

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 typing on the keyboard. The image is partially obscured by a large purple and orange graphic element on the left side.

# SBI Clerk Mains Exam 2022

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GK Tornado PDF (Capsule)

## GK-Tornado for SBI 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 months (1<sup>st</sup> September 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022)**. This file is important and relevant for all competitive exams like the SBI Clerk & PO exam 2022.

### News related to RBI

(1<sup>st</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022)

#### 1. Financial Stability Report, December 2022 released by RBI

**Note:** The 26th edition of the Financial Stability Report was released by the Reserve Bank of India on December 29. The Reserve Bank of India publishes a financial stability report (FSR) twice a year. The report reflects the Sub-Committee of the Financial Stability and Development Council's (FSDC) collective evaluation of the financial system's resilience and vulnerabilities to financial stability.

#### 2. After 7 years, banks' balance sheets growing by double digits- RBI report

**Note:** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) stated in its annual report on trend and progress of banking in India that the health of Indian banks continued to improve in 2021-2022 with their balance sheet rising at double digits after a gap of seven years and their asset quality and capital position improving.

**Key Points:**

- The banking regulator also called attention to the problem of slippages from restructured accounts.
- The amount of excess liquidity in the financial sector has decreased recently.
- In some cases, liquidity has even fallen into deficit.
- The RBI has promised to provide the productive sectors with financial support, though.
- Public sector banks (PSBs) in particular saw their balance sheets rise significantly, ensuring that they will continue to dominate the market for deposits and advances.
- The research states that PSBs control a market share of 58% for loans while accounting for 62% of scheduled commercial banks' deposits.

#### 3. RBI Survey says Financial Literacy low nationwide, both in urban and rural areas

**Note:** It is often believed that in India, the majority of the rural people is not familiar with digital banking. But in what might be considered a revelation, a pan-Indian "Financial Literacy and Inclusion survey" conducted by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) found that awareness and knowledge of digital banking are on par between the rural and urban population nationwide, with the average for both segments being 11.7 on a scale of 21. Three criteria—financial knowledge, attitude, and behavior—were used to base the poll. The average urban and rural scores on a scale of 1 to 21 were 11.7. The scores, zone-wise, were as follows: Both the urban and rural areas in the north zone had scores of 11.5 apiece, which was par. The scores were 12.1 for both rural and urban areas in the east zone as well.

#### 4. Bank frauds over 50% in Public Sector Banks according to RBI data

**Note:** According to an RBI report, public sector banks (PSBs) accounted for the majority of frauds reported in 2018-19, with 55.4% of the cases reported and 90% of the money involved. This is primarily due to an inadequate internal process, lack of personnel, and inadequate systems to address operational risks. Private banks and foreign banks contributed 30.7% and 11.2 percent, respectively, to the total number of frauds, while contributing 7.7 percent and 1.3 percent, respectively, to the latter. According to the Reserve Bank of India's "Trend and Progress of Banking in India 2018-19" report, PSBs contributed even more to big frauds in 2018-19, accounting for 91.6% of their total value. The loan portfolio has seen the highest percentage of frauds, both in terms of quantity and dollar amount.

#### 5. Worldline ePayments India Gets RBI's Nod to Act as Payment Aggregator

**Note:** Worldline ePayments India (WEIPL), a leader in digital payments, has received in-principle authorisation from the Reserve Bank Of India (RBI) to act as a payment aggregator (PA). The authorisation by the RBI was under the provisions of the Guidelines on Regulation of Payment dated March 17, 2020. Worldline

ePayments India, part of Worldline group, offers solutions for all sorts of payment needs offering in-store, online, and omnichannel payments to its customers. Payment Aggregators facilitate e-commerce sites and merchants in accepting payment instruments from the customers for completion of their payment obligations without the need for merchants to create a separate payment integration system of their own. Example: Billdesk.

#### 6. **RBI's Revised Bank Locker Rules to Come Into Effect from 1st of January**

**Note:** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) recently said that all leading banks should issue the locker agreement to its holders before January 1, 2023, as the new locker rules will be implemented from that date. Earlier, the RBI had announced revised guidelines on August 8, 2021, which became effective from January 1, 2022. And now, all the locker owners must display their eligibility for a new locker arrangement and sign a renewal agreement prior to January 1, 2023.

#### 7. **599th Meeting of Central Board of the Reserve Bank of India**

**Note:** The 599th meeting of the board was held in Kolkata on December 16. The meeting was chaired by RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das. Directors of the Central Board, Satish K. Marathe, Revathy Iyer, Sachin Chaturvedi, Venu Srinivasan, Pankaj Ramanbhai Patel and Dr Ravindra H. Dholakia attended the meeting. RBI deputy governors Mahesh Kumar Jain, Dr Michael Debabrata Patra, M. Rajeshwar Rao, and T. Rabi Sankar too attended the meeting. The Central Board of Directors of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) reviewed the current economic situation, and global and domestic challenges including the overall geopolitical developments, finance, and trade. The Board also discussed the activities of select Central Office Departments and the draft Report on the Trend and Progress of Banking in India, 2021-22.

#### 8. **RBI to Issue Two Tranches of Sovereign Gold Bonds in December and March**

**Note:** The Reserve Bank of India is to issue two tranches of Sovereign Gold Bonds, which will open for public subscription in December and March. Sovereign Gold Bonds (SGBs) 2022-23-Series III will open for subscription during December 19-December 23 and 2022-23-Series IV during March 06-10, 2023. These bonds are issued by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on behalf of the government. The SGBs will be sold through Scheduled Commercial, Stock Holding Corporation of India Limited (SHCIL), Clearing Corporation of India Limited (CCIL), designated post offices, and stock exchanges — NSE and BSE.

#### 9. **RBI Shortlists 7 Global Consultancy Firms to Use AI, ML to Improve Regulatory Supervision**

**Note:** In its bid to extensively use advanced analytics, artificial intelligence and machine learning to analyse database and improve regulatory supervision

over banks and NBFCs, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is mulling over to hire external experts. The central bank has shortlisted seven global consultancy firms, including Pricewaterhouse Coopers, McKinsey and Boston Consulting Group (India), to use artificial intelligence and machine learning for supervisory functions. For generating supervisory inputs, RBI, in September 2022, invited expressions of interest (EoI) for engaging consultants for use of advanced analytics, artificial intelligence and machine learning. RBI has shortlisted seven applicants for participating in the request for proposal process (RFP) for the selection of consultant(s).

#### 10. **RBI Signs Currency Swap Agreement with Maldives Monetary Authority**

**Note:** The Reserve Bank of India has signed a Currency Swap Agreement with the Maldives Monetary Authority (MMA) to enable MMA to make drawals in multiple tranches up to a maximum of \$200 million from the RBI. This agreement has been signed under the SAARC Currency Swap Framework. The agreement will provide swap support as a backstop line of funding for short-term foreign exchange liquidity requirements.

#### 11. **RBI Allows Blocking of Funds for Multiple Auto-debits in UPI**

**Note:** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) enhanced the capabilities of the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) by introducing a 'single-block-and-multiple debits' functionality, which allows a customer to enable a payment mandate against a merchant by blocking funds for specific purposes in his/her bank account which can be debited, whenever needed. The single-block-and-multiple debits feature is expected to have multiple use cases in various segments, such as e-commerce transactions, investment in the secondary market and purchase of government securities using the RBI's Retail Direct scheme. The RBI will issue instructions to the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), which runs and manages UPI, on this functionality shortly.

#### 12. **Reserve Bank of India Issues Framework for Indian Banks' Foreign Biz**

**Note:** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has put in place a framework to allow overseas subsidiaries and branches of Indian banks and financial institutions to undertake activities not specifically permitted in the Indian domestic market. The framework also specifies the applicability of these instructions to **International Financial Services Centres in India**, including **Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City)**. While these activities may not need prior approval, they are subject to compliance with all applicable laws/regulations and conditions stipulated by the RBI and those prescribed by the host regulator.

#### 13. **RBI, Financial Services Agency of Japan Exchange Letters of Co-operation**

**Note:** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Financial Services Agency (FSA), Japan exchanged letters of cooperation in the field of Central Counter Parties (CCPs) with the objective of improving mutual cooperation. With this exchange of letters, RBI and FSA are committed to deepen relations between the two countries and strengthen the exchange of information. RBI and FSA also expressed their willingness to hold a dialogue or exchange views about matters of common interest and concerns as appropriate. The letters confirm the interest of both the jurisdictions in enhancing cooperation in line with their respective laws and regulations. The letters will also provide a strong foundation for promoting mutual understanding and cooperation pertaining to CCP activities in cross-border context. The cooperation will be mutually beneficial and ensure soundness of the financial markets in both the jurisdictions.

#### 14. Reserve Bank of India implements 4 tiered regulatory norms for UCB

**Note:** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced a four-tiered regulatory framework for categorisation of Urban Co-operative Banks (UCBs). Besides, the central bank has come out with norms pertaining to the net worth and capital adequacy of these banks. The Reserve Bank of India had constituted the Expert Committee on Urban Co-operative Banks, under the Chairmanship of Shri N. S. Vishwanathan, former Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank to examine the issues in urban cooperative banking sector and to review regulatory/supervisory approach for strengthening the sector. Based on the recommendations of the Expert Committee, RBI had released the Revised Regulatory Framework for Urban Co-operative Banks (UCBs) on July 19, 2022. The four-tiered regulatory framework, based on size of deposits of the UCBs, will come into force with immediate effect.

### November 2022

#### 1. Central Bank Digital Currency Could End RBI-ESMA Row

**Note:** The deadlock between the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the European Securities and Market Authority (ESMA) over the inspection of Indian financing clearing houses may be broken by a new-age product – the central bank digital currency (CBDC). European lenders such as HSBC, Deutsche, Standard Chartered, Barclays and make up anything between 15% and 25% of the trades in the so-called negotiated dealing system order matching segment (NDS-OM) run by the Clearing Corporation of India Ltd (CCIL), which is one of the central counterparties for settlement of trades.

#### 2. RBI to launch Digital Rupee pilot for wholesale segment from November 1

**Note:** The RBI will commence pilot launches of the digital rupee from November 1. It has identified nine banks for participation in the pilot launch. They are the State Bank of India, Bank of Baroda, Union Bank of India, HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Yes Bank, IDFC First Bank, and HSBC. A Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) or Digital Rupee is a digital form of currency notes issued by a central bank. Digital currency or rupee is an electronic form of money, that can be used in contactless transactions.

#### 3. RBI Revokes Authorisation Certificate of Chennai-Based GI Technology

**Note:** The Reserve Bank has revoked certificate of authorisation of Chennai-based GI Technology Private Limited over governance concerns in the company. The company is in business of issuance and operation of prepaid payment instruments. Governance concerns and non-compliance with regulatory requirements” are

the reasons for revocation of Certificate of Authorisation (CoA), the central bank said in a statement. Following the revocation of the CoA, GI Technology cannot transact the business of issuance and operation of prepaid payment instruments, it said. Following the revocation of the CoA, GI Technology cannot transact the business of issuance and operation of prepaid payment instruments, it said. However, customers or merchants having a valid claim, if any, on the company as PSO, can approach the company for settlement of their claims, the Reserve Bank added.

#### 4. RBI to Launch a Pilot Project on Retail Digital Rupee on 1 December 2022

**Note:** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced a trial for retail digital rupee (e ₹-R) beginning 1 December, with four banks in as many cities participating in the pilot programme, a month after testing the wholesale central bank digital currency (CBDC). RBI said the pilot would cover select locations in a closed user group (CUG) comprising participating customers and merchants. While it has identified eight banks for gradual participation in the pilot, the first phase will begin with four: State Bank of India, ICICI Bank, Yes Bank and IDFC First Bank. The remaining four—Bank of Baroda, Union Bank of India, HDFC Bank and Kotak Mahindra Bank—will subsequently join the trial

#### 5. RBI Asks Paytm To Re-apply For Payment Aggregator Licence

**Note:** Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has for now declined to entertain Paytm Payments Services’ (PPSL), a wholly owned subsidiary of Paytm, application for an authorisation to provide payment aggregator services for online merchants. The central bank has advised



PPSL to resubmit its application within 120 days after taking certain steps. The company in a exchange filing said, "Our 100% subsidiary, Paytm Payments Services Limited ("PPSL"), is in receipt of a letter from Reserve Bank of India ("RBI") in response to an application from PPSL for the authorization to provide payment aggregator services ("PA application") for online merchants.

#### 6. RBI Releases "Handbook of Statistics on Indian States, 2021-22"

**Note:** The seventh edition of the Handbook of Statistics on Indian States 2021-22 is released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). Which seeks to provide comprehensive data about the regional economies of India. It covers sub-national statistics on socio-demographics, state domestic product, agriculture, price and wages, industry, infrastructure, banking, and fiscal indicators across the states during various time periods ranging from 1951 to 2021-22. Two new sections have been included in the recent edition – health and environment.

#### 7. HDFC Bank, Canara Bank Get RBI Approval for Rupee Trade with Russia

**Note:** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) allowed HDFC Bank Ltd and Canara Bank Ltd to open a special "vostro account" for trade in Rupees with Russia. This paves the way for **cross-border trade in the Indian currency**, especially between New Delhi and Moscow. Three other Indian banks — **State Bank of India, IndusInd Bank and UCO Bank** — had earlier received the necessary permissions from the regulator to roll out rupee trades. Before this, SBI had said it was opening a special rupee **vostro account to handle Russia-related trade settlements**. The **state-owned lender said** it is "making necessary arrangements and processing requests received from various banks, including Russian banks, duly following RBI guidelines".

#### 8. IFSCA signed MoU with the RBI for Collaboration in the Field of Regulation

**Note:** The International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) and the Reserve Bank of India

(RBI) have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for collaboration in the field of regulation and supervision of regulated entities in their respective jurisdictions. "The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) facilitates technical cooperation and exchange of information," the IFSC Authority said in a statement. "The MoU opens up avenues for cooperation between the two regulators, thereby strengthening the safety, stability and soundness of respective financial ecosystems and nurturing environments conducive to optimal business development and economic growth,"

#### 9. RBI Chooses 5 Banks for Retail Digital Currency Pilot

**Note:** State bank Of India (SBI), ICICI Bank, IDFC First Bank, HDFC Bank and Yes Bank are among a shortlist of at least five lenders that the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has roped in to work on the retail pilot project of the central bank digital currency (CBDC). The report said, citing people familiar with the matter, that the Reserve Bank of India could add more banks to run the pilot, which is expected to launch soon. "Five banks have been shortlisted to run the pilot along with the help of NPCI (National Payments Corporation of India) and RBI. Some customer and merchant accounts will be chosen to roll out the retail digital rupee pilot soon,"

#### 10. GoI nominates Vivek Joshi as Director on RBI's central board

**Note:** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced that the government has nominated Vivek Joshi to its director on central board. Joshi who is the secretary of the Department of Financial Services, will hold the position of Director at RBI. The nomination has come into effect from November 15, 2022, until further orders. The central government has nominated Vivek Joshi, Secretary, Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance, Government of India as a Director on the Central Board of Reserve Bank of India vice Sanjay Malhotra.

### 1<sup>st</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022

#### 1. RBI asks Banks to Set Aside Capital, Provisions for Unhedged FX Exposure

**Note:** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) tweaked guidelines for banks on incremental capital and provisioning requirements in relation to unhedged foreign currency exposures, amid the weakness in the rupee vis-a-vis the US dollar. The rupee has depreciated about 10 per cent against the US dollar thus far in 2022, and as a result there has been greater scrutiny of firms' unhedged exposure through borrowings in foreign currencies

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### 3. **RBI raises Minimum Capital Requirement for setting up Asset Reconstruction Company(ARC) to Rs 300 cr**

**Note:** The Reserve Bank raised the minimum capital requirement for setting up an asset reconstruction company (ARC) to Rs 300 crore from the existing Rs 100 crore with an aim to strengthen the securitisation sector which plays a vital role in the management of distressed financial assets. An Asset Reconstruction Company is a specialized financial institution that buys the NPAs or bad assets from banks and financial institutions so that the latter can clean up their balance sheets. Or in other words, ARCs are in the business of buying bad loans from banks. ARCs clean up the balance sheets of banks when the latter sells these to the ARCs.

### 4. **RBI Launches Concept Note to Create Awareness About Central Bank Digital Currency**

**Note:** The Reserve Bank Of India(RBI) has released a concept note on the Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC). The CBDC is a digital form of currency notes issued by a central bank. While most central banks across the globe are exploring the issuance of CBDC, the key motivations for its issuance are specific to each country's unique requirements. This Concept Note explains the objectives, choices, benefits and risks of issuing a CBDC in India, referred to as e-₹ (digital Rupee). The e-₹ will provide an additional option to the currently available forms of money. It is substantially not different from banknotes, but being digital it is likely to be easier, faster and cheaper. It also has all the transactional benefits of other forms of digital money.

### 5. **RBI introduces Internal Ombudsman Mechanism for Credit Information Companies(CICs)**

**Note:** To enhance the effectiveness of its grievance redressal systems, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has urged Credit Information Companies to designate an internal ombudsman (IO) by April 1, 2023. The Central Bank made the decision in August to include CICs in the scope of the RBI-Integrated Ombudsman Scheme 2021 in order to broaden its appeal. Only complaints that the CIC has already reviewed but rejected in whole or in part will be handled by the IO.

### 6. **RBI Launches DAKSH- Reserve Bank's Advanced Supervisory Monitoring System**

**Note:** The Reserve Bank Governor Shaktikanta Das launched a new 'SupTech' initiative DAKSH – the bank's Advanced Supervisory Monitoring System, which is expected to make the supervisory processes more robust. In a statement, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said it has been taking various initiatives in strengthening supervision, which among other initiatives include adoption of latest data and analytical tools as well as leveraging technology for implementing more efficient and automated work processes.

### 7. **RBI Again Raises Rates By 50 Basis Points**

**Note:** The global economy has been rattled by scorching inflation and geo-political tensions, forcing more central banks to join the US Federal Reserve in raising interest rates. So, The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) raised the repo rate (repurchase rate) for the fourth time in a row. The RBI's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) decided to raise the policy rate by 50 basis points (1 basis point= 1/100th of a per cent).

**(1st -30<sup>th</sup> September 2022)**

### 1. **RBI cancelled licence of Maharashtra-based Laxmi Cooperative Bank**

**Note:** Reserve Bank of India has canceled the license of Solapur-based The Laxmi Co-operative Bank Limited as the lender does not have adequate capital and earning prospects. The Laxmi Co-operative Bank Limited submitted the data, which shows 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).

### 2. **RBI Governor Launches 3 key Digital Payment Initiatives at Global Fintech Fest 2022**

**Note:** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor, Shaktikanta Das, launched three key digital payment initiatives at the Global Fintech Fest 2022. The three digital payment initiatives that were launched by the RBI are RuPay Credit Card on Unified Payments Interface (UPI), UPI Lite, and Bharat BillPay Cross-

Border Bill Payments. UPI Lite will provide users with a convenient solution for faster and simpler low-value transactions, the National Payments Corp Of India (NPCI) said in a statement. Currently, India has been using the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) for low-value payments with 50 per cent of transactions through UPI below ₹200.

### 3. **RBI Removes Central Bank of India from PCA Framework**

**Note:** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) removed Central Bank of India from its Prompt Corrective Action Framework (PCAF) after the lender showed improvement in various financial ratios, including minimum regulatory capital and net non-performing assets (NNPAs). The RBI had imposed the PCA norms on the bank in June 2017 due to its high net NPA and negative return of assets (RoA). After reviewing the

performance of the Central Bank of India, RBI decided to remove the restrictions on the bank.

#### 4. 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 of India 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.

#### 5. RBI to release "fraud registry" blacklist with details of Scammers

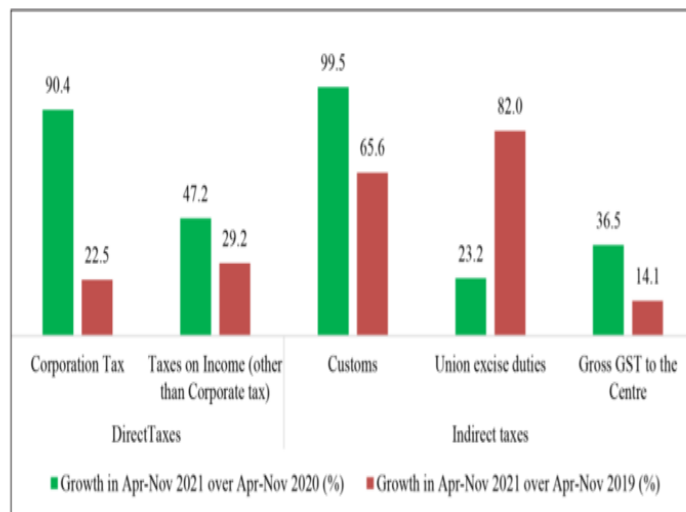
**Note:** To help it keep repeat offenders out of the banking system, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is developing a Fraud Registry blacklist. According to Executive Director Anil Kumar Sharma, the fraud registry would record data such as IP (internet protocol) addresses and phone numbers frequently 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.

### 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.

- **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.

#### 2. Fiscal Developments

#### 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

### December 2022

#### 1. 59th Asia Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) General Assembly and Associated Meeting 2022

- Venue: **New Delhi**
- Hosted by: **Prasar Bharati**
- The event coincides with Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav to mark the 75th year of India's Independence.
- Theme: **Serving the People-Media's Role in the Time Of Crisis.**

- ABU was established in 1964 as a not-for-profit, non-government, non-political, professional association and is the biggest broadcasting union in the world.
- It covers eight regions: Pacific, Asia (SE, North, South, Central), Middle East, Europe, North Africa, North America.

## 2. Millets-Smart Nutritive Food Conclave

- Venue: New Delhi on 5<sup>th</sup> December
- It is a pre-launch event of the International Year of Millets - 2023
- Organized by: **Ministry of Commerce and Industry** through its apex agricultural export promotion body, **Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA)**.
- Government releases e-catalogue on 30 potential importing countries and 21 millet producing states of India.

## 3. Conference on 'Women Leading Change in Health and Science in India' held New Delhi

- Organized by: **Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC)** in collaboration with **Women Lift Health**.
- It seeks to identify attainable pathways for the representation of more women in India and the global health ecosystem.

## 4. India's first Drone Skilling and Training Virtual E-Learning Platform (Training Conference) held in Chennai

- It was launched by Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports, and Information and Broadcasting Anurag Singh Thakur.
- Apart from this, he also launched 1000 planned Drone Centre of Excellence at Garuda

Aerospace's Manufacturing unit in Chennai, and also flagged off Garuda Aerospace's Drone Yatra, Operation 777.

## 5. 12th World Hindi conference

- It is being organized by Ministry of External Affairs in collaboration with Government of Fiji from 15-17 February 2023 in Fiji.
- Main theme: 'Hindi: From Traditional Knowledge to Artificial Intelligence'

## 6. 1st G20 Finance and Central Bank Deputies (FCBD) meeting

- **Hosted by: India (Union Finance Ministry and RBI)** in Bengaluru, Karnataka on December 13-14, 2022
- It was co-chaired by Secretary, Economic Affairs, Ajay Seth and Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India, Michael Patra
- It saw an enthusiastic gathering of over 160 foreign delegates including Deputies from G20 member countries, invitee countries, and International Organizations

## 7. Plenary Session at the 7th Petrochemical Conclave held in New Delhi

- Theme: **India's Petrochemical Future -Sustainable and Atmanirbhar**
- Aim: To provide a comprehensive platform for varied Petrochemical stakeholders to deliberate on the opportunities and challenges with the sector and brainstorm on the impacts of forces like energy transition, Crude Oil to Chemicals, Industry 4.0, emerging Green pathways, and Circular economy.

## November 2022

### 1. Annual Conference of Parties (COP 27) 2022

- Annual COP has concluded 27th edition at Sharm El Shiekh, Egypt.
- According to IPCC report 2018, CO2 emissions needed to be cut 45% by 2030, compared to 2010 levels to meet the targets of Paris Agreement.

- At the conference, Mangrove Alliance for Climate (MAC) was launched with India as a partner
- COP: Apex decision-making body of United Nations Climate Change Framework Convention (UNFCCC).

- Aim: To review the national communications and emission inventories submitted by Parties.
  - COP meets every year since 1995 in Berlin.
- 2. Two-day G20 Summit 2022 in Bali, Indonesia**
- Indonesia handed over G20 presidency to India for 2023.
  - Theme: “Recover Together, Recover Stronger”
  - This G20 meeting in Bali signaled Xi Jinping’s emergence from three years of self-imposed pandemic isolation.
  - Next G20 Leaders' Summit at the level of Heads of State/Government is scheduled to be held on September 9 and 10 in New Delhi.
- 3. 19th ASEAN-India Summit**
- Venue: **Phnom Penh, Cambodia**
  - Vice President of India-led delegates took part in the summit and adopted a joint statement announcing the elevation of existing Strategic Partnership to Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.
  - Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was established in 1967 with headquarters in Jakarta (Indonesia). It has 10 member countries in Southeast Asia: Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Brunei, Vietnam, Laos, Myanmar and Cambodia later joined.
- 4. Three-day 17th East Asia Summit 2022**
- Venue: Phnom Penh, Cambodia
  - VP of India addressed the summit on the last day of the summit, which was held as a part of 40th and 41st ASEAN Summits.
  - East Asia Summit (EAS) is the Indo-Pacific's premier forum for strategic dialogue and only leader-led forum for discussions.
  - It has 18 members including 10 ASEAN and its eight dialogue partners India, China, Japan, Korea, Australia, New Zealand, United States and Russia.
- 5. Russia re-joined Black Sea Grain Initiative**
- It is an agreement signed in Istanbul in July, 2022 between Russia and Ukraine made with Turkey and United Nations (UN) during the 2022 Russian invasion of Ukraine
- It endeavors to tackle escalating food prices emanating from supply chain disruptions because of Russian actions in the world’s ‘breadbasket’.
  - It was initially stipulated for 120 days but later provided safe maritime humanitarian corridor for Ukrainian exports (particularly for food grains).
  - Note: Ukraine is one of the largest grain exporters in the world.
- 6. China - Indian Ocean Region Forum (IORF)**
- China convened first ‘China-Indian Ocean Region Forum’ bringing together 19 countries from South Asia region except India.
  - First Indian Ocean Region Forum on Development Cooperation (IORFDC) was held in Kunming city, China.
  - Organized by: China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA), IOR.
- 7. 3rd edition of the annual Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI) summit held in Tokyo**
- Chairmanship: France
  - India took over as Council Chair of GPAI for 2022-23.
  - GPAI is an international initiative to support responsible and human-centric development and use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) that was launched in 2020 with 15 members and is now a congregation of 25 member countries
  - India joined the GPAI in 2020 as a founding member.
  - OECD hosts a dedicated secretariat to support GPAI's governing bodies and activities and was joined by UNESCO later.
- 8. Conference on Countering Financing of Terrorism**
- India hosted 3rd Ministerial Conference on Countering Financing of Terrorism
  - Aim: to deliberate on the effectiveness of the current international regime on Counter Terrorism Financing as well as steps required to address emerging challenges.
  - **Theme: ‘No Money For Terror’.**
  - First edition of the Conference was held in Paris in 2018, followed by Melbourne in 2019.
  - About 450 delegates from across the world including Financial Action Task Force, Heads of Delegations participated in the conference.

## 9. Third Ministerial 'No Money for Terror' Conference

- Organized by: Ministry of Home Affairs
- It will be held on 18th and 19th of November in New Delhi.
- Focus: To advance the international community's talks on countering terrorist financing held in Paris (2018) and Melbourne (2019).

## 10. 17th East Asia Summit

- VP Jagdeep Dhankhar will attend ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit and 17th East Asia Summit, that will be organized in Cambodia in mid-november.
- This year marks the 30th anniversary of ASEAN-India relations and is being celebrated as the ASEAN-India Friendship Year

## 11. Shilp Samagam-2022

- Union Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment, Virendra Kumar has inaugurated SHILP SAMAGAM-2022 in New Delhi.
- The event is organized from 1-15, November 2022 to showcase and sell handicraft products
- Some products are Cane & Bamboo Handicraft Items (Assam), Madhubani Paintings (Bihar), Aari work Sozni Work Kashmiri Shawls (J&K), etc.

## 12. CANSO Asia Pacific Conference

- Three day long Civil Air Navigation Services Organisation (CANSO) Conference is being organised in Goa from 1st to 3rd November 2022.

**October 2022**

### 1. UNSC Counterterrorism Committee meet

- United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Counter-Terrorism Committee is being hosted in Mumbai and Delhi on 28th and 29th of October.
- Theme 2022: **Countering the use of new and emerging technologies for terrorist purposes**
- Focus: Internet (including social media), new payment technologies and fundraising methods, and unmanned aerial systems (including drones)

### 2. Global Youth Climate Summit 2022

- Theme: **Think Global, Collaborate Regional, Accomplish Local**
- Aim: To turn the Complete Air Traffic System (CATS) Global Council's vision for the skies of 2045 into a reality.
- The delegates and exhibitors from Asia Pacific region and beyond has discussed and collaborated on the key issues.

### 13. Global Investors Meet 'Invest Karnataka 2022'

- Prime Minister, Narendra Modi has addressed inaugural function of Invest Karnataka 2022, the Global Investors Meet via video conferencing.
- Aim: To attract prospective investors and setting up development agenda for the next decade.
- The country sessions would each be hosted by the partner countries: France, Germany, Netherlands, South Korea, Japan, and Australia.

### 14. First conference on Akash Tatva - Akash for Life

- It will be held from 5th to 7th November 2022 in Dehradun.
- This event will showcase the blend of traditional and modern knowledge through an extended integration of all schools of thought.
- Aim: To expose the youth of India to the wisdoms of ancient science along with modern scientific advancements.
- The campaign 'Sumangalam' is being organized across the country for finding the solutions to the environmental problems.

- Organized by: **Global Youth Leadership Centre (GYLC).**

- It has been inaugurated in Khulna, Bangladesh, held from October 20-22, 2022 to bring together 650 youth in a hybrid format with 150 youth participating in person and 500 online.
- The youth will explore how they can lead the fight against climate change.
- Mission of the summit is to build the knowledge of youth about climate science.

### 3. 14th edition of World Spice Congress

- Organized by: **Spices Board India** in association with various trade and export farmers.



- It will be held on 16-18 February at CIDCO Exhibition and Convention Centre, Maharashtra. Theme: **Vision 2030: SPICES (Sustainability–Productivity – Innovation – Collaboration–Excellence and Safety)**
- It will be organized as a G20 event, after India takes up the presidency from Dec 2022 to Nov 2023.

#### 4. 12th Defence expo

- The 12th edition of biennial DefExpo is being organised in Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar, Gujarat from 18th - 22nd, Oct, 2022.
- Theme of 12th DefExpo: 'Path to Pride'.
- Agenda: Live demonstrations showcasing the equipment and skill set of the Armed Forces, DPSUs and Industry.

#### 5. Ninth World Ayurveda Congress & Arogya Expo

- Organized by: **World Ayurveda Foundation**, an initiative of Vijnana Bharti.
- Goa will host 9th World Ayurveda Congress & Arogya Expo from December 8th to 11th.
- Aims: To create an accessible and affordable healthcare system that is in harmony with modern medical practices.
- The expo will provide a transformational push to ayurveda to bring it into global focus.
- Focus theme: "Ayurveda for one health".

#### 6. InvenTiv at IIT Delhi

- Education and Skill Development Minister, Dharmendra Pradhan has inaugurated InvenTiv at Indian Institute of Technology in New Delhi.
- It is the first-ever all-IITs Research and Development Showcase.
- This R&D Fair was organized under the supervision of a Steering Committee and marks the coming together of all 23 IITs under one umbrella to showcase their respective research and innovation expertise.

### September

#### 1. Conference 'SymphoNE' to boost Tourism Sector

- Launched by: Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region

#### 7. 90th General Assembly of INTERPOL

- India will host 90th General Assembly of International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) from 18th to 21st October, 2022 in New Delhi.
- INTERPOL General Assembly is taking place in India after 1997.
- India joined the INTERPOL in 1949.
- INTERPOL aims to promote possible assistance between all criminal police authorities in the prevention and suppression of ordinary law crimes.

#### 8. PM Kisan Samman Sammelan

- PM Narendra Modi has inaugurated PM Kisan Samman Sammelan 2022 at Indian Agricultural Research Institute in New Delhi.
- The conference was participated by more than 13,000 farmers and around 1,500 Agri Startups.

#### 9. UN World Geospatial International Congress

- Hosted by: Ministry of science and technology
- PM, Narendra Modi has addressed 2nd United Nations World Geospatial International Congress (UNWGIC), held in Hyderabad.
- Theme of UNWGIC 2022: **Geo-Enabling the Global Village: No one should be left behind.**

#### 10. 13th FICCI Global Skills Summit 2022

- Education minister, Dharmendra Pradhan has inaugurated 13th edition of two-day FICCI Global Skills Summit 2022 in New Delhi.
- Theme 2022: **Education to Employability - Making It Happen**
- This Summit look through the NEP lens and focus on how India can become the Skill Capital of the World, using the UN SDG4 as an underlying theme.
- It was concluded with an event "VIRASAT" The Heritage which honours the exquisite craft of the Indian artisans.

- Union Minister, G. Kishan Reddy has launched Virtual Conference 'SymphoNE' to boost Tourism Sector in Northeast India.

- SymphoNE is the start of a series of dialogues on Northeastern Region's Development Conference comprised of a broad range of Policy Thinkers, Stakeholders & Influencers.
- It is being organized on 24th - 27th September 2022

## 2. Swachh Toycathon 2022

- Launched by: Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) as a part of the Swachh Amrit Mahotsav.
- It is a unique competition to make toys from dry waste and explore innovative solutions for the use of dry waste in manufacturing toys.
- Knowledge partner: Center for Creative Learning, IIT Gandhinagar
- It will be hosted on the MyGov portal.

## 3. Arogya Manthan 2022

- Health Minister, Mansukh Mandaviya has inaugurated 2-day Arogya Manthan 2022 to celebrate the four years of implementation of Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri – Jan Arogya Yojana and one year of Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission.
- This scheme provides a health cover of five lakh rupees annually to vulnerable families.
- Minister has also launched several initiatives including Health Claims Exchange (HCX), National e-Rupi Portal and Roadmap for Digitization.

## 4. EAM Dr. S Jaishankar hosts G-4 meeting of Foreign Ministers

- External Affairs Minister of India, S Jaishankar has hosted the G-4 meeting of Foreign Ministers.
- It was attended by Foreign Ministers: Carlos França (Brazil), Yoshimasa Hayashi (Japanese) and Annalena Baerbock (German)
- He led India delegation for High Level Week at the 77th Session of UNGA.
- 77th UNGA theme: Watershed Moment: Transformative Solutions to Interlocking Challenges

## 5. Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurates conference on consciousness

- Organized by: India Foundation and NIMHANS
- It is supported by Ministry of Ayush
- Ayush Minister, Sarbananda Sonowal has inaugurated international conference on Consciousness at NIMHANS, Bengaluru.
- Theme 2022: Exploring Consciousness- From Non- Locality to Non- Duality: The Man- Machine Debate
- He has also inaugurated Centre of Excellence project in the Department of Integrative Medicine at NIMHANS, Bengaluru as part of Ayurswasthya Yojana.

## 6. 3rd edition of Lok Manthan programme

- Jagdeep Dhankhar has inaugurated 3rd edition of the Lok Manthan programme at Srimanta Sankardeva Kalakshetra in Guwahati.
- Theme 2022: Lokparampara (Lok traditions).
- Lokmanthan is an occasion where artists, intellectuals, and academicians are come from different parts of the country converge and brainstorm on the questions that haunt the society.

## 7. National Conference of Environment Ministers in Gujarat

- PM Narendra Modi inaugurated 2-day National Conference of Environment Ministers in Gujarat through video conferencing to create synergy amongst the Central and State govt in formulating better policies
- It will have six thematic sessions: LiFE, Combating Climate Change, PARIVESH, Forestry Management, Prevention and Control of Pollution, Wildlife Management and Plastics and Waste Management.

## 8. Global Clean Energy Action Forum

- Union Minister, Jitendra Singh led the Joint Indian Ministerial official delegation in Global Clean Energy Action Forum.
- Coveted joint convening of Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM13) and Mission Innovation (MI-7) took place from 21st to 23rd of September at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, USA.

- Aim: To bring together thousands of clean energy leaders from across the world to accelerate clean energy innovation and deployment.

### 9. Sixth 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 and was last organized in Ahmedabad in 2007
- Organized by: Bureau of Police Research and Development.

### 10. Gastech Milan-2022

- Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister, Hardeep Singh Puri attended Gastech Milan- 2022, held in Milan, Italy.

- Minister also chaired 'India Spotlight: Powering India's energy industry - new avenues for a sustainable future" panel discussion and select Ministerial Panel of the Opening Ceremony along with Egyptian Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources and State Secretary of Energy of Portugal.

### 11. First Homoeopathy International Health Summit held in Dubai

- 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' to educate and promote a homoeopathic system of medicine, drugs, and practices.
- Organized by: Burnett Homoeopathy Pvt Ltd

## Ranking, Indexes, Reports and Survey

### December 2022

#### 1. Global Prime Cities Index by Knight Frank

- According to the report, Mumbai was ranked 22nd rank in 'Prime Global Cities Index Q3 (July-September) 2022.
- Mumbai, Bengaluru (27<sup>th</sup> rank), and New Delhi (36th rank) registered an increase in average annual prices in the third quarter of 2022.
- Dubai recorded the fastest rise in prime prices in 2022.
- Weakest-performing market: Wellington

#### 2. Social Progress Index 2022

- Compiled by: **Institute for Competitiveness and Social Progress Imperative.**
- Best-performing UTs: **Puducherry (65.99)**, followed by **Lakshadweep (65.89)**, and **Goa (65.53)**.
- Lowest- performing State: **Jharkhand (43.95)** and **Bihar (44.47)**.
- Top Best Performing Districts: **Aizawl (Mizoram)**, **Solan (Himachal Pradesh)** and **Shimla (Himachal Pradesh)**.

- The Index ranks 169 countries on social progress and combine 60 social and environmental outcome indicators to calculate an overall score for these countries.

#### 3. Global Aviation Safety Rankings

- Released by: International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
- India is ranked 48<sup>th</sup> with civil aviation organization score rose from 63.64% to 72.73%
- Top performers: **Singapore**, followed by **UAE** and **South Korea**.
- Other nations: China (49), Israel (50) and Turkey (54).

#### 4. World's strongest passport list 2022

- Released by: Arton Capital.
- India ranked 87 in the world's strongest passport list
- Passport Index is based on the 139 members of United Nations and six territories were considered for the list

- Best performer: **UAE**, whose travelers can enter to 180 countries hassle-free, followed by **Germany, Sweden, Finland, Luxembourg, Spain France.**
- Worst performers: **Afghanistan**
- Pakistan stood at 94th rank and Japan ranked 24<sup>th</sup>.

## 5. Global ranking in scientific publications 2020

- Released by: **America's National Science Foundation.**
- India has improved from 7th position in 2010 with 60,555 scholarly output papers to 3rd position in 2020 with 1,49,213 scholarly output papers.

- Top performers: **China**, followed by **United States of America.**

## 6. Global Food Security Index (GFSI) 2022

- Released by: **British weekly The Economist.**
- 11th Global Food Security Index shows deterioration in global food environment for the third year, threatening food security.
- India is ranked at 68th position from 71st position in the Global Food Security (GFS) Index 2021, along with Algeria with the overall score of 58.9.
- China's position is at 25th with the score of 74.2 and Pakistan is positioned at 84<sup>th</sup> rank.
- Top scorer: **Finland, Ireland, and Norway**

## November 2022

### 1. Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) 2023

- Compiled by: **Germanwatch, New Climate Institute** and **Climate Action Network.**
- It is an independent monitoring tool for tracking climate protection performance of the European Union and 59 countries.
- Top performers: No country ranked first, second or third on the index. Denmark with a score of 79.61 was ranked fourth, followed by Sweden with 73.28 points.
- India's performance: India rose two spots to rank 8th out of 63, India earned a high rating in GHG Emissions and Energy Use categories, while it got a medium rating in Climate Policy and Renewable Energy sections
- Worst performers: **Iran, Saudi Arabia, and Kazakhstan.**
- China, which is the world's biggest polluter now, fell 13 places to 51st in CCPI 2023.

### 2. Adaptation Gap Report 2022

- Released by: **United Nation Environment Programme (UNEP).**
- It provides an annual science-based assessment of the global progress on adaptation planning, financing, and implementation.
- It was first published in 2014

- UNEP is the leading global environmental authority, headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya

### 3. Performance Grading Index (PGI) for States and Union Territories for 2020-21

- Released by: Ministry of Education
- PGI is a unique index for evidence based comprehensive analysis of school education system across State/UTs.
- Structure of PGI has 1000 points with 10 grades across 70 Indicators
- Total of 7 States and UTs, like Kerala, Punjab, Chandigarh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, and Andhra Pradesh have attained Level II (score 901-950) in 2020-21.
- Top performers: Maharashtra, Punjab and Kerala.

### 4. Tribal Development Report 2022

- Released by: **Bharat Rural Livelihoods Foundation (BRLF).**
- It was released in two volumes: Volume I: Livelihoods and Volume II: Human Development and Governance
- It informs stakeholders, including key policymakers, practitioners, activists, and academics, to help understand the scope of tribal issues.



- BRLF was set up in 2013 as an independent society under Union Ministry of Rural Development to scale up civil society action in partnership with central and state governments.

#### 5. IIT Delhi in top 50 of Times Higher Education Employability Rankings

- IIT Delhi is the only Indian educational institution among top 50 in Global University Employability Rankings by Times Higher Education (THE) has been placed at the 28th position
- It is followed by Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bengaluru at rank 58 and IIT Bombay at rank 72.
- Top performers: **Massachusetts Institute of Technology, California Institute of Technology, and Harvard University.**

#### 6. QS Asia University Rankings 2023 released

- As per the ranking, IIT Bombay is the top educational institute in South Asia bagged the 40th position, followed by IIT Delhi (46th rank).
- A total of 19 institutes from India made it to the list of top 200 universities including IISc Bangalore (rank 52), IIT Madras (53), IIT Kharagpur (61), IIT Kanpur (66), etc.
- Top performers: Peking University (China), followed by National University of Singapore, and Tsinghua University, Beijing (rank 3).

#### 7. Network Readiness Index 2022 (NRI 2022)

- Released by: **Portulans Institute**
- The index includes 49 high-income economies, 32 upper-middle-income economies, 36 lower-middle-income economies, and 14 low-income economies.
- India has improved its rank by six slots at 61st rank (51.19 score) from 49.74 score in 2021.
- Top performers: US, Singapore, Sweden, Netherlands, and Switzerland.

#### 8. 2022 Asia's Power Businesswomen list

- Released by: **Forbes Asia**
- Indian in the list: Soma Mondal, Namita Thapar and Ghazal Alagh.
- Other women: Choi Soo-yeon, Anna Nakajima and Mizuki Nakajima, and Wallaya Chirathivat.

- The women were selected for their achievements in running a business with sizeable revenue and demonstrating strong leadership throughout their career.

#### 9. Dynamic Ground Water Resource Assessment Report released

- Minister of Jal Shakti, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat has released Dynamic Ground Water Resource Assessment Report 2022.
- As per the report, total annual ground water recharge for India is 437.60 billion cubic meters (BCM) and annual ground water extraction is 239.16 BCM.
- Out of 7089 assessment units, 1006 units have been categorized as Over-exploited.
- Improvement in ground water conditions is observed in 909 assessment units.

#### 10. QS Asia University Rankings 2023 released

- IIT-Bombay has been ranked 40th (42<sup>nd</sup> in 2022) in the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) Asia University Rankings 2023, followed by IIT Delhi (46), Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore (52<sup>nd</sup>), IIT Madras (53), IIT Kharagpur (61), IIT Kanpur (66), and University of Delhi (85).
- **Top performers:** China's Peking University, National University of Singapore, Tsinghua University, Beijing, and The University of Hong Kong

#### 11. Maharashtra topped the Mutual Fund penetration in India

- Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI) released data showing Maharashtra (60), New Delhi (42), and Goa (28) with the maximum Mutual Fund penetration in India.
- High income levels, Higher literacy rates, and Substantial inflows from corporations and high-networth individuals (HNIs) are the reason for this MF penetration.
- Jharkhand is also one of the top 10 states with 13%.

#### 12. Three Indian women featured in 2022 Forbes' Asia's Power Businesswomen

- The list features 20 women from the Asia-Pacific region.

- Steel Authority of India chairperson, Soma Mondal; Mamaearth's co-founder, Ghazal Alagh; and Emcure Pharma executive director, Namita Thapar are the top Indian business leaders in the Asia's power list.
- Other women: Choi Soo-yeon (CEO of Naver); Anna Nakajima and Mizuki Nakajima (co-founders of Coly)

### 13. Reliance ranks 20th in Forbes' World's Best Employers rankings 2022

- According to Forbes' World's Best Employers rankings 2022, Reliance Industries has ranked 20th in the index and becomes the only Indian firm to place in the top 20 rankings
- Top performer: Samsung Electronics (South Korea), followed by Microsoft, IBM, Alphabet and Apple
- Other Indian companies:
  - HDFC Bank (137th), Bajaj (173rd), Aditya Birla Group (240th), Hero Motocorp (333rd), Larsen & Toubro (354th), ICICI Bank (365th), HCL Technologies (455th)

### 14. 2022 WTW Global Gender Wealth Equity report released

- According to "2022 Global Gender Wealth Equity" report, average women are expected to reach retirement with just 74% of the wealth that are accumulated by men.
- Asia Pacific has one of the lower global wealth gaps on average for gender wealth equity.
- The gender wealth gap is the largest in India at 64%.
- Only 3% of women in the workforce occupying senior positions.
- Women are expected to accumulate just over three-quarters (76%) of men's wealth levels

## October 2022

### 1. India ranks 40th in Global Innovation Index 2022

- Released by: World Intellectual Property Organization
- India has climbed to 40th rank in 2022, from 46th position in 2021 and at 81st rank in 2015.
- Top performer: Switzerland with the score of 64.6 for the 12th consecutive year, followed by US, Sweden, and UK

### 15. India has cheapest manufacturing cost globally: Report

- US News and World Report released a report in which India bagged 31st position, out of 85 nations in the overall Best Countries ranking, ahead of China and Vietnam.
- Top performers of the report: Switzerland, followed by Germany, Canada, US and Sweden.
- India is also featured at the 37th spot in the 'Open for Business' category.

