officers, senior officers of the Army, IAF, and CG, officers and men from the Commissioning Crew, previously commissioned crew as well as the current crew of the ship, and Families were involved.



Source: Times of India



Patrol Vessel Samarth commissioned with the Indian Coast Guard

Why in News:

- Patrol Vessel Samarth, a new ship for the Indian Coast Guard in Kochi, has been inducted to undeniably improve the operational capability of the Indian Coast Guard at sea.



key points:

- The ship was functioning under the operational control of Coast Guard District Headquarters-4, while its headquarters are located from Goa to Kochi.
- In order to improve the coastal security system, the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) has inducted Patrol Vessel Samarth into its fleet.
- The 105-metre-long ICGS Samarth can travel at a top speed of 23 knots (approximately 43 kmph).
- Patrol Vessel Samarth is equipped with a High-Powered External Fire Fighting (EFF) System, an Integrated Bridge Management System (IBMS), an Integrated Platform Management System (IPMS), and a Power Management System (PMS).
- The ship is equipped with a state-of-the-art surveillance system and also has the capability to control marine oil spills.
- In Kerala, the Coast Guard has been roped in by the government with an aim to boost its resources to make it a completely impenetrable security blanket.

Source: Livemint

BSF's first female camel riding squad to be deployed along the India- Pak border

Why in News:

- The first all-women camel riding squad of the Border Security Force (BSF) will be deployed along the India-Pakistan border in Rajasthan and Gujarat.



key points:

- For the first time, the newly formed squad will participate in the BSF Raising Day Parade on December 1, this squad is the first of its kind in the world.



- The BSF is the only force in the country to have a camel contingent and a camel cavalry band.
- The BSF, traditionally known as the first line of defence, uses camel contingents to carry out surveillance across the vast expanses of the Thar Desert.
- BSF is a Central Armed Police Force (CAPF) that functions under the Central Government.
- BSF was established in the year 1965 after the Indo-Pakistani War.
- The BSF Act was passed by the Parliament in 1968 and the rules governing the Act were framed in the year 1969.
- India is a federation of states and under the one border one force policy, BSF is deployed along the borders of Pakistan and Bangladesh.
- BSF is also deployed in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas and on the request of State Governments, BSF is also regularly deployed for election and other law and order duties.
- The Border Security Force was established on 1 December 1965 and its headquarters is located in New Delhi.

Source: Times of India

Important Days

World Rhino Day 2022

Why in News:

- World Rhinoceros Day is observed every year on 22nd September with the aim of spreading awareness about various rhino species and the threats they face.



key points:

- World Rhino Day provides an opportunity for NGOs, zoos and the general public to honor rhinos in their own special way.
- World Rhino Day aims to promote the importance of protecting these animals, as the rhinoceros has become critically endangered due to several years of ongoing poaching and habitat loss.
- The theme of this year's World Rhino Day is "Five Rhino Species Forever".



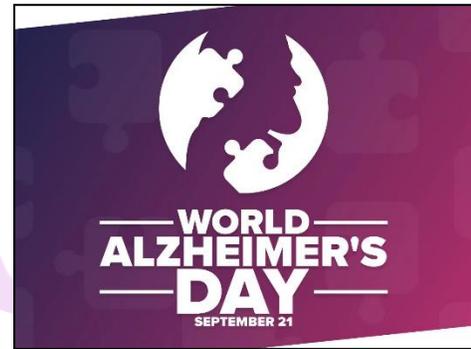
- World Rhino Day aims to promote the purpose of raising awareness of the need to protect rhinos from threats to their lives.
- The rhinoceros is at risk of extinction due to poaching, climate change and disturbances in its natural environment.
- World Rhino Day was announced by WWF-South Africa in the year 2010.
- World Rhino Day was first observed in 2011 and since then it has been celebrated globally every year.