### 16. Education ministry released Performance Grading Index (PGI) for States and UT for 2020-21

- PGI promote evidence-based policymaking and highlight course correction for quality education
- Key Findings:
  - Total of seven States/UTs have attained Level -2 grading in 2020-21 including Kerala, Punjab, Chandigarh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, and Andhra Pradesh
  - Gujarat, Rajasthan, and Andhra Pradesh are the new entrants with the highest achieved level.

### 17. Indian defence ministry is world's biggest employer: Report

- According to report Statista infographic on employers with the largest workforces worldwide 2022, Ministry of Defence of India is the world's biggest employer with 2.92 million people (includes combined active service personnel and reservists).
- US Department of Defense has placed second in the list, with the employment of 2.91 million people.

- Other countries: China (11th); Lithuania(39th); Latvia (41st); Bangladesh (102nd); Guinea (132nd, last)

### 2. WHO released the Global TB Report 2022

- As per the report, India's TB incidence for 2021 is 210 per 100,000 population, compared to the baseline year of 2015 (incidence was 256 per lakh of population in India); there has been an 18%

decline which is 7% points better than global average of 11%

- India is placed at 36th position in terms of incidence rates

### 3. Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) report

- As per the data released by CMIE, unemployment rate of India has been dropped drastically to 6.43% in 2022 September due to increase in labour participation in the rural and urban areas.
- **Highest unemployment rate:** Rajasthan (23.8), followed by Jammu and Kashmir (23.2%), Haryana (22.9%), Tripura (17%), Jharkhand (12.2) and Bihar (11.4%).

### 4. WWF's Living Planet Report 2022

#### Key findings:

- Wildlife populations declined by 69% between 1970 and 2018.
- Largest decline of monitored wildlife populations: Latin America and Caribbean regions (94%)
- Wildlife populations have dipped by 66% in Africa and 5% in Asia Pacific.
- Freshwater populations have declined by 83% on average as compared to other species groups.
- As per the IUCN Red List, cycads are the most threatened species.

### 5. Commitment to Reducing Inequality Index 2022

- Prepared by: Oxfam International and Development Finance International (DFI).
- As per the Index, India has been jumped 6 places from last year to reach 123rd out of 161 countries in 2022
- India has reduced inequality but continues to be among the lowest performers in health spending.
- Top Performers: Norway, Germany, and Australia

### 6. IISc Bangalore retains its spot in the 2023 THE ranking

- IISc has topped the 2023 Times Higher Education (THE) rankings among Indian institute and is the only Indian university in the top 300 list.
- India has become the 6th most represented country in the list, featuring 75 institutes in THE's 2023 ranking.
- Other Indian Institute: IIT Ropar (501-600), IIT Indore (601-800), IIT Gandhinagar ((801-1000)

- Top performer: University of Oxford (seventh consecutive year).

### 7. Logistics Ease Across Different States (LEADS) 2022 survey report

#### Key findings:

- 15 states and Union Territories (UTs) have come out as 'achievers.'
- The report has been released by the Minister of Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal.
- Achievers: Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, UP, TN, Uttarakhand, Telangana, Punjab, Odisha, Karnataka, HP, Assam, Delhi, Chandigarh, and Haryana.
- Fast movers: Kerala, Sikkim, Madhya Pradesh, Tripura, Puducherry, and Rajasthan

### 8. Public Affairs Index 2022

- Released by: Bengaluru-based Public Affairs Centre (PAC)
- The states have been divided into two categories - large and small, excluding Union Territories.
- Haryana has emerged as the best-governed among 18 big states of the country, followed by Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Chhattisgarh, Punjab and Karnataka.
- Sikkim has topped in the category of 10 smaller states.

### 9. UNDP: 415 million exited poverties in India in 15 years

- According to a new Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI), number of people living below the poverty line in India decreased by 415 million between 2005-06 and 2019-21.
- MPI was released jointly by UNDP and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI).
- As per the index, India still has the world's highest number of poor at 228.9 million, followed by Nigeria.
- 90% of India's poor people live in rural areas and 10% in urban areas.

### 10. India ranks 3rd in list of centi-millionaires list

- As per the report, international investment migration advisory firm Henley & Partners, India

ranks third in the world's first-ever global study on the rise of centi-millionaires with assets of more than Rs 830 cr (\$100 million).

- Top Performers: USA, followed by China.
- India will overtake China as the fastest growing market for centi-millionaires by 2032.
- Top Cities for Centi-Millionaires: New York, followed by San Francisco Bay Area, London, and Mumbai (15)

## 11. Mercer CFS Global Pension Index

### Key findings:

- India has been ranked 41 out of 44 countries in the index, with the index value of 44.4.
- India needs to strengthen its regulatory framework and boost the coverage under private pension arrangements.

## September 2022

### 1. India ranks 132nd out of 191 in 2021 Human Development Index

- Released by: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).
- Theme of the report: 'Uncertain times, unsettled lives: Shaping our Future in a Transforming World'.
- As per the report, India has ranked 132nd among 191 countries and territories due to fall in life expectancy.
- India was ranked 131st among 189 countries in 2020 report.
- Top performers: Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, Hong Kong, Australia
- Worst Performers: Central African Republic (188), Niger (189), Chad (190), South Sudan (191)

### 2. Ministry of Environment release Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MOO) 2022

- The report was created on the survey of zoos across India.
- India has 147 recognized zoos {large (17), medium (23), small (33), mini-zoos (60) and rescue centres (14)}.
- Top performers Zoo in different categories:
  - Large: Vandalur Zoo, TN
  - Medium: Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, WB
  - Planning element: Vandalur Zoo

- Top performer: Iceland, followed by the Netherlands and Denmark.

### 12. Delhi airport emerges as world's 10th busiest airport in October

- As per the report of aviation analytics firm OAG, Indira Gandhi International airport (Delhi) has emerged as world's 10th busiest airport in October 2022.
- Busiest airport: Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (Georgia), followed by Dubai and Tokyo Haneda airports.
- The rankings by OAG are based on scheduled airline capacity in the current month and compared to the equivalent month in 2019, pre-pandemic.

### 3. Global Crypto Adoption Index

- Released by Chainalysis
- India has been ranked fourth in the 2022 Global Crypto Adoption Index.
- Top Performer: Vietnam for the second consecutive year, emerging as the country that is most eager to embrace cryptocurrency adoption.
- India has categorized cryptocurrency as virtual digital assets (VDA) and profits generated from crypto fall under 30% tax bracket.
- US is ranked 5<sup>th</sup> in the index.

### 4. Bloomberg Billionaires Index

- Gautam Adani has become the second richest person in the world, after surpassing Amazon founder Jeff Bezos with net worth of \$147 billion as of September 2022
- Tesla's founder Elon Musk with net worth of \$264 billion is the top performer of the index.
- Mukesh Ambani has been ranked tenth on the list with net worth of \$88.7 billion.

### 5. Fourth round of quarterly employment survey Report

- Labour minister, Bhupender Yadav has released report on 4th round of quarterly employment survey (January to March 2022) that indicates increase in overall employment in the last four quarterly survey.

- Estimated employment has increased from 3.14 crore in third quarter to 3.18 crore in 4th Quarter.
- The report provides quarterly estimates about the employment and related variables of establishments in both organized and unorganized segments.

#### 6. All-India house price index released by RBI

- As per the index, during the first quarter of 2022-23, pricing index for homes in India has been grown by 3.5% year-on-year.
- All-India house price index (HPI) is released quarterly by RBI, based on transaction-level data obtained from the housing registration authorities in 10 major cities in the country.
- 10 cities: Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Jaipur, Kanpur, Kochi, Kolkata, Lucknow, nd Mumbai.

#### 7. India's unemployment rate increases to 1-year high of 8.3% in August

- As per the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy data, unemployment rate of India has been surged to a one-year high of 8.3% in August 2022, as employment sequentially fell by 2 million to 394.6 million.
- Urban unemployment rate has been increased to 9.6% and rural unemployment rate also increased to 7.7%.
- In July 2022, unemployment rate was at 6.8% and employment was 397 million.
- Unemployment rate for August was highest in Haryana (37.3%).

#### 8. Annual report on Environment Sustainability 2020-21

- It is a comprehensive document highlighting the steps taken by Railways to promote green and clean energy.
- It brings out Railways' effort towards net zero emission.

#### 9. Boeing report: Air traffic of India may surge annually by average 7% till 2040

- As per the Boeing report, air traffic of India will grow by an average of 7% per year till 2040 even

as the country's carriers face challenges like high fuel prices, rupee depreciation and low fares.

- Air traffic of south-east Asian market will grow at an average annual rate of 5.5%.
- Chinese, African and Latin American market will grow at an average annual rate of 5.4%, 5.4% and 4.8% respectively, till 2040.

#### 10. Services exports rise 20.2% to \$23.26 billion in July 2022: RBI data

- As per the RBI's data, services exports of India has been increased by 20.2% year-on-year to \$23.26 billion in July 2022.
- However, 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, imports surged by 22.3% to \$13.92 billion in July.

#### 11. Grievance Redressal Index August 2022

- Published by: Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances
- Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has topped all Ministries/Departments for resolving Public Grievances in the ranking in August 2022
- UIDAI robust grievance redressal mechanism is enable to resolve around 92% of CRM Grievances within 7 days.

#### 12. National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) released Accidental Deaths & Suicides report 2021

- The report says that 1.64 lakh persons died by suicide in 2021, an increase of 7.2% from 2020 when 1.53 lakh persons had killed themselves.
- Rate of suicide (number of death due to suicides per one lakh population) in 2021: 12
- Highest number of deaths by suicide: Maharashtra has reported the highest number of deaths by suicide (22,207).

#### 13. 'The Global Estimates of Modern Slavery' report

- Published by: International Labour Organisation (ILO), International Organisation for Migration



(IOM) and international human rights group Walk Free

- The report shows that 50 million people were living in modern slavery in 2021.

## Banking & Financial Awareness

December 2022

- India's insurtech platform, TurtleFin has collaborated with **YES BANK** to develop a complete technological platform, 'EasyNsure'.  
**Note:** Turtlefin's innovative API will enable the platform to provide a slew of holistic insurance solutions at the push of a button. EasyNsure: It is a first-of-its-kind proposition for YES BANK, that will bring multiple insurance partners onto a single platform.
- According to the World Bank's Migration and Development brief, by **12** percent the remittance flows to India will be increased to \$100 billion in 2022.  
**Note:** While Mexico is placed second, followed by China, and the Philippines. Remittances to India were enhanced by wage hikes and a strong labor market in the United States and other OECD countries. Remittances to low and middle-income countries increased by about 5 percent to over \$626 billion in 2022.
- Fino Payments Bank** has tied up with Protean eGov Technologies (formerly NSDL e-Governance Infrastructure Limited) to expand PAN card issuance services in India (especially in rural areas).  
**Note:** With this, Fino become the first payments bank to act as PAN Service Agency (PSA) of Protean and facilitate paperless PAN issuance services. At Fino Bank, people can apply for PAN card through Aadhaar based authentication, without the need to submit or upload any documents.
- RBI has announced a four-tiered regulatory framework for categorisation of **Urban Co-operative Banks (UCBs)**.  
**Note:** It is based on size of deposits of the UCBs and came into force with immediate effect.
  - The extant regulatory framework classifies UCBs into two tiers -- Tier I and Tier II.
  - Tier 1: Deposits up to Rs 100 cr
  - Tier 2: More than Rs 100 cr and up to Rs 1,000 cr
  - Tier 3: More than Rs 1,000 cr and up to Rs 10,000 cr
  - Tier 4: More than Rs 10,000 cr
- NSE Indices, Subsidiary of National Stock Exchange has launched new Index under **Nifty Bharat Bond Index**.  
**Note:** The Bharat Bond Index series follows a target maturity date structure wherein each index in the series measures the performance of a portfolio of 'AAA' rated bonds issued by government owned entities maturing in a specific year. Nifty Bharat Bond Index — April 2033 - has been launched within the Nifty Bharat Bond Index series.
- The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has extended the deadline for Unified Payments Interface (UPI) players to limit to a market cap of 30% till **December 31, 2024**.  
**Note:** The deadline given by NPCI was of December 31, 2022. In November 2022, the NPCI had proposed a 30% volume cap for third-party app providers (TPAP). Currently, there is no cap on volume of transactions and about 80% share of market hold by the private players.
- USD 250 million** has been approved by the World Bank to Bangladesh to strengthen the environment management and promote private sector participation in green investment.  
**Note:** Bangladesh Environmental Sustainability and Transformation (BEST) Project will help the country tackle key pollution issues. The project will help to construct four vehicle inspection centres using private-public partnership modality to inspect about 46,000 vehicles annually.
- SEBI has cleared Bandhan-led consortium's proposed acquisition of **IDFC Asset Management Company**.  
**Note:** Earlier, a consortium of Bandhan Financial Holdings, GIC, and ChrysCapital have signed an agreement to buy IDFC AMC and IDFC AMC Trustee Company from parent IDFC (Deal: Rs 4,500 crore). After the transaction, BFHL will own about 60% and GIC and ChrysCapital will hold 20% each in IDFC AMC. Consequently, each scheme of IDFC MF will be renamed to replace the word 'IDFC' with the word 'Bandhan'.
- Nifty 50 Tax Saver Index Fund (IN50) has been launched by financial service company, **IIFL Mutual Fund**.  
**Note:** A passive scheme allows investors to simply think of their investment as a split between FDs, PPFs, insurance, and 'equity' – without having to worry about deep analysis. Being an index fund, the scheme will try to mirror the Nifty 50 and

generate returns in line with the movement in the index.

- 10. India's first Gold ATM and world's first real-time Gold ATM has been launched at Begumpet, Hyderabad.**

**Note:** The ATM was set up by the Goldsikka in collaboration with Opencube Technologies (Technology support). In this ATM, people can insert their debit or credit cards into the Goldsikka and buy gold coins. The ATM has a capacity of storing 5kgs of gold. There are 8 available options for the quantity of gold starting from 0.5 grams to 100 grams.

- 11. In December 2022, ICICI Lombard General Insurance has signed an agreement with the AU Small Finance Bank for bancassurance.**

**Note:** Aim: To diverse bank's customers access to the Non-life insurer's portfolio and enhance penetration across India. With this partnership, the general insurance's suite of ICICI Lombard products will be offered across over 980 banking touchpoints of bank. AU Small Finance Bank has been expanding its distribution footprints across India.

- 12. As per the report, released by the Wordline India, More than 23 billion digital payment transactions (worth Rs 38.32 lakh crore) were carried out in July-September 2022.**

**Note:** UPI based transactions dominated the segment both in terms of value and volume. UPI has clocked over 19.65 billion transactions (worth Rs 32.5 lakh crore). The average ticket size of transactions done through credit cards was highest at Rs 4,833 and the lowest in the case of mobile wallets at Rs 382.

- 13. World Bank has upgraded the GDP growth forecast for India to 6.9% for 2022-23 from 6.5% earlier.**

**Note:** The Bank has trimmed its expectation for next fiscal year to 6.6% from 7% earlier. It also expects the inflation at 7.1 per cent in current fiscal year. It has also said that the government is expected to meet the fiscal deficit target of 6.4% of the GDP in 2022-23. In India Development Update, World Bank said India is affected by spillovers from the US, Euro area and China.

- 14. In December 2022, RBI has increased the repo rate by 35 basis points (the fifth increase since May 2022) to 6.25 percent.**

**Note:** Aim: To bring down the inflation to a tolerable limit. While, RBI has lowered the GDP growth projection of India for the current fiscal at 6.8% from 7%.

- CPI inflation forecast for FY23 retained at 6.7%.
- Size of forex reserves has increased to 561.2 billion as on Dec 2.

- FDI inflows rose to \$22.7 billion in Apr to Oct 2022
- SDF : 6.00%, MSF : 6.50%, Bank Rate : 6.50%

- 15. State Bank of India (SBI) has surpassed the Rs 5 lakh crore mark in the personal banking advances as on November 30, 2022.**

**Note:** The lender has marked the first Rs 1 lakh crore mark in January 2015, followed by Rs 2 lakh crore (January 2018), Rs 3 lakh crore (August 2020), and the Rs 4 lakh mark (November 2021). Personal banking advances mainly comprise personal loan, pension loan, auto loan, education loans, personal-gold loan, and other personal loan products.

- 16. Spice Money has partnered with Axis Bank to facilitate opening of instant, zero balance savings or current accounts for rural citizens through its Adhikari network.**

**Note:** Aim: To bridge the rural-urban divide and bring financial inclusivity by providing access to banking products to the last mile at their doorstep. A regulated entity under RBI, the fintech firm delivers various financial services such as cash deposit and withdrawal, and insurance premium to the rural masses.

- 17. The RBI has extended the trading hours of all/notice/term money market to 5pm (Present) for various markets regulated by it. The new timings will come into effect from December 12, 2022.**

**Note:** The central bank changed the timings in April 2020 in view of the operational dislocations and elevated levels of health risks posed by COVID-19. The call/notice/term money market will close at 5 pm. The market for Commercial paper and Certificates of Deposit will close at 5 pm.

- 18. Amount ₹5,000 crore (Approx) has been invested by the government of India in the SWAMIH Investment Fund I and marking its final close at ₹15,530 crore.**

**Note:** SWAMIH I refers to Special Window for Completion of Construction of Affordable and Mid-Income Housing Projects. This project aims to provide priority debt financing for the completion of stressed, brownfield and RERA registered residential projects. It is sponsored by the finance ministry, and managed by SBICap Ventures Ltd.

- 19. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has signed a Currency Swap Agreement of 200 million dollars with Maldives Monetary Authority under the SAARC Currency Swap Framework.**

**Note:** This agreement has enabled the Maldives authority to make drawals in multiple tranches up to a maximum of 200 million dollars from the RBI. The agreement will provide swap support as a

backstop line of funding for short-term foreign exchange liquidity requirements.

**20. \$780 million** of loan has been provided by the ADB to build new lines for Chennai's metro rail.

**Note:** Focus: Improve the network's connectivity with bus and feeder services. The project will construct an elevated section between Sholinganallur to SIPC, underground section between Lighthouse and Meenakshi College and system component (between Chennai Mofussil Bus Terminus to Okkiyam Thoraipakkam). The ADB was established in 1966.

**21.** According to the data, released by the Finance Ministry, **5.88%** is the retail inflation of India for the November 2022.

**Note:** It is first time in this FY, when the inflation rate came within the tolerance band of RBI i.e. 2-6%. While, the food inflation has been eased at 4.67% in November 2022 from 7.01% in October 2022. Retail inflation is measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI). To Control the inflation, the RBI has raised the repo rate by 2.25 percentage points in this year (2022).

**22.** On 12th December 2022, the Reserve Bank of India has imposed penalties on **13** cooperative banks for contravention of various regulatory norms.

**Note:** The penalties range between Rs 50,000 and Rs 4 lakh. The maximum penalty of Rs 4 lakh has been imposed on Shri Kanyaka Nagari Sahakari Bank, Chandrapur due to non-compliance with the directions issued by the RBI to Urban Co-operative Banks on KYC. While, the bank has imposed Rs 2.50 lakh fine on Vaidyanath Urban Co-operative Bank, Beed.

**23. Jaypee Group** has signed a binding agreement to sell its cement business to Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Ltd for Rs 5,666 crore.

**Note:** It was signed by Jaiprakash Associates and Jaiprakash Power Ventures. The divestment includes cement plants (9.4 million tonne capacity), clinker assets (capacity of 6.7 million tonne), and Thermal power plant (280 MW capacity) The cement and clinker capacities currently being sold to the Dalmia are situated in MP, UP, and Chhattisgarh

**24. Bank of Baroda** has approved the divestment of its majority shareholding in Nainital Bank Limited (NBL).

**Note:** Presently, the bank holds 98.57% of the total equity share capital Nainital Bank Limited. The Bank of Baroda had taken over Nainital Bank in 1973 on the directions of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). Nainital Bank has about 150 branches across Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Haryana and Rajasthan.

**25. Canara HSBC Life Insurance** has launched new 'Guaranteed Fortune Plan', a non-linked, non-participating individual savings scheme.

**Note:** It offers life cover and a lump sum amount on outliving the policy term. The product was launched in two variants: (1) Guaranteed Savings Option, and (2) Guaranteed Cash Back Option. The first option provides a lump sum on outliving the policy term. The second option offers customers guaranteed cashback at the end of every fifth policy year.

**26.** According to the recent data, **5.85%** is the Wholesale price inflation (WPI) for November 2022 has been recorded.

**Note:** It is a 21-month low WPI. On a yearly basis, WPI inflation went down from 14.87% in November 2021 to 5.85 per cent in November 2022. Reason: To fall in prices of food items, basic metals, textiles, chemicals and chemical products, and paper and paper products compared to the same period last year.

**27.** According to the Asian Development Bank revised forecast, **7%** would be the growth of India for the fiscal 2022-23.

**Note:** India will grow at 7.2% for FY 2023-24. Reason: Sustained by positive effects from structural reform and from public investment catalysing private investment. Inflation in India is still expected to rise to 6.7 % in 2022-23 before falling back to 5.8%. As per the bank, Asia will expand at 4.2% this year and accelerate to 4.6% in 2023.

**28.** Fintech firms **Razorpay and Cashfree** have been asked by RBI to pause onboarding of new online payment merchants.

**Note:** Reason: As the central bank requires to make certain changes and provide more information before it is granted the final payment aggregator (PA) licence. Another fintech firm, Cashfree has also been asked to temporarily stop onboarding new customers. It is one among several fintech companies to receive in-principle approval from the RBI for a PA licence.

**29.** The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has introduced performance benchmarking and categorisation for the PMS industry. The full form of PMS is **Portfolio Management Services**.

**Note:** The move will help investors assess and compare the performance of service providers. This move will come into effect from April 1, 2023. The SEBI has directed portfolio managers to adopt an additional layer of broadly defined investment strategies categorised as equity, debt, hybrid, and multi-asset.

**30. AU Small Finance Bank** has joined hands with the HDFC Life for bancassurance business model.

**Note:** This partnership would enable diverse customers of AU Small Finance Bank to access the entire range of life insurance products offered by HDFC Life. According to the Swiss Re report (2019), India has the highest protection gap of 83% in comparison to other insurance markets. HDFC Life MD & CEO: Vibha Padalkar

**31.** Financial service provider **HDFC Securities** has launched a dedicated platform providing comprehensive investor education and market analysis named Roots.

**Note:** It offers multiple forms of valuable information, including articles, bite-sized tips, podcasts by experts, video tutorials and explainers, and live social media feed on the Indian financial markets. This platform produces content which are being searched on Google by current or prospective investors and traders.

**32. IDFC FIRST Bank** has announced the ZERO Fee Banking on savings accounts and waived fees on multiple banking services, including Passbook charges, NEFT charges.

**Note:** As per the bank, the customers maintaining as low as ₹10,000 Average Monthly Balance, and the ₹25,000 AMB savings account variant will get these benefits. IDFC Bank has celebrated its Foundation Day on 18 December. This is a customer friendly initiative from IDFC FIRST Bank.

**33. Indian Bank** has launched a new special retail term deposit dubbed as “Ind Shakti 555 days”, effective from December 19, 2022.

**Note:** This product is offering higher rate of interest for investment starting from Rs. 5000 to less than 2 Crore for 555 days in the form of FD/MMD with callable options. An interest rate of 7% for the general public and 7.15% for senior citizens. It is offering an interest rate of 3.00% on deposits that mature in the next 30 to 45 days.

**34.** RBI has imposed a penalty of Rs 2.66 crore on operations of **Bank of Bahrain & Kuwait BSC** for non-compliance with directions on cyber security framework.

**Note:** The bank has failed to implement systems to detect unusual and unauthorised, internal or external activities in its database. RBI has also imposed penalty on 20 co-operative banks, including 17 from Gujarat for contravention of various norms. The penalty on 17 co-operative banks range between Rs 50,000 - Rs 7 lakh

**35. Bandhan Bank** has signed an MoU with the Controller General of Defence Accounts, Ministry of Defence for extending the banking services to the Defence Pensioners and their families.

**Note:** The Bank will provide services to Defence Pensioners and their families through 557 branches. The Bank is aligned with the vision of govt in being a one-stop solution to all pension-

related activities of Defence pensioners under the Outreach Programme for Defence Pensioners on SPARSH.

**36.** Finance Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman has informed that NiC has witnessed an annual growth of 7.98% to Rs 31.92 lakh crore as of December 2, 2022. **Note in Circulation** is the full form of NiC.

**Note:** The demand for currency depends upon several macroeconomic factors, including economic growth and level of interest rates. The quantum of cash or banknotes in the economy depends on the requirement for meeting the demand for banknotes due to GDP growth, inflation, and replacement of soiled banknotes.

**37.** UT Ladakh and **Jammu and Kashmir Bank Ltd** have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to provide banking facilities to the UT employees.

**Note:** Under the MoU, J&K Bank would give the most favoured client status to the UT Administration as well as the active permanent employees who have their salary accounts in J&K Bank. Aim: To increase awareness about banking facilities. J&K Bank will also organize various financial literacy camps at its centres for UT employees.

**38.** Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has announced that it will introduce a regulatory framework for EOP for direct plans of mutual fund schemes. The full form of EOP is **Execution Only Platforms**.

**Note:** The new rules will make it convenient for investors to make investment via Execution Only Platforms (EOPs) as well as appropriate investor protection mechanisms. It will have investor protection mechanism, cyber security requirements, pricing of services and grievance redressal.

**39.** Paytm has partnered with **HDFC ERGO** to launch a group insurance plan called ‘Paytm Payment Protect’.

**Note:** Aim: To insure transactions made through UPI across all apps and wallets. With the new insurance offering users would be able to secure themselves against mobile fraudulent transactions up to Rs 10,000. To avail this insurance, users need to pay Rs 30 per annum. Higher cover options for cover up to Rs 1 lakh per annum will soon be added to the product.

**40. International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)** authority has signed an MoU with the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW) for mutual assistance and cooperation in the area of sustainable finance.

**Note:** India recently launched Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for the Environment) as an India-led global movement to protect and preserve the environment. CEEW research has estimated that



India's net zero by 2070 target would require USD 10 trillion in investments.

41. Digital payments services platform **Worldline ePayments India** has received in-principle approval from the Reserve Bank of India to act as a payment aggregator (PA).

**Note:** The authorisation by the RBI was under the provisions of the Guidelines on Regulation of Payment dated March 17, 2020. Payment Aggregator: It is a service provider that integrates various options of online payments together and brings them into one place for merchants.

42. In December 2022, the total valuation of Indian Premier League (IPL) has been surpassed to **\$10 billion**.

**Note:** According to the D and P Advisory report titled "Beyond 22 Yards" stated that the league is currently worth \$10.9 billion. According to the reports, the IPL attained the significant milestone after selling its media rights for the years 2023 to 2027. In less than 15 years since its beginning, the IPL has reached the milestone.

43. In December 2022, **National Stock Exchange of India** has received in-principle approval from SEBI to set up a Social Stock Exchange (SSE) as a separate segment.

**Note:** The creation of the SSE was proposed by FM Sitharaman in her Union Budget speech for 2019-20. The SSE will work for listing social enterprises and voluntary organisations working for the realisation of a social welfare objective. The SSE will help these organisations to raise capital as equity, debt or as units like a mutual fund.

44. **TransUnion CIBIL** has collaborated with Online PSB Loans and MSME lender SIDBI to launch FIT Rank - a comprehensive ranking model for MSMEs.

**Note:** FIT Rank will leverage the details available with Goods and Services Tax (GST) filings, Bank Statements, and Income Tax returns (ITR) information to provide a ranking model for MSME lending. This is the first-ever credit default predictor model developed by CIBIL in collaboration with OPL.

45. As per the International Monetary Fund (IMF), **6.8 per cent** would be the India's GDP growth rate for the current fiscal year (2022-23).

**Note:** IMF has also estimated the India's growth rate of 6.1 per cent in the next fiscal years (2023-24). In its report, IMF has stated that the growth of India is expected to moderate as it is navigating a "very difficult" external environment. IMF has also highlighted that Indian economy has rebounded from the deep pandemic-related downturn.

46. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has mandated banks in the country to renew their locker

agreements with existing locker customers by **1st January, 2023**.

**Note:** All the existing locker depositors are required to furnish proof of eligibility for a renewed locker arrangement. RBI has advised the banks to install CCTV camera at entry and exit points of the strong room and the common areas of operation. It mandates to preserve its recording for a period of not less than 180 days.

47. International Finance Corporation (IFC) has provided a loan of USD 400 million to **Housing Development Finance Corporation (HDFC) Limited** to boost the green affordable housing finance in India.

**Note:** The loan will support India's shift towards a more sustainable growth path, creating jobs and ensuring long-term business growth. It focuses on its green affordable housing portfolio, with 75 per cent (USD 300 million) of the proceeds earmarked for this sector.

48. According to the British consultancy, Centre for Economics and Business Research (CEBR) report, India will become third largest economy by the year **2035** from the current fifth spot.

**Note:** Report title: World Economic League Table. India's annual rate of GDP growth is expected to average 6.4% after which growth is expected to average 6.5% in the subsequent nine years. The world gross domestic product will be doubled by 2037 as developing economies will catch up with the richer ones.

49. RBI has issued an order to migrate the payments fraud reporting module to DAKSH portal on January 1, 2023.

**Note:** Aim: To streamline reporting, enhance efficiency and automate the payments fraud management process. Earlier, it was facilitated through Electronic Data Submission Portal (EDSP). As per the RBI, all authorised Payment System Operators (PSOs) and payment system participants in India are required to report all payment frauds.

50. **Infibeam Avenues Ltd** has received Perpetual Licence from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for its bill payments business, BillAvenue.

**Note:** The licence will allow BillAvenue to function as a Bharat Bill Payment Operating Unit (BBPOU) under Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS). BillAvenue can operate as both biller and customer operating unit onboarding billers and agent institutions to service customers. It will help the company offer safe, secure and uninterrupted services.

51. India has signed a \$125 million loan agreement with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to develop climate-resilient sewage collection and



treatment, and drainage and water supply systems in **Tamil Nadu**.

**Note:** The tranche 3 loan for Tamil Nadu Urban Flagship Investment Program signed between Rajat Kumar Mishra (Additional Secretary, DEA) and Hoe Yun Jeong (Officer-in-Charge of ADB's India Resident Mission). This loan will cover Coimbatore, Madurai, and Thoothukudi.

**52. Indian Bank** has launched its flagship business mentoring program for MSME entrepreneurs named 'MSME Prerana' in Rajasthan.

**Note:** Aim: To empower MSME Entrepreneurs through skill development and capacity building training in their local languages. This program will also assist them in acquiring necessary financial and managerial skills, capacity to handle crisis in business. The training program will be provided in collaboration with M/s Poornatha & Co.

**53.** Along with State Bank of India (SBI), and ICICI Bank, **Axis Bank** will start issuing RuPay credit cards over the UPI by March 2023.

**Note:** Presently, the RuPay credit card segment on the UPI platform is live with Union Bank of India, Punjab National Bank, Indian Bank and HDFC Bank. The RBI has authorised the connection of

credit cards to UPI in June 2022. Users will benefit from more convenience as a result of the change, which will also expand the adoption of digital payments.

**54.** Recently SEBI has expanded the High Powered Steering Committee on Cyber Security (HPSC-CS) members to eight members. The head of this committee is **Navin Kumar Singh (DG at NCIIPC)**.

**Note:** SEBI has expanded two of its committees- (1) High Powered Steering Committee on Cyber Security (HPSC-CS) and (2) Information Systems Security Committee (ISSC). SEBI has also expanded its panel on Information Systems Security Committee (ISSC) to seven members, chaired by Prof Krishnamurthy.

**55.** According to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) annual report on trend and progress of banking in India, the health of Indian banks continued to improve in 2021-2022 with their balance sheet rising at double digits after a gap of **Seven years**.

**Note:** PSBs account for 62% of the deposits of scheduled commercial banks, while on loans, they corner 58% market share. Credit growth of banks was at a 10-year high at the end September 2022.

## November 2022

**1.** First Digital Rupee pilot project of India has been launched on **November 1, 2022** by RBI for the wholesale segment.

**Note:** Participated Banks: SBI, BoB, Union Bank of India, HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Yes Bank, IDFC First Bank and HSBC. CBDC can be classified into two types: Retail (CBDC-R) and Wholesale (CBDC-W). CBDC-R: It would be potentially available for use by all. CBDC-W: It is designed for restricted access to select financial institutions.

**2.** The fiscal deficit of the central government from April-September 2022 has touched at **37.3%**.

**Note:** The fiscal deficit was 35% of BE in last fiscal. In absolute terms, the fiscal deficit was Rs 6,19,849 crore during the period.

**3.** The Reserve Bank has imposed fine of Rs 1.76 crore on Vakrangee, for violating **White Label ATM (WLA) directions** norm.

**Note:** Jammu and Kashmir State Co-operative Bank Ltd: Rs 30 lakh. The Pratap Co-operative Ltd (Mumbai-based): Rs 6 lakh. LIC Housing Finance and The Mysore Merchants Co-operative Bank Ltd: Rs 5 lakh. The Nagar Sahakari Bank Ltd, Maharajganj, Uttar Pradesh: Rs 4 lakh

**4.** **Rs. 1,51,718 crore** gross GST revenues of India has collected by the government in October 2022.

**Note:** Central GST (CGST) revenues for the month were ₹26,039 crore. State GST (SGST) was ₹33,396 crore and IGST revenues were ₹81,778 crore (including Rs 37,297 crore collected on import of goods). This mark the second highest monthly collections since the launch of the indirect tax regime. The highest GST collections in a month were recorded in April 2022, at ₹1,67,540 crore.

**5.** Insurance firm **HDFC ERGO** has launched a technology backed farm yield insurance policy for farmers.

**Note:** In this policy, a satellite-based index will be used to provide localized farm level coverage. It will provide comprehensive cover across the crop life cycle from sowing to harvesting, basis satellite-based data. The product is targeted at farmers under corporate/farm input company (FIC) contracts.

**6.** **Bank of India** has launched a special fixed deposit scheme named Star Super Triple Seven Fixed Deposit.

**Note:** This special scheme is providing 7.25% rate of interest (7.75 per cent for citizens) on a deposit for 777 days, for limited period. The bank has raised interest rate on its existing 555-days fixed deposit scheme to 6.30%.

7. Health insurance company **Niva Bupa** has partnered with IDFC FIRST Bank to provide best-in-class health insurance solutions to the bank's customers.  
**Note:** It is the first bancassurance partnership of NBHICL for FY 23. Benefit: With this partnership, NBHIC can expand its reach through bank for their services, and address the healthcare related concerns of the bank's customers. Previously, NBHIC was known as the Max Bupa Health Insurance Company Limited.
8. **India Post Payments Bank (IPPB)** has conducted First Floating Financial Literacy Camp of India in Srinagar, J&K.  
**Note:** Aim: To promote Financial Literacy 'By the women, for the women'. It was launched with an initiative called 'Niveshak Didi'. This concept is based on the ideology of women for women as rural area women feel more comfortable to share their queries with a female itself.
9. ADB has approved the funding of **USD 30 million** to the farm efficiency initiative of Smartchem Technologies Limited (STL).  
**Note:** The loan facility will be for a tenure of 5 years. The ADB has also given approval for a technical assistance grant of USD 5,00,000 for building capacity for Soil Nutrition Management in India. This loan would be the first agribusiness "Blue Loan" of ADB. STL is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Deepak Fertilisers and Petrochemicals Corporation.
10. **State Bank of India (SBI)** has revised its credit growth outlook from 11-12% to 14-16% for the current financial year (FY23).  
**Note:** Reason: To driven by strong revival in capex cycle and corporates replacing overseas credit with rupee loans. SBI has a pipeline of corporate loans worth ₹3.5 trillion under sanction. The country's largest lender (SBI) is seeing demand from infrastructure, renewable power, oil and marketing companies, and services sectors.
11. **Unity Small Finance Bank Limited** has launched Shagun 366 (1 year, 1 day) fixed deposit scheme to offer the return of 7.80% p.a.  
**Note:** While, 8.30% p.a. return for senior citizens for a 366-day tenure. This scheme is valid for deposits made before November 30, 2022. In addition to this, the Unity Bank has also raised the interest rates on both callable (up to 7.75% interest) and non-callable bulk deposits (up to 7.85%).
12. **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** has approved a USD 350 million (about Rs 2,900 crore) loan to Maharashtra for better road connectivity.  
**Note:** The Connecting Economic Clusters for Inclusive Growth will develop the road network in the Ahmednagar, Hingoli, Jalna, Kohalpur, Nagpur, Nanded, Nashik, Pune, Sangli and Satara districts. It will build on the Maharashtra State Road Improvement Project approved by ADB in April 2020.
13. **Kerala** state has become the first state in India to launch uniform gold prices based on the bank rate.  
**Note:** The decision to introduce a uniform price on 916 purity 22-carat gold has been taken at meeting between Malabar Gold and Diamonds and All Kerala Gold and Silver Merchants Association. It offers an opportunity for consumers to purchase gold at a reasonable and transparent price.
14. Conglomerate company **Reliance Industries** will acquire German retailer, METRO AG's Cash & Carry business in India in a deal estimated at around 500 million euros.  
**Note:** The deal includes 31 wholesale distribution centres, land banks and other assets owned by METRO Cash & Carry in India. It will help Reliance Retail to expand its presence in the B2B segment.
15. According to the latest data, released by the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI), **Maharashtra** state has topped the list of maximum MF penetration in India.  
**Note:** Followed by New Delhi (42), and Goa (28). Reason: High income levels, Higher literacy rates, and Substantial inflows from corporations and high-networth individuals (HNIs). While Jharkhand is one of the top 10 states with 13%.
16. **Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)** has signed an agreement with the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) to promote energy efficiency financing for MSMEs.  
**Note:** SIDBI acts as the principal financial institution for the promotion, financing and development of MSMEs. Besides direct financing, it is also a project executing agency for Partial Risk Sharing Facility (PRSF) that guarantees energy efficiency projects.
17. Additional amount **USD 100 million** was invested by the UAE-based bank, Emirates NBD in its India operations to open two more branches in Chennai and Gurugram.  
**Note:** The lender, having the largest presence in the Middle East region, and invested USD 300 million in the last five years of its operations in India in three tranches. Its current presence is not as a wholly-owned subsidiary, which is preferred by RBI for units of foreign lenders.
18. **Green bonds** will help to generate funds for investment in environmentally sustainable and climate-suitable projects.  
**Note:** FM Nirmala Sitharaman has approved the final Sovereign Green Bonds framework of India. The Ministry has also constituted a Green Finance Working Committee (GFWC), chaired by CEA, GoI. The committee will meet at least twice a year to

support Finance Ministry with selection and evaluation of projects.

- 19. Muthoottu Mini Financiers** has introduced Safe lock Gold Loan facility with an objective to avail the benefits of a locker by pledging any quantity of gold for a minimum loan amount of Rs 100.

**Note:** The annual charges for using this facility is Rs 300. With this, the customer will have insurance coverage for the pledged gold jewellery. This facility can be obtained at any time through online and offline channels and repay as per the customer's convenience.

- 20. Complete digital lending solution RazorpayX Digital Lending 2.0** for NBFCs and FinTechs was launched by Razorpay.

**Note:** Aim: To support the new digital lending guidelines issued by RBI. It will help in automating direct disbursals & repayments between the borrower's and the Regulated Entity's account, which was mandated by the RBI recently. It also make easier for NBFCs and Fintechs to work together more efficiently than ever before.

- 21. The IMF** has agreed to support a package of **\$4.5 billion** to Bangladesh to stabilize the economy and protect the vulnerable people.

**Note:**

- Bangladesh is the third South Asian country, after Sri Lanka and Pakistan, to secure a bailout package from the IMF.
- The amount will be disbursed in seven installments till December 2026.
- The first installment of \$447.48 million will be cleared in February 2023.
- The Finance ministry officials calculated the interest rate to be around 2.2%.

- 22. State Bank of India** has lowered the current account deficit (CAD) at 3% for this fiscal (2022-23) as against the minimum consensus of 3.5%.

**Note:** Reason: Rising software exports, remittances and a likely \$5-billion jump in forex reserves via swap deals. CAD: The country is importing more goods and services than it is exporting. The biggest impact on CAD is oil imports, which form as much as 30% of the country's import bills.

- 23. National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)** has launched the open-source license model for UPI based application -- **BHIM App**.

**Note:** Under the new model, the source code of the BHIM app will be licensed to regulated entities participating in the UPI ecosystem. Presently, a large number of banks do not have a mobile banking app and by licensing the source code of BHIM to such banks, NPCI bridge this gap by extending all available features of UPI to these entities.

- 24. In November 2022, The United States** Department of Treasury has removed India from its Currency Monitoring List after two years.

**Note:** The US has also removed Italy, Mexico, Thailand and Vietnam from its List. The countries that have been removed from the list have met only one out of three criteria for two consecutive reports. The USA has retained China, Japan, Korea, Germany, Malaysia, Singapore, and Taiwan as a part of its list.

- 25. According to the Moody's,** The economic growth forecast of India for the calendar year 2022 -- **7%**.

**Note:** Reason: Higher inflation, high interest rates and slowing global growth. The weakening of the rupee and high oil prices continue to exert upward pressures on inflation, which has remained above RBI '4 per cent -/+ 2 per cent' target inflation range.

- 26. SEBI** has introduced a regulatory framework to facilitate providers of online bond platforms that are selling listed debt securities.

**Note:** As per this rule, no person would act as an online bond platform provider without obtaining registration certificate as a stock broker from SEBI. A person, who is acting as an online bond platform provider without registration certificate prior to the date of this regulation coming into force, can continue to do so for a period of 3 months.

- 27. According to published quarterly numbers of public sector banks (PSBs), Bank of Maharashtra (BoM)** has emerged as the top performer among public sector lenders in terms of loan growth in percentage terms during the second quarter of 2022-23.

**Note:** BoM has recorded a 28.62% increase in gross advances at Rs 1,48,216 crore at the end of September 2022. It was followed by Union Bank of India, State Bank of India.

- 28. The RBI** has given its approval for opening of **Nine** Vostro accounts of Russians banks with banks in India.

**Note:** Aim: To allow bilateral trade to take place in rupee. Three accounts have already been opened—Gazprom Bank with UCO Bank and VTB and Sber Bank with their own branch offices in India. The remaining six are likely to be opened by Indusind bank. The RBI has allowed the special Vostro accounts to invest the surplus balance in Indian government securities

- 29. SBI** has signed a 150 million euro (Rs 1,240 crore) loan agreement with the German development bank KfW for funding solar projects.

**Note:** This loan will facilitate new and upcoming capacities in the solar sector and further contribute to the goals announced during the COP26. India and Germany had signed an MoU in 2015 to foster solar energy through technical as well as financial

- cooperation. This is the second loan from KFW to SBI as part of the solar partnership with India
- 30.** The International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) has signed an MoU with **RBI** for collaboration in the field of regulation and supervision of regulated entities.  
**Note:** Aim: To strengthen the safety, stability and soundness of respective financial ecosystems. It also aims to ensure the conducive environments for optimal business development and economic growth. IFSCA is responsible for development and regulation of financial products, services and institutions.
- 31.** **ESAF Small Finance Bank** was honoured with the 'Best in Class' rating for ESG practices from CareEdge Ratings.  
**Note:** ESG practices refers to Environment, Social, and Governance. With this recognition, it has become an entity with global ESG standards. ESAF is also the first Indian member bank of the Global Alliance on Banking on Values (GAVB).
- 32.** **Max Life Insurance** has launched Smart Wealth Advantage Guarantee Plan, a non-linked, non-participating individual life insurance savings plan.  
**Note:** It offers guaranteed returns, life insurance cover and financial protection all combined in one product. One can choose premium payment term, deferment period and income duration. Income returns up to 30-40 years with lump sum at maturity. Inbuilt 'Additional Accidental Death Benefit'- amount equal to 50% of sum assured
- 33.** **InsuranceDekho** platform has teamed with Life Insurance Corp of India to provide the latter's products on its platform.  
**Note:** This partnership will help to provide insurance policies and establish 100% penetration in the remotest towns of the country. Currently, InsuranceDekho has more than 330 products from 45 insurers on its platform. LIC (India's largest life insurer) has been looking to enhance and diversify its distribution mix through partnerships and tie-ups.
- 34.** **SEBI** has introduced a new option for appointment and removal of independent directors from the boards of companies.  
**Note:** Two parameters: (1) threshold for ordinary resolution, (2) threshold for majority of minority shareholders. Currently, a special resolution to be passed, in which 75% of 'yes' votes are needed from a company's board. Under the alternate mechanism, if the special resolution does not get the requisite majority, then two other thresholds would be tested.
- 35.** The Government of India has raised the maximum tenure of CEO and MD of public sector banks from 5 years to **10 years**.
- Note:** Aim: This move will help the government to retain the best talent in the banking sector. This is also applicable for whole-time directors of all Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs). The amendment would be called Nationalised Banks (Management and Miscellaneous Provisions) Amendment Scheme, 2022.
- 36.** **Tata Power Solar Systems Limited** has tied up with Union Bank of India (UBI) to help MSME (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) sector switch to solar solutions.  
**Note:** TPSSL is a wholly owned subsidiary of Tata Power Renewable Energy Limited (TPREL). Objective: To improve access to green energy and save on the cost of electricity, thus making MSMEs more profitable. The association will be implemented under UBI's solar scheme called 'Union Solar'.
- 37.** As per the Crisil rating agency report published in November 2022, **7%** would be the India growth forecast for 2022-23.  
**Note:** Reason: The slowdown in global growth and its impact on India's exports and industrial activity. As per the Crisil, the growth of country's gross domestic product (GDP) will slow considerably to 6% (FY24) from 6.5%.
- 38.** As per the Goldman Sachs report published in November 2022, **5.9%** would be the economic growth forecast of India in 2023.  
**Note:** Reason: As the boost from the post-COVID reopening fades and monetary tightening weighs on domestic demand. Goldman Sachs has also expected that inflation will drop to 6.1% in 2023, from 6.8% in 2022. Recently, RBI has also pegged the domestic growth rate at 7% for 2022-23. India economist at Goldman Sachs: Santanu Sengupta
- 39.** **Airtel Payments Bank** has launched face authentication-based savings bank account opening for customers.  
**Note:** Aim: To ease the account opening process and provide better customers experience. It is the first payments bank in the country to offer this facility. It will also help business correspondents of the bank to open an account just by undertaking face authentication e-KYC. The authentication is processed by using a newly developed mobile application by UIDAI.
- 40.** As per the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), **6.6%** would be the India's gross domestic growth forecast for the current financial year (FY23).  
**Note:** Reason: Higher medium-term global uncertainty and slowing domestic economic activity. As per the OECD, the headline inflation remains above 6% mostly due to the trend increase in the price of food.



- 41. National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)** has recommended Reserve Bank of India to limit the volume cap of UPI.  
**Note:** Currently, there's no cap on volume and Google Pay and PhonePe, which hold the market share of about 80 per cent. The NPCI had proposed a 30 per cent volume cap for third-party app providers (TPAP). NPCI in 2020 came up with a directive to cap the share of transactions TPAP.
- 42.** As per the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the overnight balances under the SDF will be eligible as 'Level 1 High Quality Liquid Assets (HQLA)' for computation of the Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR). **Standing Deposit Facility** is the full form of SDF.  
**Note:** Reason: To enhance the ability of banks to achieve LCR. LCR promotes short-term resilience of banks to potential liquidity disruptions. It also ensures that banks have sufficient HQLAs to survive an acute stress scenario lasting for 30 days.
- 43.** As per the recent RBI data, the CD ratio of the Northern and Western Regions have been declined in 2022. The fullform of CD ratio is **Credit-Deposit**.  
**Note:** While the North-Eastern, Eastern, Central and Southern Regions improved. CD ratio indicates that how much of each rupee of deposit goes towards credit markets in a particular region. Low CD ratio: It suggests relatively poor credit growth compared with deposit growth. High CD ratio: Strong demand for credit, relatively slower deposit growth.
- 44. BillBox** has launched TapTap, a wearable device that enables contactless payments.  
**Note:** This card was launched in association with NSDL Payments Bank and Visa. Aim: To simplify payments and offer users convenience. It has been launched with silicon band, silicon strap and silicon loop which will be available in white, black and blue colours.  
**IDFC First Bank** has launched a sticker-based debit card named FIRSTAP.  
**Note:** It was launched in association with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI). Aim: To facilitate transactions by simply tapping the sticker on a Near Field Communication (NFC) enabled point-of-sale terminal. The sticker-based debit card is one third the size of a regular debit card.
- 45. Canara Bank** has launched an Electronic Bank Guarantee (e-BG) in partnership with National E-Governance Services Limited (NeSL).  
**Note:** With this, bank can offers an API based digital workflow of Bank guarantees. It will eliminate physical issuance, stamping, verification and paper-based record maintenance of Bank Guarantees paving the way to augment integration of Environmental and Social Governance (ESG) framework into Business.
- 46.** As per the data of the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), **\$26.9 billion** Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) equity inflows into India has been recorded during the April-September 2022.  
**Note:** Singapore emerged as the top investor with USD 10 billion FDI. It was followed by Mauritius (USD 3.32 billion), UAE (USD 2.95 billion), USA (USD 2.6 billion), the Netherlands (USD 1.76 billion), and Japan (USD 1.18 billion).
- 47. ₹17,000 crore** has been released by the central government to states and UTs towards the balance Goods and Services Tax compensation for the April-June 2022 period.  
**Note:** The total amount of compensation released to states and UTs so far this fiscal is ₹1.15 trillion (including the latest tranche). This is despite the fact that total GST cess collection till October 2022 was only ₹72,147 crore. And, the balance of ₹43,515 crore is being released by the Centre from its own resources.
- 48.** IRDAI has approved the amendments to rules on registering insurance companies and investing in them, to enable the Insurance for All by the year **2047**.  
**Note:** Private equity (PE) funds can now directly invest in insurance companies and investment by PE through special purpose vehicles (SPVs) has been made optional. Investment up to 25% of the paid up capital by single investor will now be treated as 'investor' and above 25% single investor will be treated as promoter".
- 49.** The **SEBI** has amended norms to bring buying and selling of mutual fund units under the insider trading rules and became effective from 24th November 2022.  
**Note:** Any person who is connected with a fund house and comes into possession of unpublished, price-sensitive information shall not be permitted to trade in MF units. AMCs will have to disclose the details of holdings in the units of its MF schemes (trustees and their immediate relatives on the platform of stock exchanges).
- 50.** Hyundai Construction Equipment India has signed an agreement with **Karnataka Bank** to broaden the Bank's MSME funding prospects.  
**Note:** This MoU will allow both Hyundai and Karnataka Bank to provide consumers with customised financial solutions. With this tie up, Bank will be designated as a financial partner and will be able to meet the needs of customers by providing loans at competitive interest rates for purchase of equipments from Hyundai Construction Equipments India.
- 51.** As per the S&P Global Ratings report, published in November 2022, **7%** would be the India's economic



growth forecast of India for current fiscal year (FY23).

**Note:** The firm has also announced that the domestic demand-led economy will be less impacted by the global slowdown. S&P had in September (2022) projected the Indian economy to grow 7.3 per cent in 2022-23 and 6.5 per cent in next fiscal year (2023-24).

52. The RBI will launch the first pilot for the retail digital Rupee on **1st December 2022**.

**Note:** Presently, eight banks have been identified for phase-wise participation. First phase: SBI, ICICI, Yes Bank and IDFC First. Subsequent phase: BoB, Union Bank of India, HDFC and Kotak Mahindra. This pilot project would initially cover Mumbai, New Delhi, Bengaluru and Bhubaneswar. Later, it is extended to Ahmedabad, Gangtok, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Indore, Kochi, Lucknow, Patna and Shimla.

53. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a penalty of Rs 1.25 crore on Zoroastrian Co-operative Bank, Mumbai for the non-compliance of **Discounting of bills**.

**Note:** The RBI has imposed penalty of Rs 20 lakh on Indian Mercantile Co-operative Bank, Lucknow for

non-compliance with the certain norms related classification of non-performing assets. The central bank also imposed penalties on five other cooperative banks.

54. SEBI has set up a high-level panel to review the takeover norms in a move to simplify and strengthen the current rules by adopting appropriate global practices. **Shiavax Jal Vazifdar** is the head of this panel.

**Note:** Members: 20-member committee. The SEBI regulator will also assess the current rules in the light of past judicial pronouncements and various informal guidelines issued by the capital markets regulator.

55. **Star Health and Allied Insurance** has launched Star Out Patient Care Insurance Policy, which aims at providing complete health and wellness benefits to customers at an affordable cost.

**Note:** The claims processing procedure will be entirely digital. The policy is available on individual or floater basis and cover up to six family members. Age: 18 - 50 years (adults) and 31 days to 25 years (dependent children). Four sum insured (SI) options: ₹25,000, ₹50,000, ₹75,000 and ₹1 lakh.

## October 2022

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

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

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

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

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

**Note:** Reason: Higher financing cost and weaker public expenditures. The organization has also

predicted that the GDP of country will further decelerate to 4.7% in 2023. India has experienced an expansion of 8.2 per cent in 2021.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

9. A new 'SupTech' initiative **DAKSH** was launched by the Governor of RBI, Shaktikanta Das.

**Note:** Aim: It will be the advanced supervisory monitoring system of bank. It will help to make the supervisory processes more robust. With the help of this, RBI shall monitor compliance requirements in a more focused manner. This also improves the compliance culture in Supervised Entities (SEs) like Banks, NBFCs, etc.

10. **HDFC Bank** has launched an one-stop merchant solution app named SmartHub Vyapar Merchant app.

**Note:** It is a comprehensive payments and banking solution. It is designed to fulfill the everyday business needs of merchants. This app would facilitate instant, digital and paperless merchant on-boarding for HDFC Bank customers. It also allow merchants to accept interoperable payments across multiple payment modes which include Cards – Tap & Pay, UPI and QR code.

11. As per the World Bank, **6.5%** would be the GDP growth forecast of India for 2022-23.

**Note:** Reason: The impact of the ongoing war in Ukraine, rising global interest rates and high inflation. The organization has also noted that slowing global demand will impact the country's exports. Recently, RBI has cut the economic growth projection for the current fiscal to 7%.

UNCTAD has also declined the India's economic growth will decline to 5.7% for 2022-23.

12. As per the new direction of RBI, regarding the appointment of Internal Ombudsman for all Credit Information Companies (CICs), every CIC must appoint the Internal Ombudsman for a fixed term of **3 to 5 years**.

**Note:** Either a retired or a serving officer. Not below the rank of Deputy GM or equivalent, should have at least seven years of experience in banking sector. Not attain the age of 70 before completion of the proposed term. No reappointment for extension of term in the same CIC

13. RBI has released a Concept Note on CBDC to create awareness about Digital Rupee. **Central Bank Digital Currency** is the full form of CBDC.

**Note:** This note explains the objectives, choices, benefits, and risks of issuing a digital currency in India. It also discusses issues like technology and design choices, possible uses of the Digital Rupee, issuance mechanisms, and role of RBI in introduction of the CDBT. RBI will soon commence the launch of Digital Rupee on a pilot basis for specific use.

14. **ICICI** bank has launched a "Smart Wire" to help customers with SWIFT-based inward remittances in a faster and hassle-free manner.

**Note:** ICICI Bank becomes the first bank in the country to launch such a service. The Smart Wire facility will allow both NRIs and resident customers to undertake inward remittance transactions in an online and paperless way. Important features includes: Online submission of details; Digital declarations; Block exchange rates; Online tracking

15. The government and LIC will together divest **60.72** percent of stakes in the IDBI Bank.

**Note:** The Centre will divest a 30.48% stake while LIC will offload 30.24%. For this, the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) has invited expressions of interest (EoIs) from potential bidders. The potential investor should have a minimum net worth of ₹22,500 crore, must report net profit in three out of the past five years, will be eligible for bidding.

16. **South Indian Bank** has bagged a world record for staging and swinging the highest 101 Onjals (Jhoolas).

**Note:** The South Indian Bank has organized an event 'Onnichirikkam Oonjaladam'. The World Book of Records team has also presented the award to South Indian Bank officials. Swings were made using wood and rope in the traditional way.

17. SEBI has granted its in-principle approval to **BSE** for introducing a social stock exchange as a separate segment.

**Note:** Social stock exchange will enable the listing of non-profit organisations and for-profit social enterprises that are engaged in 15 broad eligible social activities approved by the market regulator. These social entities can raise funds through equity, issue of zero-coupons zero-principal bonds, MF, social impact funds and development impact bonds.

- 18.** As per the World Economic Outlook 2022 report, **6.8%** would be the GDP growth forecast of India for 2022-23.

**Note:** The IMF has also predicted that India will remain on track to become one of the fastest-growing economies in the world. While, IMF has projected that global growth will slow from 6% in 2021 to 3.2% in 2022 and 2.7% in 2023. IMF has also expected that inflation in India will come down to 4% range next year.

- 19. Pune based Seva Vikas Co-operative Bank** has been cancelled by RBI with effect from October 10, 2022 due to lack of adequate capital and earning prospects.

**Note:** As per the data submitted by the bank, about 99% of the depositors are entitled to receive the full amount of their deposits from DICGC. RBI has also imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 48 lakh on Kerala State Co-operative Bank Ltd, Thiruvananthapuram for non-compliance of 'Gold Loan - Bullet Repayment'.

- 20. IDBI Bank** has signed an MoU with Vayana Network for end-to-end digitalization services.

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

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

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

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

**Note:** Aim: To strengthen the securitisation sector which plays a vital role in the management of distressed financial assets. RBI has generally requested all ARCs to gradually increase their

minimum net-owned fund to Rs200 crore by the end of March 2024 and Rs300 crore by the end of March 2026.

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

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

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

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

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

**Note:** SALT refers to Supporting Andhra's Learning Transformation. SALT project aims to improve the quality of learning for students in Andhra Pradesh. The SALT is the first project in the school education sector to be funded by the World Bank without any precondition. It is a five-year result-oriented programme, for which World Bank release funds after key goals are achieved.

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

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

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

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

- 28. DCB Bank** has been relaunched Suraksha Fixed Deposit (FD) as a festive treat for customers.  
**Note:** The bank offers higher interest rates and free insurance as well as other benefits on this FD. Free life insurance coverage up to Rs 10 lakh if the value of FD is more than Rs. 10 lakh. Interest rate: 7.10% p.a. No insurance premium will be paid by Suraksha FD customer. No medical evaluation is required for life insurance coverage.
- 29. Global Alliance for Mass Entrepreneurship** had signed an MoU with DAY-National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) to enable financial access for the growth of 10 lakh women entrepreneurs over 3 years.  
**Note:** Aim: To strengthen non-farm livelihoods by building the capacity of women entrepreneurs (WEs). Focus: Building capacity of stakeholders and bankers from public sector banks, digitally-led NBFCs and small finance banks.
- 30.** The Indian Army has signed an MoU with **11 banks** for providing banking facilities to Agniveers on enrollment.  
**Note:** 11 Banks: SBI, PNB, Bank of Baroda, IDBI Bank, ICICI Bank, HDFC Bank, Axis Bank, Yes Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, IDFC First Bank and Bandhan Bank. The features and benefits offered under Agniveer salary package are similar to defence salary package. The banks have also offered soft loans to exiting Agniveers to promote and enhance their entrepreneurial skills.
- 31.** PM Narendra Modi has dedicated **75** digital banking units (DBUs) to the nation to promote financial inclusion.  
**Note:** The ceremony was attended by Union Finance Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman and RBI Governor, Shaktikanta Das via virtual mode. The setting up of 75 DBUs in 75 districts of the country was done to commemorate the 75 years of independence of the country. 11 public sector banks, 12 private sector banks and one small finance bank are participating in the endeavour
- 32. Karnataka Bank** bank has launched a Term Deposit Scheme “KBL Centenary Deposit Scheme” with higher rate of interest.  
**Note:** Aim: To provide an opportunity to bank customers to save and invest for better returns. This deposit will be for a period of 555 days with interest rate of 7.20 % p.a. For Senior Citizens the rate of interest will be 7.60 % p.a. Karnataka Bank MD & CEO: Mahabaleshwara M S; Chairman: P Pradeep Kumar
- 33. Life Insurance Corporation (LIC)** has launched a new scheme 'Dhan Varsha'.  
**Note:** This is a non-linked, non-participating, individual, savings life insurance plan that offers a combination of protection and savings. This is a close ended plan and would be available for sale till March 31, 2023. Premiums can be paid in single (lumpsum) payment mode only. The policy can be surrendered by the policyholder at any time during the policy term.
- 34. SBI General Insurance** company has joined hands with Gupshup to offer a new insurance policy, renew an existing one, intimate claims and more, through WhatsApp.  
**Note:** Customers across the country can buy insurance from SBI General by sending a 'Hi'. The Gupshup's chat bot will guide users through a simple and secure buying process. It also help them to complete the purchase within the WhatsApp chat thread.
- 35. CASHe** has partnered with Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) to provide a 'travel now pay later' (TNPL) payment option on its IRCTC Rail Connect app.  
**Note:** This feature will enable travellers of Indian Railways to book their rail tickets instantly and pay for it later in EMIs, ranging from three to six months. With this option, the booking and paying for rail tickets on the IRCTC travel app, is become easier and hassle-free.
- 36. World Bank** has appointed neutral expert and chairman of the Court of Arbitration regarding the design features of the Kishenganga (330 megawatts) and Ratle (850 megawatts) hydroelectric power plants.  
**Note:** Reason: For disagreements and differences between India and Pakistan over the 1960 Indus Water Treaty (IWT). Michel Lino has been appointed as the Neutral Expert. Sean Murphy has been appointed as Chairman of the Court of Arbitration.
- 37.** The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has imposed monetary penalties of more than ₹392 crore on MakeMyTrip (MMT), Goibibo, and **OYO**.  
**Note:** Reason: For alleged unfair business practices. CCI imposed a fine of ₹223.48 crore on Make My Trip-Goibibo (MMT-Go) and ₹168.88 crore on OYO. CCI was investigating the companies since 2019 following allegations by a hotel body that MMT gave special treatment to Oyo on its platform. While, MMT-Go imposed price parity on hotel partners.
- 38.** Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Irdai) has recently approved the launch of **Bima Sugam** portal for all insurance companies can sell life and non-life insurance on a single platform.  
**Note:** The portal will be operationalised from 1 January 2023. Aggregators like PolicyBazaar, brokers, banks and insurance agents will act as facilitators or bridges to sell insurance policies through Bima Sugam to individuals.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Note:** IPPB will provide lead referral services to Mahindra Finance for passenger vehicles, three-wheeler, tractor and commercial vehicle loan categories. As a pilot, this scheme would launch in the IPPB branches of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh. It is expected to spread across other states over the next four-six months.

**43.** The finance ministry has released the total grant of **Rs 1,764 crore** to Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, and Uttar Pradesh.

**Note:** Andhra Pradesh (Rs 136 crore), Chhattisgarh (Rs 109 crore), Maharashtra (Rs 799 crore) and Uttar Pradesh (Rs 720 crore). The govt has released the grants for Million Plus Cities/Urban Agglomerations (MPC/UAs) of Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh; Durg Bhilainagar and Raipur in Chhattisgarh; Aurangabad, Greater Mumbai, Nagpur, Nashik, Pune and Vasai-Virar City in Maharashtra.

**44.** The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has imposed a penalty of over 1,337 crore rupees on **Google**.

**Note:** Reason: For misusing its dominant position in multiple markets. The Commission has also directed Google to modify its conduct within a defined timeline. Google has leveraged its position in the app store market for Android OS to enter as well as protect its position in non-OS specific web browser market through Google Chrome App.

**45. PhonePe** fintech firm has launched its first green data centre in India, leveraging technologies and solutions from Dell Technologies and NTT.

**Note:** This facility has opened up new opportunities in data management with efficient data security, power efficiency, and cloud solutions. This 4.8-megawatt facility will occupy 13740 sqft at Mahape, Navi Mumbai. It is built and designed with advanced alternative cooling technologies like Direct Contact Liquid Cooling and Liquid Immersion Cooling.

**46. HDFC Securities** has opened its the first-ever women-only Digital Centre (DC) in India.

**Note:** The centre, staffed with a team of women, will serve both male and female investors. The DC will be based in Bengaluru and cater to customers from Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. This closely follows the company's announcement regarding the opening of multiple DCs across India to ease access to services and promote digital adoption.

**47. Karnataka Bank** has bagged National Digital Transformation Awards DX 2022 Awards for best practice in digital transformation under BFSI segment.

**Note:** The award was instituted by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). This award was given in recognition of the "Innovative Excellence" in 'KBL HR NxT - Employee Engagement', 'KBL Operations NxT - Operational Excellence' and 'KBL Customer NxT - Customer Experience'. Bank has launched KBL Vikas in 2017, KBL NxT in 2021.

**48. IndusInd Bank** has raised \$150 million loan from the United States International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) to expand its microfinance portfolio.

**Note:** The main focus of the loan to boost the access to finance for women borrowers, as well as uplifting the livelihoods of these women and their families. The bank will use the proceeds to lend to women borrowers in rural communities of Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, and Bihar. IndusInd Bank MD and CEO: Sumant Kathpalia

**49. Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE)** has launched Electronic Gold Receipt (EGR) on its platform.

**Note:** Aim: Efficient and transparent price discovery of the yellow metal. The EGR was introduced in two new products of 995 and 999 purity and trading will be in multiples of 1 gram



and deliveries in multiples of 10 gram and 100 gram. This platform will lead to greater assurance in the quality of gold supplied, efficient price discovery, and transparency in transacting.

- 50. IRDAI** has set up a committee of 24-member to develop and suggest an affordable and comprehensive cover for the rural population, which will be headed by **Thomas M Devasia, Member (non-life), IRDAI.**

**Note:** While the proposed cover will be a benefit based / parametric structure, called Bima Vistaar. IRDAI has asked committee to develop and suggest constitution and operation of women centric distribution channel to focus on reaching rural areas and recommend regulatory framework.

- 51. CRISIL** has upgraded its long-term rating on the bank facilities and debt instruments of **Muthoot FinCorp** to 'CRISIL AA-'.  
**Note:** It has also upgraded the ratings of Muthoot Microfin Ltd, Muthoot Capital Services Ltd and Muthoot Housing Finance Company Ltd, to A+.

These upgrades are driven by improvement in the capitalisation profile and expected improvement in the earnings profile of MPG. Chairman of Muthoot Pappachan Group: Thomas John Muthoot

- 52. As per the International Monetary Fund (IMF), 4.0%** would be the economic forecasts of Asia for 2022-23.

**Note:** Reason: Global monetary tightening; Rising inflation (due to war in Ukraine); and Sharp slowdown in China The IMF has expected that the growth of China to slow to 3.2% in 2022-23. As per the IMF, the China economy would grow to 4.4% in next year and 4.5% in 2024.

- 53. Odisha** state government has launched a common credit portal SAFAL (Simplified Application for Agricultural Loans) for the welfare of farmers.

**Note:** This credit facility will enable farmers and agri-entrepreneurs to access more than 300 term loan products of over 40 banks. This portal has been integrated with Krushak Odisha and will have access to 70-plus model project reports. It will ease the loan application process and provide benefit to farmers and banks significantly.

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

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

- 55. Indian Bank** has launched six new digital initiatives under 'Project WAVE' to enhance

customer experience through integrated services on its digital platform.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- 59. Nitin Gadkari** rang the opening bell at Bombay Stock Exchange to mark the listing of Non-Convertible Debentures of National Highways Authority of India Infrastructure Investment Trust- NHAI InvIT.

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

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

**Note:** Aim: To increase insurance penetration in rural areas and to provide better deal to customers on service and premium The bank will

market products of LIC through its 639 branches. Bancassurance: Selling life Insurance products through the bank branches.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## 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://IndiaIdeas.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.

**44. SBI** has hit the mark of Rs 5-trillion in market capitalization (market cap) for the first time after its shares touched a record high of Rs 564.45, up 1% on the BSE in intra-day trade in an otherwise weak market.

**Note:** With a market cap of Rs 5.03 trillion, SBI stood at the seventh position in the overall market cap ranking. After, HDFC Bank (market cap of Rs 8.38 trillion) and ICICI Bank (market cap of Rs 6.33 trillion), SBI has become the third lender in the country.

**45. ICICI Lombard** has launched an AI-powered digital voice agent in collaboration with an AI-based SaaS voice automation platform named Skit.ai.

**Note:** Feature: It will assist customers with the status of their insurance claims for health and motor insurance policies. The Digital Voice Agent has already started helping customers to complete the process of receiving updates on the status of their claims in under a minute.

**46. RRBs** are planning to make an initial public offering to raise capital must have at least **Rs 300 crore** of net worth for the previous three years.

**Note:** The government has issued a detailed draft of the guidelines for Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) to raise capital and putting the onus for identifying eligible RRBs on their sponsor banks. They should also have their capital adequacy above the regulatory minimum level of 9%.

**47. As per the Commerce and Industry Ministry data**, what is the wholesale price-based inflation in August 2022 is **12.4%**.

**Note:** Reason: The WPI inflation fell on easing prices of Manufactured products. The Wholesale inflation was at a record high of 15.88% in May 2022 and stood at 11.64% in August 2022. August is the 17th consecutive month of double-digit wholesale price inflation (WPI).

**48. As per the Fitch ratings**, **7%** would be the India's gross domestic product (GDP) growth forecast for 2022-23.

**Note:** Reason: Due to the impact of the global economic slowdown, elevated inflation and tighter monetary policy. The European gas crisis, high inflation and a sharp acceleration in the pace of global monetary policy tightening are taking a heavy toll on economic prospects. The Fitch has predicted the growth to be slowed down to 6.7% in 2023-24 from 7.4%.

**49. Ministry of Corporate Affairs** has revised the threshold for paid up capital of "small companies" to facilitate the Ease of Doing Business and reduce the compliance burden on small companies.

**Note:** Thresholds for paid up capital: Increased from Rs 2 crore to 4 crore. Turnover: Increased from Rs 20 crore to Rs 40 Crore. Benefits: No need to prepare cash flow statement; Advantage of preparing and filing an Abridged Annual Return, etc.

**50. Federal Bank** has become the only Indian bank to be listed by Great Place to Work®, the global authority on workplace culture.

**Note:** The bank has ranked 63 on the Best Workplaces™ in Asia 2022. This recognition is based on confidential survey data assessing employee experiences of trust, innovation, company values and leadership. Companies are also evaluated on how well they are creating For All™ workplace experience, inclusive of all employees irrespective of position

**51. Edelweiss General Insurance (EGI)** has tied up with Chennai-based Repco Home Finance Ltd (RHFL) to offer insurance solutions to the home loan customers of the latter.

**Note:** EGI will offer property insurance cover and loan protection cover to RHFL's customers through their branches spread across India. EGI will offer customized, affordable, and convenient insurance solutions to financially protect loan borrowers.

**52. Monetary Authority of Singapore's** central bank has signed a FinTech Co-operation Agreement with IFSCA to provide regulatory collaboration and partnership in FinTech technology.

**Note:** MAS is Singapore's central bank and integrated financial regulator. IFSCA is a unified authority for the development and regulation of financial products in the International Financial Services Centres in India.

**53. SBI** has collaborated with Remitly to provide safe and simple remittances to India.

**Note:** The collaboration will enable NRIs to send money through SBI via Remitly to their family members by using mobile and web applications. Depending on the form and amount of transfers, Remitly provides superior exchange rates, immediate credits, and no remittance charge. The US Department of Treasury has certified Remitly as a money services firm.

**54. SBI** has extended the deadline to invest in its senior citizen FD scheme, SBI WeCare FD, till **March 31, 2023**.

**Note:** Aim: To secure senior citizens' income by paying additional interest on term deposits. Period of Deposit: 5 to 10 years. Interest Rate: Additional premium of 30 bps (over and above existing premium of 50 bps) over card rate for Public. Interest rate applicable to the FD will be 6.45%. It also provides availability of Loan Facility.

55. RBI has decided to remove **Central Bank of India** from its Prompt Corrective Action Framework (PCAF).

**Note:** Reason: Improvement in various financial ratios, including minimum regulatory capital. PCA norms: It is a supervisory tool and is imposed on banks, when they breach certain regulatory thresholds on capital to risk weighted assets ratio, net NPAs, and return on assets. The RBI imposed PCA norms on the bank in June 2017 due to its high net NPA and negative RoA.

56. **Punjab** state government has received a loan of \$150 million (approx Rs 1,200 crore) from the World Bank to help the state better manage its financial resources and improve access to public services.

**Note:** Punjab at present has a debt of Rs 2.63 lakh crore. The \$150 million loan has a maturity of 15 years including a grace period of 6 months. Punjab government will launch new projects with World Bank's assistance to attain its development goals.

57. CCI has approved the proposed merger of **Jio Cinema OTT** platform with Viacom18 Media to make one of the largest OTT platform.

**Note:** Under this, Jio Cinema OTT app of Reliance will be transferred to Viacom18. In April 2022, RIL and Viacom18 have announced a strategic partnership with Bodhi Tree Systems (BTS). BTS will invest Rs 13,500 crore in Viacom18 while Reliance Projects & Property Management Services will invest Rs 1,645 crore in the broadcaster. BTS is an investment firm of Uday Shankar (ex-chairman of Star).

58. As per the Asian Development Bank (ADB), **7%** would be the India's economic growth rate for 2022-23.

**Note:** Reason: Higher inflation and monetary tightening. The economy of India has been grew 13.5% year-on-year (Y-o-Y) in the first quarter of 2022-23, that shows strong growth in services. Report: Second supplement to Asian Development Outlook Report 2022.

59. Kotak Mahindra Bank and **the Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IITM)** have jointly launched the 'Save Energy Mission' to encourage adoption of various energy conservation measures in the micro, small and medium enterprises sector.

**Note:** Under the CSR initiative of Kotak Mahindra Bank, satellite centres would be set up at IIT-Bombay, IIT-Gandhinagar, IIT-Indore, IIT-Ropar. While the hub of Save Energy Mission would be at the IIT-Madras campus in Chennai.

60. Maharashtra -based **Laxmi Co-operative Bank** license has been canceled by the RB due to lack of adequate capital.

**Note:** Claim: Every depositor would be entitled to receive a deposit insurance claim amount up to 5 lakh rupees. The Commissioner for Cooperation and Registrar of Cooperative Societies (Maharashtra) has also been asked to wind up the business and appoint a liquidator for the bank. As per the data, 99% of the depositors are entitled to receive the full amount of DICGC.

61. **₹3,000 crore (\$380m)** amount has been invested by the Japanese MUFG Bank to boost the capital of its branches within India.

**Note:** Reason: As the bank looks to expand its India business. Impact: It will strengthen its financial base in India and better respond to the diverse financing needs of its clients. With this capital injection, the total capital of MUFG Bank in India will rise to ₹5,207 crore. The bank has already expanded its presence by opening a branch at Gujarat International Finance TecCity.

62. **TerraPay** dutch based paymet platform has partnered with NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL), the international arm of National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) to allow Indian customers and merchants with an active UPI ID to make and accept cross-border payments.

**Note:** Both organisations are intend to fortify UPI payments & QR solutions to extract their maximum potential. The partnership will further increase the use of UPI and QR for cross-border merchant payments.

63. **Bharat Vidya** is the name of an online platform for Oriental and South Asian Studies that has been launched by Nirmala Sitaraman.

**Note:** This platform is designed and developed by the Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute (BORI). This is a first-of-its-kind online platform that offer both free and paid courses covering various aspects of Indology about art, architecture, philosophy, language, and science. BORI will collaborate with Indian and Foreign universities for awarding credits for its courses.

64. **UCO Bank** has received the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI's) approval to open a special vostro account with Gazprombank of Russia for trade settlement in Indian rupees.

**Note:** This is the first bank to receive RBI's approval after the RBI's decision to allow Indian banks to settle trade in Indian currency in July. Gazprombank of Russia was set up by world's largest gas producer and exporter Gazprom. Aim: To provide banking services for gas industry enterprises

65. SEBI has allowed emerging investment vehicles, Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT) and Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT), to issue **commercial papers**.

**Note:** Reason: In August 2022, RBI has indicated that InvIT and REIT having net worth of at least Rs 100 crore are eligible to issue commercial paper. Condition: They need to abide by the guidelines prescribed by RBI

for issuances of commercial papers and follow the conditions of listing norms prescribed by Sebi.

- 66.** The World Bank has approved **USD 350 million** loan to Gujarat for Systems Reform Endeavors for Transformed Health Achievement in Gujarat (SRESTHA-G).  
**Note:** Reason: For augmenting health services with primary focus on adolescent girls and disease surveillance in the state. Funded by: International Bank of Reconstruction and Development (IBRD). Maturity: 18 years (including a grace period of 5.5 years)
- 67.** In September 2022, RBI has felicitated the bankers of the district to **Leh district** for achieving 100% digitization of banking operations.  
**Note:** Digital Banking: It refers to the electronic banking service provided by a bank for its financial and other transactions through electronic devices online. In 2019, RBI has proposed to make at least one district of every state in the country have 100% digitization of banking operations. First fully digital banking district of India: Thrissur, Kerala
- 68.** As per the S&P Global Ratings, **7.3%** would be the economic growth projection of India for 2022-23.  
**Note:** S&P has also predicted that inflation is likely to remain above the Reserve Bank of India's upper tolerance threshold of 6% till the end of 2022. Reason: The external environment has soured for economies in the region and higher global interest rates will exert pressure on central banks. While, OECD has projected India's GDP growth rate 6.9% for FY23.
- 69. Union Bank of India** has inaugurated 'Ethical Hacking Lab' at the Cyber security Centre of Excellence (CCoE) in Hyderabad.  
**Note:** Aim: To build cyber defence mechanism to safeguard the Bank's Information Systems, Digital Assets, Channels etc against potential cyber threats. The Ethical Hacking Lab was inaugurated by Ms. A. Manimekhalai (MD & CEO, Union Bank of India). Union Bank is adopting various new initiatives to increase Digital Footprints.
- 70. Asian Development Bank (ADB)** has announced plans to provide at least \$14 billion to Asia-Pacific for 2022-2025.  
**Note:** Reason: To ease a worsening food crisis and improve long-term food security by strengthening food systems due to climate change. Use of fund: The funding will be channeled through existing and new projects in sectors including farm inputs, food production and distribution, social protection, irrigation, and water resources management.
- 71. BSE** has received the final approval from SEBI for introducing the Electronic Gold Receipts (EGRs) on its platform.  
**Note:** Earlier, SEBI has proposed a regulatory framework for setting up a gold exchange. Aim: To help in having a transparent domestic spot price discovery mechanism. EGRs: The instruments representing gold is known as EGRs It will be notified as securities, with trading, clearing and settlement features similar to other securities that are available in India
- 72.** The govt will launch a fund of **\$1 billion** in collaboration with World Bank and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI).  
**Note:** Aim: To provide guarantees against loan default to lenders financing purchase of 2/3 wheelers EV and facilitate faster and easier financing of EVs. The NITI Aayog will be the facilitating agency of the project. Initially a \$300 million fund will be used as a "first loss risk sharing instrument." Implementing institution: SIDBI
- 73.** In September 2022, Yubi (earlier, CredAvenue) has joined hands with **State Bank of India (SBI)** to provide growth in co-lending portfolio of bank.  
**Note:** Yubi Co.Lend is a co-lending marketplace, that facilitate lenders to collaborate with multiple partners and disburse joint loans to the priority sector. Yubi is a unified credit platform with a comprehensive product suite catering to all stages of the debt lifecycle. Founder and CEO, Yubi: Gaurav Kumar
- 74.** In September 2022, **Samsung** has partnered with the Axis Bank to launch a co-branded credit card, that is powered by Visa.  
**Note:** Benefits: Consumers will get 10% cashback across all Samsung products and services round the year. Variants: Visa Signature and Visa Infinite. Signature variant: Cardholders can avail up to ₹10,000 cashback annually, with a monthly cashback limit of ₹2,500. Infinite variant: Cardholders can avail up to ₹20,000 cashback annually, with a monthly cashback limit of ₹5,000
- 75.** As per the World Bank, **3.2%** would be the expected growth in the East Asia and Pacific region for 2022.  
**Note:** The previous year growth of East Asia and Pacific region was 7.2%. Due to sharp slowdown in China that caused by its strict zero-COVID rules. China strict rules have disrupted industrial production, domestic sales and exports. Interest rate hikes that central banks across the world are undertaking to combat soaring inflation.
- 76. Bank of Baroda** has launched a festive campaign named "Khushiyon ka Tyohaar" with a range of offers for customers.  
**Note:** BoB Home Loans are available at a competitive interest rate beginning at 7.95% p.a. with no processing charges. BoB Car Loans are being offered at a special rate starting from 7.95% p.a. – a 25 basis points concession. Other benefits: No pre-payment/part payment charges, concessional processing charges, and longer repayment tenure of seven years.
- 77. 5.9%** is the revised repo rate after the hike of repo rate by a half percent by Reserve Bank of India (RBI).  
**Note:** Accordingly, Standing Deposit Facility stands adjusted to 5.65%, and Marginal Standing Facility and



Bank rate stand adjusted to 6.15%. Since May 2022, the RBI has raised the repo rate by 190 basis points. The Real GDP for 2022-23 is projected to grow at 7.0%. The RBI has retained its inflation projection at 6.7 per cent for this fiscal year. India's foreign exchange reserves: \$537.5 billion

**78. DBS Bank (India)** has collaboration with HDFC ERGO General Insurance Co Ltd and reinsured by Atradius (trade credit insurance provider) to provide Credit Insurance - Accounts Receivable solution to Tata Metaliks.

**Note:** This credit insurance deal is amongst the first to leverage Trade Credit Insurance. The revised

framework was rolled out by IRDAI in November 2021, that allow banks to participate in this proposition.

**79.** The Cabinet has increased the dearness allowance (DA) and dearness relief by 4%, effective from **July 1, 2022.**

**Note:** The additional instalment of DA and dearness relief (DR) is an increase of 4% over the existing rate of 34% of basic pay/pension. The combined impact on the exchequer on account of both DA and DR would be Rs 12,852.5 crore p.a. The increase in the DA and DR is based on the percentage increase in 12 monthly average of All India CPI for the period ending June, 2022.

## 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** - Domestically 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

### December 2022

1. A book titled, 'The Chipko Movement: A People's History' has won 2022 Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay NIF Book Prize. **Shekhar Pathak** is the writer of this book. **Note:** This book was translated from Hindi by Manisha Chaudhry and published by Permanent Black & Ashoka University. Prize: Rs 15 lakh, a trophy and citation. The fifth edition of this award was instituted by the New India Foundation in 2018 to recognise powerful works of non-fiction about contemporary India.
2. 'Miracles of Face Yoga' book has been released recently, this book is authored by **Mansi Gulati (Founder of Manasvani)**. **Note:** This book was appreciated by the President of India Droupadi Murmu. Mansi Gulati, an international Yogi, celebrated author, and thought leader, devoted her efforts to learning everything possible about yoga practices and philosophy.
3. **Air Marshal PV Iyer (retd.)** has launched his book 'Fit At Any Age' at India International Centre, New Delhi. **Note:** He has penned his journey to fitness in the book and shared anecdotes from his life to explain how he became motivated to work out daily. The book, published by Bloomsbury India.
4. A book titled "Forks in the Road: My Days at RBI and Beyond" has been authored by former governor of RBI **C Rangarajan**. **Note:** It was published by the Penguin Business (Penguin Group). The book is the memoir of Dr C. Rangarajan, an Indian economist, a former Member of Parliament, and the 19th Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The book is divided into 3 parts. Part 1- 'RBI and Planning Commission', Part 2- 'Governor of RBI' and Part 3- 'Beyond RBI'

### November 2022

1. **Rene Naba (French)** is an author of book "De la Nucléarisation de l'Asie" (Nuclearization of Asia). **Note:** The book is bilingual book, and will be available in both French and English. The book discusses the nuclear emergency and threat posed by the nexus of Pakistan and China. The book was published by Golias.
2. **Nirmala James** has authored the new book title "E. K. Janaki Ammal: Life and Scientific Contributions". **Note:** The book was published by Enview Research and Development. It was released during the event organised on the 125th birth anniversary of E. K. Janaki Ammal. She was born on 4th November 1897 in Thalassery, Kerala. E. K. Janaki Ammal is the India's first woman botanist.

- 3. Subodh** first edition was launched by the National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) vigilance department.  
**Note:** Aim: To reinforce the NMDC's commitment to fostering honesty and transparency among all stakeholders. The magazine was released by NMDC CMD, Sumit Deb. It was released in the presence of Director (Finance) Amitava Mukherjee, Director (Production) Dilip Kumar Mohanty.
- 4. Simon Sebag Montefiore** is the author of the book titled, 'The World: A Family History'.  
**Note:** The book will be published by Hachette India. This book tells the story of humanity from prehistory to the present day. Through this book, the author takes the readers on an epic journey through the families that have shaped the world, including the Caesars, Medicis, Incas, Ottomans, Mughals, Bonapartes.
- 5. The book titled "The Light We Carry"** is authored by Michelle Obama, was released in November 2022.  
**Note:** This book is a collection of practices and perspectives to deal with challenging times. The book will be published simultaneously in 14 languages and 27 countries around the world. Her memoir, "Becoming" was one of the best-selling books of all time, that was released in 2018.
- 6. Gautam Borah** is the author of the book titled, 'Nalanada – Until we meet again'.  
**Note:** It was launched by legendary writer Ruskin Bond. The book is a gripping story of romance, vengeance, and an age-old mystery.
- 7. Dharmendra Pradhan** (Union Education & Skill Development Minister) has released the new book title, 'India: The Mother of Democracy', this book was published by **Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR)**.  
**Note:** The event was also attended by Prof. Raghuvendra Tanwar, (Chairperson, ICHR) and Prof. Umesh Ashok Kadam (Member Secretary, ICHR). The book is an attempt to showcase the democratic ethos ingrained in India since the dawn of civilisation.

### October 2022

- 1. Tagore & Gandhi: Walking Alone, Walking Together** has won the best books of the year at the 2022 'Valley of Words Book Awards', was written by **Rudrangshu Mukherjee**.  
**Note:** Anees Salim's 'The Odd Book of Baby Names' and Neelakshi Singh's 'Khela' were adjudged the best in English and Hindi, respectively, in the fiction category. The PFC-VoW Book Awards is considered one of the most comprehensive independent literary award programmes in India.
- 2. The book titled "The Last Heroes"** that is scheduled to release on November 21, 2022, has been authored by **P Sainath**.  
**Note:** The book has been published by the Penguin Random House India (PRHI). This book is an attempt to recognition those freedom fighter stories, who are truly deserve, but were never granted. He is also an author of the acclaimed book, 'Everybody Loves a Good Drought'. P Sainath was awarded the 2007 Ramon Magsaysay Award.
- 3. External Affairs Minister, Dr S Jaishankar** has participated in the Kiwi Indian Hall of Fame Awards 2022, where he launched the book **Modi@20: Dreams Meet Delivery** in Auckland.  
**Note:** The event was also attended by the New Zealand Prime Minister, Jacinda Ardern. The event felicitated members of the Indian community in New Zealand for their exceptional achievements and contributions. The book originally launched on 11th May 2022.
- 4. Odisha CM, Naveen Patnaik** has released a book titled 'Pandemic Disruptions and Odisha's Lessons in Governance'.  
**Note:** This book was written by Rajya Sabha MP, Amar Patnaik. The book is a collection of the various essays on pertinent contemporary issues that emerged in India during the pandemic years of 2020-21 and 2021-2022. The book also highlights the achievements of Odisha's 5-T framework of governance. 5-T: Team work, technology, transparency, transformation and time limit
- 5. A book titled 'The Philosophy of Modern Song'**, written by **Bob Dylan**.  
**Note:** The book will be published by Simon and Schuster. This book is a collection of essays, is his first book of new writing since 2004, when he released 'Chronicles, Volume One.' He was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 2016 for having created new poetic expressions within the great American song tradition.
- 6. A new book "The Corbett Papers"** has been co-edited by educator Akshay Shah and **Stephen Alter**.  
**Note:** This book was published by Hachette India. This book has brought together lesser known parts of Jim Corbett's life through unpublished letters, documents and a privately-published book

### September 2022

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- Former President Ram Nath Kovind** has released a book titled "Ambedkar and Modi: Reformer's Ideas Performer's Implementation" in New Delhi.  
**Note:** It illustrates life, works and achievements of Dr. B.R Ambedkar and presents a convergence between the ideals of Dr. Ambedkar and New India's development journey. It has been compiled in 12 chapters by Bluekraft Digital Foundation and has a foreword by music composer and Rajya Sabha member Ilaiyaraaja.
- Noted Film Actor, Manoj Bajpayee has released a book titled Muskurate Chand Lamhe aur Kuchh Khamoshiyan, was authored by **Jiwesh Nandan**.  
**Note:** The book has been released in presence of Information and Broadcasting Secretary Apurva Chandra in New Delhi. The book offers a collection of poems. The book has been published by Shobit Arya, the founder and publisher of Wisdom Tree, an Indian publishing organisation.
- The book titled, She Is-Women in STEAM, has been unveiled by Prof. Ajay Sood (Principal Scientific Adviser to GoI) and Alex Ellis (British High Commissioner), was compiled by **ElsaMarie D'Silva**.  
**Note:** The book has honoured 75 women in STEAM (fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) celebrating gender, leadership, and sustainable development in the fields of STEAM. The book has been illustrated by Supreet K Singh.
- Former VP, Venkaiah Naidu** has released a book titled "Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas Sabka Vishwas" at Akashvani Bhawan in New Delhi.  
**Note:** The book was released in the presence of Kerala Governor, Arif Mohammad Khan at an event, organised by Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. The book is a collection of PM Modi selected speeches between May 2019 and May 2020. The book focuses on 86 speeches of PM on various subjects. The book was published in Hindi and English.
- Ira Pande** has translated the award-winning book "Lata: Sur-Gatha" in English that will be released in January 2023.  
**Note:** The announcement has been made by Penguin Random House India (PRHI). This book was originally written in Hindi by writer-poet, Yatindra Mishra. The book has also won the 64th National Film Award and the MAMI Award for Best Writing on Cinema (2016-17).

## Agreement & Deals

(1st -31st December 2023)

### 1. Cyprus, India inks 3 agreement while S. Jaishankar visits Nicosia

**Note:** At a joint news conference held in Nicosia, Cyprus, Foreign Minister of Cyprus Ioannis Kasoulides and External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar signed three important agreements.

The two ministers had fruitful conversations during Jaishankar's first official visit to Cyprus about bilateral relations, multilateral cooperation, geopolitical and regional problems, the Indo-Pacific issue, the Middle East, Europe, and India's relationship with the European Union.



**2. Tata Steel, TuTr Hyperloop collaborate for developing hyperloop technology**

**Note:** In December 2022, Tata Steel and TuTr Hyperloop signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) at IIT Madras to collaborate on the development and wide-scale use of Hyperloop technology. The primary study topics will concentrate on the most important design and material selection problems. A high-speed, affordable, sustainable option for transportation of both people and goods is the hyperloop. Key components of the hyperloop system include tubes, capsules, propulsion systems, and track. Levitated autonomous pods move through a system of evacuated tubes. It promises to be 10 times more energy-efficient than rail and road transportation, utilise 2/3 times less area, and offer quicker journey times than flight.

**3. Power ministry, DRDO Ink Pact to Install Early Warning Systems for Power Stations**

**Note:** The Ministry of Power announced that it has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) to implement an early warning system for vulnerable hydro projects and power stations in hilly regions. The MoU was signed by Alok Kumar, Secretary at the Ministry of Power, and Dr Samir V Kamat, Secretary of the Department of Defence (R&D) and Chairman of DRDO.

**4. Zeliangrong United Front Signs a Peace Agreement with Central and Manipur Government**

**Note:** The Centre signed a peace agreement with a Manipur insurgent group, which agreed to give up violence and join the peaceful democratic process. The tripartite agreement was signed by the central and Manipur governments and the Zeliangrong United Front (ZUF) rebel group which mostly operated in Manipur. The agreement was signed by senior home ministry officials and the government of Manipur and the representatives of ZUF in presence of Chief Minister N Biren Singh.

**5. NTPC and Tecnimont Signed MOU for Green Methanol Project**

**Note:** NTPC signed a non-binding Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Tecnimont Private Limited, the Indian subsidiary of Maire Tecnimont Group, Italy. NTPC is India's largest power generation company. The objective of the MoU is to jointly evaluate and explore the possibility to develop a commercial-scale Green Methanol

production facility at the NTPC project in India. The Green Methanol Project involves capturing carbon from NTPC power plants and converting it into green fuel. Green Methanol has a wide range of applications including serving as a base material for the Chemical industry, storing renewable electricity, and transportation fuel.