Source: Indian Express

World Alzheimer's Day 2022

Why in News:

- World Alzheimer's Day is observed annually on 21 September with the aim of raising awareness about neurological disorders.



key points:

- Alzheimer's disease is the most common cause of dementia and affects a person's memory, mental ability, and ability to perform simple tasks.
- This year's theme for World Alzheimer's Day is 'Know Dementia, Know Alzheimer's'.
- This year on World Alzheimer's Day, there is a special emphasis on post-diagnosis support for dementia.
- According to Alzheimer's Disease International, more than 55 million people in the world were suffering from the disorder in 2020.
- This number is projected to double every 20 years, resulting in a total of 78 million cases of dementia and 139 million cases in 2030.
- World Alzheimer's Day was first observed on 21 September 1994 at the opening of the ADI's annual conference in Edinburgh.
- The day was observed to mark the 10th anniversary of the organization, which was established in the year 1984.
- The month is being observed by Alzheimer's Disease International (ADI), an international federation that raises awareness of the disorder.

Source: Indian Express



International Day of Peace celebrates on the 21st of September

Why in News:

- International Day of Peace is celebrated globally on 21 September every year.

key points:

- The United National General Assembly marks this day by promoting the ideals of peace between nations and peoples by observing non-violence and a ceasefire for 24 hours.
- This year's theme is "End Racism" and Build Peace.
- The Peace Bell was donated by the United Nations Organization of Japan in the year 1954.
- It has become a tradition to ring the bell twice a year, on the first day of spring, on the vernal equinox, and on 21 September to celebrate the International Day of Peace.
- International Day of Peace was established by the United Nations General Assembly in the year 1981.
- This year's United Nations page on International Day of Peace sheds light on a handful of discrimination across borders.
- The United Nations was established on 24 October 1945 and the headquarter of the United Nations is in New York, USA, Mr. Antonio Guterres is the Secretary-General of the United Nations.



Source: Business Standard

International Week of the Deaf 2022

Why in News:

- Each year, the entire week ending on the last Sunday of September is observed as the International Week of the Deaf (IWD).

key points:

- In the year 2022, IWD will be conducted from 19 September to 25 September 2022.



- The theme of the 2022 International Week of Deaf People is "Building Inclusive Communities for All".
- It is an initiative of the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) and was first launched in the year 1958 in Rome, Italy to commemorate the month when the first World Congress of WFD was held.
- On 19 December 2017, 23 September was declared International Sign Language Day (IDSL) by the United Nations General Assembly.
- International Sign Language Day aims to raise awareness of sign languages and strengthen their sign language status.
- International Sign Language Day is held in the last full week of September as part of the International Week of the Deaf (IWDeaf), which was recognized and celebrated by the WFD in the year 1958.
- International Week of the Deaf is celebrated through various activities by the respective deaf communities in and around Canada.

Source: Indian Express

World Patient Safety Day observed on 17 September

Why in News:

- Every year on September 17, World Patient Safety Day is commemorated with the goal of raising awareness of the numerous precautions that should be taken to guarantee patient safety.



Key Points:

- The goal of World Patient Safety Day is to minimize and lessen the risks, mistakes, and injuries that patients may experience.
- World Patient Safety Day's key goals are to develop global understanding, increase public awareness, and call on all nations and international partners to act in unison to improve patient safety and lessen patient harm.
- Every year, a different theme is used to commemorate World Patient Safety Day. The subject for World Patient Safety Day 2022 this year is "Medication Safety," with the tagline "Medication Without Harm" and the instruction to "Know, Check, and Ask."
- The purpose of World Patient Safety Day is to demonstrate the dedication of patients, families, careers, communities, healthcare professionals, healthcare leaders, and policymakers to patient safety.



Weekly Current Affairs

- World Patient Safety Day is one of the World Health Organization's (WHO) international public health days, which is observed on September 17.
- The 72nd World Health Assembly established World Patient Safety Day in 2019 with the passage of WHA 72.6, entitled "Global Action on Patient Safety."

Source: Livemint

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