**6. Atal Incubation Centre (AIC) Signs Agreements with MSMEs**

**Note:** Atal Incubation Centre (AIC) at the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) signed agreements with MSMEs for incubation of newer technologies into commercial products. The agreements were signed to commemorate the launch of the AIC at the BARC to hasten conversion of products from research labs to the market. The incubation agreements are signed specifically for technologies aligned with India's global commitments of achieving Net Zero (carbon neutrality) such as access to safe drinking water, and growth of potential import substitutes for advanced and affordable healthcare in the country. The technologies include Alkaline Water Electrolyser for Green Hydrogen production, DC Accelerator for Wastewater Treatment, novel Gamma Monitoring, and X-Band LINAC-based X-ray source for radiotherapy machines.

**7. Airbnb Signs MoU with Goa Govt to Promote Inclusive Tourism**

**Note:** Airbnb signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Department of Tourism, Government of Goa, to jointly promote Goa as one of the most sought-after high potential tourism destinations in India and around the world. This partnership is aimed at encouraging travel to unique destinations that are lesser-known and enabling economically regenerative community-led tourism in the state. On the sidelines of the official launch of 'Rediscover Goa', a week-long celebration of Goa's vast cultural diversity beyond its beaches and dazzling nightlife, **Airbnb and Goa Tourism Department** have joined hands to scale homestay capacity across the state, and provide support to Goan homestay Hosts in delivering quality tourism experiences to guests, both domestic and international.

**8. AIIA Inks Agreements with International Institutions for Promoting Ayurveda**

**Note:** In a bid to promote Ayurveda across continents, the All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the University

of Medical Sciences, Cuba, and extended the agreement with Rosenberg European Academy of Ayurveda (REAA), Germany, for five more years to take forward collaborative programmes. The agreements were signed on the sidelines of the **9th World Ayurveda Congress** and Arogya Expo. The MoU with **Havana-based University of Medical Sciences** was signed between Cuban Ambassador to India Alejandro Simancas Marin and Dr Tanuja M Nesari, the director of AIIA.

#### 9. IIT Ropar, Army Training Command sign MoU to set up Centre of Excellence

**Note:** Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Ropar and the Army Training Command (ARTRAC) of the Indian Army has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for setting up a centre of excellence for studies and applied research in defence and security at the premier institute. The MoU was signed by **Rajeev Ahuja, director, IIT Ropar** and **Lt Gen SS Mahal**, General Officer Commanding –in-Chief of the ARTRAC. IIT Ropar will also **curate training programmes** as exchange of information on educational programmes for security practitioners of the armed forces, Central Armed Police Forces, intelligence agencies and state police forces run by it as part of its on-campus and off-campus programmes on research and innovation

#### 10. NSIC Signs MoU with Walmart

**Note:** A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between The National Small Industries Corporation Ltd. and Walmart Global Sourcing India Private Limited, to facilitate services to MSMEs in Walmart Vriddhi program. Through this MoU, NSIC will be able to extend the NSIC schemes and other services to MSMEs which would participate in various Vriddhi programs. Moreover, the MSMEs would get the exposure to various advantages of gaining working capital, bulk procurement support etc. under various opportunities offered by NSIC.

#### 11. Airtel and Meta collaborate to accelerate India's digital ecosystem

**Note:** The telecom major Airtel has announced that it has collaborated with Meta Platforms, Inc. (Meta) to support the growth of India's digital ecosystem. The announcement comes on the back of telecom operators' demand to share revenue with service providers to build networks. Airtel is currently conducting trials for 4G and 5G Open RAN solutions on select sites in the state of Haryana and will commercially deploy the solution across several locations in India over the next few quarters. Airtel will share its learnings with wider ecosystem partners within the TIP community, including Meta, to help accelerate the deployment of Open RAN based networks across the world.

#### 12. India, Germany sign Migration and Mobility Agreement

**Note:** External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Germany's foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock signed a comprehensive migration and mobility partnership, which will facilitate easier access for people to study, research and work in both countries. The deal which aims at facilitating two-way movement of students, professionals and researchers, is also set to address the challenges of illegal migration. German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock is in India on a two-days visit, during which she will discuss the cooperation on the transition to renewable energy and India's relationship with Russia and China

#### 13. BIS signed MoU with top six Engineering Institutes of India

**Note:** The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the top six engineering institutes of India for introducing Indian standards as an integral part of the curriculum. This initiative is towards institutionalizing engagement of BIS with eminent institutes to secure active participation of academia.

### November 2022

#### 1. India and EU Sign Agreement for Cooperation in High-Performance Computing

**Note:** India's Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY), and the Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology (DG CONNECT), European Commission signed an "Intent of Cooperation on High Performance Computing (HPC),

Weather Extremes & Climate Modeling and Quantum Technologies". The agreement builds on commitments by both sides for deepening technological cooperation on quantum and high-performance computing during the India-EU leaders meeting on May 8. "Moreover, the signing of the agreement assumes significance in the

context of the decision to set up EU India Trade and Technology Council (TTC)" on April 25.

**2. National Museum and Kolding Museum signs Memorandum of Understanding**

**Note:** Museum Kolding and the National Museum in New Delhi will open the joint exhibition "Silver treasures from Denmark and India" at the beginning of March 2023. An MoU of the exhibition was signed and exchanged between the National Museum, New Delhi, India, and the Museum Kolding, Kolding, in New Delhi. The exhibition will showcase the finest of the silver collection from the Museum Kolding and the National Museum in New Delhi in March 2023. The collaboration and exhibition are under the recently agreed cultural exchange program between India and Denmark for the years 2022 to 2026.

**3. Bharat Electronics, DMRC Inks MoU to Jointly Develop i-CBTC**

**Note:** Bharat Electronics signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) for jointly developing the Indigenous Communication-based Train Control System (i-CBTC), an important milestone in India's journey towards self-reliance in Rail and Metro operations. i-CBTC, being indigenously developed for the first time in India, will enable unmanned operations of metro and trains. It is a big leap forward in the field of metro and rail automation and will give a boost to the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' mission of the Government of India. The project is being carried out under the ambit of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India. The MoU aims at leveraging the complementary strengths and capabilities of BEL and DMRC.

**4. Bihar Govt Signed Agreement with ICCR to Showcase Its Soft Power to World**

**Note:** The Bihar government will sign an MoU with the Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR) to help artists from the state, handicrafts and several other ethnic arts to get international exposure. The **Art and Culture Department of the state government** will sign a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with the **Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR)** in this regard. The department is now preparing a **calendar of live art and heritage performances** to be held worldwide in the coming months after this MoU.

**5. India and Finland Agrees to Enhance Cooperation in Digital Partnership**

**Note:** India And Finland agree to carry mutual cooperation between the two countries to a new level and enhance partnership in areas such as digital partnership in Future ICT, Future Mobile

Technologies and Digital Education. The decision was taken during a meeting between Finland's Minister of Education and Culture Petri Honkonen and Minister of Science and Technology Jitendra Singh at North Block in New Delhi. He was accompanied by a high level delegation which later held a separate meeting with the Indian delegation in the presence of the two Ministers. Honkonen's visit comes in the wake of the announcement made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Finnish counterpart Sanna Marin during a Summit meeting on 16 March last year.

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**8. Centre Approves BSNL Rs 26,821 Crore 4G Deal with TCS**

**Note:** Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd (BSNL) received a nod from Central Government to go ahead with Rs 26,821 crore deal with Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) paving its way to launch 4G services in India. TCS is ready to set up the 4G lines and maintain the network for nine years. BSNL will give Rs 10,000 crore worth of purchase orders to TCS soon. The state-run telco will aim to launch its 4G services by December 2022 or January 2023.

**9. MoRD signs MoU with Veddis Foundation under DAY-NRLM**

**Note:** The Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) has signed an MoU with Veddis Foundation to support the setting up of effective governance systems under

the DAY-NRLM. The DAY-NRLM stands for Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihood Mission. The partnership with MoRD and Veddis Foundation for three years is non-financial in nature.

**10. NIIFL Signed An Agreement with JBIC to Boost Japanese Investments in India**

**Note:** National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIFL) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) to promote and enhance Japanese investments into India. The MoU outlines a partnership framework between **NIIFL and JBIC** which is considering the establishment of a bilateral **India-Japan Fund (IJF)**. JBIC and the Government of India will invest in the India-Japan Fund, which will make equity investments in environmental preservation and low carbon emission strategies.”

**11. TATA Power and the Indian Army collaborate to install EV charging stations**

**Note:** TATA Power and the Indian Army collaborate: The Indian Army collaborated with Tata

Powers to install 16 EV charging stations, in accordance with its “Go Green Initiative.” In several areas of Delhi Cantonment, charging stations have been installed. Lt Gen Dhiraj Seth, General Officer Commanding Delhi Area, officially opened the installation of charging stations in cooperation with the nation’s largest integrated utility in the presence of army authorities and senior TATA Power and TATA Motors executives.

**12. Dharmendra Pradhan signs MoU with FIFA and AIFF for Football4Schools**

**Note:** Union Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurial Minister Shri Dharmendra Pradhan signed an MoU with FIFA and the All India Football Federation for the ‘Football4Schools’ initiative in India. FIFA President, Mr. Gianni Infantino, and President, of All India Football Federation, Shri Kalyan Chaubey signed MoU on behalf of the respective organizations.

**October 2022**

**1. Retail jewellery major Malabar becomes 1st Indian jeweller to import 25 kg gold from UAE**

**Note:** Retail jewellery major **Malabar Gold and Diamonds** has become the first jeweller in India to import 25 kg gold under the **Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)** between India and the UAE. The gold has been imported through ICICI Bank with one per cent duty rebate under the agreement. The group has effectively utilised the duty benefits of the agreement both in import and export for the first time in India. The Company has also been among the first few jewellers to receive permission to export jewellery to the UAE with tax concessions under this agreement in May 2022.

**2. Google partners with Assam Government to power digitalised learning**

**Note: Google partners with Assam Government:** In order to help and expedite the Assam government’s objective to foster digital growth and development in the State, Google inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). As part of this new initiative, Google will work with the **Assam Government’s Skill, Employment & Entrepreneurship Department (SEED)** to strengthen school digitization efforts with digital tools and solutions to support teaching and learning, as well as to promote the fundamentals of online safety and digital citizenship to schoolchildren through the “Be Internet Awesome” programme.

**3. Arya.ag and FWFB India partner with UNDP to implement Project Excel**

**Note:** Arya.ag and FWFB India partner with UNDP: Project Excel is being implemented in the Gujarati districts of Jamnagar and Dwaraka Devbhumi by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in collaboration with the integrated grain commerce platform Arya.ag and Friends of Women’s World Banking India (FWWB India). It aims to increase the incomes of 10,000 farmer households through the promotion of small businesses, intervention in the agri-value chain, and skill development in the agricultural industry.

**4. ICC tie-up with UNICEF to promote gender equality**

**Note: The International Cricket Council (ICC) and UNICEF** have launched a global partnership to empower women and girls and promote inclusion and gender equality through cricket. The initiatives to drive greater gender equity along with advocacy campaigns involving some of the world’s best players will form the basis of the partnership, which aims to mobilise the “**power of cricket to driving positive social change**”.

**5. BHEL signed an MoU with CIL & NLCIL for Coal Gasification**

**Note:** Bharat Heavy Electricals (BHEL) signed MoU with Coal India (CIL) and NLC India for setting up



Coal Gasification based plants. BHEL rose 2.56% to Rs 62.20 after the company clarified it has entered into a non-binding MoU with CIL and NLCIL. With this, the company aims to set up a Coal Ammonium Nitrate Project with CIL based on the Gasification of high-ash Indian coal, and a lignite-based gasification pilot plant with NLCIL for power generation. The state-run BHEL is engaged in designing, engineering, constructing, Testing, commissioning, and servicing a wide range of products and services to the core sector of the economy.

**6. Tata Power partnered with 75F Smart Innovations for energy-efficiency solutions**

**Note:** Tata Power Trading Company (TPTCL) has signed an agreement with 75F Smart Innovation India to jointly promote automation and energy efficiency solutions in the commercial building space. This will include industry verticals like IT/ITeS, BFSI hospitality, healthcare, education, government, and retail. The collaboration of TPTCL and 75F will offer solutions in the space of HVAC optimization and smart building automation powered by the finest technology like cloud, IoT, and AI.

**7. Ashok Leyland, IIT Madras tie up to develop hybrid EVS Using Turbine Tech**

**Note:** Ashok Leyland has joined hands with researchers at the National Centre for Combustion Research and Development (NCCRD) for the development and commercialization of a 'swirl mesh lean direct injection (LDI) system' for developing hybrid electrical vehicles using turbine technology. Ashok Leyland is a flagship company of the Hinduja group and a leading commercial vehicle manufacturer. NCCRD is an arm of the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras.

**8. Haryana Govt and Dubai ink an MoU for Economic Cooperation**

**Note:** Haryana Govt and Dubai ink an MoU: The government of Dubai has sealed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Govt. of Haryana for collaboration in a variety of economic activities for the Haryana Govt. Under the terms of the MoU, the Government of Dubai shall identify a suitable entity to assist with identifying the potential areas of collaboration.

**9. India-US Announce Launch of New Energy Storage Task Force**

**Note:** India and US announced the launch of a new energy task force to support the large-scale integration of renewable energy needed to support

the clean energy transition. The announcement will strengthen the India-US partnership in the critical energy sector to new levels. There was also a bilateral meeting between Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri and US Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm, after which the announcement was made.

**10. India and Japan signed an MoU to develop scientific collaboration for Indian Ayurveda**

**Note:** India and Japan signed an MoU: The National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST), Japan, and the All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The MoU aims to increase academic institutions' technical capabilities and capacities.

**11. NSIC and Utkarsh Small Finance Bank signs MoU**

**Note:** NSIC and Utkarsh Small Finance Bank signs MoU: The National Small Industries Corporation Ltd. (NSIC), a Government of India Enterprise under the Ministry of MSME, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Utkarsh Small Finance Bank. This Memorandum of Understanding with the banks intends to assist MSMEs with their lending needs.

**12. India-New Zealand Navies sign pact on White Shipping Information Exchange**

**Note:** India-New Zealand Navies sign pact: The Royal New Zealand navy and the Indian navy have signed a contract on the exchange of White Shipping Information Exchange. Chief of Naval Staff, Admiral R. Hari Kumar and New Zealand Navy Chief Rear Admiral David Proctor signed the contract. In order to encourage more openness in the Maritime Domain, the agreement was signed.

**13. Historic MoU Signed to launch India's Rupay debit card in Oman**

**Note:** National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and Central Financial institution Of Oman signed a historic MoU to launch the Rupay debit card in Oman, paving the best way for a brand new period of monetary connectivity.

**14. India signed an agreement with Armenia to export missiles, rockets & ammunition**

**Note:** India will export missiles, rockets, and ammunition to Armenia after the recent clashes between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The missiles will also include Indigenous Pinaka Multi-Barrel Rocket Launcher. India has signed this deal with Armenia to help them to depend on the country against their neighboring country Azerbaijan.

## September 2022

### 1. Air India Signs Agreement With Willis Lease For Aircraft Engines

**Note:** Air India announced that it has signed a definitive sale and lease back agreement with **Nasdaq-listed Willis Lease Finance Corporation** for 34 CFM56-5B engines installed on its **Airbus A320 family fleet**. According to the company statement, the engines will be covered under Willis Lease's ConstantThrust, which will deliver significant reliability and cost savings over a traditional **MRO (Maintenance, Repair and Operations)** shop visit programme.

### 2. Royal Society of Chemistry and CSIR collaborate for chemistry in Indian schools

**Note:** Royal Society of Chemistry and CSIR collaborate: A initiative to promote chemical sciences in schools and universities is being supported by a partnership between the Royal Society of Chemistry and the Council for Industry and Scientific Research (CSIR). Throughout 30 CSIR laboratories hosted the RSC's Global Coin experiment, which involved about 2000 students from all over the nation.

### 3. ESSCI partnered with Samsung India to train Indian youth

**Note:** The **Electronics Sector Skill Council of India (ESSCI)** signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with **Samsung India** to empower the youth with industry-relevant skills. It will be a part of the government's '**Skill India**' initiative that aims to empower the youth with industry-relevant skills in emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, the Internet of Things, Big Data and Coding & Programming, in a bid to enhance their employability.

### 7. 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."

The MoU was exchanged by Ken Kang, President and CEO of Samsung Southwest Asia, and Abhilasha Gaur, COO, ESSCI.

### 4. Hero MotoCorp tie-up with HPCL to set up EV charging infrastructure

**Note:** Hero MotoCorp has joined hands with Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd to set up charging infrastructure for electric two-wheelers in the country. As a part of the initiative, the two companies will first establish charging infrastructure at Hindustan Petroleum Corporation's (HPCL) existing network of stations, with the likelihood of subsequently broadening the collaboration for supplementary business opportunities.

### 5. India, Egypt sign MoU to bolster defence cooperation in mutual interest sectors

**Note:** India and Egypt have signed an MoU to bolster defense cooperation and decided to enhance joint military exercises, training, co-production, and maintenance of equipment. The MoU was signed by Defence Ministry of India Rajnath Singh and General Mohamed Zaki from Egypt at a meeting in Cairo.

### 6. Indian Navy signed an MoU with Amity University for Academic Cooperation

**Note:** Amity University Uttar Pradesh signed an MoU with the Indian Navy to form a long-term relationship for Academic cooperation. The MoU between Amity University and Indian Navy will enhance the educational qualifications improving the prospect for 'in-service' appropriate nautical assignment and better placements in superannuation from the Indian Navy.

### 8. 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.

### 9. Vedanta And Foxconn to Invest 1.54 Lakh Crore In Gujarat 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.

#### 10. 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.

#### 11. 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,"

#### 12. 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.

#### 13. 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.

#### 14. 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.

#### 15. 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.

## Obituaries

### December 2022

1. Jiang Zemin, who passed away at 96 due to leukaemia and multiple organ failure, was a former leader of **China**.

**Note:** He was the Communist Party general secretary for 13 years. As the general secretary, he has guided China's rise to global economic power as he welcomed capitalists into the Communist Party.

He had also helped pulling in foreign investment after China joined the WTO.

2. Julia Reichert, who passed away, was a veteran **Documentarian**.

**Note:** She who won an Oscar in 2020 for her feature 'American Factory'. She has received four Academy Award nominations and one win, two Primetime Emmys, a Director's Guild Award and two Peabody

- Awards nods. Her documentaries including: Union Maids, Seeing Red: Stories of American Communists, and The Last Truck: Closing of a GM Plant.
3. Jharana Das, who passed away at the age of 77 due to old age-related ailment, was veteran actress of **Odia** regional cinema.  
**Note:** She was awarded the state government's prestigious Jaydev Puraskar for her lifetime contribution to Odia film industry. Her films - Shree Jagannath, Nari, Adinamegha, Hisabnikas, Pujafula, and Heera Nella. She had also worked as a child artist with AIR, Cuttack. She was also honoured with Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra Award for lifetime achievement in 2016.
  4. Dominique Lapierre, the author of best-selling books like "Freedom at Midnight" and "City of Joy", has passed away. He was associated with **France**.  
**Note:** His notable work: Is Paris Burning?, O Jerusalem!, Five Past Midnight in Bhopal, Freedom at Midnight. In 2008, he was awarded the Padma Bhushan (India's third highest civilian award). He had donated the bulk of his royalties from "City of Joy" to support humanitarian projects in India.
  5. Kumble Sundar Rao, who passed away at the age of 88, was a famous artist of **Yakshagana** dance form.  
**Note:** He was an exponent of Thenkuthittu style of Yakshagana. He had performed as a member of Surathkal, Dharmasthala and Ira Yakshagana Melas. He served as an MLA of Surathkal (present Mangalore City North) constituency from 1994 to 1999. Sundar Rao had served as president of Karnataka State Yakshagana Academy.
  6. Yoginder K Alagh, who passed away, was an eminent **Economist**.  
**Note:** He taught economics at prestigious Indian and foreign universities, including IIM-Calcutta. He was an associate professor at Sardar Patel Institute of Economic and Social Research, Ahmedabad. He has also worked as the vice-chancellor of JNU, Delhi. From 1996-98, he also served as minister of power, planning, and programme and served as a member of Planning Commission.
  7. Manohar Devadoss, who passed away, was a veteran **Artist and writer**.  
**Note:** In his 30s, he was diagnosed with retinitis pigmentosa (a progressive, incurable degenerative eye disease) which leads to total blindness. In 2020, he was honored with the Padma Shri award for his contributions to art. He authored many books such as - A poem to courage, Multiple facets of my Madurai, Mahe and Mano: Challenges, Green Well Years, etc.
  8. Sulochana Chavan, who passed away, was a veteran **Lavani singer**.  
**Note:** She was known as 'Lavani Samradnyi' (Queen of Lavani) for her singing contribution to the art genre. She was awarded the Padma Shri in March 2022. In 2012, she was also awarded the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award. She was honoured with the Lata Mangeshkar Award for the year 2010 instituted by Government of Maharashtra.
  9. Pravrajika Bhaktiprana, who passed away, was a President of **Sri Sarada Math**.  
**Note:** She was born in Calcutta in 1920 as Kalyani Banerjee. In 1950, she has joined Ramakrishna Sarada Mission Matri Bhavan, Tollygunge, as a nurse. She accepted sannyas in 1959. In 1998, she was made the vice-president of Sri Sarada Math and Ramkrishna Sarada Mission and became the fourth president of the order in 2009.
  10. Mirosław Hermaszewski, who passed away, was a first and only astronaut of **Poland**.  
**Note:** He was a part of manned space flight for the USSR on June 27, 1978. Along with Mirosław Hermaszewski, Pyotr Klimuk (Soviet cosmonaut) circled the Earth in the Soyuz 30 spaceship that docked at the Salyut 6 orbital space station. They went around the globe 126 times. He was the 89th human to reach outer space.
  11. A BSF veteran, Bhairon Singh Rathore, who has been passed away, had fought **1971 India-Pakistan War**.  
**Note:** He served in the 14th BSF unit during the war and retired from service in 1987. The BSF veteran's bravery at Rajasthan's Longewala post during the war was portrayed by actor Suniel Shetty in the Bollywood movie 'Border'. He was awarded the Sena Medal in 1972 for his bravery.
  12. Abigail Kinoiki Kekaulike Kawānanakoa, who has been passed away, was a princess of **Hawaii**.  
**Note:** She was born on 23rd April 1926 in Honolulu, Oahu, Territory of Hawaii.
  13. H R Keshava Murthy, who has been passed away, was a great exponent of music form **Gamaka**.  
**Note:** He training in music from his father and later from Venkateshaiah. He was honoured with Shantala Natya Sri Award by the Government of Karnataka in 1998 and Padma Shri in 2022 by the Government of India in the field of arts. Gamaka: It is a form of storytelling by singing that originated in Karnataka, India.
  14. Veteran actor, Kaikala Satyanarayana, who passed away, was an actor of **Telugu** regional cinema.  
**Note:** He was honoured with the several awards including Raghupati Venkaiah Award (2011), Filmfare Awards for lifetime achievement award for Telugu cinema (2017) and the Andhra Pradesh government's Nandi film awards. He was also elected to the 11th Lok Sabha from Machilipatnam



- on Telugu Desam Party (TDP) but withdrew from politics after 1998.
15. Legend PM Sinha, who popularly known as Suman passed away, was associated with **PepsiCo** organisation between 1992 and 2002.  
**Note:** He started his career from Hindustan Lever Ltd (HLL, later HUL). He served as the chairman of PepsiCo India between 1992 and 2002. He was also credited with launching bottled water brand Aquafina in India. He helped acquire Duke's in Mumbai and snack food company, Uncle Chipps.
16. Kathy Whitworth, who has been passed away, was associated with **Golf**.  
**Note:** She is considered one of the greatest golfers of all time. She had 88 wins on the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) Tour which include six LPGA major championships. Her 88 wins

- are six more than Sam Snead and Tiger Woods, who hold the record for the men's game.
17. Veteran scholar, Sribhashyam Vijayasarithi, who passed away, was a scholar in **Sanskrit**.  
**Note:** In 2020, he was honoured with the Padma Shri for his excellent work in the field of Literature and Education. He was also the founder of Sri Yagna Varaha Swamy Kshetram (temple complex). He has written 100 books in Sanskrit and Telugu.
18. Legend Edson Arantes do Nascimento, who was popularly known as Pele has been passed away, was associated with **Football**.  
**Note:** He is the only player to win the World Cup three times (1958, 1962 and 1970). He was named Fifa's Player of the Century in 2000. During his 21-year career, he has scored the most career goals of 1,283 in 1,363 games including 77 goals in 92 matches for his country

### Obituaries

1. Jamshed J. Irani, who has been passed away, also known as **Steel Man of India**.  
**Note:** He was associated with Tata Steel for 43 years and retired from the board of Tata Steel in June 2011. He served as the National President of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) for 1992-93. He was conferred the Padma Bhushan in 2007 for his contribution to the industry; and International Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering in 1996.
2. Elaben Bhatt, who has passed away recently, was a founder of **SEWA**.  
**Note:** She was the Chairperson of Sabarmati Ashram and recently resigned as the Chancellor of Mahatma Gandhi-founded Gujarat Vidhyapith. In 2007, she joined the group of world leaders called the Elders (founded by Nelson Mandela) to promote human rights and peace across the world. Awards: Padma Bhushan (1985), Ramon Magsaysay Award (1977)
3. Vijayakumar Menon, who has passed away, was a **Critic artist**.  
**Note:** He has authored many books such as Adhunika Kaladarsanam; Ravivarma Padanam; Bharathiya Chitrakala-Irupatham Noottandil; and Bharathiya Lavanya Darsanavum Kala Parasparyavum. He has translated many plays from foreign languages to Malayalam. He was awarded with Kerala Lalithakala Akademi Award for best book on art; Kerala Sahitya Akademi's endowment for Scholarly Literature; Kesari Puraskaram.
4. Shyam Saran Negi, who was passed away recently, he was a **First voter of independent India**.  
**Note:** He had cast his vote for the 34th time on November 2 for the Himachal assembly polls. He

- would be cremated with full honours at his village in Kalpa. In 1951, he was a member of the polling team and vividly remembers that he cast his first vote in Shonthong polling station. Negi was also made the brand ambassador by the Election Commission.
5. Gal Costa, who has been passed away, was a **Brazilian singer**.  
**Note:** Her known studio albums are - Aquarela do Brasil, Dindi, Que Pena, A Pele do Futuro, and Baby. In 2011, she was honoured with the Latin Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award.
6. Siddhaanth Vir Surryavanshi, who has been passed away, was a/an **Actor**.  
**Note:** He was best known for his roles in shows like 'Kkusum' and 'Kasautii Zindagi Kay'. He started his career as a model and then made his debut with 'Kkusum'. He was also a part of several other TV shows including, 'Kasautii Zindagii Kay', 'Sufiyana Ishq Mera', 'Ziddi Dil Maane Na' and 'Waaris'.
7. RL Kashyap, who passed away, was a scholar in **Mathematic** subject.  
**Note:** Shri RL Kashyap was a multifaceted personality and great scholar. He was very proud of India's cultural roots and distinguished himself in Vedic studies. RL Kashyap worked as a professor in the Department of Electrical and Computers for three decades at Purdue University in America.
8. Veteran actor Ghattamnaneni Siva Rama Krishna Murthy, known as Krishna has passed away, was belongs to **Telugu** regional cinema.  
**Note:** He was the father of Telugu superstar Mahesh Babu. He was active in the Telugu film industry for over six decades and has worked in over 350 films.

9. Actor Kevin Conroy, who has passed away, has given his voice to **Batman** animated character of Warner Bros' TV show.  
**Note:**The acclaimed animated series, which launched in 1992 and continued until 1996, is where Conroy first voiced Batman. He also appeared in several DC Universe Animated Original Movies, including Batman: Gotham Knight (2008), Superman/Batman: Public Enemies (2009), and Justice League vs. the Fatal Five (2019).
10. Daljeet Kaur, who has passed away was a famous **Actor**.  
**Note:** She was well-known for her lead roles in several superhit Punjabi movies, has been passed away at 69 due to brain tumour. She started her career in movies with 'Daaz' in 1976. She has starred in several hit movies, including 'Putt Jattan De' (1983), 'Mamla Garbar Hai' (1983), 'Ki Banu Duniya Da' (1986), 'Patola' (1988) and 'Saida Jogan' (1979).
11. Abasar Beuria, who has passed away, was an **Indian ambassador**.  
**Note:** He started his career as a lecturer and then as a bank officer before joining IFS. He served as the chairman of the Institute of Odia Studies & Research (IOSR).
12. Tabassum Govil, who was popularly known as Baby Tabassum, has passed away, was an **Actress**.  
**Note:** She started her career as a child artist in 1947 with Nargis. The actress later starred in films like Jogan, Deedar, Bahar, Bari Behen and more. Her last movie was Swarg, which released in 1990. She was best known for hosting Phool Khile Hain Gulshan Gulshan - India's first talk show.
13. Founder and chairman of drink company **Rasna group**, Areez Khambatta passed away.  
**Note:** Khambatta had established the popular orange-flavoured beverage brand in 1976. He was awarded the President of India's Home Guard and Civil Defence Medal, as well as the Paschimi Star, Samarseva, and Sangram Medals. He was honoured with the National Citizen's Award for his outstanding contribution in the field of commerce.
14. **Veteran Politician** Golak Bihari Naik passed away.  
**Note:** He started his political career with BJP and later joined the Biju Janata Dal. He was elected to Odisha Assembly thrice, twice as BJP candidate from Khunta and once as BJD nominee from Udala constituency. He served as a minister in the Naveen Patnaik-led government from 2000 to 2009.
15. Vikram Gokhale, who passed away was an **Actor**.  
**Note:** Vikram Gokhale was made his film debut in 1971 with Amitabh Bachchan's Parwana. He was known for his on-screen roles in films like Hum Dil De Chuke Sanam. In 2010, he received the National Award for Best Actor for his work in the Marathi film Anumati. He also forayed into direction with the Marathi film Aaghaat. The actor was last seen in the Marathi film 'Godavari.
16. Vice Chairman of **Toyota Kirloskar Motor Pvt Ltd**. Vikram S Kirloskar passed away.  
**Note:** He became the vice chairman of Toyota Kirloskar in 1998. He has also served as president of the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers from 2013-15. He also served as the President of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) for 2019-20.

### October 2022

1. Founder, chairman and MD of **Suzlon Group and Suzlon Energy Limited**, Tulsi Tanti passed away.  
**Note:** He was also the chairman of Renewable Energy Council of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). He encouraged the wind revolution in India with the founding of Suzlon Energy in 1995. He operated his business from Ahmedabad and has settled in Pune since 2004.
2. Actor, **Arun Bali** passed away recently.  
**Note:** He was best known for his work on TV show "Swabhimaan" and "3 Idiots". He has started his acting debut with noted filmmaker Lekh Tandon's TV show "Doosra Keval" and his last film is "Goodbye". He was suffering with Myasthenia gravis, an autoimmune disease. This happens when the communication between the muscles and nerve cells become impaired.
3. Mulayam Singh Yadav, passed away, was a founder of **Samajwadi Party**.  
**Note:** He was born in a small village Saifai in the Etawah district of Uttar Pradesh and was a trained wrestler. His had started his political career in 1967 and formed the Samajwadi Party in 1992. He served for three non-consecutive terms as the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh. He was also served as the Minister of Defence (1996 - 1998) and elected an MLA 10 times and an MP seven times.
4. Veteran Kavignar Subbu Arumugam, who passed away, was an exponent of **Villupaattu**, an ancient form of musical story-telling method.  
**Note:** He was conferred with Padma Shri (fourth highest civilian award of India) in 2021. Other awards: Sangeetha Natak Akademi; Kalaimamani Award and Bharathi Award (By Tamil Nadu govt).
5. Padma Shri awardee, Temsula Ao, who has been passed away, was a **Writer**.  
**Note:** She had also served as the Chairperson of the Nagaland State Commission for Women. She was

conferred with the Padma Shri in 2007 and also won Sahitya Akademi Award, Nagaland Governor's Award for Distinction in Literature. Books: 'Books of Songs', 'Poetry Here and There', 'These Hills Called Home', 'The Tombstone in My Garden'

6. **Actor**, Robbie Coltrane passed away.  
**Note:** He had played Hagrid in "Harry Potter" movies. He was known for his role in a crime-solving psychologist on "Cracker", Bond villain Valentin Dmitrovich Zerkov in "Golden Eye" (1995) and "The World is Not Enough" (1999). He was awarded the Order of the British Empire by Queen Elizabeth II in 2006.
7. Known as the father of **Oral rehydration therapy** physician, Dr. Dilip Mahalanabis passed away.  
**Note:** During the Liberation War in Bangladesh in 1971, he saved thousands of lives with the oral rehydration solution during an outbreak of cholera while serving in a refugee camp at Bangaon in West Bengal. It is a solution used to prevent and treat dehydration.
8. Deputy Speaker of **Karnataka Assembly** Anand Mamani passed away.  
**Note:** He was the three-time MLA, who has represented Saudatti legislative assembly constituency in Karnataka. In 2020, he was unanimously elected as the deputy speaker of Karnataka legislative assembly. He was the son of Chandrashekhar M Mamani, who also served as the deputy speaker in the 1990s.
9. Founder of Formula One racing team **Red Bull** Dietrich Mateschitz passed away.  
**Note:** He was also a co-founder of energy drink company Red Bull. He was co-founder of the Wings for Life foundation that supports spinal cord research together with Heinz Kinigadner. He has also initiated

the World Stunt Awards, an annual fundraiser to benefit his Taurus Foundation.

10. **Actor** Leslie Jordan passed away.  
**Note:** He has played roles including Lonnie Garr on Hearts Afire, Beverley Leslie on Will & Grace and American Horror Story. He won the Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Guest Actor in a Comedy Series, Will & Grace, in 2006. He had published his autobiography 'How Y'all Doing?: Misadventures and Mischief from a Life Well Lived' in April 2021.
11. **Bengali films director** Pinaki Chaudhuri passed away.  
**Note:** He was suffering from lymphoma, a cancer of the lymphatic system. He had been awarded the two national awards for Shanghaath (Conflict) in 1996 and for Ballygunge Court in 2007. His other notable films: 'Kakababu Here Gelen?' (Kakababu defeated?), 'Ek Tukro Chand' (A slice of the moon) and 'Arohan' (Ascension).
12. **Assamese actor** Nipon Goswami passed away.  
**Note:** He was an alumnus of the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune. He was born in Tezpur, and made his acting debut as a child actor in the Assamese film 'Piyoli Phukan'. He has started his film career as the lead actor of the Assamese movie 'Sangra'. His last Assamese film was 'Lankakanda', directed by Rajani Barman.
13. Prominent **Artist** Neel Pawan Baruah passed away.  
**Note:** He was a prominent painter and illustrator, who founded the Assam Fine Arts & Craft Society at Guwahati in 1971 to revive the art of Brindabanivastra, famous textile painting associated with Mahapurush Srimanta Sankardev. He was awarded the 'Assam Sourabh' award by the Government of Assam in 2021.

## 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).
  11. S. Samy Vellu, who has been passed away, was a cabinet minister of **Malaysia**.  
**Note:** He has served as Minister of Works from June 1983 to June 1989 and again from May 1995 to March 2008. He has also hold the post of Minister of Energy, Telecommunications from June 1989 to May 1995. He was the longest-serving MIC president after holding the position for 31 years from 1979.
  12. Asad Rauf, has been passed away, was former umpire of **Pakistan**.  
**Note:** He had made his first appearance as an umpire in international cricket in 2000. He officiated in 64 Tests, 139 ODIs and 28 T20Is and was one of Pakistan's leading umpires in the mid-2000s. He had played 71 first-class matches for National Bank and Railways before taking up umpiring, was appointed in the ICC elite panel in April 2006.
  13. Naresh Kumar, who has been passed away recently, was a former player of **Tennis**.  
**Note:** Naresh Kumar went on to become a big name in Indian tennis after Independence. He made news by reaching the final of the Northern Championships (later known as Manchester Open) in England in 1949.
  14. Manikrao Gavit, who has recently passed away was a related to **politics**.  
**Note:** The Congress leader was the home minister of state in the 2004 Manmohan Singh-led government. A nine-time Lok Sabha MP, Gavit represented the tribal-dominated Nandurbar constituency from 1980 to 2009 and lost the election in 2014. Gavit's son Bharat joined the BJP after he was denied a ticket by the Congress in 2019.
  15. Raju Srivastava, who has been passed away, was a **Comedian**.  
**Note:** He was the chairman of the Film Development Council Uttar Pradesh. He got fame after participating in the first season of the reality stand-up comedy show "The Great Indian Laughter Challenge" in 2005. He played supporting roles in Hindi films such as Maine Pyar Kiya, Baazigar, the remake of Bombay to Goa and Aamdani Atthani Kharcha Rupaiya.
  16. Csmonaut, Vladimirovich Polyakov, who holds the record for the longest single stay in space, has been passed, was a related to **Russia**.  
**Note:** He flew his first mission into space in 1988 and returning in 1989 after eight months. He had lived and worked in space for a record 437 days in one stint, orbiting Earth aboard the Mir space station more than 7,000 times between January 8, 1994 and March 22, 1995. He undertook two space expeditions during his career (678 days and 16 hours).
  17. Louise Fletcher, who has been passed away, was a/an **Actress**.  
**Note:** She was awarded the Oscar in 1976 for her role as Nurse Ratched in One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest (1975). She was also a recipient of BAFTA Award, and a Golden Globe Award. She was nominated for two Emmy Awards for her roles in the television series Picket Fences (1996) and Joan of Arcadia (2004).
  18. **Dame Hilary Mantel** is author of the best-selling book titled, Wolf Hall, who passed away recently.



**Note:** She had been honoured with the Booker Prize for Wolf Hall (2009) and Bring Up the Bodies (2012). Her notable works: Fludd; Beyond Black. Her first novel 'Every Day is Mother's Day', was published in 1985. She was also honoured with the Walter Scott Prize (2010, 2021) and Costa Novel Prize (2012).

19. Aryadan Muhammed, who has passed away, was a member of **Congress** political party.

**Note:** He has won the Nilambur seat (Malappuram district) of Kerala legislative assembly in 1977. He was also a minister in the EK Nayanar cabinet when he was part of the Left Front Group A in 1980. He also held the ministerial post in the AK Antony cabinet and Oommen Chandy cabinet.

20. US rapper Coolio, who has been passed away. **Artis Leon Ivey Jr** is his real name.

**Note:** He has won 1996 Grammy Awards for Gangsta's Paradise in Best Rap Solo Performance category. He has also received the American Music Awards in 1996. His other albums: It Takes a Thief (1994), My Soul (1997), Fantastic Voyage (1994), 1, 2, 3, 4 (Sumpin' New) (1996), and C U When U Get There (1997)

21. Jayanti Patnaik, who has been passed away, was a **Politician**.

**Note:** She was also the first chairperson of NCW (1992 to 1995) and second chairperson of All India Mahila Congress. She was elected from Cuttack and Berhampur Lok Sabha constituencies in 1981, 1984 and 1998. She was nominated to Rajya Sabha in 1996. She was also known for her literary skills, translated KM Munshi's Krishnavatara into Odia.

### Appointments

#### List of Cabinet Ministers of India 2022 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)	
<b>Cabinet Ministers</b>			
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 Rijiju	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	Minister of Education and Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship	Deogarh (Odisha)

	Pradhan		
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. Scindia	Minister of Civil Aviation	Rajya Sabha Member from Madhya Pradesh
23	Shri Ramchandra Prasad Singh	Minister of Steel	Rajya Sabha Member from Bihar
24	Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw	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 Niranjan 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	Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry

	Singh Patel	
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. Meenakashi 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

### December 2022

1. Wearables technology company, NOISE has roped in **Virat Kohli** as its new brand ambassador for its smartwatch range.  
**Note:** Kohli was earlier the brand ambassador of Bolt Games Pvt. Ltd owned Fire-Boltt. The former Indian cricket captain saw his brand value drop by 21% to \$185.7 million in 2021. However, he still topped the rankings in a survey of most valuable Indian celebrities by consultant Kroll Inc.
2. **Rajeeva Laxman Karandikar** has been appointed as part-time chairperson of National Statistical Commission of India (NSCI) for three years.  
**Note:** He has joined CMI as a visiting professor in 2010. He served as director CMI from Jan 2011 to April 2021. It is an autonomous body, was formed in June 2005 after the recommendation by Dr C Rangarajan Commission. The chairperson of the Commission enjoys the status of a MoS.
3. **Hansraj Gangaram Ahir** has assumed charge as Chairperson of the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC).  
**Note:** He is an Agriculturist by profession. He had been elected four times Member of Parliament from Parliamentary Constituency Chandrapur, Maharashtra and also he was Member of the Maharashtra Legislative Council.
4. **Vijender Sharma** has been elected as the president of Institute of Cost Accountants of India.  
**Note:** While, Rakesh Bhalla as vice-president for 2022-23. The institute, which is a statutory body set up under an Act of Parliament, comes under the administrative control of Union Ministry of Corporate Affairs.
5. **Sanjay Kumar** has assumed charge as Secretary of the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education in Shashtri Bhawan in New Delhi.  
**Note:** He is a 1990-batch Bihar cadre IAS officer, was a former Secretary, Department of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. He replaced Anita Karwal IAS upon her superannuation.
6. **K.V. Suresh Kumar** has assumed charge as Chairman and Managing Director of Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut

- Nigam Limited (BHAVINI) at Kalpakkam for three years.
- Note:** He completed his graduation in Chemical Engineering and joined Department of Atomic Energy at BARC Training School in Mumbai (29th batch) in 1985. He joined in the operations of Fast Breeder Test Reactor (FBTR) in 1986.
7. **Justice Tashi Rabstan** has been appointed by the Government of India as the Acting Chief justice of the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.
- Note:** He has replaced incumbent Chief Justice Ali Mohd Magrey, who retired on 7th December 2022. Justice Rabstan had enrolled as an Advocate on 6th March 1990 in Bar Council of J&K. He remained as Standing Counsel for Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, Leh from 1997 till 2005.
8. **Dina Boluarte** has been assumed the charge as the first female and sixth president of Peru.
- Note:** Her term has been extended to July 2026. Her oath came, when her predecessor being detained by police and impeached by lawmakers. The ceremony took place hours after a majority of 101 members in the 130-person legislative body voted to impeach Pedro Castillo (former president of Peru).
9. **Arun Kumar Singh** has been appointed as the chairman and managing director of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) for a three-year tenure with effect from the date of his assumption of charge of the post.
- Note:** He is a mechanical engineer from National Institute of Technology, Patna. He was Director (Marketing) of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) from October 2018 to September 2021, then he was elevated as chairman and managing director of the company.
10. Indian-origin **Sushmita Shukla** has been appointed as the First Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York with effect from March 2023.
- Note:** Her appointment was approved by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. It is one of 12 regional Reserve Banks which, together with the Board of Governors in Washington, DC, make up the Federal Reserve System. It is the largest Reserve Bank in terms of assets and volume of activity.
11. **Deepika Padukone** has been appointed as the brand ambassador of American furniture retailer, Pottery Barn to promote the company's international expansion.
- Note:** She will also work with the company's in-house design team in San Francisco to co-create a capsule collection, that will be launched in 'Fall 2023'. In July 2022, Pottery Barn launched its online retail website for India, in partnership with Reliance Brands. It has launched its first retail store in Ambience Vasant Kunj, New Delhi.
12. **Tata Sons Chairman, N Chandrasekaran** has been appointed as the Chair of Business 20 (B20) India by the government.
- Note:** He will lead the business agenda during India's G-20 presidency. The B20 is the official G-20 dialogue forum with the global business community. The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has been appointed as the B20 India Secretariat by the Indian government to lead the B20 India process. CII has assumed charge of B20 India Secretariat on 1 December 2022.
13. **K V Shaji** has been named Chairman of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).
- Note:** He had served as NABARD's Deputy MD till May 21, 2020. Prior to joining NABARD, he worked with Canara Bank, National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and Kerala Gramin Bank (country's largest regional rural bank). From 2013 until 2017, he served as the Chairman of Kerala Grameen Bank. He is an agricultural graduate with a PGDM in Public Policy from IIM Ahmedabad.
14. **Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu** has been unanimously elected as the new Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh and took the oath on 11th December 2022, succeeding Jai Ram Thakur.
- Note:** He served as the president of the Himachal Pradesh Congress Committee from 2013 to 2019. Apart from this, Mukesh Agnihotri (leader of the opposition in the outgoing Assembly) has been appointed as the deputy chief minister of Himachal Pradesh.
15. **Meghna Ahlawat** has been elected as the President of the Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI) with former stalwart Kamlesh Mehta, who has been elected as secretary general.
- Note:** She is the first women president and succeeded Dushyant Chautala. Apart from this, Patel Nagender Reddy was elected as treasurer. TTFI is the governing body for table tennis in India and was established in 1926. It includes 32 state units and 37 institutions.
16. **P T Usha** has been officially elected as the first woman president of Indian Olympic Association (IOA).
- Note:** She is a multiple Asian Games gold medallists and a fourth-place finisher in the 1984 Olympics 400m hurdles final. Apart from her, Ajay H Patel has been elected as senior Vice President, Rajlaxmi Singh Deo and Gagan Narang as Vice Presidents of Indian Olympic Association. Headquarters of IOA: New Delhi.
17. Indian origin person, **Nihar Malaviya** has been named interim CEO of international publishing group, Penguin Random House and will assume the role from January 1, 2023.

- Note:** He has succeeded current CEO, Markus Dohle, who has stepped down from the role. Earlier, Nihar Malaviya served as the President and Chief Operating Officer (COO) of the publisher's American division Penguin Random House US. He will report to Bertelsmann CEO Thomas Rabe
- 18. Bhupendra Patel** has been unanimously elected as the Chief Minister of Gujarat for the second consecutive term and took oath on 12th December 2022.  
**Note:** He has administered oath as 18th Chief Minister of the state by Governor Acharya Devvrat in Gandhinagar. The BJP has created history in Gujarat with a landslide victory in the 2022 election and its 7th consecutive win. The BJP has bagged 156 seats in the 182-member Assembly, its highest-ever poll tally in the state.
- 19. Dipankar Datta** has sworn-in as Supreme Court judge by CJI, D.Y. Chandrachud on 12th December, 2022. He was a Former Chief Justice of **Bombay High Court**.  
**Note:** With his appointment, the strength of the SC judges increased to 28, out of a total sanctioned strength of 34 judges for the court. He will have a nearly eight-year tenure in the court until his retirement in February 2030 at the age of 65. His name was recommended by SC Collegium led by Justice U.U. Lalit on September 26.
- 20. Dr PC Rath** has been formally elected as the president of the Cardiological Society of India (CSI) for one year (2023-24), in an annual meeting held in Chennai.  
**Note:** He is currently working as a senior consultant cardiologist and head of department of Cardiology at Apollo Hospitals, Jubilee Hills. CSI is a national body of cardiologists within India and those settled abroad. It was formed in 1948 under the supervision of Bharat Ratna Dr Vidhan Shankar Roy.
- 21. Jeremy Farrar** has been appointed as a new chief scientist of the World Health Organization (WHO) and will join WHO in the second quarter of 2023.  
**Note:** He has replaced Soumya Swaminathan, who had served as chief scientist from 2019 to 2022. Role: To ensure that WHO, its member states and our partners benefit from cutting-edge, life-saving science and innovations. Presently, he is serving as the Director of the Wellcome Trust. WHO DG: Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.
- 22. Kamaldeep Singh** has been appointed as the president of retail business of DealShare (Social e-commerce company).  
**Note:** Prior to this role, he served as the Chief Executive Officer of Big Bazaar, where he was responsible for retail operations, organizational transformation, and business strategy execution. Recently, the DealShare startup owned and operated by Merabo Labs Pvt Ltd has raised an additional \$45 million from Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA).
- 23. Cindy Hook** has been appointed as the inaugural CEO of the organising committee for the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Brisbane.  
**Note:** She had stepped away from her role as CEO of Deloitte Asia Pacific earlier this year. She had worked for the international professional services network in the U.S. and in Australia. The International Olympic Committee awarded the 2032 Games to Brisbane in July of last year.
- 24. Dr Claudine Gay** has been appointed as the first black president of the Harvard University.  
**Note:** Dr Gay, who is a dean at Harvard, has been appointed as 30th president the university. She will replace Lawrence Bacow, who will retire on July 2023. She will also be the second woman to head the elite college in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Notably, she is the daughter of Haitian immigrants and received her bachelor's degree from Stanford University in 1992.
- 25. Rajeev Kumar Vishnoi** has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of NHPC Ltd, with effect from December 13, 2022.  
**Note:** He is also the CMD of Rishikesh-based THDC India Limited. Earlier, Yamuna Kumar Chaubey, Director of NHPC (Technical) was holding the additional charge of CMD of the company. NHPC Ltd is a Mini-Ratna Category-I Enterprise of the Government of India. NHPC HQ: Faridabad, Haryana; Founded: 1975
- 26. Leo Varadkar** has been re-elected as the Prime Minister of Ireland in line with a coalition deal struck in 2020.  
**Note:** He has replaced Micheal Martin as Taoiseach (premier) in a rotation deal between his Fine Gael (party) and Martin's Fianna Fail (party). He was born in Dublin to an Irish mother who worked as a nurse and an Indian immigrant father, who was a qualified doctor. In 2007, he secured election for Fine Gael in Dublin West.
- 27. Dinesh Kumar Shukla** has been appointed as the chairperson of the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) for a period of three years.  
**Note:** He has succeeded G. Nageswara Rao to the top post. Prior to this role, he has been the executive director of the AERB. He was a graduate in mechanical engineering from the Jabalpur University, Shukla joined the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) in 1981.
- 28. Justice, Hemant Gupta** has been appointed as the new chairperson of New Delhi International Arbitration Centre (NDIAC).  
**Note:** The govt has also appointed Anant Vijay Palli as the part-time members of NIDAC. Justice Gupta was served as Chief Justice of the Madhya Pradesh

- High Court. Purpose of NDIAC: To create an independent and autonomous regime for institutionalised arbitration.
- 29. Aloke Singh** has been appointed as the new chief executive officer of Air India's Low Cost Carrier (LCC) business from January 1, 2023.  
**Note:** The LCC business will comprise AirAsia India and Air India Express. The current AirAsia India CEO, Sunil Bhaskaran will assume the leadership of a new initiative -- an aviation training academy. AirAsia India was launched in 2014 while Air India Express started operations back in 2005.
- 30. Shamsheer Singh** has been appointed as the MD & CEO of SBI Funds Management Limited (SBIFML).  
**Note:** Prior to this role, he served as the Deputy MD of State Bank of India. He had joined SBI as probationary officer in June 1990. He has more than 32 years of rich experience working with SBI in various verticals, including investment banking, treasury, corporate banking and branch banking.
- 31. Dr. Suhel Ajaz Khan** has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.  
**Note:** He will replace Dr. Ausaf Sayeed, a 1989 batch IFS officer. Presently, he is serving as the Ambassador of India to the Republic of Lebanon. He has also served as a United Nations Pension Board member in 2016 and 2017.
- 32. P.N. Vasudevan** has been reappointed as the managing director and chief executive officer of Equitas Small Finance Bank.  
**Note:** His current term as MD, CEO will expire on July 22, 2023. The board of Bank has decided to renew his term for a further period of 3 years with effect from July 23, 2023, subject to approval from RBI. He is the founder of Equitas and has been associated with its journey as a microfinance institution since 2007.
- 33. Sitiveni Rabuka** has become the 12th prime minister of Fiji after a coalition of parties voted to elect him.  
**Note:** His appointment has ended 10 days of uncertainty after an election delivered a hung parliament. Social Democratic Liberal party held the balance of power and voted to form a coalition with Rabuka's People's Alliance and the National Federation party.
- 34. Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda'** has been appointed as the new Prime Minister of Nepal for the third time.  
**Note:** He will head the new government until 2025 as part of a deal reached with another party. He has replaced Sher Bahadur Deuba of the Nepali Congress party. Prachanda's Maoist Centre party has won 32 seats in the 275-member House of Representatives.
- 35. Anil Kumar Lahoti** has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Railway Board with effect from January 1, 2023.  
**Note:** He will replace Vinay Kumar Tripathi. Lahoti belongs to the 1984 batch of Indian Railway Service of Engineers (IRSE). Lahoti was appointed as the general manager of Central Railway in July 2021.
- 36.** The Reserve Bank of India has approved the re-appointment of **Baskar Babu Ramachandran** as MD & CEO of Suryoday Small Finance Bank for three years, with effect from 23 January 2023.  
**Note:** He has several years of experience in the banking and finance sector. Prior to co-founding the Suryoday Micro Finance Private Limited, he had worked with various companies including GE Capital Transportation Financial Services and HDFC Bank.
- 37. Santosh Kumar Yadav** has been appointed as chairman of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI).  
**Note:** He is currently serving as an additional secretary in the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education. Subhasish Panda has been appointed as vice chairman of Delhi Development Authority. Ganji Kamala V Rao has been named CEO of FSSAI, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- 38. Praveen Kumar Srivastava** has been appointed as the acting Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC).  
**Note:** He has replaced Suresh N Patel, who completed his term as the chief of CVC on December 24, 2022. Srivastava is a 1988-batch IAS officer of Assam-Meghalaya cadre. He was retired as Secretary (Coordination), Cabinet Secretariat on January 31, 2022
- 39. Benjamin Netanyahu** has been sworn-in as the new prime minister of Israel for a sixth time, after Israel's parliament (Knesset) has passed a vote of confidence in new government.  
**Note:** Out of 120 members, 63 lawmakers have voted in favour of new government. He is the longest-serving Prime Minister of Israel. He served as premier of country from 1996 to 1999 and a record 12-year tenure from 2009 to 2021.
- 40.** UN Secretary-General, António Guterres has appointed **Abdullah Abdul Samad Dashti of Kuwait** as UN Coordinator for the Black Sea Grain Initiative.  
**Note:** He has replaced Amir Mahmoud Abdulla of Sudan. The Initiative was launched by Ukraine, Türkiye, Russian Federation and UN on 22 July 2022.



**November 2022**

1. The Board of Directors of Samsung Electronics has approved the appointment of **Jay Y Lee** as executive chairman of the company.  
**Note:** This appointment was recommended by Independent Director and Board Chairman, Han-Jo Kim. He takes over a position previously held by his father, Lee Kun-hee. Samsung Electronics is a South Korean multinational electronics corporation headquartered in Yeongtong-gu, Suwon, South Korea.
2. **Vetsa Rama Krishna Gupta** has assumed the additional charge of Chairman and Managing Director of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL).  
**Note:** He has replaced Arun Kumar Singh, who superannuated on 31st October 2022. Gupta has joined BPCL in August 1998 and has an experience across Finance functions (Commercial Finance, Corporate Accounts, Risk Management, Budgeting, Treasury operations, etc).
3. **Vishal Kapoor** has been appointed as the CEO of Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL).  
**Note:** He replaced Arun Kumar Mishra, who hold this position last year. He will take charge after completing his tenure as the joint secretary at the Ministry of Power. As joint secretary, he led various government interventions, schemes, and reforms in the distribution sector.
4. The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) has appointed **Subhrakant Panda** as President.  
**Note:** He is also serving as the Managing Director of Indian Metals & Ferro Alloys Ltd. (IMFA). He will succeed Sanjiv Mehta (CEO & Managing Director, Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL)) as President at the 95th Annual General Meeting, scheduled to be held on December 16 and December 17, 2022.
5. **KV Kamath** has been appointed as an Independent Director and non-executive Chairman for Reliance Strategic Investment Limited (RSIL) for 5 years.  
**Note:** Currently, he is the Chairman of the National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development. He was retired from ICICI Bank as MD & CEO in 2009 and continued as chairman till 2015. He was also appointed as the first president of BRICS Countries bank, NBD.
6. **KV Kamath** has been appointed as an Honorary Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia (AM) for his contribution to the Australia-India bilateral relationship.  
**Note:** He is a tireless promoter of Australia-India relations, challenging the nations' governments and people to realise the underlying potential of a stronger bilateral relationship.
7. **Mohammad Tayyab Ikram (Macau)** has been elected as the new president of the International Hockey Federation (FIH) for two years.  
**Note:** He is a CEO of Asian Hockey Federation (AHF). He has succeeded Narinder Batra (India) as its full-time chief. He has defeated Marc Coudron (Belgium) in the 48th FIH Congress. Batra became the FIH president in 2016, resigned from the post in July.
8. **Anant Goenka** has been appointed as the interim managing director of Zensar Technologies Ltd.  
**Note:** He has been appointed for a term up to the next annual general meeting of the company or 31 July 2023 whichever is earlier subject to requisite approvals. Reason: As the present CEO Ajay Bhutoria is undergoing treatment for an undisclosed health condition.
9. **Vijay Srirangam** has been appointed as part-time Non Official Director and Non Executive Chairman of Canara Bank for three years.
10. Byju's has appointed football player **Lionel Messi** as the global brand ambassador of its social initiative, "Education For All".  
**Note:** Aim of this initiative: To make education equitable, accessible, and free for underserved kids in India. Byju's has tied-up with Messi, ahead of the Fifa World Cup 2022 that will be held in Qatar. Messi also runs his own non-profit organization Leo Messi Foundation, that deals with issues such as healthcare, education and sports.
11. **Rituraj Awasthi** has been appointed as the chairperson of 22nd Law Commission of India.  
**Note:** He was a Judge of Allahabad High Court and former Chief of Karnataka HC. 22nd Law Commission was formed in February, 2020. Other members: Justice KT Sankaran(former Kerala HC judge), Prof. Anand Paliwal, Prof. DP Verma, Prof. (Dr) Raka Arya and M Karunanithi
12. **Prof. Kishor Basa** has been appointed by the Ministry of Culture India as the chairman of National Monuments Authority (NMA) for three years.  
**Note:** Presently, he is serving as Vice Chancellor of Maharaja Sriram Chandra Bhanja Deo University in Baripada. He is also the member of Indian National Confederation and Academy of Anthropologists (INCAA).
13. The GSMA has elected Bharti Airtel CEO as Deputy Chair for two-year term (Jan 2023- Dec 2024) --  
**Gopal Vittal**

- Note:** He is the second Indian after Sunil Mittal (Bharti Enterprises Chairman) to be named a top GSMA functionary. Mittal had served at the highest level as GSMA's Chair during 2016-18. While, CEO of Spain's Telefónica Group, José María Álvarez-Pallete López will continue as the GSMA Chair.
- 14. Aruna Miller** has become the first Indian-American politician to win the election of Lieutenant Governor in the state of Maryland.  
**Note:** She is also the first South Asian woman to serve at such an important position. She was born in Hyderabad, India in 1964 and was immigrated to the United States when she was seven-years-old. She became a US citizen in 2000.
- 15. Ramesh Kejriwal** has been elected as president the All India Rubber Industries Association (AIRIA) for 2022-23.  
**Note:** He has succeeded Dr. Sawar Dhanania. Role: Leading forward the road map of AIRIA for rubber industries in the country. Prior to this, he was a Managing Committee Member of AIRIA and had served as the Eastern Region Chairman.
- 16. Neeraj Chopra** has been appointed as the 'Friendship Ambassador' by Switzerland Tourism.  
**Note:** Role: To showcase and promote the adventurous, sporty, and stunning outdoors of Switzerland to Indian travellers. He was also visited the Olympic Museum in Lausanne, where he donated his gold-winning javelin.
- 17. Greg Barclay** has been re-elected as the Independent Chair of the International Cricket Council (ICC) for a second two-year term.  
**Note:** He was unopposed following the withdrawal of Tavengwa Mukuhani (Zimbabwe) from the process. He is an Auckland-based commercial lawyer. He was appointed as the ICC Chair in November 2020. Prior to this, he was the Chair of New Zealand Cricket (NZC) and was a director of the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2015.
- 18. Nataša Pirc Musar** has won a runoff vote to become Slovenia's first female president.  
**Note:** Pirc Musar has secured 54% of the votes, while her rival, former Foreign Minister Andze Logar has won 46%. She is a former TV presenter who became an influential lawyer. She campaigned on human rights, the rule of law and social welfare issues. She had also represented former US first lady, Melania Trump in copyright and other cases in her native Slovenia.
- 19. Gaurav Dwivedi** has been appointed the Chief Executive Officer of Prasar Bharati for five years.  
**Note:** Presently, he is posted as Principal Secretary, Commercial Tax, in the Chhattisgarh government. Prior to this, he was also served as the CEO of MyGovIndia, which was launched by PM Narendra Modi in 2014.
- 20. The government of India has appointed Dr Arvind Virmani** as a full time member of NITI Aayog with immediate effect.  
**Note:** He was Chief Economic Advisor in the Finance Ministry from 2007-09. He had also worked as the Executive Director at IMF till 2012. He served as a member of the Technical Advisory Committee of RBI on monetary policy from 2013 to 2016.
- 21. Vivek Joshi** has been nominated by the government as a Director of the central board of RBI, with effect from November 15, 2022, until further orders.  
**Note:** He is the secretary of the Department of Financial Services. He has also served as joint secretary with the Department of Expenditure from 2014 to 2017, where he was responsible for formulation of public procurement policies for the Centre and appraisal of publicly funded projects and schemes.
- 22. Achanta Sharath Kamal** has become the first Indian to be elected in the Athletes' Commission of the International Table Tennis Federation.  
**Note:** He will serve in the Commission from 2022 to 2026. Elected Athletes: Elizabeta Samara, Achanta Sharath Kamal, Daniely Rios, Omar Assar, Melissa Tapper, Stefan Fegerl, Jon Persson, and Liu Shiwen. Elected Para-Athletes: Ingela Lundback and Kelly van Zon
- 23. Meta** has appointed **Sandhya Devanathan** as the Vice President and Head of Meta India.  
**Note:** She will take charge on January 1, 2023 and will report to Dan Neary (Vice President, Meta APAC). She joined Meta in 2016 and build out the Singapore and Vietnam businesses and teams as well as Meta's e-commerce initiatives in Southeast Asia. Presently, she is working as Vice President - Asia-Pacific, Gaming at Meta.
- 24. C V Ananda Bose** has been appointed as the Governor of West Bengal.  
**Note:** He is a 1977 batch (retired) Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of Kerala cadre. He has replaced Manipur Governor, La Ganesan, who had taken the additional charge of West Bengal since after the incumbent Jagdeep Dhankhar was nominated as the vice president candidate.
- 25. Pension Fund Regulatory & Development Authority (PFRDA)** has appointed **Suraj Bhan** as the chairman of the National Pension System Trust (NPS Trust) with effect from November 12, 2022.  
**Note:** He has been a Trustee on the Board of NPS Trust since 2018. He joined the Indian Economic Service in 1983 and retired as Director General of Labour Bureau, Chandigarh, in January 2018.
- 26. Arun Goel** has been appointed as the new Election Commissioner of India with effect from the date he assumes the office.

**Note:** Election Commission of India (ECI) is a constitutional body to conduct and regulate elections in the country. It consists of a chief election commissioner (CEC) and two election commissioners (usually retired IAS or IRS officers).

27. Kassym-Jomart Tokayev has secured a second term in snap presidential election after winning 81.31% of the vote. He became the **President of Kazakhstan**.

**Note:** He came to power in 2019, before that, he has served as acting president after the resignation of president, Nursultan Nazarbayev. During his tenure, he had changed the name of capital from Nur-Sultan (2019) back to Astana. He has also approved a constitutional amendment to increase the presidential term from five years to seven.

28. **T G Sitharam** has been appointed chairman of the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) for three years or till he attain the age of 65, whichever is earlier.

**Note:** He will replace UGC chairman, Jagadesh Kumar, who was holding the interim charge of the AICTE chairman after the retirement of Anil Sahasrabudde on September 1, 2021. Sitharam tenure as an IIT director will expire in July 2024.

29. **Subrat Kumar** has been appointed executive director of the Bank of India with effect for three years.

**Note:** He has an experience of 27 years in commercial banks and asset management companies. Other ED appointments (by govt): Lalit Tyagi (BoB); Binod Kumar (PNB); Ashok Chandra (Canara Bank); Ramasubramanian (Union Bank); Mahesh Bajaj (Indian Bank); M Paramasivan (PNB); Malladi Venkat Murali Krishna (CBI); Rahendra Saboo (UCO); Sanjay Mudaliyar (Indian Overseas Bank)

30. **Vinit Kumar** has taken charge as the chief executive officer of Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC).

**Note:** He is an IRSEE officer of 1993 batch, has served as the Chairman of Syama Prasad Mukherjee Port, Kolkata from 2018-2020. He has also served as Chief Electrical Engineer in Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation Ltd. and looked after World Bank funded MUTP project.

31. Prof. **Venu Gopal Achanta (Director of CSIR-National Physical Laboratory (CSIR-NPL))** has been elected as a member of the International Committee for Weights and Measures (CIPM).

**Note:** He is the 7th Indian to be elected to the CIPM. The 27th General Conference on Weights and Measures (CGPM) meeting was held on 15-18 November, 2022 at Paris, France. The first Indian to be elected as a member of CIPM was Dr. K.S. Krishnan (Founder Director of CSIR-NPL).

32. **Anwar Ibrahim** has been sworn-in as the 10th Prime Minister of Malaysia, by King Sultan Abdullah Sultan Ahmad Shah at the palace in Kuala Lumpur.

**Note:** Neither Anwar nor ex-premier Muhyiddin Yassin had won the simple majority (112 seats) needed to form a government. Anwar started his political career as a student leader before joining United Malays National Organisation (UMNO), where he rose to become deputy PM and finance minister.

33. **Deepa Malik** has been appointed as the national ambassador of TB Mukta Bharat campaign.

**Note:** She has also extended her support to the campaign by becoming a Ni-Kshay Mitra to provide aid to TB afflicted patients. She has adopted 5 TB patients herself as a Ni-Kshay Mitra. The TB Mukta Bharat campaign was launched by Prime Minister, Narendra Modi in March 2018.

34. **PT Usha** becomes the first woman President of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA).

**Note:** She is a multiple Asian Games gold medallist and a fourth-place finisher at the 1984 Olympics 400m hurdles final. Usha will also become the first Olympian and first international medallist to head the IOA in its 95-year-old history.

35. BSE Ltd has received an approval from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) for **Sundararaman Ramamurthy** as the MD & CEO.

**Note:** The top position was vacant since July when Ashishkumar Chauhan, who stepped down as the chief executive of BSE. His appointment is subject to the approval of the shareholders. At present, he is the chief operating officer of the India arm of Bank of America Corp, and has previously worked as a senior vice president at NSE.

36. **Prasanth Kumar** has been elected as the President of the Advertising Agencies Association of India (AAAI) for 2022-23.

**Note:** While, Rana Barua (Group CEO of Havas Group India) has been elected as the Vice-President of the Association. Immediate Past President, Anupriya Acharya has been appointed as the ex-officio member of the AAAI Board for 2022-23. AAAI is a national advertising agencies, which was formed in 1945.

### October 2022

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

**Note:** He replaced Vinod S Shenoy. HPCL is the 3rd-largest oil refining and fuel marketing company.

- Bharathan earlier served as executive director, Refineries Coordination, with additional charge of research and development (R&D). Bharathan has wide exposure to the refinery operations of the company and has worked in operations and technical departments of Mumbai and Visakh refinery for over 25 years
2. **Lalit Bhasin** has been appointed as the national president of Indian American Chambers of Commerce (IACC).  
**Note:** A well - known name in business and social circles Bhasin was the executive vice president of IACC. Bhasin is the 54th national president of IACC, which was set up in October 1968 and is headquartered in Mumbai. He is closely associated with India's apex business organizations like CII, PHD CCI and served as chairman of its legal committees.
  3. **N S Rajan** has been unanimously elected as the chairman of the Board of Governors of the Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI).  
**Note:** He has replaced Subhash Kamath. While, Saugata Gupta (Managing Director & CEO, Marico Limited) was elected Vice-Chairman of ASCI. Shashidhar Sinha (CEO at IPG Mediabrands India) was appointed as the Honorary Treasurer of ASCI. ASCI headquarters: Mumbai; Founded: 1985
  4. **Sujoy Lal Thaoson** has been appointed as the new director generals of the CRPF.  
**Note:** He has replaced Kuldip Singh (1986-batch), who was retired on 30th September 2022. He is a 1988-batch officer of the Madhya Pradesh cadre. He is currently working as DG of SSB and holding the additional charge of ITBP. While, Anish Dayal Singh has named as director generals of ITBP. He is a 1988-batch officer (Manipur cadre) and currently serving as a special director in IB
  5. **Dr. A K Anil Kumar** has been elected as the Vice President of the International Astronautical Federation (IAF).  
**Note:** He is currently working as Associate Director, ISRO Telemetry, Tracking and Command Network (ISTRAC). It is a recognition of ISRO's space endeavors and helps in promoting international collaboration. The IAF is the world's leading space advocacy body with 433 members in 72 countries. It was founded in 1951.
  6. The government has appointed the governor of Arunachal Pradesh, Brig. (Dr.) B.D. Mishra (Retd.) to discharge the functions of the Governor of **Meghalaya**.  
**Note:** Reason: Satya Pal Malik has completed his term on October 3, 2022. Satya Pal Malik had been a governor of Bihar (2017), Jammu and Kashmir (2018) and Goa before becoming the Governor of Meghalaya in August 2020. Meghalaya Capital: Shillong; Chief minister: Conrad Sangma
  7. The Committee of Cabinet has approved the appointed **Ajay Bhadoo** as the Deputy Election Commissioner of the Election Commission of India.  
**Note:** He has been appointed as the deputy election commissioner until July 24, 2024. He is a 1999-batch Indian Administrative Officer (IAS) officer of the Gujarat cadre. Prior to this, he was appointed as the Joint Secretary of the President of India. Earlier, he has also served as Gujarat's Vadodara Municipal Commissioner.
  8. The Reserve Bank of India has approved the reappointment of **Prashant Kumar** as the MD and CEO of YES Bank for another three years, with effect from 6th October 2022. The appointment will be subject to the approval of shareholders of the private sector lender.  
**Note:** He was appointed as the CEO of the bank after YES Bank was bailed out by a consortium of lenders in March 2020. He has served as the Deputy MD and CFO of State Bank of India.
  9. US President, Joe Biden has nominated **Dr Vivek Murthy** to serve as America's representative on the executive board of the World Health Organisation.  
**Note:** He will serve in the new position alongside his continued duties as the US Surgeon General. In March 2021, He was confirmed by the US Senate to serve as the 21st Surgeon General of the country. He also served as the 19th Surgeon General under President Barack Obama.
  10. Bank of India Investment Managers Private Ltd has appointed **Mohit Bhatia** as its chief executive officer with effect from 4 October, 2022.  
**Note:** He has over 26 years of professional experience in mutual funds and financial services industry. He served as head-sales and marketing in Canara Robeco Asset Management Company Ltd.
  11. **A Balasubramanian** has been re-elected as the chairman of the Association of Mutual Funds in India (Amfi).  
**Note:** He will also continue as the ex-officio chairman of the AMFI Financial Literacy Committee. While, Radhika Gupta (MD of Edelweiss AMC) has been re-elected as the vice-chairperson of AMFI. Sundeep Sikka (chief of Nippon Life India Asset Management Limited) has been elected as chairman of the Exchange Traded Fund (ETF) committee.
  12. Gulf Oil Lubricants has appointed **Indian cricketer, Smriti Mandhana** as its new brand ambassador.  
**Note:** With this association, Gulf Oil became the first company in the lubricant space to appoint a woman cricketer as ambassador. She will join the ranks of current brand ambassadors Mahendra Singh Dhoni and Hardik Pandya.



13. SBI General Insurance Company has appointed **Kishore Kumar Poludasu** as its new Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer.  
**Note:** His appointment was came into effect from 4th October 2022. He was nominated by SBI (parent company). He was associated with SBI since 1991. Prior to this, he was the Deputy Managing Director, Head of State Bank of India, Singapore Operations.
14. **Ananth Narayan Gopalakrishnan** has assumed charge as Whole Time Member of SEBI.  
**Note:** He has an experience of more than 25 years in banking and financial sector. He served as the Associate Professor, SP Jain Institute of Management & Research, Mumbai. He has completed his post-graduate diploma in Management from IIM, Lucknow and awarded the Director's Gold Medal for standing second in the batch.
15. **Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey** has been sworn in as the new Chief Justice of the High Court of J&K and Ladakh.  
**Note:** J&K LG, Manoj Sinha has administered the oath of office to Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey. He has replaced Justice, Pankaj Mithal, who has been transferred to the Rajasthan high Court. He started his career as an advocate after completing his law degree from Kashmir University in 1984.
16. **Aparajita Sarangi** has been elected as a member to the executive committee of Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU).  
**Note:** She is a Lok Sabha member from Bhubaneswar, Odisha. She has bagged 12 votes out of total 18, in the election to the post, held at Kigali, Rwanda. She will represent India at the 15-member executive committee of the union.
17. **Bandhan Bank** has appointed Sourav Ganguly as its brand ambassador.  
**Note:** He will help amplify the brand message of the Bank and endorse the products and banking services. Bandhan Bank was set up in 2001. Aim: Financial inclusion and women empowerment through sustainable livelihood creation
18. Abdul Latif Rashid has been appointed as the president of **Iraq**.  
**Note:** He is a British-educated engineer and served as the Iraqi minister of water resources from 2003-2010. He also served as the senior adviser to the President. He is a member of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) party.
19. President, Murmu has appointed **Dr. Justice Dhananjaya Yashwant Chandrachud** as the 50th Chief Justice of India.  
**Note:** His appointment will come into effect from 9th Nov, 2022 and continue till 10 November 2024. He will replace CJI, Uday Umesh Lalit. He was appointed as the Judge of SC on 13th May 2016. Prior to this, he served as Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court.
20. **Partha Satpathy** has been appointed as India's next ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina.  
**Note:** He is currently as the Ambassador of India to the Republic of Hungary. He served as the Hungarian Ambassador for 11 months and then became the Ambassador of India to Bosnia and Herzegovina. Meanwhile, Dr Adarsh Swaika, joint secretary in MEA, has been appointed India's next Ambassador to Kuwait. Avtar Singh has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Guinea.
21. Yubi (formerly CredAvenue) has appointed **Atanu Chakraborty** as the independent chairman of its board.  
**Note:** He is also currently serving as the chairman of the board of HDFC Bank. He is a 1985 batch officer of the Indian Administrative Service, of the Gujarat cadre. He has served as Economic Affairs Secretary of India till his retirement in April 2020.
22. Paytm Payments Bank has appointed **Deependra Singh Rathore** as the interim chief executive officer (CEO), in addition to his role as chief product & technology officer.  
**Note:** He will replace Satish Gupta, who is presently serving as the bank's CEO and retire in October 2022. The bank has also appointed Sunil Chander Sharma, a former IRS officer as chief operating officer (COO).
23. **Roger Binny** has been appointed as the new president of the Board of Control for Cricket in India.  
**Note:** He has replaced Sourav Ganguly. Jay Shah has been re-inducted as the secretary of the board. Vice President: Rajiv Shukla ; Joint-secretary: Devajit Saikia. Treasurer: Ashish Shelar ; IPL Governing Council Chairman: Arun Singh Dhumal. IPL Governing Council member: Avishek Dalmiya. Apex Council member: M Khairul Jamal Majumdar
24. **Bharati Das** has been appointed as the 27th Controller General of Accounts (CGA).  
**Note:** She has replaced Sonali Singh, who had given the additional charge of CGA, after the superannuation of Dipak Dash. Prior to this, she has served as Principal Chief Controller of Accounts (Pr. CCA), CBDT and Ministries of External Affairs, Home Affairs. CGA is 'the Principal Advisor' on Accounting matters to the Union Government.
25. Adani Airport Holdings has named **Arun Bansal** as its chief executive officer.  
**Note:** He has spent 25 years at the Swedish telecom network company and was most recently its president for Europe and Latin America. The appointment will help strengthen digital transformation and the business growth agenda. Adani's airports account for 25% of airport footfalls and 40% of air cargo in India.
26. **Sanjay Malhotra** has been appointed as the new revenue secretary.

- Note:** He will replace Tarun Bajaj who will retire on November 30. Road Transport and Highways Secretary, Aramane Giridhar has been named the new defence secretary. He will replace Ajay Kumar. Ministry of Heavy Industries: Kamran Rizvi. Department of Rural Development: Shailesh Kumar Singh. Ministry of Corporate Affairs: Manoj Govil
27. ISRO has named **Dr Sankarasubramanian K** as the Principal Scientist of the 'Aditya-L1' Mission.  
**Note:** He is the head of the Space Astronomy Group (SAG) of ISRO's UR Rao Satellite Centre, Bengaluru. He has contributed to AstroSat, Chandrayaan-1 and Chandrayaan-2 missions of ISRO in several capacities. Aditya-L1: It is the first observatory-class space-based solar mission from India and it is scheduled for launch in 2023.
28. **K.P. Ashwini** has been appointed Special Rapporteur for United Nations Human Rights Commission  
**Note:** She will take over the UNHCR special rapporteur in Geneva on November 1 for a period of six years. She is the first Indian and Asian woman to be appointed to this post. She hails from Kurabarhalli in Kolar district, Karnataka. She has obtained MPhil and PhD from JNU, Delhi.
29. ICICI Bank's board of directors has reappointed **Sandeep Bakshi** as the MD and CEO for a period of 3 years.  
**Note:** He was appointed as the banks's MD and CEO since October 15, 2018. He has served as Wholetime Director and the Chief Operating Officer (COO) of the bank, prior to his appointment as MD and CEO. His reappointment will be effective from October 4, 2023 to October 3, 2026.
30. **Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited** has appointed C S Rajan as an additional and independent director on the bank's board.  
**Note:** Rajan's appointment is for a period of five years effective 22 October 2022. Rajan has over 40 years of experience across significant government portfolios. Rajan is currently serving as a non-executive chairman of Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services Limited, appointed by the government of India.
31. The government has appointed **Jaxay Shah** as the Chairman of Quality Council of India (QCI).  
**Note:** He was former Chairman of realty developers' body CREDAI and founder Chairman of Savvy Group. He has been appointed for a period of three years with effect from October 21, 2022. He succeeds the former McKinsey India Chief Adil Zainulbhai.
32. Indian Banks' Association has re-elected A K Goel as its new chairman, he is currently serving as the MD and CEO of **Punjab National Bank**.  
**Note:** He will serve the association for FY 2022-23. Generally, the senior most MD of a public sector bank is elected as chairman for a period of one year. IBA has also appointed Dinesh Khara (Chairman of SBI), A S Rajeev (MD & CEO of Bank of Maharashtra), and Madhav Nair (CEO of Mashreq Bank) as deputy chairman. Honorary secretary: N Kamakodi (CEO of City Union Bank)
33. **Rishi Sunak** has become the prime minister of United Kingdom.  
**Note:** He has replaced former PM Liz Truss, who had resigned from the post just after 44 days. He also the youngest PM of UK in modern history at the age of 42 years. While, William Pitt the Youngest PM of UK, who become the PM at the age of 24 in 1801. He was born in UK's Southampton area to an Indian family. He became a member of Parliament in 2015 after he got elected from Richmond, Yorkshire.
34. The Cricket Association for the Blind in India (CABI) has appointed **Yuvraj Singh** as their brand ambassador for the 3rd T20 World Cup for the Blind.  
**Note:** While, Ajay Kumar Reddy B2 (Andhra Pradesh) will lead the Indian team and Venkateswara Rao Dunna - B2 (Andhra Pradesh) will be the vice-captain. The World Cup matches will be held from December 6 to 17. Participants: India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Australia, South Africa, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.
35. The government of India has appointed **Sangeeta Verma** as the acting chairperson of the Competition Commission of India (CCI).  
**Note:** Her appointment came into effect from 26th October 2022. She will remain in office for three months or till appointment of regular Chairperson or till any further orders, whichever is the earliest. She has replaced Ashok Kumar Gupta, who relinquished office after a four-year tenure.
36. **Shefali Juneja** has been elected as the chairperson of UN specialized aviation agency's Air Transport Committee (ATC).  
**Note:** She is a 1992 batch officer of IRS (Income Tax cadre), served as a Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Civil Aviation before joining the ICAO. India has secured this position in ICAO after 28 years when she was unanimously elected to the post. ATC is a standing committee of the ICAO created by the Chicago Convention in 1944
37. **Navjit Kaur Brar** has become the first turban-wearing Sikh woman to be elected as a city councillor of Brampton in Canada.  
**Note:** She is an Indo-Canadian respiratory therapist. She was elected in the recent municipal council polls after she won the race in Wards 2 and 6. She is a former Conservative MP candidate for Brampton West. Elections for municipal government in Canada held every four years on the fourth Monday of October.

38. Hockey India has named **Harmanpreet Singh** as the captain of the 22-member Indian men's hockey team.  
**Note:** He has been appointed for the upcoming double-header matches against Spain and New Zealand in the season opener of FIH Hockey Pro League 2022-2023 to be held in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. While, Manpreet Singh has been named as his deputy. All matches will be held at the Kalinga Hockey Stadium, Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
39. The US administration has named **Elizabeth Jones** as the next Charge d'Affaires ad interim in New Delhi.  
**Note:** She is the sixth interim US envoy in the last 21 months (since January 2021). She had worked on NATO's role in Europe vis-a-vis Russia as the US Assistant Secretary of State for Europe and Eurasia. Currently, Patricia A Lacina is the Chargé d'Affaires at the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi, who assumed charge on September 9, 2021.
40. **Mata Amritanandamayi Devi** has been appointed as the Chair of the country's Civil 20 (C20).  
**Note:** It is an official engagement group of the Group of 20 (G20). The C20 is its platform for civil-society organisations (CSOs) to bring forth non-government

and non-business voices to the G20 leaders. India will hold the Presidency of the G20 from December 1, 2022 to November 30, 2023. G20 Leaders' Summit will take place in New Delhi from September 9 to 10, 2023.

41. **Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva** has been elected as new president of Brazil after defeating incumbent president, Jair Bolsonaro.  
**Note:** He has secured 50.83% of the votes, whereas his opponent, Bolsonaro got 49.17% votes. He was served as the president of Brazil for two terms from 2003 to 2006 and then 2007 to 2011. India has had excellent relations with Brazil under his government.
42. **Dr. Rajesh Ranjan** has been appointed as the next Indian Ambassador to the West African nation of Cote d'Ivoire.  
**Note:** Presently, he is serving as the High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Botswana. Prior to this, he has served in the Indian Embassy in Moscow as Second/Third Secretary dealing with Political and Commercial issues. He is expected to take up the assignment shortly.

### 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 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 Chamera Hydro-Electric Project, now Chamera-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.
22. **Mukul Rohatgi** will be the 14th Attorney General for India again after KK Venugopal vacates the post.  
**Note:** Mukul Rohatgi has served as AG between June 2014 and June 2017. At the end of June this year, AG Venugopal's tenure was extended for a period of three months or "until further orders". This extension is set to expire on September 30.
23. The Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) has elected **Vinod Aggarwal (MD & CEO of Volvo Eicher Commercial Vehicles)** as its president for 2022-23.  
**Note:** He succeeded Kenichi Ayukawa, Executive Vice Chairman & Whole Time Director, Maruti Suzuki India. Earlier, he was served as the vice president of SIAM. The SIAM has also elected MD of Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles and Tata Passenger Electric Mobility, Shailesh Chandra as the vice president for 2022-23.
24. IndusInd Bank has approved the re-appointment of **Sumant Kathpalia** as managing director and chief executive officer (MD & CEO) for three years with effect from March 24, 2023.  
**Note:** He was appointed as MD & CEO of IndusInd Bank in March 2020. Prior to joining IndusInd Bank, he had stints with Citibank, Bank of America and ABN Amro.
25. **Ugandan climate activist, Vanessa Nakate** has been appointed as the newest UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador.  
**Note:** Her collaboration with the organisation and recognising her outstanding global advocacy for climate justice for current and future generations. She started her activism in January 2019 with a protest with her siblings and cousins on the streets of Kampala, inspired by Greta Thunberg.
26. The Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) has selected **Prasanna Kumar Motupalli** as the Chairman and Managing Director of NLC India Limited.  
**Note:** He is currently serving as the Executive Director of NTPC limited. He is a gold medalist in Mechanical Engineering and Master of Business Management in Operation Management, HR Management, Marketing, and Financial Management.
27. **Senior bureaucrat, Vijoy Kumar Singh** has been assumed charge as Ex-Servicemen Welfare Secretary.  
**Note:** He is a 1990-batch IAS officer of Punjab cadre and has an experience of more than 32 years in administration. He recently served as special secretary in Ministry of Textiles.
28. **Arun Kumar Mishra** has been elected as a member of the Governance Committee of the Asia Pacific Forum (APF).  
**Note:** He has also been elected as a member of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) Bureau at the 27th Annual General Meeting of the APF. The GANHRI is one of the largest human rights networks worldwide.
29. The Reserve Bank of India has approved the appointment of whom as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of CSB Bank for three years.  
**Note:** He was the Deputy Managing Director of the bank since February 17, 2022. He was subsequently appointed as interim MD & CEO with effect from April 1, 2022. Prior to joining CSB Bank, Mondal was Executive Director and Head, of Retail Banking at Axis Bank.
30. **BVR Subrahmanyam (IAS)** has been appointed as the new Chairman & Managing Director of the India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO).  
**Note:** He will be replacing LC Goyal. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approved the appointment of Subrahmanyam on September 15. A 1987 batch Indian Administrative Services officer of Chhattisgarh cadre, he is currently working as the Secretary, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
31. **Sanjay Kumar Rakesh** has been named managing director of the CSC e-Governance India SPV, which is run by the central government.  
**Note:** The appointment follows Dinesh Tyagi's resignation from the position, who was instrumental in increasing the number of CSCs from 60,000 in 2014 to over 5 lakh at the moment.
32. Burjeel Holdings, a private healthcare services provider in the MENA region has signed Bollywood actor **Shah Rukh Khan** as its new brand ambassador.  
**Note:** The company is owned by UAE-based Indian entrepreneur Shamsheer Vayalil. The actor will appear in a multi-platform advertising campaign in the region for the group that will be unveiled in the coming weeks.
33. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has given its approval to the appointment of **Rama Subramaniam Gandhi** as the Non-Executive (Part-time) Chairman of Yes Bank with effect from September 20, for a tenure of 3 years.

- Note:** He is currently serving as a financial sector policy expert and adviser. He served as an RBI deputy governor for three years from 2014 to 2017. He also served as a director of Institute for Development and Research in Banking Technology (IDRBT), Hyderabad.
34. Along with KT Thomas (former SC judge) and Kariya Munda (former Deputy Speaker), **Ratan Tata (Tata Sons chairman)** has been appointed as the trustees of the PM CARES Fund.  
**Note:** The Trust further decided to nominate other eminent persons for the constitution of Advisory Board to the PM CARES Fund. Advisory Board: Rajiv Mehrishi, Sudha Murthy, and Anand Shah (Former CEO of Piramal Foundation).
35. Reserve Bank of India has approved the reappointment of **PR Ravi Mohan** as the Chairman of ESAF Small Finance Bank for a further period of three years from December 21, 2022.  
**Note:** He is a certified associate of the Indian Institute of Bankers. Previously, He was employed as a chief general manager in the department of banking supervision of the Reserve Bank of India. He was a resident advisor in financial sector supervision with IMF, AFRITAC South, Mauritius.
36. **Justice L Nageswara Rao** has been appointed the head of committee for amending constitution of Indian Olympic Association.  
**Note:** Responsibility: To prepare a road map for amending the constitution and holding elections by December 15, 2022. Background: IOC had issued a final warning to IOA to resolve its governance issues and hold elections by December. Impact: If failed to do so, then the world sports body will ban India.
37. **Max Life Insurance** company has appointed Indian men's cricket team captain, Rohit Sharma and his wife, Ritika Sajdeh as their new brand ambassadors for two years.  
**Note:** The core message of Max Life Insurance is to be prepared mentally, physically, and financially for emerging challenges. Aim: To promote the Max Life brand ethos of valuing the 'self' to determine the right financial value to protect themselves and their family.
38. The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has approved the re-appointment of **Dilip Asbe** as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer for a period of five years with effect from January 8, 2023.  
**Note:** He took charge as MD & CEO of NPCI in January 2018. Prior to this, he was the chief operating officer of NPCI for 5 years. NPCI was founded in 2008. It is an umbrella organisation which operates the country's retail payment and settlement systems.
39. **Dilip Tirkey** was unanimously elected as president of Hockey India (HI).
- Note:** He was member of the gold medal-winning team at the 1998 Asian Games. He has a record 412 international matches as a defender in his career spanning more than 15 years. He represented India at the Olympic Games in Atlanta in 1996, Sydney in 2000, and Athens in 2004. Bhola Nath Singh was elected the secretary general.
40. **Sanjai Kumar** has been appointed as the Chairman & Managing Director of RailTel.  
**Note:** He was currently working as director of networking, planning & marketing at the company. He is an officer of the Indian Railway Service of Signal Engineers (IRSSE1). RailTel is a "Mini Ratna (Category-I)" Central Public Sector Enterprise is an information and communications technology (ICT) provider. As on 30 June 2022, the Government of India holds 72.84% stake in the company.
41. The Central government has appointed **Dr Rajiv Bahl** as a Director General of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) cum- Secretary Department of Health Research (DHR) for three years.  
**Note:** Presently, He is serving as a head of the research on maternal, newborn child and adolescent health cum-newborn unit at WHO, Geneva. He has replaced Dr Balram Bhargav, whose tenure has been ended in July 2022.
42. **Giorgia Meloni** has become the first woman prime minister of Italy, after defeating, Mario Draghi by a huge margin.  
**Note:** She has joined politics at age 15 in 1992, joining the neo-fascist Social Movement. She has also served as a youth minister in Berlusconi's 2008-2011 government before founding the Brothers of Italy in 2012. Three prominent political leaders Meloni, La Russa, and Crosetto founded a new political movement Brothers of Italy in 2012.
43. **Bandaru Wilsonbabu** has been appointed as the next ambassador of India to the Republic of Madagascar.  
**Note:** He is presently serving as the joint secretary in the ministry of external affairs. He will be replacing ambassador Abhay Kumar. He has also served as the joint Secretary in the Eurasia division.
44. **Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman** has been appointed the prime minister of Saudi Arabia by the King Salman bin Abdulaziz.  
**Note:** He is already de facto ruler of the Saudi Arabia. Previously, he has served as the deputy prime minister as well as defence minister. He is being replaced as defence minister by his younger brother, Khalid bin Salman, who was deputy defence minister.
45. IAS officer of TN cadre, 1992-batch, Rajendra Kumar has been appointed the director general of **ESIC**.  
**Note:** He is currently an additional secretary in the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology. T Natarajan has been appointed as an additional

- secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs. V Hekali Zhimomi has been appointed as additional secretary in the Department of Health and Family Welfare.
- 46.** Government has appointed **Lt General Anil Chauhan (retired)** as the second Chief of Defense Staff (CDS) of India.  
**Note:** He had retired as the Eastern Army Commander in May 2021 and was serving as the Military Advisor to the National Security Council. He was commissioned into the 11 Gorkha Rifles of the Indian Army in 1981. He is an alumnus of the NDA (Khadakwasla) and Indian Military Academy, Dehradun. He has also served as a United Nations mission to Angola.
- 47. R Venkataramani** has been named as the 14th Attorney General of India for a period of three years w.e.f. 1st October 2022.  
**Note:** He will replace current Attorney General, KK Venugopal whose term ends on September 30, 2022. He was registered as a lawyer with the Bar Council of
- TN in 1977. In 1997, SC has designated him as Senior Advocate.
- 48.** Data Security Council of India (DSCI) has appointed **Vinayak Godse** as the new CEO of the organization.  
**Note:** Prior to this, he was serving as the senior vice president of organisation. He will succeed Rama Vedashree, who served DSCI for nearly six years. Vedashree has also served on the Justice BN Srikrishna committee, which was charged with developing a model for the nation's Personal Data Protection Bill.
- 49.** Britannia Industries has appointed **Rajneet Kohli** as executive director and chief executive officer effective September 26, 2022.  
**Note:** He has a 25-years long experience in Asian Paints and Coca-Cola and Britannia. He joined Britannia from food services company Jubilant FoodWorks. Under his leadership, Jubilant FoodWorks has delivered sustained profitable growth and emerged as the largest QSR chain.

## Important Days

### December 2022

- 1. Nagaland** has observed its 60th Statehood day on 1st December 2022.  
**Note:** It became the 16th State of the Union of India on 1st December 1963. On the occasion, the Chief Minister, Neiphiu Rio has launched 'SAHYOG project' of Nagaland Police and also flagged off Nagaland Police Special Operation Group Vehicles. Nagaland has also hosted the 23rd Hornbill Festival 2022 at Naga Heritage Village Kisama from 1st-10th December 2022. Chief guest of this festival(2022): VP Jagdeep Dhankhar
- 2. World AIDS Day** is observed annually on **December 1** to raise awareness and encourages progress in HIV and AIDS prevention, treatment and care.  
**Note:** Theme 2022: 'Equalize'. Focus of theme: To highlight the particular inequalities faced by HIV patients and to press for the actions needed to address them. WHO has founded this day on December 1 in 1988. In August 1988, James W. Bunn and Thomas Netter have conveyed the idea of AIDS day to the Director of AIDS Global Program.
- 3. World Soil Day** is observed annually on **December 5** to highlight the value of healthy soil and to promote the sustainable management of soil resources.  
**Note:** 2022 theme: Soils: Where food begins. In 2002, the International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS) has proposed to celebrate Soil Day. In June 2013, the FAO Conference endorsed the day and requested UN to adopt the day. This day was officially adopted by UNGA and December 5, 2014 celebrated as the first World Soil Day.
- 4. International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development** is observed ever year on **December 5**.  
**Note:** International Volunteer Day (IVD) 2022 celebrates the theme of solidarity through volunteering. The international observance was mandated by the United Nations (UN) General Assembly in 1985. The day commemorates 80 countries in the world.
- 5. Navy Day in India** is observed annually on **December 4** to recognise the contributions and accomplishments of Indian Naval forces.  
**Note:** In 2022, Navy Day was celebrated outside Delhi. The Eastern Naval Command at Visakhapatnam hosts numerous activities and events.
- 6. December 3rd** is celebrated as the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, worldwide.  
**Note:** The day is observed to highlight issues that affect people with disabilities and to champion their well-being, their dignity and fundamental rights. The theme of International Day of Persons with Disabilities, this year, is "Transformative solutions for inclusive development: the role of innovation in fuelling an accessible and equitable world".
- 7. International Civil Aviation Day** is observed every year on **December 7** to promote the importance of international civil aviation.

- Note:** 2022 theme: Advancing Innovation for Global Aviation Development. The theme will remain the same until the year 2023. In 1996, the UN General Assembly has formally recognised December 7 as International Civil Aviation Day. Safety standards in international aviation are maintained by the ICAO (an autonomous UN body).
8. International Anti-Corruption Day is observed annually on **December 9** to raise public awareness on malpractice of corruption and its effects.  
**Note:** 2022 Theme: Uniting the world against corruption. The UN General Assembly has adopted the UN Convention against Corruption on October 31, 2003 and designated Dec 9 as International Anti-Corruption Day. According to the UNDP, the approximately US\$13 trillion that governments spend on public spending, up to 25% is lost to corruption.
9. Human Rights Day is observed every year on **10th December** marking the day when United Nations General Assembly adopted Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) in 1948.  
**Note:** Theme 2022: Dignity, Freedom, and Justice for All. UDHR: It is a milestone document, which proclaims the inalienable rights that everyone is entitled to as a human being regardless of race, colour, religion, sex, language, political, national or social origin, property, birth, or other status.
10. Nobel Prize Day is observed every year on **10th December** to honor the achievements of Alfred Bernhard Nobel, a Swedish engineer, chemist, entrepreneur, and philanthropist.  
**Note:** Five Nobel Prize in physics, chemistry, physiology or medicine, literature, and peace are awarded annually on 10th December since 1901. Every year, a ceremony is held in Stockholm, Sweden on 10 December on the anniversary of Alfred Nobel's death
11. International Mountain Day is celebrated annually on **December 11** to raise the awareness of the value of mountains to both life and climate.  
**Note:** The theme of this year's International Mountain Day (IMD) is 'Women Move Mountains.' The UN Conference on Environment and Development has accepted Chapter 13 of Agenda 21: Managing Fragile Ecosystems: Sustainable Mountain Development in 1992. This day was celebrated in 2003.
12. International Universal Health Coverage Day is celebrated annually on **12th December** to promote the importance of building robust healthcare systems globally.  
**Note:** 2022 Theme: Build the world we want: A healthy future for all The UNGA has passed a resolution on December 12, 2012, to encourage nations worldwide to put efforts into the advancements of Universal Healthcare. In 2017, the UN has declared 12th December to observe International Universal Health Coverage day.
13. **14th Dec, 2022** has been observed as the National Energy Conservation Day by the Ministry of Power.  
**Note:** The ministry has organised an event to celebrate this day in New Delhi. Aim: To showcase the achievements of the nation in energy efficiency and conservation. President Droupadi Murmu is the Chief Guest of the event and has felicitated the winners of the National Energy Conservation and National Energy Efficiency Innovation Awards. During the event, she has also launched EV Yatra Portal and Mobile application.
14. National Minorities Rights Day is commemorated on **December 18** every year in India.  
**Note:** Its aim is to safeguard the individual rights of the religious, ethnic, racial, or linguistic minorities in the country. This day is a reminder about the rights of minorities and to raise awareness about it.
15. International Migrants Day is observed annually on **December 18** to bring attention to the social and economic realities of migrants around the world.  
**Note:** This day is observed to guarantee that the rights of migrants are equally respected and not violated. The mobility of people is still influenced by a range of factors despite the world's rapid growth and change.
16. Goa has observed its Liberation day every year on December 19 in India to mark the victory of Indian armed forces to free from 450 years of the Portuguese rule.  
**Note:** Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia led the Goa liberation movement on June 18, 1946, with the aim of liberating Goa by gathering young Goans. The Union of India was completed with Goa's liberation on December 19, 1961. Goa continued to be a UT till 1987 and then was given statehood by becoming the 25th state of India.
17. International Human Solidarity Day (IHSD) is observed annually on **December 20** across the globe to celebrate the ideal of unity in diversity.  
**Note:** IHSD highlights the goal of the United Nations and its member states to create awareness about poverty and the need to reduce poverty in independent nations. The annual celebration reminds world citizens of the issues faced by poor people and nations affected by poverty.
18. National Mathematics Day is celebrated on **December 22** across the nation every year.  
**Note:** The National Mathematics Day is marked to recognise and celebrate the works of Srinivasa Ramanujan. Srinivasa Ramanujan, the Indian mathematical genius, was born on this day in 1887.



This year nation celebrates his 135th birth anniversary of Ramanujan.

19. **December 23** is observed as Farmers' Day or Kisan Diwas across India.

**Note:** Farmers are the backbone of our economy and to honour their hardship, this day was coined by the government of India in 2001. This day also marks the birth anniversary of the 'Champion of Indian Peasants' and the fifth Prime Minister of India, Chaudhary Charan Singh.

20. Every year on **December 24** India observed the National Consumer Day or Bharatiya Grahak Diwas.

**Note:** This day is used to make all consumers aware of their powers and rights. This day was made under the Consumer Protection Act, which came to power in 1986 to create awareness and save consumers from market exploitation like defective products or expensive pricing.

21. India observed "Good Governance Day" on **25th December** to mark the birth anniversary of former Indian Prime Minister, Atal Vihari Vajpayee.

**Note:** In 2014, PM Narendra Modi has announced to observe "Good Governance Day" every year on December 25 in memory of the former PM. Purpose of this day: To increase public access to various government programmes and services via good governance. It was established with the slogan "Good Governance through e-Governance."

22. India has observed first 'Veer Bal Diwas' on **December 26** to honor the 'Sahibzadas', the four sons of Guru Gobind Singh.

**Note:** This day is observed to pay honor and tribute to the sacrifices made by Sahibzada Zorawar Singh (6) and Sahibzada Fateh Singh (9), who were laid down their lives while defending their faith in Sirhind, Punjab. Veer Bal Diwas has been celebrated at an event hosted by PM Narendra Modi at Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, Delhi.

### November 2022

1. President, Droupadi Murmu has inaugurated 7th edition of India's Water Week in Greater Noida on **November 1, 2022**.

**Note:** 2022 theme: "Water Security for Sustainable Development and Equity". This event was organised by the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development, and Ganga Rejuvenation till the 5th of November. Aim: To raise awareness, conserve and use water resources in an integrated manner.

2. The University Grants Commission has declared **December 11** as a 'Bharatiya Bhasha Divas' every year.

**Note:** Aim: To create language harmony and develop a conducive environment for learning Indian languages. The committee has selected December 11 as Bharatiya Bhasha Divas to mark the birth anniversary of poet Subramania Bharati, who was a pioneer of modern Tamil poetry.

3. Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) was observed Vigilance Awareness Week on **31st October 2022 to 6th November, 2022**.

**Note:** Theme 2022: Corruption free India for a developed Nation. During the Vigilance Awareness Week, public meetings held at district and block levels in order to raise public awareness against perils of corruption. CVC has the mandate under the CVC Act, 2003 to fight corruption and to ensure integrity in public administration.

4. World Radiography Day is observed annually on **November 8** to mark the anniversary of the discovery of x-rays.

**Note:** 2022 theme: Radiographers at the Forefront of Patient Safety. The X-ray was discovered by Professor Wilhelm Conrad Roentgen (Wuerzburg University, Germany) in 1895.

5. Public Service Broadcasting Day is celebrated on **12th November** every year.

**Note:** This day is commemorate the only visit of Mahatma Gandhi to All India Radio in Delhi in 1947. The day was declared as Public Service Broadcasting Day or (Jan Prasaran Diwas) in 2001.

6. **Second Thursday of November** has observed as the World Usability Day annually.

**Note:** The date is also mentioned on the UN calendar. World Usability Day, which will fall on November 10 this year, is also known as 'Make Things Easier' day. "The theme of World Usability Day 2022 is "Our Health".

7. The National Education Day is observed annually on **November 11** in India.

**Note:** This day marks the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, who was India's first education minister after independence. He was awarded Bharat Ratna posthumously, India's highest civilian honour in 1992.

8. The World Science Day for Peace and Development annually on **November 10**.

**Note:** It was proclaimed by the UN Educational, Scientific and UNESCO in 2001 under the UNESCO 31 C/Resolution 20. This year's theme for World Science Day for Peace and Development is "Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development".

9. National Legal Services Day is marked every year on **9th November**.  
**Note:** It celebrates the commencement of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 which came into force on this very day in 1995. The Legal Services Authorities Act of 1987 was passed on October 11, 1987, and took effect on November 9, 1995.
10. The International Week of Science and Peace every year around the globe -- **November 9 to November 14**.  
**Note:** This week is an initiative taken by the United Nations (UN), hoping to make people contribute towards the encouragement and promotion of peace across the globe.
11. World Diabetes Day is observed every year on **November 14** to bring the attention of the people to health threats posed by diabetes.  
**Note:** The theme of World Diabetes Day 2022 is "access to diabetes education". This day was first observed in the year 1991 by the declaration of the International Diabetes Federation (IDF) and World Health Organisation (WHO). This day mark the birth anniversary of Frederick Banting, who, along with Charles Best, have discovered insulin.
12. The World Kindness Day is observed every year on **November 13** to promote kindness and support this fundamental attribute that links people from all walks of life.  
**Note:** The theme for World Kindness Day 2022 is 'Kindness makes you live longer'. This day was commenced in 1998 by an organisation named World Kindness Movement during the 1997 Tokyo conference. In 2019, under Swiss law, this organisation was registered as an official NGO.
13. Janjatiya Gaurav Divas is observed on **15th November** across the nation, to commemorate the contributions of tribal communities in the nation's history and culture.  
**Note:** On this day, President Droupadi Murmu has paid tributes to Bhagwan Birsa Munda at Ulihatu village in Jharkhand. Birsa Munda was born on 15th November 1875 in a Munda tribe.
14. India has recognized National Epilepsy Day on **17th November** annually to raise awareness about Epilepsy.  
**Note:** According to the Epilepsy Foundation, 2022 theme is "There is no NEAM without ME". November is observed as the Epilepsy Awareness Month to educate and aware people about the signs, symptoms and impact of this disease. Epilepsy: A disease that affects the central nervous system of the brain. International Epilepsy Day: Second Monday of February.
15. National Newborn Week is celebrated every year in the week of **15 to 21 November** to reinforce the importance of neonatal health as a priority area of the health sector.  
**Note:** Main causes of newborn death: Prematurity; Complications during birth; Severe infections; Causes of newborn deaths in India. This day is observed by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. The India Newborn Action Plan (INAP) was launched in 2014, in response to global Every Newborn Action Plan (of WHO).
16. World Antimicrobial Awareness Week is observed every year in the week of **November 18 to 24**.  
**Note:** Aim: To spread awareness about antibiotic or antimicrobial resistance. Theme 2022: Preventing Antimicrobial Resistance Together. According to WHO, Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) occurs when bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites change over time and no longer respond to medicines. This day was first observed in 2015.
17. The United Nations has observed World Toilet Day on **November 19** annually with an aim to raise public awareness of broader sanitation systems such as wastewater treatment, and hand washing.  
**Note:** World Toilet Day 2022 Theme: Making the Invisible Visible This day was established in 2001 by Singaporean philanthropist Jack Sim (Founder of the World Toilet Organization).
18. World Children's Day is celebrated on **November 20** annually to promote international togetherness and awareness among children as well as to improve their welfare.  
**Note:** This day marks the anniversary of the UN General Assembly adopted a Declaration and Convention on children's rights. Theme 2022: Inclusion, For Every Child. This day was first celebrated as Universal Children's Day, in 1954.
19. National Naturopathy Day is observed in India every year **18th November** to promote positive mental and physical health through drug-free therapy.  
**Note:** National Naturopathy Day was established on November 18th 2018 by the Ministry of AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy), Government of India. The Theme for this year's event is "Naturopathy: an Integrative medicine".
20. The Constitution Day is celebrated every year on **November 26** to commemorate the adoption of the Constitution of India.  
**Note:** On this day, PM Modi has launched various initiatives. Virtual Justice Clock: To exhibit vital statistics of the justice delivery system at the Court level. JustIS Mobile App 2.0: Tool for judicial officers for effective court and case management by monitoring pendency and disposal. Digital court:

The court records available to the judge in digitised form

- 21.** The International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women has been observed every year on **November 25** to pay tribute to the Mirabal sisters, the Dominican Republic activists who were murdered at the order of Rafael Trujillo in 1960.

**Note:** 2022 theme: UNITE! Activism to End Violence against Women & Girls. On 7 February 2000, the General Assembly has adopted the resolution 54/134 to officially designate 25 November as day for Elimination of Violence against Women

- 22.** International Jaguar Day is observed annually on **November 29**.

**Note:** Aim: To raise awareness about the increasing threats facing the jaguar and the critical

conservation efforts ensuring its survival. International Jaguar Day celebrates the Americas' largest wild cat as an umbrella species for biodiversity conservation. It is an icon for sustainable development and the centuries-old cultural heritage of Central and South America. This is the third largest Cat Predator of the World and an important species of Amazon Rainforest.

- 23.** Day of Remembrance for all Victims of Chemical Warfare is commemorated on **November 30**.

**Note:** It was adopted by the United Nations to remember the victims of chemical warfare. Aim: To encourage efforts for eliminating the use of chemical weapons and remember those who have suffered because of such warfare.

### October 2022

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Note:** 2022 Theme: The Transformation of Education Begins with Teachers. It is observed all over the

world over since 1994 after the UNESCO recommendation. On October 5th, 1966, International Labour Organization (ILO) and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco) have signed a recommendation concerning the "Status of Teachers".

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

**Note:** 2022 theme is "Space and Sustainability". This day observed to celebrate science and technology, and their contribution towards the betterment of the human condition. October 4 marks the launch of the first human-made Earth satellite, Sputnik 1. The first time this event was celebrated was in 2000. In 2000, the theme was "Launching the Space Millennium."

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

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

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

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

8. The annual observance of World Day for Farmed Animals (W DFA) on **October 2nd (Gandhi's birthday)**.  
**Note:** The day is organised by the International animal welfare organization, World Animal Protection along with Asia for Animals coalition to show the importance and urgency of farm animal welfare.
9. The International Day of Non-Violence is observed on **2nd October**.  
**Note:** This day marks the birthday anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. The day is observed to spread the message of non-violence through public awareness and education. Mahatma Gandhi was born on October 2, 1869. This year, Gandhi Jayanti will mark the 153rd birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
10. Every year, International Coffee Day is observed on **October 1** to celebrate and promote the use of coffee.  
**Note:** The day is marked to celebrate "the coffee sector's diversity, quality and passion." It is an opportunity for coffee lovers to share their love of the beverage and support farmers whose livelihood depends on the aromatic crop.
11. World Cerebral Palsy Day is observed on **October 6**.  
**Note:** Cerebral Palsy is a lifelong disability with no known cure. The Theme for World Cerebral Palsy Day 2022 is "Millions of Reasons". In 1810, Dr. William John Little, the first person to study Cerebral Palsy was born. Harry Jennings built the first modern folding wheelchair in 1932.
12. World Vegetarian Day is celebrated on **first day of October**.  
**Note:** It also kickstarts Vegetarian Awareness Month. Aim: To encourages people to reduce their consumption of animal products. The day is commemorated to create awareness about the benefits of vegetarianism.
13. Indian Air Force Day is observed every year on **8th October**.  
**Note:** Indian Air Force (IAF) was officially established on 8th October 1932, as an auxiliary air force of the British Empire which honoured India's aviation service during World War II with the prefix Royal. First aircraft of IAF came into being on 1st April 1933 with six RAF-trained officers and 19 Havai Sepoys (air soldiers). IAF is celebrating the 90th foundation day in 2022.
14. World Mental Health Day is observed on **October 10** to draw attention to mental health issues and their effects.  
**Note:** The theme for 2022 is "Make mental health & well-being for all a global priority." The then World Federation for Mental Health (WFMH) Deputy Secretary General, Richard Hunter had initiated the first celebration of World Mental Health Day on October 10, 1992. WFMH is a non-governmental organisation founded in 1948.
15. **October 9** is celebrated as Indian Foreign Service Day.  
**Note:** On 9 October 1946, the Indian government established the Indian Foreign Service for India's diplomatic, consular and commercial representation overseas.
16. World Post Day is celebrated each year on **9 October** to mark the anniversary of the establishment of the Universal Postal Union.  
**Note:** It was established on 9th October 1874 in the Swiss Capital, Bern. It was declared World Post Day by the UPU Congress held in Tokyo, Japan in 1969. The theme for World Post Day 2022 is 'Post for Planet'.
17. The International Day of the Girl Child is observed annually on **October 11** to raise awareness about the gender inequality faced by girls worldwide.  
**Note:** Theme 2022: 'Our time is now - our rights, our future.' On December 2011, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) has adopted resolution to declare 11th October as this day. This day was first celebrated on October 11, 2012.
18. World Arthritis Day is observed globally on **12th October** every year to raise awareness about the existence and impact of rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases.  
**Note:** The theme for 2022 is "It's in your hands, take action". The first World Arthritis Day was observed in 1996, in collaboration with The Arthritis and Rheumatism International Foundation.
19. The International E-Waste Day is held on **14 October** to raise awareness about the impacts of e-waste.  
**Note:** This day was first observed in 2018 by the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment recycling (WEEE) Forum. 2022 Slogan: Recycle it all, no matter how small!. UN had estimated that in 2019, over 22 million tonnes small e-waste were produced worldwide.
20. World Standards Day is observed every year on **October 14** to raise awareness about the importance of using standardised measurements, technologies, and industries.  
**Note:** The theme for World Standards Day 2022 is 'Shared Vision for a Better World.'
21. Global Handwashing Day is marked on **October 15** with the aim of increasing awareness and understanding about the importance of handwashing with soap.  
**Note:** 2022 theme: Unite for Universal Hand Hygiene. The Global Handwashing Partnership has observed the first Global Handwashing Day in 2008 in Stockholm, Sweden. 2008 was also marked the International Year of Sanitation. Later, the United



- Nations General Assembly marked it as Global Handwashing Day.
22. The International Day of Rural women is observed across the world on **October 15** to promote gender quality and highlight the important role played by women in rural areas.  
**Note:** The United Nations General Assembly has established this day on December 18, 2007. The theme for 2022 is “Rural Women Cultivating Good Food for All”. As per a UN report, approximately 40% of the total agricultural labour force in developing countries comprises women.
  23. World Food Day is observed annually on **16 October** to promote global awareness and action for those who suffer from hunger and to highlight the need to ensure healthy diets for all.  
**Note:** 2022 theme: Leave NO ONE behind. This day is led by Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). UN's FAO was established on 16th October, 1945.
  24. International Day for the Eradication of Poverty is observed every year on **October 17**.  
**Note:** Aim: To raise awareness about the global issue of poverty and how it is a violation of human rights and of human dignity. 2022 theme: Dignity For All in Practice. On December 22, 1992, the United Nations General Assembly, through resolution 47/196 declared 17 October as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty.
  25. On **October 20th** International Chefs Day is observed to honour the culinary masters who have protected the value of food and are passing on the same message to future generations.  
**Note:** The theme for this year is “Growing A Healthy Future.” The idea behind this theme is to ensure a healthy and sustainable planet for future generations.
  26. World Statistics Day 2022 is celebrated annually on **October 20th** to recognize the importance of statistics in our daily lives.  
**Note:** The United Nations Statistical Commission has been at the forefront of advocating for the use of statistics to track progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The theme of Statistics Day, 2022 is “Data for Sustainable Development”.
  27. World osteoporosis day is a global healthcare event observed every year on **20 October**.  
**Note:** The day is observed to promote the early diagnosis of osteoporosis, its treatment and preventive tips for strong bones. This year 2022, the World Osteoporosis Day theme is “Step Up For Bone Health”
  28. On **October 17** World Trauma Day is observed to prevent the increasing rate of accidents and injuries causing death and disability across the world.  
**Note:** The day was created in New Delhi, India, in 2011.
  29. October 15 is celebrated as World Students' Day to commemorate the birth anniversary of **Dr APJ Abdul Kalam**.  
**Note:** He was an Aerospace scientist and former President of India. The day is marked to acknowledge his efforts toward students and education. Dr Kalam was born on October 15, 1931.
  30. World Polio Day 2022 has observed every year on **October 24** to raise awareness about the polio vaccination and eradication of polio.  
**Note:** 2022 theme: World Polio Day 2022 and Beyond: A healthier future for mothers and children. This day was established in 1985 by Rotary International to commemorate the birth of Jonas Salk. Jonas Salk was the lead medical researcher of the team that developed a vaccine against polio.
  31. World Day for Audiovisual Heritage is observed on **October 27** every year to promote the importance of such preservation.  
**Note:** Theme 2022: Enlisting documentary heritage to promote inclusive, just and peaceful societies. The Recommendation for the Safeguarding and Preservation of Moving Images was adopted in the 21st General Conference of UNESCO held on October 27, 1980, at Belgrade, Serbia.

## 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 Rashtriya Poshan Maah 2022 across the nation from 1st September till 30th September.  
**Note:** Rashtriya Poshan Maah serves as a platform to bring focus to the discourse of nutrition and good health. The Central Theme of Poshan Maah 2022 is “Mahila aur Swasthya” and “Bachaur Shiksha”.
  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 First 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.
  15. India observes National Engineer’s Day on **September 15** every year to recognise the contribution of engineers in the development of the nation.  
**Note:** This day commemorates the birth anniversary of Sir Moksha Gundam Visvesvaraya, who is considered one of the greatest engineers of India. MV was the Chief Engineer of Krishna Raja Sagar dam in the north-west suburb of Mysuru city. Along with India, Sri Lanka and Tanzania also celebrate Engineers Day on September 15, 2022.
  16. **Indian Swachhata League** has started Swachh Amrit Mahotsav, fortnight of activities to galvanize action around swachhata from 17th September 2022, Seva Diwas, till 2nd October 2022, Gandhi Jayanti.

- Note:** It began with whole-hearted participation and the presence of highly motivated youth teams carrying with pride their own team identity. It is an inter-city competition played on the parameters of swachhata powered by the youth of the city.
- 17. World Patient Safety Day** is observed every year on 17th September to create awareness about different safety measures that should be taken to ensure patient safety.  
**Note:** It is one of the WHO's global public health days. It was established in 2019 by the 72nd World Health Assembly through the adoption of resolution WHA72.6 – Global action on patient safety. Theme of Patient Safety Day 2022: Medication without Harm.
- 18.** The International Week of the Deaf (IWD) is observed on the full week ending on **last Sunday** of September.  
**Note:** In 2022, IWD is being observed from September 19 to 25 September 2022. The theme of the 2022: Building Inclusive Communities for All. It is an initiative of the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) and was first launched in 1958 in Rome, Italy to commemorate the month when the first World Congress of the WFD was held.
- 19.** World Bamboo Day 2022 is observed on **September 18** in order to raise awareness about the conservation of this extremely useful plant.  
**Note:** This day has been conceptualised by the World Bamboo Organisation (WBO). This day also promotes the bamboo industry by highlighting its concerns. WBD was officially declared by the World Bamboo Organization on September 18 at the 8th World Bamboo Congress held in Bangkok in 2009.
- 20.** International Equal Pay Day, celebrated on **18 September** to represent the longstanding efforts towards the achievement of equal pay for work of equal value.  
**Note:** International Equal Pay Day was first observed back in 1996 by the National Committee on Pay Equity. The goal was to achieve pay equity. It was not until 2019 that the Equal Pay International Coalition began officially marking it as a day to raise awareness.
- 21.** World Patient Safety Day is observed every year on **17 September** to create awareness about different safety measures that should be taken to ensure patient safety.  
**Note:** Theme: Medication Safety along with the slogan 'Medication Without Harm' with a call to action to 'Know, Check & Ask'.
- 22.** World Ozone Day or the International Day for the preservation of the Ozone Layer is observed on **16th of September**.  
**Note:** The day aims to create awareness about the importance and need of the Ozone layer which is the single protection on Earth against UV rays coming out from the sun. Theme: Global Cooperation Protecting Life on Earth.
- 23.** World Lymphoma Awareness Day (WLAD) is held on **September 15** every year to raise the awareness of lymphoma, an increasingly common form of cancer.  
**Note:** It is a global initiative hosted by the Lymphoma Coalition.
- 24.** International Day of Democracy is observed on **September 15**.  
**Note:** This year, this day marks the 15th anniversary of the International Day of Democracy. This year, the day is focused on the "importance of media freedom to democracy, peace, and delivering on the Sustainable Development Goals". The International Day of Democracy was established after a resolution was passed by the United Nations General Assembly in 2007.
- 25.** World Alzheimer's Day is observed every year on **September 21** to raise awareness about neurological disorders.  
**Note:** The theme 2022: know dementia, know Alzheimer's. Alzheimer's disease: It is the most common form of dementia. It destroys the brain cells which causes memory loss, memory changes, erratic behaviour, and loss of body functions.
- 26.** The International Day of Peace is observed globally on **September 21** to promote ideals of peace among nations and people by observing non-violence and ceasefire for 24 hours.  
**Note:** Theme for the International Day of Peace 2022 is "End racism. Build peace." The day was established in 1981 by the United Nations General Assembly.
- 27.** World Rhino Day is observed every year on **22nd September** to spread awareness about the different Rhinoceros species.  
**Note:** This day also celebrates all five rhino species namely the Sumatran, Black, Greater One-horned, Javan, and White rhino species. The theme 2022: "Five Rhino Species Forever". The announcement of this day was done in 2010 by WWF-South Africa. This day was first observed in 2011 and since then it has been observed worldwide.
- 28.** The United Nations has declared **23rd September** as the International Day of Sign Languages to spread the awareness about the importance of sign language in the realization of the human rights of people who are deaf.  
**Note:** Theme 2022: Sign Languages Unite us. The first International Day of Sign Languages was celebrated in 2018 as part of the International Week of the Deaf. Indian govt conduct Sign Language Day event, in which Indian Sign Language Dictionary App launched.

29. The World Pharmacists Day is observed every year on **September 25** to highlight the role of pharmacists and pay them a tribute.  
**Note:** This day was introduced in 2009 by the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) council in Istanbul. Theme 2022: Pharmacy united in action for a healthier world. This date was selected to observe World Pharmacists Day as the International Pharmaceutical Federation was established on this day in 1912.
30. World Tourism Day 2022 is observed annually on **27 September** to promote tourism in various parts of the world.  
**Note:** The theme of World Tourism Day 2022 is 'Rethinking Tourism'. This day was initiated by the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) in 1979. This date was selected by UNWTO, because the date marks the anniversary of the adoption of the Statutes of UNWTO. In 1997, UNWTO decided that the day would be celebrated in different host countries each year.
31. World River Day 2022 is observed on **September 25** to raise awareness regarding water bodies and to promote their conservation.  
**Note:** It is observed every year on the fourth Sunday of September. This day highlights the values of rivers and strives to increase public awareness and encourages the improved supervision of rivers around the world. The theme for this year's World Rivers Day is 'The importance of Rivers to Biodiversity'.
32. World Environmental Health Day is observed on **September 26** every year.  
**Note:** Aim: To increase public awareness of the environment's condition and encourage people to take the required steps to stop it from getting worse. The theme for this year's World Environment Health Day is "Strengthening Environmental Health Systems for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals".
33. International Daughter's Day is observed every year on **Fourth Sunday of September**.  
**Note:** This year, the day is being celebrated on September 25. To mark this day, people across the globe celebrate by spending some quality time with their daughters and doing something special for them.
34. World Contraception Day is marked on **September 26** to raise awareness about contraceptive knowledge and family planning.  
**Note:** According to the World Health Organisation, the significance of World Contraception Day is captured in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
35. The United Nations observes on **26 September** every year as the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons.  
**Note:** Aim: To enhance public awareness about the threat posed to humanity by nuclear weapons and the necessity for their total elimination. It provides an opportunity to educate the public and their leaders about the real benefits of eliminating such weapons, and the social and economic costs of perpetuating them.
36. Antyodaya Diwas is celebrated annually on **25th September** in India.  
**Note:** It marks the birth anniversary of Indian leader Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya and is celebrated in his honour to remember his life and legacy. In 2022, the Antyodaya Diwas marks the 105th birth anniversary of Upadhyaya. He was the co-founder of Bharatiya Jana Sangh (BJS) and a Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) thinker.
37. World Rabies Day is celebrated each year on **September 28** to promote the fight against Rabies and raise awareness of its prevention.  
**Note:** As per the World Health Organisation, the theme of World Rabies Day 2022 is 'Rabies: One Health, Zero Deaths.' This day was first observed in 2007 to raise awareness about the world's deadliest infectious disease. The campaign was started as a partnership between many organizations including the Alliance for Rabies Control.
38. The International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI) is observed on **September 28** every year to raise awareness regarding the need to expand laws related to information.  
**Note:** Aim: To support the idea that everyone has the right to seek, receive, and distribute information. The theme of the Global Conference in 2022 is "Artificial Intelligence, e-Governance and Access to Information". On 17 November 2015, UNESCO has declared September 28 is date as IDUAI.
39. World Heart Day is observed every year on **September 29** to raise awareness about the cardiovascular issues and illnesses.  
**Note:** Theme 2022: Use Heart for Every Heart. This day was created in the collaboration of the World Health Organization and the World Heart Federation (WHF). The President of WHF, Antoni Bayes de Luna, who served in the position from 1997 to 1999, had come up with this idea. Earlier, this day was originally celebrated on September 24, 2000.
40. The International Maritime Organization (IMO) observes World Maritime Day on **last Thursday** of September.  
**Note:** This year, it was observed on September 29. Focus: Draw public attention to maritime safety and the marine environment. 2022 Theme: New



technologies for greener shipping. World Maritime Day was celebrated for the first time on March 17,

1978. The IMO was founded in 1948 to oversee the shipping sector.

## Important News – National (India)

### December 2022

1. According to the Special Bulletin released by the Registrar General of India, Maternal Mortality Ratio(MMR) of India has been declined from 130 in 2014-16 to **97 per lakh live births** per lakh live births in 2018-20.  
**Note:** MMR: The number of maternal deaths during a given time period per one lakh live births. With this, the country has accomplished the National Health Policy target for MMR of less than 100 per lakh live births. Target: SDG target of MMR of less than 70 per lakh live births by 2030
2. A first of its kind, Tribal Winter Festival was organised in **Bandipora district** of Jammu and Kashmir.  
**Note:** This festival was organised by the district administration in collaboration with various departments at Ketson. Aim: To attract tourists and boost employment opportunities. People from Gujjars and Bakerwals (Kashmiri community) have danced together to the beats of dhol (drum).
3. Amara Raja Batteries Ltd will be setting up a state-of-the-art research and manufacturing facility for lithium-ion batteries in **Mahbubnagar** district of Telangana.  
**Note:** It intends to invest over ₹9,500 crore over the next 10 years in the lithium cell giga factory. The facility will be set up with an ultimate capacity up to 16 GWh and a battery pack assembly unit up to 5 GWh. The upcoming facilities are expected to provide employment opportunities to about 4,000 people.
4. **Dr. Virendra Kumar (Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment)** has inaugurated the Divya Kala Mela in Kartavya Path at India Gate, Delhi.  
**Note:** The Divya Kala Mela was started on 2nd and will continue till 7th December. Aim: To provide a great platform for the products and craftsmanship of Divyang artisans, craftsmen and artisans from across the country. The four finance corporations under this ministry, NHFDC, NBCFDC, NSFDC and NSKDFC will provide financial assistance.
5. The govt of India has organised the 'Millets-Smart Nutritive Food' Conclave in **New Delhi** on December 5, 2022.  
**Note:** This conclave is a pre-launch event of the International Year of Millets - 2023. This event was organised by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry through the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA). The government has also released e-catalogue on 30 potential importing countries and 21 millet producing states of India.
6. India's first Dark Night Sky Reserve will soon establish in **Hanle** village of Changthang region, Ladakh.  
**Note:** In about eighteen locations in Hanley, powerful telescopes will be installed for stargazing. Hanle is home for the 2nd highest optical telescope in the world, was established in 2001 by Indian Institute of Astrophysics. After an MoU between UT Administration, Leh Hill council and Indian Institute of Astrophysics, necessary approvals were received from Department of S&T.
7. **Coca-Cola India** beverage company has partnered with Adani Digital Labs (subsidiary of Adani Group) for product sampling and develop deep consumer insights.  
**Note:** Under this, new products 'Fanta Apple Delite' and 'Charged by Thums Up' will be made available for sampling at some of India's top airports. Adani Digital Labs allows brands to interact with large numbers of travellers and target customers with high spending and purchasing power.
8. During the Make in Odisha Conclave 2022, Government of Odisha has signed an MoU with BSE and **NSE** to enable local MSMEs to access the capital markets.  
**Note:** As per the agreement, BSE and NSE shall provide handholding to MSME to impart training and education required for listing and improving financial credibility. During the session, a few initiatives were announced including, the launch of electronic Bank guarantees in collaboration with National EGovernance Services Ltd.
9. **Ministry of Civil Aviation** has notified the operational guidelines for the PLI scheme for drones and drone components in India.  
**Note:** This will fulfill India's aim of becoming a prominent drone manufacturing hub by 2030. The govt has approved the PLI scheme with an outlay of Rs 120 crore and the scheme which will be in force till March 31 2025. Under the PLI scheme, the total incentive per manufacturer is capped at Rs 30 crore.

10. The researchers of **IIT Madras** have developed and deployed a system that could generate electricity using energy from sea waves.  
**Note:** The system named Sindhuja-I, which was deployed by the researchers about six kilometres from the coast of Tuticorin in Tamil Nadu, where the sea has a depth of about 20 metres. Currently, Sindhuja-I can produce 100 watts of energy. It will be scaled up to produce one megawatt of energy in the next three years.
11. India has inked an agreement on a Comprehensive Migration and Mobility Partnership with **Germany** to help the citizens of both the nations to study, do research and work in each other's country.  
**Note:** The agreement was signed between S Jaishankar (External Affairs Minister) and his German counterpart Annalena Baerbock in New Delhi. This agreement also facilitates the mobility and employment opportunities for fostering the exchange of skills and talents.
12. India will provide technical support to **Sri Lanka** to enhance its dairy industry and milk output with an aim to reduce the dependence on imported milk products.  
**Note:** NDDB and the Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation have taken steps to provide necessary technical support for the production of milk in Sri Lanka. Sri Lankan President, Ranil Wickremesinghe has also appointed a panel to prepare a short, medium and long-term plan to increase local milk production.
13. **Bharti Airtel** has signed an agreement with the Facebook parent Meta to develop undersea cable infrastructure.  
**Note:** Aim: To support high-speed internet in the country and boost data-carrying capacities between geographies. The two companies (Airtel and Meta), along with Saudi Telecommunication Company, will bring the world's longest subsea cable system 2Africa Pearls to India, at Airtel's landing station in Mumbai.
14. India's premier show on Technical Textiles, 'Technotex 2023' will be held in **Mumbai** from 22nd to 24th February 2023.  
**Note:** Focus: To provide access and networking opportunities to meet top CEOs, manufacturers, industry peers, purchase managers and suppliers from India and around the globe. The event will be organized by the Ministry of Textiles in collaboration with Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce Industry, under National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM).
15. The National Small Industries Corporation Limited has signed an MoU with **Walmart Global Sourcing India Private Limited** on 6th December, 2022 to extend the NSIC schemes and other services to MSMEs.  
**Note:** The MoU was signed by Gaurang Dixit (Chairman, NSIC) and Prameela Mallaiah (Director and Hub Leader, Walmart) in the presence of Union Minister of MSME, Narayan Rane. Through this MoU, NSIC will extend the NSIC schemes and other services to MSMEs who would participate in various Vridhhi program.
16. **Adani Green Energy Limited (AGEL)** has commissioned a 450 MW wind-solar hybrid power plant in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan.  
**Note:** With the new hybrid plant, AGEL has become the largest operational hybrid power generation capacity of 1,440 MW. AGEL has a total operational generation capacity of 7.17 GW, making it the largest wind-solar hybrid power farm developer. According to the company, the plant has Power Purchase Agreements (PPA) with SECI at Rs 2.67/kwh for 25 years.
17. **27th** edition of International Film Festival of Kerala has been started at Nishagandhi auditorium in Thiruvananthapuram on 9th December, 2022.  
**Note:** The event was inaugurated by Kerala CM, Pinarayi Vijayan and presided by Minister, VN Vasavan. Iranian director Mahnaz Mohammadi, who fights for women's freedom in Iran has bagged the Spirit of Cinema Award 2022. It is one of the distinguished film festivals of India, which is hosted by the Kerala Chalachitra Academy.
18. The Central Government has permitted Work From Home till **31st of December, 2023** to 100% of employees of the Special Economic Zones (SEZ) units.  
**Note:** This decision was made after duly noting the genuine needs of the industry and the scope of benefits to economies of Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities. Government has also issued a Standard Operating Procedure to streamline the implementation of amended rules across SEZs.
19. **University Grants Commission (UGC)** has announced Four-Year Under-Graduate Programme (FYUP), that will be adopted in higher education institutions from 2023-24 academic session.  
**Note:** FYUP will split 4-year UG degree into parts and provide different entry and exit options to students. This will enable student to study one or more specialized areas of interest at a deep level and also develop capabilities in different disciplines.
20. CM of Kerala, Pinarayi Vijayan has dedicated the charter gateway for private chartered flights to the nation at **Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL)** on 10th December.  
**Note:** This facility would be the country's largest business jet terminal, helping the growth of tourism in the State and will be comparatively cheap. After this, CIAL will also become one of the five airports in the country serving private jets.

21. Cyclone **Cyclone Mandous** hit the southern peninsula in December 2022.  
**Note:** Chennai and several other parts of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh have witnessed heavy rain and strong winds as cyclonic storm Mandous crossed the states after landfall, as per the India Meteorological Department (IMD). The name Mandous has been suggested by the United Arab Emirates.
22. The three himalayan medicinal plant species **Meizotropis pellita, Fritilloria cirrhosa, and Dactylorhiza hatagirea** have been listed in the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, after a recent assessment.  
**Note:** Reason: The biodiversity hotspot shows deforestation, habitat loss, forest fires, illegal trade and climate change. Meizotropis pellita has been assessed as 'critically endangered', Fritilloria cirrhosa as 'vulnerable', and Dactylorhiza hatagirea as 'endangered'.
23. PM Modi has inaugurated Mopa International Airport **Goa**, that has been named after former CM of Goa, Manohar Parrikar.  
**Note:** This international airport was built at a cost of 2,870 crore rupees. It is about 35 km from capital city Panaji and can handle 44 lakh passengers annually. It is also capable of handling large aircraft such as the Airbus A380. The capacity of this airport can be raised to over 3 crore passengers per year, after expansion plans in the future.
24. **Seven** Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) have been set up by the Ministry of Culture to protect the art and culture.  
**Note:** Headquarters: Patiala, Nagpur, Udaipur, Prayagraj, Kolkata, Dimapur and Thanjavur. Reason: To conserve and develop art, culture and crafts across the nation. The government has provided regular annual grant-in-aid for conducting various activities and programmes to ZCCs. The ministry has also announced that ZCCs organize a minimum 42 Regional Festivals for promotion of art and culture every year.
25. **9th** edition of the World Ayurveda Congress was inaugurated at Panaji, Goa on 8th Dec 2022.  
**Note:** The event was attended by the Minister of State for Tourism and Shipping, Ports and Waterways, Shripad Naik. Aim: To showcase the efficacy and strength of the AYUSH systems of medicine at the Global level. The third edition of the 'Ayushman' comic book series was also released at the event. The market size of AYUSH in the country has grown from \$3 billion in 2014 to over \$18 billion now.
26. The 4-day meeting of G20 Development Working Group (DWG) has started in **Mumbai** on 13th December, 2022, under the India's Presidency.  
**Note:** Agenda: To discuss developmental issues in Developing Countries, Least Developed Countries and Island Countries. In the meeting, sessions on Data For Development, Role of G-20 in Advancing the 2030 Agenda, Infusing New LiFE into Green Development and Accelerating Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals are organised.
27. The Department of Tourism, Goa has signed an MoU with **Airbnb** vacation rental company to promote Goa Tourism.  
**Note:** This partnership aimed at encouraging travel to unique destinations that are lesser-known and enabling economically regenerative community-led tourism in the state. Both joined hands to scale homestay capacity across the state and provide support to Goan homestay Hosts in delivering quality tourism experiences to guests, both domestic and international.
28. Prime Minister, Narendra Modi has participated in the inaugural function of Pramukh Swami Maharaj Shatabdi Mahotsav, that is organised in **Ahmedabad** on 14th December, 2022.  
**Note:** It will be a month-long celebration which will take place from 15th December 2022 to 15th January 2023 in Ahmedabad. The festival was hosted by BAPS Swaminarayan Mandir, Shahibaug. BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha was established in 1907 by Shastriji Maharaj.
29. The Union Ministry of Home Affairs has formed a special committee to look into the demands of a separate state for the member tribes of the Eastern Nagaland People's Organization (ENPO). This committee is headed by **A K Mishra (Advisor of the Ministry of Home Affairs)**.  
**Note:** The committee also includes Mr Mandeep Singh Tull (Joint Director of the Intelligence Bureau) and A K Dhyani (Director of the North East Division of MHA).
30. India has signed a joint declaration of Intent with **Finland** on migration and mobility between the two countries.  
**Note:** It was signed by V. Muraleedharan (Minister, External Affairs) and Tuula Haatainen (Minister of Employment of Finland). Aim: To facilitate the mobility of researchers, and professionals and to combat irregular migration. The declaration underlines the resolve of both countries to work jointly towards developing a common framework of arrangement and cooperation.
31. **France** has hosted an International conference "Standing with the Ukrainian People" on 13th December 2022.  
**Note:** Aim: To coordinate international support for civilian resilience in Ukraine and address the Ukrainian people's urgent humanitarian needs. The conference was organised at the initiative of French President Emmanuel Macron and co-organised with

- Ukraine. The conference was virtually attended by Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy.
- 32.** Parliament has passed the New Delhi International Arbitration Centre (Amendment) Bill, 2022 with Rajya Sabha to rename the New Delhi International Arbitration Centre as **India International Arbitration Centre**.  
**Note:** The bill was already passed in Lok Sabha. The Bill allows the govt to provide for removing any difficulties in implementing the Act up to five years from the date of commencement of the Act.
- 33.** In December 2022, Gamocha has been received the GI tags, is associated with **Assam**.  
**Note:** The govt of India has granted the GIs tags to nine new items on 14th December 2022 including Gamocha (Assam), Tandur red gram (Telangana), Raktsey Karpo apricot (Ladakh), Alibag white onion (Maharashtra). Kerala has been awarded five GI tags for its agricultural produce. With this, the total number of GI tags in India comes to 432. Top five states holding the maximum number of GIs are Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, and Kerala.
- 34.** A group of nine (G7, Norway and Denmark) rich industrialized nations have approved a deal to provide 15.5 billion US dollars to **Vietnam**.  
**Note:** Reason: To help the Southeast Asian nation move faster from coal power to renewable energy, cutting its climate-damaging pollution. This grant will help Vietnam to reduce its emissions to "net zero" by 2050. It is a goal which experts say needs to be met globally to cap global warming at 1.5 degrees Celsius.
- 35.** Nitin Gadkari (Minister of Road Transport and Highways) has inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of **15** National Highway development projects worth 45, 536 crore rupees in Kerala.  
**Note:** The event was organised at the Travancore International Convention Centre at Karyavattom Sports Hub, Thiruvananthapuram. The event was presided by Kerala CM, Pinarayi Vijayan. It will also enhance tourism possibilities in Bekal, Kannur, Kozhikode, Fort Kochi, Alappuzha, Varkala and Kovalam
- 36.** The eighth edition of the India International Science Festival (IISF) will be held in **Bhopal** in January 2023.  
**Note:** Agenda: To celebrate the country's achievements in the field of science, technology and innovation. IISF is the initiative of the Ministry of Science and Technology and Earth Sciences in association with Vijnana Bharati. 14 events will be organised during the four-day event beginning January 21 at the Maulana Azad Institute of Technology, Bhopal.
- 37.** **Indian Energy Exchange (IEX)** has become first carbon-neutral power exchange of India, using market based tradable instruments to offset its carbon emissions.  
**Note:** To reduce carbon footprint, IEX has voluntarily cancelled CERs (certified emissions reductions) from clean projects registered under the Clean Development Mechanism, UNFCCC. As per the UNEP 2022 report, global greenhouse gas emissions must be cut 45% by 2030 to get on track to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees.
- 38.** 5<sup>th</sup> edition of Youth Co:Lab was jointly launched by Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog and UNDP India \_\_\_\_\_.  
**Note:** Youth Co:Lab is an initiative launched in 2019 by UNDP India in partnership with Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog. Aim: To establish a common agenda for Asia-Pacific countries to invest in and empower youth to accelerate implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through leadership, social innovation, and entrepreneurship.
- 39.** PM Modi has launched the "Grih Pravesh" programme in **Agartala, Tripura**, under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Urban and Rural schemes.  
**Note:** PM Modi has visited Tripura and Meghalaya to inaugurate and lay the foundation stones of projects worth over Rs 6,800 crore. He has also inaugurated connectivity projects for the widening of the Agartala bypass (Khayerpur – Amtali) NH-08. He has inaugurated spawn laboratory at the Mushroom Development Centre in Meghalaya.
- 40.** The campaign **Prashasan Gaon ki Ore** was launched by Union Minister for Personnel, Public Grievances, and Pensions, Dr Jitendra Singh, under the Good Governance Week 2022 in New Delhi.  
**Note:** He has also launched the Good Governance Week portal, [www.pgportal.gov.in](http://www.pgportal.gov.in). In the 5 days campaign, over 300 New Services identified by District Collectors across the country will be added for Online Service Delivery.
- 41.** **Google** has granted a fund of \$1 million to IIT Madras to build India's first Responsible AI center.  
**Note:** In addition, Google has also planned to collaborate with Indian Institute of Science (IISc) for project Vaani. Furthermore, under the partnership, Google aims to build an artificial intelligence/machine learning (AI/ML) model to collect language samples from 773 districts across India. Project Vaani aims to ensure the collected and produced data will be open-source.
- 42.** **Nitin Gadkari, Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways** has launched one of India's first-ever Surety Bond Insurance products from Bajaj Allianz.  
**Note:** Surety Bond Insurance: It is a risk transfer tool for the principal and shields them from the losses that may arise in case the contractor fails to perform their contractual obligation. It will act as a security



- arrangement for infrastructure projects. It will insulate the contractor as well as the principal.
- 43. MoS Civil Aviation, V. K. Singh** has informed that the Rajya Sabha, that govt has accorded in-principle approval for setting up **21** Greenfield Airports across the country.  
**Note:** So far nine Greenfield airports have already been operationalized and the tenth Greenfield airport at Mopa, Goa. Development of a Greenfield airport is governed under the Greenfield Airports (GFA) Policy, 2008. For setting up of GFA, State Government need to send a proposal to MoCA for 2-stage approval.
- 44. Google** has announced a partnership with the DigiLocker to bring the govt issued ID to the local storage of Android devices.  
**Note:** DigiLocker is a govt authorised identification storage system, This partnership is a part of Google's AI offerings that include on-device processing of text and images to identify important documents, and organise them. The Android operating system of Google will also tap into the DigiLocker API.
- 45. The India's first Green Steel Brand KALYANI FeRESTA** was launched by Jyotiraditya Scindia in New Delhi on 20th December 2022.  
**Note:** This first-of-its-kind steel was manufactured by a Pune-based Steel company, Kalyani group. It was manufactured by using renewable energy resources, leaving zero carbon footprints in the environment. The plant where green steel is being produced has the capacity to manufacture 250,000 tonnes of steel.
- 46. According to the 2022 Social Progress Index, Puducherry** state/UT has been emerged as the best-performing States, followed by Lakshadweep, and Goa.  
**Note:** Top three performing districts: Shimla, Solan, and Aizawl. The index assesses states and districts based on 12 components across three critical dimensions - Basic Human Needs, Foundations of Wellbeing, and Opportunity. The report was prepared by Institute for Competitiveness and the Social Progress Imperative and mandated by EAC-PM.
- 47. Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs** has launched a programme to create Impact Leaders in the areas of Environmental-Social-Governance (ESG).  
**Note:** IICA is an autonomous institution under the aegis of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs. Leena Nandan (Environment Secretary) was the Chief Guest at the launch of the programme. IICA has also formed a National Association of Impact Leaders which is a membership-based association only for ESG professionals.
- 48. The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology Startup Hub** has joined hands with Google to train **100** startups under the Appscale Academy program of 2023 and help scale their app businesses.  
**Note:** They will also launch a multi-city roadshow, aiming to engage over 1,000 startups in cities such as Surat, Indore, Coimbatore, Gangtok, and Jaipur. The startups will be trained on several aspects such as UX design, business model and monetization strategies and many more.
- 49. Microsoft** tech giant company has partnered with Viasat (global communications company) to deliver satellite internet access to 10 million people across the world by 2025.  
**Note:** Viasat is the first satellite partner to work with Airband Initiative of Microsoft. Both will provide pilot technologies including, satellites and fixed wireless. As per the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), around one-third of the world's population have still never used the internet.
- 50. 36 (All) Rafale** aircraft has been received by India from France till 15th December 2022.  
**Note:** The aircraft has arrived after a quick en-route mid-air refuelling from a UAE Air Force tanker aircraft. India and France had signed the inter-government agreement in 2016 to provide 36 Rafale fighter jets at a cost of around 60,000 crore rupees to India. The first batch of five Rafale jets had arrived on 29th July, 2020.
- 51. Maharashtra** state government has signed an MoU with Hinduja group for an investment worth Rs 35,000 crore in 11 sectors.  
**Note:** Hinduja group has identified 11 sectors for investment in the state, which includes renewable energy, media and entertainment, cyber security, healthcare, infrastructure, education, manufacturing and new age technologies. It also focuses on the economic development of the rural sector for creating opportunities and employment for the people of Maharashtra.
- 52. TPG** private Equity Company has agreed to acquire the Poonawalla Housing Finance (PHFL) at ₹3,900 crore valuation.  
**Note:** TPG will infuse an additional equity of up to ₹1,000 crore in Poonawalla Housing Finance in the near term. The existing management team led by Manish Jaiswal will continue to carry out the operations. PHFL currently has over 153 branches spread across 20 states. The group had planned for value unlocking for the housing finance business with an IPO planned in 2025.
- 53. ReNew Power** renewable energy company has signed a renewable energy agreement of 150 MW with Microsoft India.  
**Note:** As part of the arrangement, ReNew will produce 150 MW of clean energy from a recently commissioned solar site near Bikaner, Rajasthan. This partnership will paves the way for innovative

models that will accelerate the energy transition. This deal also signifies that corporates globally are increasingly integrating renewable energy into their operations in every form.

- 54. Indian Oil Corp. Ltd.** fuel delivery service provider, FuelBuddy has announced a partnership with which petroleum refinery company for supply of its automotive and industrial lubricant, 'SERVO', to customers across the country.

**Note:** All customers (new and existing) of FuelBuddy will soon be able to easily place orders of lubricants as per their requirement on the FuelBuddy app. The physical delivery of the lubricants will be done at their doorstep at the time of their convenience.

- 55. Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS) Scheme** is the new name of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Ko Kaam Karyakram (PMKKK).

**Note:** The integrated scheme converges five erstwhile schemes of the Ministry viz. Seekho aur Kamao, USTTAD, Hamari Dharohar, Nai Roshni and Nai Manzil. The scheme has been approved by the Cabinet for the period of 15th Finance Commission.

- 56. 7th** edition of the India Water Impact Summit (IWIS 2022) has been inaugurated by the Jal Shakti Minister, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre in New Delhi on 15th December 2022.

**Note:** 2022 Theme: Restoration and Conservation of Small Rivers in a Large Basin. Focus: On the select aspects of 'Mapping and Convergence of 5Ps' - People, Policy, Plan, Programme and Project. Aim: To give an insight into the potential causes for divergence and formulate a strategy to achieve.

- 57. 13th** edition of the World Trade Organization ministerial conference will be held in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates in February 2024.

**Note:** The WTO's 12th Ministerial Conference (MC12) took place in June 2022 in Geneva. For the UAE, hosting the meeting is part of its own push to position itself as a global hub for business amid growing competition in the Middle East. WTO was founded in 1995. The WTO is the successor to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

- 58. Ministry of Culture** has organised Delhi International Arts Festival in collaboration with Prasiddha Foundation at Kartavya Path, New Delhi.

**Note:** The festival is being organised from 16th December to 30th December. Tagline of festival: Where Bharat Meets India In the opening ceremony of the event, Kuchipudi dance was performed, which was choreographed by Jayarama Rao. On the occasion, Prism Theatre society performed Hindi theatre 'Veer Abhimanyu.'

- 59. TATA Projects Limited** has inked an MoU with the CSIR – Indian Institute of Petroleum (CSIR – IIP) to

collaborate and work together towards ensuring clean energy solutions.

**Note:** As part of this agreement, clean energy solutions such as room temperature bio-diesel produced from CSIR-IIP shall be used across some of Tata Projects' ongoing sites. This partnership will also explore utilization of by-product Green Diesel from the existing DILSAAF™.

- 60. Petroleum and Natural Gas Ministry** has organised one of its kind musical event, Dance to Decarbonise at the National Stadium in New Delhi on 23rd Dec 2022.

**Note:** As per the ministry, the renewable energy generated through dance will be used to charge electric vehicles. Aim: To showcase the India's target of achieving net-zero emissions by 2070 weighing against the country's growing economy, and rising energy requirements over transformational energy systems for the future

- 61. Jitendra Singh** is set to launch revamped probity portal and e-HRMS 2.0 portal for central government employees.

**Note:** At the revamped e-HRMS 2.0 portal, employees could avail of limited services and it was not connected with other human resource applications. The revamped portal is the first digital system in the government of India to provide end-to-end HR services. The revamped e-HRMS 2.0 will save several thousand man-hours and tons of printing paper.

- 62. Union Minister of information and Broadcasting, Anurag Thakur** has informed that the Union Cabinet approved the revision of the pension for family pensioners of armed forces under One Rank One Pension (OROP) from **July 1, 2019**.

**Note:** The revision will entail an estimated annual expenditure of Rs 8450 crore. The arrears will be with effect from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2022. The decision to implement OROP was taken by the Narendra Modi government on November 7, 2015.

- 63. Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports, Anurag Singh Thakur** has inaugurated the Sports Science Centre in **Udupi, Karnataka**.

**Note:** The government has increased the sports budget from 854 crores before 2014 to 3,100 crore rupees (2022) and spent 2700 crore rupees to enhance sporting infrastructure as against 630 crore rupees earlier. For Khelo India Games, the government has spent 3,136 crore rupees for a period of five years.

- 64. Consumer Affairs Minister, Piyush Goyal** has introduced various initiatives, including a right to repair portal and an NTH mobile app and opened new premises of the National Consumer Helpline centre.

**Note:** On this portal, manufacturers would share the manual of product details with customers so that they could either repair by self, by third parties,

- rather than depend on original manufacturers. Initially, mobile phones, automobiles and farming equipment will be covered.
- 65. President Droupadi Murmu** has inaugurated the project “Development of Srisailem Temple” at Srisailem Temple Complex. This temple is located in **Andhra Pradesh**.  
**Note:** The project has been sanctioned and executed under PRASHAD scheme, under Ministry of Tourism. The project has been completed with a cost of Rs 43.08 crores. The project is 100% funded by the Ministry of Tourism, Govt of India. Srisailem Sri Mallikarjuna Swamy Temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva and his consort Goddess Parvati.
- 66. IIT Kanpur** has developed an artificial heart that would be of great help to people with acute cardiac problems.  
**Note:** IIT Kanpur and cardiologists from across the country have developed this artificial heart. As per the IIT Kanpur Director, Abhay Karandikar, the trial on animals would begin next year, after success in the trial, transplantation can be done in humans in the next two years. Most of the implants and stents for heart patients are being imported.
- 67. The govt of India** has designated **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)**, as the nodal ministry to oversee the online gaming industry in India.  
**Note:** The ministry will soon release rules for online gaming intermediaries and start public consultation on these rules. In May 2022, the govt set up a seven-member inter-ministerial task force, chaired by Rajeev Chandrasekhar, MoS, IT. Aim: To work on online gaming regulations and identify a nodal ministry.
- 68. Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru** has been named the Secretariat for Science 20 (S20), the G20 summit’s science working group.  
**Note:** S20 2023 theme is ‘Disruptive Science for Innovative and Sustainable Development.’ S20 has been set up as part of efforts by G20 to address global challenges including climate change mitigation and sustainable development. G20 is an intergovernmental forum comprising 19 countries and the European Union.
- 69. IndianOil** has signed an MoU with the Central TB Division (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare), Uttar Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh to undertake intensified TB elimination project.  
**Note:** Aim: To end TB in India by 2025, five years ahead of SDG. It also aims to provide sustainable and equitable access to free TB treatment, and support services to the citizens of UP and Chhattisgarh. IndianOil will also introduce Mobile Medical Vans equipped with modern diagnostic technology.
- 70. Union Minister of Power, RK Singh** has inaugurated the National Championship “Tehri Water Sports Cup” at Tehri Lake. Tehri Lake is located in **Uttarakhand**.  
**Note:** During the event, he has also announced that world-class Kayaking-Canoeing Academy will be set up at Tehri in Uttarakhand. This is the first time that the national-level sports competition is being organized at Tehri Lake. CM, Pushkar Singh Dhama has also informed that the new sports policy has been implemented in the State.
- 71. Ashwini Vaishnaw (Minister of MeitY)** has launched the “Stay Safe Online” campaign and “G20 Digital Innovation Alliance” (G20-DIA).  
**Note:** Aim of ‘Stay Safe Online’: To raise awareness about the online world due to the widespread use of social media and rapid adoption of digital payments. Aim of G20-DIA: To identify, recognize, and enable the adoption of innovative and impactful digital technologies developed by startups. Nodal Ministry for G20 Digital Economy Working Group: MeitY
- 72. According to the report, released by the Road Transport and Highways Ministry, the road accidents in India have been decreased by 8.1 percent in 2021 as compared to 2019.**  
**Note:** Report title: Road accidents in India – 2021 The injuries due to road accidents have also decreased by 14.8%. But the fatalities on account of road accidents have increased by 1.9% in 2021. The MoRTH has also implemented a scheme Grant of Financial Assistance for Administering Road Safely Advocacy and Awards
- 73. The Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)** has accorded drone service provider **Marut Drones** with the DGCA Type Certification and Approval for its AG 365 AgriCopter.  
**Note:** Marut Drones product, ‘AG 365 AgriCopter’ is India’s first Multi-utility Agriculture Medium Category Drone to receive the prestigious certificate. It is extensively tested in Agriculture in collaboration with agriculture universities and research institutes. It is designed and developed for Indian conditions and can be used for multiple purposes.
- 74. PM Narendra Modi** has inaugurated railway projects worth over Rs 5,800 crore in **West Bengal** through video-conferencing.  
**Note:** The projects include Joka-Taratata stretch of the Joka-Esplanade Metro Project (Purple Line) and Howrah-New Jalpaiguri Vande Bharat Express. Joka-Taratata project is 6.5-km stretch having six stations has been constructed at a cost of more than Rs 2,475 crore. He has also laid the foundation stone for redevelopment of New Jalpaiguri Railway Station.
- 75. Nitin Gadkari (Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways)** has inaugurated the phase 1 of Zuari bridge in **Goa**.

- Note:** It will connect North and South Goa. It is located on the Zuari river at Cortalim village on Margao-Panaji National Highway. Under this phase, the 4 Lane Right Hand Side Corridor of the 8 Lane Stayed Cable bridge has been inaugurated. This new bridge approaches from Bambolim to Verna and has a total project length of 13.20 KM.
76. HM Amit Shah has launched the Mobile App and Manual of Border Security Force in New Delhi. **Prahari** is the name of the mobile application.  
**Note:** This app will provide personal information and information related to accommodation, Ayushman CAPF and leaves on their mobiles to jawans. It will also connect jawans with the portal of the Ministry of Home Affairs. He has also launched revised version of manuals which will increase the understanding of operations, administration and training.
77. **Ministry of Science and Technology** has notified the National Geospatial Policy, 2022 to promote country's geospatial data industry and develop a national framework to use such data for improving citizen services, and more.  
**Note:** Aim: To develop high resolution topographical survey and mapping, and high-accuracy digital elevation model by 2030. The government will also look to improve availability and access of "better location data" for companies by 2025.
78. **MoHUA** has launched two key initiative - City Finance Rankings and City Beauty Competition.  
**Note:** City Finance Rankings: To evaluate, recognize and reward Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) on the basis of three financial parameters - resource mobilization, expenditure performance and fiscal governance systems. City Beauty Competition: To recognize the transformational efforts made by cities in India to create beautiful, innovative and inclusive public spaces.
79. **Union Minister of State Science & Technology, Jitendra Singh** has inaugurated Incubation Centre at National Research Development Corporation (NRDC), Delhi to provide multi-prong support to StartUps.  
**Note:** NRDC has created incubating start-ups facility and is also promoting beneficial schemes to provide support in terms of funding, mentoring, IP assistance and other allied services to the Start-ups. NRDC was established in 1953 with headquarters in Delhi.
80. Centre will roll out new integrated Food Security Scheme from **1st January 2023** to provide free food grains to over 81 crore beneficiaries under National Food Security Act, NFSA in 2023.  
**Note:** It will also ensure effective and uniform implementation of the Act and free foodgrains will concurrently ensure uniform implementation of portability under One Nation One Ration Card across the country. Under this scheme, Centre will provide free foodgrains to all NFSA beneficiaries.
81. iDEX, flagship initiative of Department of Defence Production, has signed its 150th contract in New Delhi. **Innovations for Defence Excellence** is the full form of iDEX.  
**Note:** The contract was related to an Indian Navy project of the Defence India Start-up Challenge (DISC 7) SPRINT edition. The challenge was titled 'Expendable Mobile Anti-Submarine Warfare Training Target (EMATT) capable of simulating the sound and movement of a submarine'. The iDEX framework was launched by the Prime Minister in 2018.
82. Atal Incubation Centre (AIC) at the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) has signed an agreements with **MSMEs** for incubation of newer technologies into commercial products.  
**Note:** The agreements were signed to commemorate the launch of the AIC at the BARC to hasten conversion of products from research labs to the market. The incubation agreements are signed specifically for technologies aligned with India's global commitments of achieving Net Zero (carbon neutrality).
83. **NTPC** has signed a non-binding Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Tecnimont Private Limited (Indian Subsidiary of Maire Tecnimont Group, Italy) to evaluate and explore the possibility to develop commercial scale Green Methanol Production facility at NTPC project in India.  
**Note:** This project involves capturing carbon from NTPC power plants and converting it into a green fuel. It is also considered as a substitute fuel for maritime fuel applications.
84. **Ministry of Power** has signed an MoU with DRDO for the implementation of Early Warning System (EWS) for Vulnerable Hydro Projects/Power Stations.  
**Note:** The MoU was signed by Alok Kumar (Secretary, Ministry of Power) and Dr. Samir V Kamat (Chairman, DRDO). Both will work towards developing suitable mitigation measures against avalanches, landslides, and other geo-hazards. Ministry of Power has already signed MoUs with CSIR-NGRI, IMD, WIHG and NRSC-ISRO for implementation of EWS
85. The government of India and Manipur government have signed a peace agreement with **Zeliangrong United Front (ZUF)** of Manipur for providing the rehabilitation and re-settlement of the armed cadres.  
**Note:** The tripartite agreement was signed by the central and Manipur governments and ZUF. The ZUF represents Zeliangrong people of the Naga tribes. The ZUF is listed as one of the 13 active insurgent group in Manipur by the South Asia Terrorism Portal (SATP).
86. Along with IIT Guwahati, **IIT Bombay** has joined hands with European universities to develop a



technology to check the quality of potable and other water in India.

**Note:** The LOTUS Indo-European project is an initiative of the Dept of Science and Technology and the European Commission. Aim: To provide solutions for issues related to the quality of water supplied across Indian households. The LOTUS project is built around a novel water quality sensor developed at Ecole Polytechnique in Paris

**87.** India and **Cyprus** have signed agreements in various areas including on Defence and Military Cooperation.

**Note:** Both countries have also signed a Letter of Intent on Migration and Mobility Partnership to provide a common framework of arrangement and cooperation to facilitate the mobility of students, business people and professionals. It will also help in combating irregular migration. The agreements were signed between EAM Dr. S Jaishankar and Foreign Minister of Cyprus.

**88.** Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying **Parshottam Rupala** has informed that Department

of Fisheries, under PM Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) has provided an insurance coverage to fishers.

**Note:** The insurance coverage provided under the PMMSY includes: Rs.5,00,000/- against accidental death or permanent total disability. Rs.2,50,000/- for permanent partial disability. Hospitalization expenses in the event of accident for a sum of Rs. 25,000/-

**89. Amrit Bharat Station scheme** has been launched by the Ministry of Railways for the modernisation of railway stations across the country.

**Note:** Aim: Infrastructural development of more than 1,000 stations on a continuous basis with a long-term vision. High level platforms (760 to 840 mm) will be provided at all categories of the railway stations. The plan has provision to provide free WiFi access to its users. The amenities for Divyangjan will be provided at railway stations.

## November 2022

**1.** PM Modi laid the foundation stone of various development projects worth more than Rs. 3400 crore for the state at a program organized in **Mana Village** of Uttarakhand.

**2.** HARIT Aaykar initiative was launched by the Income Tax Department has launched on the occasion of National Unity Day, to increase greenery and create micro forests.

**Note:** HARIT refers to Hariyali Achievement Resolution by Income Tax. Under this initiative, the Department resolves to increase the green cover by planting trees and creating micro-forests in and around IT Department's buildings and other public areas.

**3.** **3,024** newly constructed EWS flats were inaugurated by PM Modi at Kalkaji in Delhi under Phase I of 'In-Situ Slum Rehabilitation' Project.

**Note:** He has also handed over keys to eligible beneficiaries at Bhoomiheen Camp, Vigyan Bhawan. These flats have been constructed at a cost of about Rs 345 crore.

**4. Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** has issued a notification to restrict the use of glyphosate as it is hazardous for humans and animals.

**Note:** Only authorised Pest Control Operators are allowed to use it. The notification was based on a 2019 report by the Government of Kerala on prohibiting the distribution, sale and use of glyphosate and its derivatives.

**5.** As per the report, by the India EXIM bank, India has emerged as a leading defence exporter of **African** country's maritime, aerospace and defence requirements with Mauritius, Mozambique and Seychelles.

**Note:** These countries has become the major buyers of Indian arms during 2017-2021. Report title: 'Reinvigorating India's Economic Engagements with Southern Africa'

**6.** President Murmu has launched the Atal Setu viaduct that connects two states **WB and Sikkim** on National Highway 10.

**Note:** President, Droupadi Murmu who is on her two day of Sikkim, will inaugurate and lay the foundation for various central and state government projects in the virtual mode from Gangtok. Two-lane Chisopani traffic tunnel, which include approach roads in East Sikkim. Ganju Lama Girls Hostel, Ravangla in South Sikkim under Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram.

**7.** **7** states/UTs have attained the Level -2 grading in 2020-21 that was released by the Ministry of Education in its Performance Grading Index (PGI) for States and UT for 2020-21.

**Note:** Aim: To promote evidence-based policy-making and highlight course correction for quality education. Total of seven States/UTs have attained Level -2 grading in 2020-21: Kerala, Punjab, Chandigarh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, and Andhra Pradesh. Gujarat, Rajasthan, and Andhra

Pradesh are the new entrants with the highest achieved level.

8. **Aibawk cluster** in the Aizwal district of Mizoram has become the first cluster to be completed under the Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM).

**Note:** SPMRM was launched by the Prime Minister in February 2016. Aim of scheme: To provide amenities to rural areas which are perceived to be urban and have the potential to stimulate local economic development.

9. UP government aims to make one of India's largest pilgrimage centres, Mathura-Vrindavan a "net zero carbon emission" tourist destination by 2041.

**Note:** This means that tourist vehicles will be banned from the entire Braj region, which includes famous pilgrim centres such as Vrindavan and Krishna Janmabhoomi. Instead, only electric vehicles used as public transport will be allowed into the area.

10. **Madhya Pradesh** state government has launched the flagship scheme 'Ladli Laxmi 2.0' with an aim to encourage girls to pursue higher education and make them independent.

**Note:** They will also provide monetary benefits to eligible girl children to ensure quality education. The scheme had also ensure that the parents must not marry their girl child before the age of 18.

11. **Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs)** has notified India Infrastructure Project Development Fund Scheme (IIPDF Scheme) for Financial Support for Project Development Expenses of PPP Projects.

**Note:** Aim: To improve the quality and pace of infrastructure development in the country. Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) are being encouraged to bring private capital and efficiency in execution and operation of infrastructure projects. Budgetary outlay: Rs. 100 Crore

12. **Mizoram Football Foundation** has tied up with Reliance Foundation to promote football at the grassroot level in the state.

**Note:** RFYC academy will provide training support the young footballers. As a part of this partnership, Naupang (Children) League will be introduced in Mizoram. Aim of League: To develop local ecosystems and enable aspiring and talented footballers as young as 5-year-olds (both boys and girls).

13. **Garuda Aerospace** has signed an MoU with the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) for collaborative research operations and services using unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs).

**Note:** The Department of Aerospace Engineering (DoAE) at IISc will provide support them for future operations. It will provide developments of digital

input processing packaging tools, including yield estimation from a given image, diagnoses of crops, and mapping of fields.

14. As per the data, Vortexa (Energy Cargo Tracker), **Russia** country has surpassed Saudi Arabia and Iraq, to become the top oil supplier of India in October 2022.

**Note:** Russia, which imported 0.2% of all oil by India in March 2022, has supplied 9,35,556 barrels per day of crude oil to India in October (highest ever). It now makes up for 22% of India's total crude imports, ahead of Iraq (20.5%) and Saudi Arabia (16%). In June 2022, Iraq was top oil supplier, while Russia was at second.

15. According to the vision document of EPFO, **Delhi** has topped the chart in terms of EPFO coverage.

**Note:** Maharashtra has topped the chart in terms of absolute number of working age population. Delhi has topped the chart with 61.5% and Goa with 51.4% of their working population. Haryana is place at the third with 35.3% of its working population under EPFO, followed by Karnataka (29.6%) and Uttarakhand (26.7%). The EPFO coverage is the lowest in Tripura, Assam, and Meghalaya.

16. **Vadodara** city has become the second Indian city to issue a municipal bond with assistance from the US Treasury Department's Office of Technical Assistance.

**Note:** Aim: To provide funds for infrastructure projects in Vadodara. The officials from US Embassy and US Treasury joined counterparts from Ministry of Housing, city of Vadodara, and SEBI. Pune was the first city to issue municipal bond in 2017. The bond was oversubscribed by 10 times and was priced at a low yield of just 7.15%

17. **Dr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali (President of Guyana)** will be the chief guest at the 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention, organised in Indore, Madhya Pradesh from 8th -10th January 2023 .

**Note:** While, Australian MP, Zaneta Mascarenhas will be the guest of honour at the Youth Pravasi Bharatiya Divas, that will be held on 8th January 2022. Theme: Diaspora: Reliable Partners for India's Progress in Amrit Kaal. Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is celebrated once in every two years.

18. Agriculture Minister **Narendra Singh Tomar** has launched a portal on National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF) for the benefit of the farming community.

**Note:** The NMNF portal (<http://naturalfarming.dac.gov.in>) is developed by the agriculture ministry. It was launched in the first steering committee meeting of the National Natural Farming Mission. The portal provides all the information about mission, implementation outline, implementation progress, farmer registration, etc.

19. The Ministry of Education has constituted a committee for strengthening the assessment and accreditation of Higher Educational Institutions, **Dr. K. Radhakrishnan** will be the head of this committee.  
**Note:** Aim: To prepare a road map for the National Accreditation Council envisioned in the National Education Policy, 2020. The committee will be headed by Dr. K. Radhakrishnan, who is a Chairperson of Board of Governors, IIT Kanpur, and Chairperson of Standing Committee of IIT Council.
20. The ministry of health and family welfare will constitute 7 members committee headed by **AK Pradhan** to prepare the national drugs database.  
**Note:** Aim: To recommend and prepare a comprehensive database of drug formulations manufactured and marketed in the country. The committee will also provide detailed information on a drug, its dosage form, strength, and details of the manufacturer, marketer, or importer of the drug.
21. The name of new AI/ML based chatbot that was launched by UIDAI for better experience of users -- **Aadhaar Mitra**.  
**Note:** It will provide information like check Aadhaar enrollment/update status, tracking of Aadhaar PVC card status, and information on enrollment centre location. Residents can also register their grievances and track them using the bot. Recently, UIDAI has topped for resolving public grievances rankings for October 2022, published by DARPG
22. The theme of G20 summit 2023 under the chairmanship of India -- '**Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam**' or '**One Earth One Family One Future**'.  
**Note:** PM Modi has unveiled the logo, theme and website of India's G20 presidency in New Delhi on November 8, 2022. Logo takes inspiration from India's national flag – saffron, white and green, and blue. It juxtaposes planet Earth with the lotus (National flower), that reflects growth amid challenges. Below the G20 logo, word 'Bharat' is written in the Devanagari script.
23. Social networking platform for farmers **Krishify** has integrated with the Platform of Platforms (PoPs) portal by e-NAM, National Agricultural Market.  
**Note:** e-NAM is a pan-India electronic trading portal that seeks to network existing Agricultural Produce Market Committees (APMC). Aim: To create a unified national market for agrarian commodities for farmers, traders, and other intermediaries.
24. Minister of Jal Shakti **Gajendra Singh Shekhawat** has released the Dynamic Ground Water Resource Assessment Report 2022.  
**Note:** As per the report, the total annual ground water recharge for India is 437.60 billion cubic meters (BCM). The annual ground water extraction is 239.16 BCM. Over-exploited Units: Out of 7089 assessment units, 1006 units have been categorized as Over-exploited. The report also shown improvement in ground water conditions in 909 assessment units.
25. The 'Transport4All Challenge Stage-2' was launched by **Hardeep Singh Puri (MOHUA)**.  
**Note:** Under this, startups will be engaged to develop solutions to transport problems in 46 cities. Aim: To enhance mobility experience, focuses on digital innovation and invites cities, citizens and innovators to develop contextual solutions to improve formal as well as informal public transport. The minister has also launched the 'Citizen Perception Survey' under the Ease of Living Index-2022.
26. The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has successfully completed a mother tongue survey with field videography of **576** languages and dialects across the country.  
**Note:** According to the annual report of the Home Ministry for 2021-22, it has been planned to set up a web archive at NIC to preserve and analyse the original flavour of each indigenous mother tongue. The Linguistic Survey of India is a regular research activity in the country since the 6th Five Year Plan.
27. PM Narendra Modi, unveiled the statue of Nadaprabhu Kempegowda installed at **Kempegowda International Airport (Bengaluru)**.  
**Note:** Called the Statue of Prosperity, is 108 feet tall and weighs 220 tonnes and has a sword with a weight of 4 tonnes. The structure has been termed the "first and tallest bronze statue of a founder of a city" by the World Book of Records. He was a 16th-century chieftain under the erstwhile Vijayanagara Empire.
28. Union power minister **RK Singh** launched the Green Energy Open Access portal to increase the purchase of renewable energy in the country.  
**Note:** The portal will allow renewable energy (RE) open access to any consumer with a connected load of 100 kW or above. The move is aimed at allowing even small consumers to get access to renewable energy, which is why the government decided to reduce the eligibility from 1MW of sanctioned load to 100 kW or above, in June this year.
29. The FSSAI awarded which **Bhopal Railway Station** as a 4-star 'Eat Right Station' certification for providing "high-quality, nutritious food to passengers".  
**Note:** Railway stations are awarded the certificate after an FSSAI-empaneled third-party audit agency rates them on a scale of 1 to 5. The certification is part of the 'Eat Right India' movement- a large-scale

effort by FSSAI. Chandigarh Railway station was the fifth to receive a 5-star 'Eat Right Station' certification in Sep 2021.

**30. Cochin Shipyard Ltd (CSL)** has collaborated with the IIT Madras to support startups in the maritime sector.

**Note:** Aim: To develop products or services with financial support from the shipyard. This is part of the startup engagement programme, 'USHUS' launched by the CSL to support the Centre's initiative in supporting maritime startups. IIT-Madras will act as an implementation partner.

**31.** Rapid transit system **DMRC** has signed an MoU with Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) for the development of an indigenous Communication Based Train Control system (i-CBTC).

**Note:** This development comes under the 'Make in India' initiative of the Government of India under the aegis of Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA). CBTC is being adopted by many countries for its feature of moving block which allows high frequency of trains.

**32.** In November 2022, **Cambodia** has organised the 17th East Asia Summit and ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit.

**Note:** VP Jagdeep Dhankhar has attended the ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit and the 17th East Asia Summit in Cambodia. He will also have bilateral meetings with Cambodian Prime Minister, Hun Sen and other dignitaries at Phnom Penh. External Affairs Minister, Dr. S. Jaishankar will also participate in the summit. This year marks the 30th anniversary of ASEAN-India relations and is being celebrated as the ASEAN-India Friendship Year

**33.** PM Gati Shakti Multimodal Waterways Summit 2022, held at Varanasi, was launched by **Sarbananda Sonowal (Union Shipping and Waterways Minister)**.

**Note:** The event, being organised by the Indian Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) under the aegis of the Union ministry of ports, shipping and waterways. Aims: to generate greater public awareness about the 'PM Gati Shakti National Masterplan' with focus on infrastructure development in the waterways.

**34.** 9<sup>th</sup> edition of Ministerial meeting of the India-US Economic and Financial Partnership was held in New Delhi.

**Note:** The Indian delegation was led by Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman and the USA delegation was led by Dr. Janet Yellen, Treasury Secretary. The 9th India-US EFP meeting covered the discussion on various economic issues including global macroeconomic outlook, climate finance, combating terrorism financing, India's upcoming G20 presidency, and MDB's reforms.

**35. Cochin Shipyard Ltd** and IWAI have signed an agreement to build India's first hydrogen fuel cell catamaran vessel for Varanasi (UP).

**Note:** It has also signed MoU for the construction of six electric catamaran vessels for Uttar Pradesh and two for Guwahati. The hydrogen fuel cell catamaran vessel will have a seating capacity for 100 passengers. The electric hybrid vessels, designed for short-distance commute in riverine waters, will have seating capacity for 50 passengers.

**36. Reliance Industries Ltd** has been awarded the project to build India's first multimodal logistics park (MMLP) in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

**Note:** Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has announced that MMLP will be spread over 184 acres and cost Rs 1,424 crore. The project will get adequate connecting infrastructure support through a special purpose vehicle (SPV) formed between central and state agencies. The first phase of this project will be completed in two years.

**37. PV Sindhu** has launched the mascots named Toofan and Toofani, for Fit India Movement's Fit India School Week initiative 2022.

**Note:** The 4th edition of Fit India School Week will start on 15 November 2022. Aim: To celebrate the fitness and sports in various forms and reaffirm its importance amongst the school fraternity. Fit India Movement was launched by Prime Minister, Narendra Modi in 2019.

**38. DigiLocker** has successfully integrated with Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission, so that users can digitally store their health records and link them with their Ayushman Bharat health account.

**Note:** Aim: Digital Empowerment of citizens by providing access to authentic digital documents. The issued documents in the DigiLocker system are deemed to be at par with the original physical documents.

**39.** The 3rd Ministerial 'No Money for Terror' Conference will be organised by Ministry of Home Affairs on 18th and 19th of November in New Delhi.

**Note:** Focus: To advance the international community's talks on countering terrorist financing held in Paris (2018) and Melbourne (2019). In October 2022, India has hosted two international events - The annual General Assembly of Interpol (Delhi) and a special session of the UN Counter-Terrorism Committee (Mumbai and Delhi).

**40.** 17<sup>th</sup> edition of G20 Summit was attended by PM Modi during his visit to Indonesia on November 14.

**Note:** Summit theme: "Recover Together, Recover Stronger". Three working sessions will be held as part of the G20 Summit Agenda. These are food and energy security, health, and digital transformation. At the closing session, the Indonesian President will symbolically hand over the G20 Presidency to PM



Modi. India will formally assume G20 Presidency from December, 2022.

**41. Jaipur International Airport Limited** has received the Aerodrome licence from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

**Note:** Earlier, the Airport Authority of India (AAI) was the licence holder. Now the private player, which is operating the Jaipur airport since October 2021, has become the new licence holder. The licence is given to an airport operator for ensuring complete management of the airport in accordance with the concession agreement.

**42.** The Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), and **World Bank Group** are jointly organising “Cities Creditworthiness Academy” workshop.

**Note:** Aim: To create an enabling ecosystem for financing future cities of India. Theme: Vision of Future Cities and Role of Municipal Financing. The workshop was inaugurated by Ajay Seth (Secretary, DEA, MoF); Manoj Joshi (Secretary, MoHUA) and Country Director, World Bank (WB), India.

**43. India** has become the second largest producer of steel at global scale.

**Note:** The per capita steel consumption grew from 57.8 kilogram to 78 kilogram, with a registered growth of 50% in the last 8 years. In case of installed capacity of steel, the country has moved from 100 million tonnes a year to almost 150 million tonnes. China is the biggest steel producing country, which accounted for 57% of world steel production

**44.** Prime Minister, Narendra Modi has inaugurated Donyi Polo Airport, which is located in **Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh.**

**Note:** He has also dedicated 600 MW Kameng Hydro Power Station to the nation. Donyi Polo Airport will be the fourth operational airport for Arunachal Pradesh, taking total airport count in the North-East region to 16. Airport name reflects the traditions and rich cultural heritage of Arunachal Pradesh and its age-old indigenous reverence for the Sun (Donyi) and the Moon (Polo).

**45.** Prime Minister, Narendra Modi has inaugurated month-long ‘Kashi Tamil Sangamam’ being organized in **Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.**

**Note:** Objective: to celebrate, reaffirm and rediscover the age-old links between Tamil Nadu and Kashi. It will bring together academic exchanges, seminars, discussions, etc. between experts and scholars. During the event, PM has also released a book ‘Tirukkural’ along with its translation into 13 languages.

**46.** India ranked at **61st** in the Network Readiness Index 2022 (NRI 2022) report.

**Note:** NRI 2022 Report maps the network-based readiness landscape of 131 economies based on their performances in 4 pillars: Technology, People, Governance, and Impact covering a total of 58 variables. The report is prepared by Portulans Institute. Top performers: United States, followed by Singapore and Sweden.

**47. Anamalai Tiger Reserve (ATR)** has launched ‘jumbo trails’, with the aim to educate visitors to the tiger reserve about elephants, the flora, and fauna of ATR and the aboriginal tribes.

**Note:** The tourists will be taken from Sethumadai to Kozhikamuthi elephant camp. The programme is organised by the Advanced Wildlife Management Training Centre (Attakatti) and implemented by Keelpoonachi Eco Development Committee. The income from the initiative will be used to help tribal people

**48.** A training module for Child Welfare Committees (CWC) has been launched by **National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR).**

**Note:** Aim: To enhance knowledge and skills improvement of its members to deliver effective and timely service for protection and rehabilitation of children. The module is a 15-day programme for training CWCs. NCPCR has also launched the ‘GHAR –GO Home and Re-Unite’ portal for Restoration and Repatriation of Child.

**49.** With **Finland**, India has agreed to enhance partnership in areas such as digital partnership in Future ICT, Future Mobile Technologies and digital education.

**Note:** Both countries also emphasised on having institutionalised joint working groups on areas of mutual interest. The decision was taken during a meeting between Finland’s Minister of Education and Culture, Petri Honkonen and Minister of Science and Technology, Jitendra Singh in New Delhi.

**50.** Museum Kolding has signed an MoU with the National Museum in New Delhi, to open the joint exhibition “Silver treasures from Denmark and India” at the beginning of March 2023. Museum Kolding belongs to **Denmark.**

**Note:** The exhibition will showcase the finest of the silver collection from the Museum Kolding and the National Museum in New Delhi in March 2023. The collaboration is under the agreed cultural exchange program between both countries for the years 2022 to 2026.

**51.** Along with India, **Sweden** has jointly hosted the LeadIT Summit 2022, on the sidelines of COP27 at Sharm El Sheikh in Egypt.

**Note:** The LeadIT (Leadership for Industry Transition) initiative focuses on low carbon transition of the hard to abate industrial sector. The summit was attended by Bhupender Yadav

(Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change). The current phase of LeadIT will conclude in 2023 and the next year is the time to reflect on the performance and achievements so far

52. The first virtual Global Skill Summit was co-chaired by Dharmendra Pradhan (Education Minister) and **Piyush Goyal, Union Minister of Commerce and Industry**.

**Note:** The summit was jointly organised by Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI), Ministry of Education (MoE) and Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE). Aim: To facilitate overseas mobility of the skilled workforce.

53. Secretary Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals **Arun Baroka** has inaugurated 4th Indian Chemicals Council (ICC) Sustainability Conclave in New Delhi.

**Note:** Theme: Boardrooms to Community-ESG, Carbon Neutrality, Operational Safety, Greener Solutions. Aim: Promote sustainability in the management of the entire life cycle of chemicals. It was jointly organized by UNEP, International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA) in cooperation with MoC&F and MoEF&CC.

54. **Nepal** has invited CEC India, Rajiv Kumar as International Observer for the forthcoming elections to House of Representatives and Provincial Assembly.

**Note:** Elections is scheduled in Nepal on 20th November, 2022. It was held for the Federal and Provincial elections to elect 275 members of the Federal Parliament and 550 seats of the seven Provincial Assemblies. C,

55. **India** has assumed the Chair of the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI) from France on 21st November 2022.

**Note:** Rajeev Chandrasekhar (Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology) has represented the country at the GPAI meeting in Tokyo for the symbolic takeover from France. GPAI is an international initiative to support responsible and human-centric development and the use of AI. India joined the GPAI in 2020 as a founding member.

56. **G7 nations** has launched a plan named 'Global Shield' at the 27th UN Climate Change Conference on November 14, 2022.

**Note:** It is a climate fund, and provide funds to disaster-hit countries. It is backed by 170 million euros in funding from Germany and 40 million euros from other donors including Denmark and Ireland. It is coordinated by Germany and the V20 group. The V20 refers to the Vulnerable Twenty Group of Ministers of the Climate Vulnerable Forum.

57. **Sonowal (Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways)** has launched the India's first National Centre of Excellence for Green Port & Shipping (NCoEGPS).

**Note:** The announcement was made by minister at the recently concluded "INMARCO 2022" in Mumbai. Aim: To develop a regulatory framework and alternate technology adoption road map for Green Shipping to foster carbon neutrality and circular economy (CE) in shipping sector in India.

58. According to the seventh edition of RBI statistical publication titled 'Handbook of Statistics on Indian States 2021-22', **Karnataka** has topped the total installed capacity of grid-interactive renewable power of all the states of the country.

**Note:** The state had a total installed capacity of 15,463 megawatts (mw). TN (15,225 mw) placed second, followed by Gujarat (13,153 mw), Maharashtra (10,267 mw).

59. **10th** edition of the Indian Film Festival in Busan was held from Nov 18-20, 2022 in South Korea.

**Note:** It was organized by the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre, Embassy of India Seoul and supported by the Directorate of Film Festival, Ministry of I&B. This Film Festival is a part of the ongoing annual flagship cultural programme of Embassy of India (Seoul) 'SARANG- The Festival of India in Republic of Korea'. The first was screened on this platform was Padmavat (Hindi movie).

60. The Ministry of Ayush has established the Ayurveda Academic Chair at Western Sydney University's NICM Health Research Institute for **Three years**.

**Note:** The Ministry has selected All India Institute of Ayurveda, New Delhi's Associate Professor Dr. Rajagopala S. for the post of Academic Chair in Ayurvedic Science at Western Sydney University. Aim: To strengthen India's collaborations in promoting academic and collaborative research activities in Australia.

61. Department of Civil Engineering (IIT Madras) and **Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA)** have developed a Continuous Marine Water Quality Monitoring Station (CMWQMS) and launched Electric Environmental Monitoring Vehicle (EV).

**Note:** The monitor station and vehicle were inaugurated by Chairman of JNPA, Sanjay Sethi. Aim: To assist in managing the marine water and air quality in the port area. With this, JNPA will be able to reduce the greenhouse gas footprint of vehicles.

62. The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has launched startup applications for registration on the MAARG portal. The full form of MAARG is **Mentorship, Advisory, Assistance, Resilience and Growth**.

**Note:** Purpose: To provide further boost the startup ecosystem by catalysing the startup culture and

building a strong and inclusive ecosystem for innovation and entrepreneurship in India. The MAARG is National Mentorship Platform by Startup India.

- 63.** As per the NSO 16th Periodic Labour Force Survey, **7.2%** is the unemployment rate of India for people aged 15 years and above in urban areas in the fiscal second quarter (July - Sep 2022).

**Note:** Indication: Sustained economic recovery following the coronavirus pandemic. The survey also showed that the unemployment rate among females (aged 15 years and above) in urban areas slowed to 9.4% and among males in urban areas eased to 6.6% (July-September).

- 64. Udaipur** is ready to host the first G20 Sherpa Meeting in India from 4 to 7 December 2022.

**Note:** Aim: To foster growth and build bonds amongst the twenty nations. The G20 Sherpa meeting is expected to be held at the Darbar Hall at the City Palace Udaipur. The Sherpa Meeting of the G20 Summit is a preliminary meeting of the government representatives before the main G20 Summit.

- 65.** Nitin Gadkari (Minister for Road Transport and Highways) has approved the 4-Laning of Bhiwani-Hansi road section of **NH-148B** under Bharatmala Pariyojana in Bhiwani and Hisar districts on HAM in the state of Haryana with a budget of Rs.1322.13 Crore.

**Note:** The project would provide fast movement & good inter-district connectivity in Haryana. It would also improve the overall efficiency of the long route traffic and freight movement that would ensure smooth traffic flow.

- 66.** The Indian Railways has planned to introduce 'tilting trains' by **2026**.

**Note:** Aim: To maintain higher speed on curvy stretches. According to the officials, 100 new units of the semi-high speed Vande Bharat trains are being manufactured using this technology. Tilting trains: Mechanism enables higher speed on regular broad-gauge tracks, which tilt while undergoing a curve on the track. Such locomotives operate in the UK, Italy, Portugal, Slovenia, Finland, Russia.

- 67.** As per the Ministry of External Affairs, India has invited Abdel Fattah Al Sisi as the chief guest on 2023 Republic Day. He is a president of **Egypt**,

**Note:** It would be the first time that an Egyptian president would be the chief guest at the Republic Day celebrations. This year, both countries are celebrating the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations.

- 68.** The Clean-a-thon 2022 has been organized at **Miramar Beach**.

**Note:** The event is a collaborative effort by Government of Goa, IFFI, Divyaj Foundation and

Bhamla Foundation. Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting Anurag Singh Thakur and Goa CM, Pramod Sawant will be flagging off the clean up drive. Aim: To make the entire coastline of Goa pristine again.

- 69.** The Food Safety and Standard Authority of India (FSSAI) has approved **Himalayan Yak** as a 'food animal'.

**Note:** Reason: To help check decline in the population of the high-altitude bovine animal. Food Animals are those that are raised and used for food production or consumption by humans. The decision comes after the latest census (2019), showed that India has 58,000 yaks.

- 70.** R.K. Singh (Minister of Power) has inaugurated REC's CSR initiative for procurement, operation and maintenance of ten Mobile Health Clinics (MHC) in **Bhojpur, Bihar**.

**Note:** Total cost of project: Rs. 12.68 crore. Out of 10 MHCs, three are exclusively for women, that will provide door-step primary health care service to the underprivileged population across all 14 blocks of Bhojpur, Bihar. Each MHC will organize over 20 camps per month and check 50-70 patients every day.

- 71. Ministry of Power** has launched a scheme for procurement of aggregate power of 4500 MW for five years under SHAKTI Policy.

**Note:** Aim: To help states that are facing power shortage and help generation plants to increase their capacities. PFC Consulting Limited has been designated as the nodal agency. Under the scheme, PFC Consulting Ltd has invited bids for the supply of 4,500 MW. Supply of electricity will commence from April 2023.

- 72.** KVIC Chairman, Manoj Kumar has inaugurated the ambitious Re-Hab Project (Reducing Human Attacks using Honey Bees) by Khadi and Village Industries Commission in **At village Chausla, District Nainital, Uttarakhand**.

**Note:** He has also distributed 330 Bee-boxes, bee-colonies and toolkits along with the honey extractors to the rural beneficiaries in Chausla village, free of cost. As a new initiative, the Re-Hab project will be run by KVIC at selected locations for a period of one year.

- 73.** Nai Chetna' campaign was launched by **Ministry of Rural Development**.

**Note:** It involves sensitizing women, especially in rural areas. Aim: To enable women to acknowledge, prepare, and take support in situations of comprise. This campaign was launched on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against women on 25th November 2022.

- 74. Niti Aayog** has launched the report title, 'carbon capture utilisation and storage (CCUS) policy

framework and its Deployment Mechanism in India'.

**Note:** The report explores the importance of CCUS as an emission reduction strategy, to achieve the deep decarbonization from the hard-to-abate sectors. The report was launched by Vice Chairman of Niti Aayog, Suman Bery.

**75. Delhi University** has launched a Financial Support Scheme (FSS) for those students who come from an economically weaker background and have enrolled in full-time undergraduate and postgraduate courses at the university.

**Note:** Category 1: Students whose family annual income is less than Rs 4 lakh will get up to 100% of fee relaxation. Category 2: Candidates whose family income is between Rs 4 and 8 lakh will get a fee waiver of 50%

**76. Bihar** state government has launched the Har Ghar Gangajal project.

**Note:** This project was launched in Rajgir with an aim to provide Ganga water on tap in the parched areas of the state. The scheme will help to harvest the excess water of the Ganga during the monsoon season. The water will be stored in reservoirs in Rajgir and Gaya before being channelled to three treatment-and-purification plants. This scheme is part of the Jal, Jeevan, Hariyali scheme of Bihar govt.

**77. India and European Union** have signed a pact for cooperation in high-performance computing in areas of bio-molecular medicines, Covid therapeutics, mitigating climate change and predicting natural disasters.

**Note:** The agreement was signed by Alkesh Kumar Sharma (MeitY secretary) and Roberto Viola (DG, Directorate General of Communication, Networks, Content and Technology). It allows the two sides to explore the frontiers of quantum technologies jointly.

**78. Vistara airlines** has agreed to merge with Tata-owned Air India by March 2024, subject to regulatory approvals.

**Note:** Singapore Airlines will invest 250 million Dollars (Rs 2,000 crore) into Air India, as soon as this integration is completed. After the merger, Singapore Airlines shall hold 25.1 per cent shareholding in Air India.

**79. ICAI** has hosted the 21st World Congress of Accountants 2022 from November 18-21, 2022 in **Mumbai, Maharashtra**.

**Note:** The 4-day event was inaugurated by Om Birla (Speaker of Lok Sabha) and attended by the Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal. Theme 2022: "Building Trust Enabling Sustainability". WOCA has been organised in every four years since 2002.

**80. Fourth** edition of the Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue (IPRD) is being organised in New Delhi, India from 23rd-25th November 2022.

**Note:** IPRD is an apex level international annual conference of the Indian Navy. The theme of IPRD-2022 is the 'Operationalising the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative'. The National Maritime Foundation (NMF) is the Navy's knowledge partner and chief organiser of each edition of the event.

**81. Uttar Pradesh CM, Yogi Adityanath** has inaugurated the UNESCO-India-Africa Hackathon event at the Gautam Buddha University (GBU) campus in **Greater Noida**.

**Note:** Aim: To conceptualise innovative technology-based solutions for the daunting problems faced by humanity. The students from 22 countries will engage themselves in coding to find technology-based solutions for issues in education, agriculture, health, energy and drinking water, among others.

**82. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman** has announced that **Bengaluru** will host a meeting of G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors in February 2023.

**Note:** She made announcement at the Vananam Startup Inclusivity Summit in Bengaluru. She has also encouraged the Start ups to utilise this event to showcase their profile to the visiting international guests.

**83. India's Public Service Broadcaster, Prasar Bharati** is hosting the 59th Asia Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) General Assembly 2022.

**Note:** The conference was started in New Delhi on 25th November and will continue till 30th November 2022. 2022 Theme: Serving the People: Media's Role in Times of Crisis. The event coincides with Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav to mark the 75th year of the India's Independence.

**84. 7th** edition of Global Technology Summit has been organised from 29th Nov - 1st Dec 2022 in New Delhi in a hybrid format.

**Note:** This summit is India's annual flagship event on Geotechnology and is co-hosted by the Ministry of External Affairs and Carnegie India. 2022 theme: Geopolitics of Technology.

## October 2022

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

**Note:** He has also launched the 5G telephony services in the country. 5G tech will provide seamless



- coverage, high data rate, low latency, and highly reliable communications. It will increase energy efficiency, spectrum efficiency and network efficiency. The cumulative economic impact of 5G on India is estimated to reach \$ 450 bn by 2035. The IGI Airport in Delhi is the 1st 5G-ready airport in India.
2. The executive committee of the National Mission for Clean Ganga has approved 14 projects at an estimated cost of **₹1,145 crore rupee**.  
**Note:** The decision was taken at the 45th meeting of the executive committee under the chairmanship of director general G. Ashok Kumar. These include eight projects of sewerage management in five main stem Ganga basin states - Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, and West Bengal.
  3. **Anurag Thakur** has launched month-long nationwide campaign Swachh Bharat 2022 from Prayagraj in UP.  
**Note:** Swachh Bharat 2022 is being organized in 6 Lakh villages of 744 districts across the country. The Department of Youth Affairs has set a target of collecting and disposing of 1 crore kg plastic waste through Swachh Bharat 2022. Swachh Bharat 2022 will be launched with an aim to raise awareness, mobilize people and ensure their participation in making India clean.
  4. As per the data released by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), the unemployment rate of India has been dropped drastically to **6.43%** in 2022 September.  
**Note:** Reason: On the back of increase in labour participation in the rural and urban areas. As per the data, unemployment rate was the highest in Rajasthan (23.8), followed by Jammu and Kashmir (23.2%) per cent, Haryana (22.9%), Tripura (17%), Jharkhand (12.2) and Bihar (11.4%).
  5. **Pegatron** has become the third Apple vendor to set up a manufacturing unit in Chennai, India.  
**Note:** The firm will invest around Rs 1,100 crore in the unit and generate around 14,000 jobs. The other two Apple vendors in India are Foxconn and Wistron. Tamil Nadu has also planned to develop Hosur, Coimbatore and Sriperumbudur as electronics manufacturing hubs. Major players in the state include Samsung, Foxconn, Tata Electronics and Dell among major investors.
  6. President, Droupadi Murmu has launched a 'Her Start' start-up platform for women entrepreneurs that was created by **Gujarat University**.  
**Note:** 'Her Start' is an initiative of the varsity for women entrepreneurs. She has also inaugurated or laid foundation stones of various projects related to education and tribal development. She has also inaugurated various projects worth Rs 1,330 crore at a function in Gandhinagar.
  7. India has emerged as the world's largest producer and second largest exporter of **sugar**.  
**Note:** In 2021-22, more than five thousand lakh metric tons of sugarcane was produced in the country. Out of this, 35 lakh metric ton sugar was used for ethanol production and 359 lakh metric ton of sugar was produced by sugar mills. The country has registered records highest sugar exports of over 109 lakh metric tons. These exports earned foreign currency of about 40 thousand crore rupees.
  8. PM Modi has inaugurated AIIMS at Kothipura in **Bilaspur** district of Himachal Pradesh.  
**Note:** This institution will be built over an area of about 247 acres with the cost of 1471 crore rupees. Other projects: Inaugurated 140 crore rupees Government Hydro Engineering College in Bilaspur. Foundation stones of 350 crore rupees for Medical Devices Park at Nalagarh. Pinjore-Nalagarh four-lane road project under the Bharat Mala project with a cost of 1692 crore rupees.
  9. Union Home Minister, Amit Shah has announced Scheduled Tribe (ST) status for **Pahari** community in Jammu and Kashmir.  
**Note:** Justice GD Sharma Commission has recommended reservation for Paharis in his report that was submitted to the government. The reservation will be rolled out after completion of administrative formalities. The minister has inaugurated and laid foundation stone of various developmental works of Kashmir Division.
  10. Universal Service Obligation Fund, a body under the Department of Telecommunications, launched **Telecom Technology Development Fund Scheme** on October 01st, 2022.  
**Note:** The scheme is aligned with PM Modi's clarion call of adding Jan Anusandhaan in the new phase of Amrit Kaal. TTDF aims to fund R&D in rural-specific communication technology applications and form synergies among academia, start-ups, research institutes, and the industry to build and develop the telecom ecosystem
  11. **Telangana** state government has launched a welfare scheme named 'Asara' pension.  
**Note:** Aim: To ensure secured life for all the poor. Beneficiary: old people, widows, physically disabled and beedi workers. The state government has also distributed the card for the welfare of all. Presently, the state government has sanctioned 10,000 new Aasara pensions under Asif Nagar Mandal jurisdiction.
  12. **Andhra Pradesh** government has launched the website of YSR Kalyanamasthu and Shadi Tofa schemes.  
**Note:** Aim: Providing financial assistance for daughter's wedding in poor families. Eligibility: SSC pass a mandatory clause for both bride and groom to

get the assistance under this scheme. This will encourage parents to see that their children complete at least high school studies. The scheme would also prevent the child marriages and promote girl education.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- 18.** NTPC Ltd has signed an MoU with **GE Gas Power** industry to explore the feasibility of hydrogen (H<sub>2</sub>) co-firing blended with natural gas.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- Note:** In Jharkhand, child marriages accounted for 7.3% of marriages in rural areas and 3% in urban areas. In West Bengal, more than half of the women are married before attaining the age of 21 years in the state. The survey was conducted in 2020 and the report was published late last month.
24. Nitin Gadkari (Road Transport and Highways Minister) has launched first of its kind pilot project of car manufacturing company **Toyota** on Flex-Fuel Strong Hybrid Electric Vehicles in India.  
**Note:** The Toyota Corolla Altis FFV-SHEV, which was imported from Toyota Brazil for the pilot project, was unveiled.  
Flex-fuel: It is compatible cars, run on more than one type of fuel and also a mixture. These vehicles will run on 100% petrol as well as 20 to 100% blended ethanol and electric power.
25. The first conference of the Agni campaign was organized in **Leh** on the theme of 'Sustainability and Culture' under LiFE (Lifestyle for environment) mission.  
**Note:** It is organized by Power Foundation of India in association with Vijnana Bharati (VIBHA). It witnessed participation from key stakeholders working in the areas of energy, culture, and sustainability. Agni Tattva is an element that is synonymous with energy and is amongst the five elements of Panchmahabhoot.
26. Union Minister for Power and New and Renewable Energy, R.K Singh has unveiled the curtain raiser to the Fifth Assembly of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) along with side events to be held in **New Delhi** from 17th - 20th October, 2022.  
**Note:** India holds the office of the President of the ISA Assembly. The Assembly will be presided over by R.K. Singh. The International Solar Alliance is an international organisation with 109 member and signatory countries.
27. **Ministry of WCD** has organized National Conference on Skilling in Non-Traditional Livelihood for Girls - Betiyan Bane Kushal in New Delhi.  
**Note:** This conference was organized under the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao initiative. Aim: Convergence between Ministries and Departments to ensure the skill development of girls. During the event, MoUs was signed between the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and Ministry of Minority Affairs for Skilling of young Girls.
28. Prime Minister, Narendra Modi has addressed **2nd** edition of United Nations World Geospatial International Congress (UNWGIC), which being held in Hyderabad.  
**Note:** The theme of UNWGIC 2022 is Geo-Enabling the Global Village: No one should be left behind. Geospatial technology is used to create intelligent maps and models which help to collect geographically referenced data. It was hosted by the ministry of science and technology of the government of India.
29. Centre has constituted a 9-member task force for monitoring Cheetah introduction in **Kuno National Park** of Madhya Pradesh and other suitable designated areas.  
**Note:** National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) will facilitate the working of Cheetah Task Force and render all necessary help. The task force will include Principal Secretaries, Forests and Tourism of Madhya Pradesh, and Inspector General of NTCA, New Delhi Amit Mallick. Tenure: 2 years.
30. Haryana govt delegation, led by **Manohar Lal Khattar** has finalized an MoU with the Dubai government for cooperation in various economic activities.  
**Note:** To promote the State as a leading investment destination and for marketing key projects of the state. These economic activities include investment promotion and land development
31. All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) has signed an MoU with **Japan** the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology.  
**Note:** Aim: For development of capacity, technological cooperation for academic establishment. This MoU will help both nations to advance scientific cooperation and capacity building in the area of the Indian Ayurvedic system of traditional medicine. AIIA is the apex institute of Ayurveda under the Ministry of AYUSH.
32. Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd (APSEZ) has received an approval from the National Company Law Tribunals (NCLT) to acquire the balance of how much stake in Gangavaram Port Limited (GPL).  
**Note:** Earlier, APSEZ had acquired 31.5% in the company from Warburg Pincus and 10.4% from Andhra Pradesh government. GPL is an all-weather deep-water multipurpose port. APSEZ is the flagship transportation arm of the diversified Adani group. The deal prices GPL at around Rs 6,200 crore.
33. **Google** giant IT firm has launched its global rewards programme named 'Play Points' in India.  
**Note:** Aim: To allow users to earn points and rewards for using Google Play Store billing for in-app purchases, subscriptions and buying apps, games, movies, and ebooks. This programme was first launched in 2018 and available in 28 other countries. This programme is fully funded by Google.
34. The present five-year Indo-US Vaccine Action Programme (VAP) Joint Statement has been extended till **2027**.  
**Note:** It is a unique bilateral programme. It is implementing by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), India, and National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), National Institutes of

- Health (NIH), USA since July 1987. Aim: To improve the current knowledge of vaccine science to strengthen the scientific basis for future vaccine design.
- 35.** The Union Cabinet has approved PM-DevINE scheme to fund the infrastructure projects in the northeastern states. **Rs 6,600-crore** is the total outlay of this scheme.  
**Note:** PM-DevINE refers to the Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North East Region. It will be applicable for the next four years of the 15th Finance Commission from 2022-23 to 2025-26. This is a 100% central funding scheme and will be implemented by the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER).
- 36.** **HIMCAD** the scheme that has been launched by the Himachal Pradesh government to provide irrigation facilities to farmers.  
**Note:** As per the data, about 80% of the agricultural area of Himachal Pradesh is rain-fed. This scheme will provide end-to-end connectivity of farmers' fields for better water conservation, crop diversification and integrated farming. It is planned to provide command area development activities to 23,344 hectares of cultivable command area by March 2024.
- 37.** **Coal India Ltd (CIL)** run organisation has signed MoUs with Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL), Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) and GAIL (India) for setting up four Surface Coal Gasification (SCG) projects.  
**Note:** Aim: To convert coal converted into syngas that can be subsequently processed for downstream production of value added chemicals. Aggregated estimated cost: Rs.35,000 crores
- 38.** NTPC and **Siemens** organisation have signed an MoU to demonstrate the feasibility for hydrogen co-firing blended with natural gas in V94.2 gas turbines installed at NTPC Faridabad gas power plant.  
**Note:** The total installed capacity of Faridabad gas power plant is 432 MW with two V94.2 gas turbines. Aim: To explore the pathways to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from Faridabad gas power plant
- 39.** Education and Skill Development Minister, Dharmendra Pradhan has inaugurated InvenTiv at **Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi**.  
**Note:** He has also launched a brochure for InvenTiv. It is the first-ever all-IITs Research and Development Showcase. This R&D Fair was organized under the supervision of a Steering Committee. The event marks the coming together of all 23 IITs under one umbrella to showcase their respective research and innovation expertise.
- 40.** As per the Logistics Ease Across Different States (LEADS) 2022 report, **15** states and Union Territories (UTs) have come out as 'achievers' category.
- Note:** The report has been released by the Minister of Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal. Achievers: Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, UP, TN, Uttarakhand, Telangana, Punjab, Odisha, Karnataka, HP, Assam, Delhi, Chandigarh, and Haryana. Fast movers: Kerala, Sikkim, Madhya Pradesh, Tripura, Puducherry, and Rajasthan
- 41.** Union Minister for Railways, Ashwini Vaishnaw has inaugurated India's First Aluminum Freight Rake -61 BOBRNALHSM1 at **Bhubaneswar, Odisha**.  
**Note:** It was fully designed and developed indigenously in collaboration with RDSO, HINDALCO and Besco Wagon. Aim: To reduce carbon footprint due to lower consumption of fuel. A single rake can reduce 14,500 tonnes Carbon dioxide emissions during its lifetime.
- 42.** Union Education Minister, Dharmendra Pradhan has launched the implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 in higher education for the session 2022-23 in **Uttarakhand**.  
**Note:** The event was attended by CM, Pushkar Singh Dhami. Under the NEP, children will be linked to formal education for three years initially. Under this policy, Bal Vatika has been started. After learning for three years under the Bal Vatika scheme the child will enter the first class.
- 43.** According to the Public Affairs Index 2022, **Haryana** has emerged as the best-governed among 18 big states of the country.  
**Note:** Followed by Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Chhattisgarh, Punjab and Karnataka. This report was prepared by a Bengaluru-based think tank. The states have been divided into two categories - large and small. Union Territories are not a part of the report. Sikkim has topped in the category of 10 smaller states.
- 44.** Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Hardeep Singh Puri has inaugurated Asia's largest Compressed Bio Gas (CBG) plant in **Lehragaga, Sangrur, Punjab**.  
**Note:** The plant has been commissioned with FDI of approximately Rs. 220 crores by Verbio AG (German bioenergy company). The present production of plant is about six tonnes per day. Soon, it will process 300 tonnes of paddy straw per day to produce 33 TPD of CBG by using eight digesters of 10,000 cubic meters.
- 45.** **90th** edition of General Assembly of the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) held from 18th - 21st October, 2022 in New Delhi.  
**Note:** The General Assembly is taking place in India after 1997. The move was proposed by HM, Amit Shah to Interpol secretary general, Jurgen Stock in August 2019. India joined the INTERPOL in 1949. Aim of INTERPOL: To promote possible assistance between all criminal police authorities in the prevention and suppression of ordinary law crimes.



46. **PM Narendra Modi** has inaugurated the PM Kisan Samman Sammelan 2022 at Indian Agricultural Research Institute in New Delhi.  
**Note:** The conference was participated by more than 13 thousand farmers and around 1,500 Agri Startups. PM has also released the 12th installment amount of 16,000 crore rupees under the PM Kisan Samman Nidhi through DBT. Under the scheme, eligible farmer families are provided a benefit of 6,000 rupees per year in three equal installments.
47. **Goa** will host 9th World Ayurveda Congress & Arogya Expo from December 8 to 11.  
**Note:** The expo will be organised by World Ayurveda Foundation, an initiative of Vijnana Bharti. Aims: To create an accessible and affordable healthcare system that is in harmony with modern medical practices. The expo would provide a transformational push to ayurveda to bring it into global focus.
48. Global Youth Climate Summit 2022 has been inaugurated in **Khulna, Bangladesh**.  
**Note:** Aim: To bring together 650 youth in a hybrid format with 150 youth participating in person and 500 online. The youth will explore how they can lead the fight against climate change. The mission of GYLC is to build the knowledge of youth about climate science.
49. **14th** edition of World Spice Congress (WSC) will be held on 16-18 February at CIDCO Exhibition and Convention Centre, Maharashtra.  
**Note:** The summit will be organized by Spices Board India in association with various trade and export farmers. Theme: Vision 2030: SPICES (Sustainability-Productivity – Innovation – Collaboration- Excellence and Safety). It will be organized as a G20 event, after India takes up the presidency from Dec 2022 to Nov 2023.
50. Prime Minister, Narendra Modi has started the distribution of PMJAY-MA Ayushman cards in Gujarat through video conferencing. **Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana - Mukhyamantri Amrutam** is the fullform of **PMJAY-MA**.  
**Note:** Fifty lakh Ayushman cards was distributed to all the beneficiaries across Gujarat, at their doorstep. In 2012, then CM of Gujarat, Modi had started the Mukhyamantri Amrutam scheme to protect poor citizens from the catastrophic costs of medical treatment and illness.
51. PM Narendra Modi has launched the 'One Nation, One Fertiliser' scheme (or PM Bhartiya Jan Urvarak Pariyojana) at the PM Kisan Samman Sammelan 2022 at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute.  
**Note:** He has also launched an e-magazine on fertilisers, called Indian Edge. Under this scheme, the all type of fertilisers, whether it is DAP, NPK or urea will be sold under the brand name of 'Bharat'. This will ensure affordable quality fertiliser of Bharat brand to the farmers.
52. **Union Minister, Jitendra Singh** has launched an Integrated Pensioners' Portal at the Anubhav Awards Ceremony that was organised by the Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare in New Delhi.  
**Note:** This portal provides a single window to address the needs of pensioners. SBI has become the first pension disbursing bank which has integrated its portal with the portal of DoPPW. Anubhav portal provides a platform to retiring government employees for sharing their experiences.
53. REC Limited and Power Finance Corporation Limited (PFC) have signed an MoU with **SJVN Thermal Private Ltd (STPL)** to finance the 2x660 MW coal based Buxar Thermal Power Plant (BTPP).  
**Note:** The total estimated project cost is ₹12,172.74 crores, with debt requirement of ₹8520.92 crores. As per the agreement, the debt requirement will be financed by REC and Power Finance. It is a green field project designed on supercritical technology.
54. The first conference on Akash Tatva - Akash for Life, will be held from 5th to 7th November, 2022 in **Dehradun**.  
**Note:** This event will showcase the blend of traditional and modern knowledge through an extended integration of all schools of thought. Aim: To expose the youth of India to the wisdoms of ancient science along with modern scientific advancements. The campaign 'Sumangalam' is being organised across the country for finding the solutions to the environmental problems.
55. PM Modi laid the foundation stone of various development projects worth more than Rs. 3400 crore for the state at a program organized in **Mana Village** of Uttarakhand.  
**Note:** These projects include two road widening projects from Mana to Mana Pass (NH 07) and Joshi math to Malari (NH107B), including two new ropeway projects at Gaurikund-Kedarnath and Govindghat-Hemkund Sahib. The Kedarnath ropeway will be around 9.7 km long, connecting Gaurikund with Kedarnath
56. PM Modi has launched Mission LiFE in the presence of UN Secretary General, Antonio Guterres at the Statue of Unity, Ekta Nagar, Kevadia, Gujarat. **Lifestyle for Environment** is full form of Mission Life.  
**Note:** Aim: To protect and preserve the environment. This global movement will showcase sustainable goals and climate actions taken by countries and individuals around the world. The UN Secretary-General and PM Modi have also launched booklet, logo, and tagline of Mission LiFE.
57. The first 'Migration Monitoring System' of India has been launched in **Mumbai** city with an aim to provide

updated information on migrant pregnant women, lactating mothers and children instantly on a single system.

**Note:** The system was launched by the Maharashtra Women and Child Development Minister, Mangalprabhat Lodha. The system was developed by the Department of WCD. It will track the movements of vulnerable seasonal migrant beneficiaries through unique identification numbers.

58. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has imposed penalty of **Rs. 936.44 crore** on Google for abusing its dominant position with respect to its Play Store policies.

**Note:** Google dominance in the markets for licensable OS for smart mobile devices & market for app stores for Android smart mobile OS, in India. Earlier, CCI had imposed a penalty of ₹1,337.76 crore on Google for abusing its dominant position in multiple markets in the Android Mobile ecosystem.

59. **Thundi and Kadmat** two beaches of Lakshadweep have received the Blue Flag certification and were added to the list of the cleanest beaches in the world.

**Note:** This has taken India's tally of 'Blue Beaches' to 12. Golden Beach of Puri is also Asia's first Blue Flag certified beach. Blue Flag Certification: It is awarded by a non-profit organisation known as Foundation for Environmental Education. It is an eco-label given to the cleanest beaches in the world.

60. Grievance Appellate Committees will be set up within 3 months by the government for resolving **social media users grievances**.

**Note:** For this, gazette notification was issued by Ministry Of Electronics And Information Technology recently to amend the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021. Each Grievance Appellate Committee will consist of a chairperson and 2 whole time members appointed by the Central Government.

61. **Jakson Group** company has signed a pact with the Rajasthan government to set up a green hydrogen and green ammonia project in the state at an investment of ₹ 22,400 crore.

**Note:** Jakson Green will set up a 3,65,000 tons per annum green hydrogen and green ammonia plant along with an integrated hybrid renewable power complex in phases. The project is expected to generate over 32,000 direct and indirect employment opportunities.

62. Dutch arm of **Tata Steel** has signed an MoU with the Ford in Europe to supply "green" steel after 2030.

**Note:** Tata has planned to produce green steel (steel made without using fossil fuels) in 2030 at its plant in Ijmuiden, Netherlands. Ford has also signed supply MOUs with Tata, ThyssenKrupp (Germany) and Salzgitter (Germany) to supply "low carbon" steel for use in manufacturing the new electric crossover

model. It would help to meet a target of having zero emissions by 2035.

63. The Technology Development and Acceleration Cell of the Naval Innovation Indigenisation Organisation under the Indian Navy has signed an MoU with **Drone Federation of India** for promoting indigenous development, manufacturing and testing of a drone, counter-drone, and associated technologies for the Navy.

**Note:** This collaboration will increase the Navy-industry-academia synergy, and source technology development challenges towards component indigenisation.

64. State-run **Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)** has signed MoU with Airport Authority of India (AAI), to facilitate commercial operations at Rourkela Airport under the RCS UDAN scheme.

**Note:** UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik): regional airport development and "Regional Connectivity Scheme" (RCS) of the Union Government. Implementing Ministry: Ministry of Civil Aviation

65. PM Narendra Modi participated via video conference in **Griha Pravesh**, that was organised for more than 4.5 lakh PMAY-G beneficiaries.

**Note:** On the occasion of Dhanteras, he dedicated homes constructed under the PM Awas Yojana (Gramin) from Satna, MP. Under the PMAY-G, in the last 8 years, more than 3.5 crore poor families have got new houses. The Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana is a ground-breaking social welfare programme that the Indian government introduced in 2015.

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

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

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

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

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

**Note:** 2022 Theme: Countering the use of new and emerging technologies for terrorist purposes. The special meeting in India will also be attended by UK

foreign secretary, James Cleverly. Focus of meet: Internet (including social media), new payment technologies and fundraising methods, and unmanned aerial systems (including drones)

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

**Note:** Theme: Role, Framework & Capacity of Election Management Bodies. It will be inaugurated by Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar and concluding session will be chaired by Election Commissioner Anup Chandra Pandey. ECI leads the Cohort on Election Integrity, which was established

as a follow on to the 'Summit for Democracy' held in December 2021.

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

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

### Important News - India

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.
27. **Telangana** state legislative assembly has approved the University of Forestry (UOF) Act 2022.  
**Note:** The 'University of Forestry (UOF) will be the first of its kind in the country. With only Russia and China having forest universities in the world, globally, this will be the third university of forestry. The Government of Telangana has decided to expand Forest College and Research Institute (FCRI) in Hyderabad into a full-fledged university.
28. **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change** has recently released the Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE-ZOO) report 2022.  
**Note:** The report was created on the survey of zoos across India. India has 147 recognized zoos {large (17), medium (23), small (33), mini-zoos (60) and rescue centres (14)}. Top performers Zoo in different categories:  
  - Large: Vandalur Zoo, TN
  - Medium: Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, WB
  - Planning element: Vandalur Zoo
29. NCPCR has revamped the online portal E-Baal Nidan. **National Commission for Protection of Child Rights** is the full form of NCPCR.  
**Note:** Aim: For timebound redressal of grievances against violation of child rights. Feature: It include bifurcation of complaints based on the nature of the complaint into their subject matters like Juvenile Justice, POCSO, Labour and Education. It will be beneficial for the complainants as well as the commission while dealing with complaints.
30. Narikoravan and Kurivikkaran community of belongs to **Tamil Nadu**.  
**Note:** The Cabinet has cleared the proposal to notify several tribal communities under the ST category in Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Uttar Pradesh. Betta-Kuruba community as a synonym of Kadu Kuruba of Karnataka. Gonds, along with its five sub-castes, in Bhadohi district of Uttar Pradesh. Hatti community living in Himachal's Sirmour area. Brijjia community and 11 other tribes from Chhattisgarh
31. **PM Narendra Modi** has launched National Logistics Policy at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.  
**Note:** The policy ensures quick last mile delivery, end transport-related challenges, save time and money of the manufacturers, prevent wastage of the agro-products. PM also launched Unified Logistics

Interface Platform (ULIP) that will bring all the digital services of transportation sector into a single portal. Under this, Ease of logistics Services -E-Logs has also been started.

32. PM Narendra Modi has released **eight** wild Cheetahs in Kuno National Park, Madhya Pradesh, which has been brought from Namibi.

**Note:** Cheetah was declared extinct from India in 1952. Cheetahs are being introduced in India under Project Cheetah, which is world's first inter-continental large wild carnivore translocation project. Out of the eight Cheetahs, there are 5 female and 3 male Cheetahs.

33. **Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)** has organizing Hackathon 3.0 titled 'KRITAGYA' on promoting 'speed breeding for crop improvement'.

**Note:** It will provide an opportunity for Students and others to showcase innovative approaches and technology solutions to promote innovation for crop improvement. Registration for this event is open till 26th September 2022.

34. **Union Science and Technology Minister, Jitendra Singh** has presented 'INSPIRE' awards to 60 Start-Ups and financial support to over 53,000 students.

**Note:** It is instituted by Department of Science and Technology and these innovators will be extended complete incubation support for entrepreneurship journey. Annual INSPIRE Awards-MANAK (Million Minds Augmenting National Aspiration and Knowledge) competition attracted an unprecedented 6.53 Lakh ideas and innovations from all States

35. As per the analysis firm Chainalysis, India has been ranked **Fourth** in the 2022 Global Crypto Adoption Index.

**Note:** The index is led by Vietnam for the second consecutive year, emerging as the country that is most eager to embrace cryptocurrency adoption. Aim: To track countries adopting cryptocurrencies or investing in the digital assets. India has categorised cryptocurrency as virtual digital assets (VDA) and profits generated from crypto fall under the 30% tax bracket.

36. **Saudi Arabia** has emerged as the second-biggest oil supplier to India after a three-month gap.

**Note:** Saudi Arabia has overtaken the Russia by a thin margin, while Iraq retained the top spot in August 2022. India is the world's third biggest oil importer and consumer, shipped in 863,950 barrels per day (bpd) of crude from Saudi Arabia (up 4.8% from the previous month). UAE has ranked four, while Kazakhstan replaced Kuwait to become fifth oil supplier to India, followed by US.

37. **Uttar Pradesh** has accounts for more than 70% of the 13.81 lakh pending trials in fast-track courts in cases of heinous crimes against women, children and senior citizens.

**Note:** More than 9.33 lakh cases are pending in the fast-track courts of Uttar Pradesh, followed by over 1.4 lakh cases in Maharashtra, 1.06 lakh cases in Tamil Nadu, 71,260 cases in West Bengal and 12,538 cases in Telangana. As many as 3,28,556 cases are pending in the FTSCs across 28 states and Union territories.

38. Jal Shakti Minister, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat has declared **Andaman and Nicobar Islands** as India's first Swachh Sujal Pradesh.

**Note:** He handed over the certificate to A&N's LG Admiral DK Joshi. All the villages of Andaman and Nicobar Island have been certified as Har Ghar Jal and verified as open defecation free - ODF plus. On World Water Day (22 March 2021) A&N Islands were declared to have achieved 100% coverage of rural households with tap water connection.

39. Union Minister for Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Dharmendra Pradhan has launched Ramakrishna Mission's 'Awakening' Programme for students of classes **I to V**.

**Note:** The NEP 2020 is inspired by the philosophy of Swami Vivekananda. Ramkrishna Mission has a legacy of imparting applied education. NEP 2020 has emphasized on creating value-based educational programs for 9th and 12th in addition to creating programs for classes I to VIII.

40. **National Sports Development Fund (NSDF)** has signed an MoU with National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) and Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) for the development of sports in India.

**Note:** NTPC and REC have been provided financial support of 215 crore rupees for the development of sports. NTPC: Contributed an amount of Rs115 crore for Archery (5 years). REC: Committed an amount of Rs 100 crore to support Women's Hockey, Athletics and Boxing (3 years).

41. 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 **G20** meeting during its Presidency.

**Note:** International Organisations: UN, IMF, World Bank, WHO, WTO, ILO, FSB, 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.

42. PM Narendra Modi was on two-day visit of **Samarkand in Uzbekistan** from September 15 to attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Summit.

**Note:** 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
43. Who will lead the Joint Indian Ministerial official delegation in the Global Clean Energy Action Forum \_\_\_\_\_  
**Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh.**  
**Note:** The coveted joint convening of the Clean Energy Ministerial CEM13 and Mission Innovation MI-7 will take place from 21st to 23rd of September at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, USA. Aim: To bring together thousands of clean energy leaders from across the world to accelerate clean energy innovation and deployment.
44. **Adani group** group has overtaken the Tata-led conglomerate with an overall market capitalization on the BSE at over ₹ 22 lakh crore makes it the most valued in India.  
**Note:** The combined consolidated revenues and net profit of listed companies of Tata Group were Rs 8.6 trillion and Rs 74,523 crore in FY22 respectively. Mukesh Ambani's group of nine companies stood third on the list with a market capitalisation of more than ₹ 17 lakh crore.
45. PM Narendra Modi has received a copy of the Braille version of Dictionary Hemkosh from Jayanta Baruah in New Delhi, was originally written in **Assamese** language.  
**Note:** The Braille version of 'Hemkosh' has been conceptualized and published by the Editor of Asomiya Pratidin, Jayanta Baruah. Hemkosh is South-East Asia's first Braille dictionary in Assamese. It was also the first Assamese dictionary which was edited by Hemchandra Baruah in the 19th century. This edition of 'Hemkosh' comprises of approx 10,000 pages,
46. The government has launched a joint convergence portal for different schemes run by Food Processing and **Agriculture** ministry.  
**Note:** Schemes include: Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF), Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) scheme and Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY). The portal was launched in the presence of Union Agriculture Minister, Narendra Singh Tomar and Minister of State for Agriculture Kailash Choudhary.
47. **VP, Jagdeep Dhankhar** has inaugurated 3rd edition of the Lok Manthan programme at Srimanta Sankardeva Kalakshetra in Guwahati.  
**Note:** Theme of 2022 biennale is Lokparampara (Lok traditions). Kerala Governor, Arif Muhammad Khan will be the Chief Guest at the concluding session (24th September). Lokmanthan: It is an occasion where artists, intellectuals, and academicians are come from different parts of the country converge and brainstorm on the questions that haunt the society.
48. India will receive its first flex-fuel vehicle that run on ethanol blended petrol and battery in October 2022 from **Brazil**.  
**Note:** The Flex Fuel Strong Hybrid Electric Vehicles (FFV-SHEV) will be imported from Brazil to use as a pilot. Aim: To assess its performance in terms of reduced carbon emissions. The road transport ministry has notified the guidelines regarding FFV and FFV-SHEV. The automobile manufacturers are advised to manufacture vehicles complying with BS-6 standards.
49. **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)** has launched the Swachh Toycathon as a part of the Swachh Amrit Mahotsav.  
**Note:** It is a unique competition to make toys from dry waste. Aim: To explore innovative solutions for the use of dry waste in manufacturing toys. The knowledge partner for the initiative is the Center for Creative Learning, IIT Gandhinagar and the competition will be hosted on the MyGov portal.
50. President Droupadi Murmu has inaugurated the Integrated Cryogenic Engines Manufacturing Facility of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) in **Bengaluru**.  
**Note:** The Cryogenic engines are used by ISRO for its satellite launch operations. The President has also laid the foundation stone of the South Zonal Institute of Virology virtually at HAL. She has also inaugurated the St. Joseph University and attended a Civic reception hosted by the State Government in her honour.
51. **CEC of LAHDC, Feroz Ahmad Khan** has inaugurated the first ever Mega Kissan Mela at Indoor Stadium of **Kargil** district of Ladakh.  
**Note:** This event was organised by Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST) Kashmir. Stalls were established by scores of progressive farmers, KVK Centre, & Research Centre from across UT Ladakh and J&K. Aim: Experts will educate the farmers about latest techniques and use of high yielding varieties for satiable agriculture.
52. **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change** has launched a Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan for implementing City Action Plans prepared as part of National Clean Air Programme.  
**Note:** Aim: To reduce air pollution upto 40% by 2025-26. This survey has categorized 131 cities into three groups based on population. First group: Population more than 10 lakh (47 cities). Second group: Population between 3 to 10 lakh (44 cities). Third group: Population less than 3 lakh (40 cities)
53. **National Cadet Corps (NCC)** has signed an MoU with United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to tackle the issue of plastic pollution and achieve the universal goal of clean water bodies through Puneet

- Sagar Abhiyan and Tide Turners Plastic Challenge programme.
- Note:** The MoU was signed in the presence of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh. Puneet Sagar Abhiyan, was launched by the NCC on 1st December 2021.
- 54. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd** has signed an MoU with Petrobras to diversify its crude oil sourcing.
- Note:** The MoU was signed by Arun Kumar Singh (Chairman BPCL) and Caio Paes de Andrade (CEO Petrobras) in Brazil. Aim: To strengthen future crude oil trade relations between the two companies and explore potential crude import opportunities by BPCL. Petrobras operates in an integrated and specialized manner in the oil, natural gas and energy industry.
- 55.** The Govt has launched a Scheme Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment for fiscal year **2022-23**.
- Note:** Aim: Provide financial aid to the States Govts in the form of 50-year interest free loan for capital investment projects. Under the Part-V of scheme, Rs 3000 Crore is earmarked and will be available to States for capital projects on OFC network. Dept of Expenditure has approved 50 Cr, 84 Cr, 65 Cr and 156 Cr to Uttarakhand, Jharkhand, Haryana and Karnataka respectively.
- 56. Sign Learn** is the name of an Indian Sign Language (ISL) dictionary mobile application that has been launched by the government of India.
- Note:** It contains 10,000 words. The app was launched by Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment, Pratima Bhoumik. This mobile app is based on the Indian sign language dictionary of the Indian Sign Language Research And Training Centre (ISLRTC). All the words in the ISL dictionary can be searched through Hindi or English medium.
- 57. Health Minister, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya** has inaugurated Arogya Manthan 2022 to celebrate the four years of implementation of Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri - Jan Arogya Yojana and one year of Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission.
- Note:** The scheme provides a health cover of five lakh rupees annually to vulnerable families. The Minister has also launched several new initiatives including Health Claims Exchange (HCX), National e-Rupi Portal and Roadmap for Digitization.
- 58.** PM Narendra Modi has inaugurated the National Conference of Environment Ministers in **Gujarat** state through video conferencing on 23rd September.
- Note:** Agenda: To create synergy amongst the Central and State govt in formulating better policies. The two-day Conference will have six thematic sessions: (1) LiFE, (2) Combating Climate Change, (3) PARIVESH, (4) Forestry Management, (5) Prevention and Control of Pollution, (6) Wildlife Management and Plastics and Waste Management.
- 59. EAM, Dr. S Jaishankar** has hosted the G-4 meeting of Foreign Ministers during the 77th Session of UNGA.
- Note:** The summit was attended by Ministers Foreign Ministers - Carlos França (Brazil); Yoshimasa Hayashi (Japanese); Annalena Baerbock (German). He is on visit USA from 18-28 September 2022. He led India delegation for the High Level Week at the 77th Session of UNGA. 77th UNGA theme: Watershed Moment: Transformative Solutions to Interlocking Challenges
- 60.** Ayush Minister, Sarbananda Sonowal has inaugurated the international conference on Consciousness at NIMHANS in **Bengaluru**.
- Note:** Theme 2022: Exploring Consciousness- From Non- Locality to Non- Duality: The Man- Machine Debate. The conference was organized by India Foundation and NIMHANS and supported by Ministry of Ayush. He has also inaugurated the Centre of Excellence project in the Department of Integrative Medicine at NIMHANS, Bengaluru as part of Ayurswasthya Yojana.
- 61. Union Minister, G. Kishan Reddy** has launched Virtual Conference 'SymphoNE' to boost Tourism Sector in North East India.
- Note:** SymphoNE is the start of a series of dialogues on North Eastern Region's Development Conference comprised of a broad range of Policy Thinkers, Stakeholders & Influencers. The Virtual Conference is being organized on 24th - 27th September 2022, by Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region on the occasion of World Tourism Day(27 September).
- 62. Indian Oil** has become the first oil marketing company (OMC) to produce and market, AVGAS 100 LL.
- Note:** In an event, hosted by IndianOil at Hindon Airforce Station, Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Housing and Urban, Affairs Hardeep Singh Puri has launched AVGAS 100 LL. AVGAS 100 LL: It is a special aviation fuel meant for piston engine aircrafts and unmanned aerial vehicles. Currently India is importing AVGAS 100 LL from European countries.
- 63. New Delhi, Ahmedabad and Mumbai CSMT** has been approved by the Union Cabinet for the re-development.
- Note:** This re-development project involves an investment of approximately ₹10,000 crore. Re-development project includes:
- Installation of CCTV and access control.
  - Spacious roof plaza with all passenger amenities (spaces for retail, cafeterias, recreational facilities).
  - Divyang friendly facilities, etc.



- 64. Bhupender Yadav** has released the report on 4th round of quarterly employment survey (January to March 2022).  
**Note:** It indicates that the overall employment has increased in the last four quarterly survey. The estimated employment has increased from 3.14 crore of the third quarter to 3.18 crore of 4th Quarter. It provides quarterly estimates about the employment and related variables of establishments in both organized and unorganized segments.
- 65. Hitachi Astemo** firm has installed its India's first solar power plant at Jalgaon manufacturing plant in Maharashtra.  
**Note:** Hitachi is working to reduce its carbon emissions and become carbon neutral by 2050. With the set up of 3 MW solar power plant, the company would be able to eliminate close to 4000 tons of CO2 emissions each year. At its Jalgaon plant, Hitachi Astemo is responsible for making high quality brake systems for vehicles.
- 66. Faggan Singh Kulaste** has launched the JALDOOT App and e-brochure.  
**Note:** Developed by: Ministry of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj. Use: To capture the water level of selected 2-3 wells in a village. The manual monitoring of water levels in open wells will be measured twice in a year (pre-monsoon and post-monsoon level for the same well). Assigned officers will measure the water levels and upload the geo-tagged photographs.
- 67.** The All India Football Federation has launched grassroots football development (GFD) scheme in **Arunachal Pradesh**.  
**Note:** Aim: Tap, select and nurture football talents in the age group of 6 to 12 years. GFD committee chairman, Shantanu Pujari has launched this scheme in the presence of CM Pema Khandu and AIFF President, Kalyan Chaubey. The state government would begin this scheme in 100 schools, and physical training teachers of selected schools would be trained by AIFF experts
- 68. Education minister, Dharmendra Pradhan** has inaugurated the 13th FICCI Global Skills Summit 2022 in New Delhi.  
**Note:** Theme 2022: Education to Employability - Making It Happen. The Summit would look through the NEP lens and focus on how India can become the "Skill Capital of the World," using the UN SDG4 as an underlying theme. The two day Summit was conclude with an event "VIRASAT" The Heritage which honours the exquisite craft of the Indian artisans.
- 69.** Government of Maldives has signed an MoU with **JMC Projects** for Maldives Hanimaadhoo International Airport Development Project.  
**Note:** The worth of project is about USD \$136.6 million. It was confirmed that the project will be financed by India's Exim Bank. The Maldives govt is expected to build a 2.46 kilometer runway in addition to a terminal that can serve 1.3 million passengers annually. The construction work is expected to be fully operational by the year 2024.

## Important News – State

### December 2022

- 1. Uttarakhand** state government has named Prasoon Joshi (CEO and CCO of McCann Worldgroup India) as the state's brand ambassador.  
**Note:** He is a native of Uttarakhand. He is a prominent and highly awarded member of the Indian advertising and media fraternity. He was appointed as the Chairperson of the Central Board of Film Certification (CBIC) on 11 August 2017.
- 2. Haryana** state government has Nirogi project across the state.  
**Note:** Initial phase: The project has begun in the District Hospital, Sector 6, Panchkula. The project was inaugurated by Gian Chand Gupta (Haryana Speaker) and Kulbhushan Goyal (Panchkula Mayor). Under this project, the urban enlisted Antyodaya population would be covered under this scheme. The enlisted beneficiaries will receive 'amantran patra' to visit their health facilities on the date as informed.
- 3. Uttar Pradesh** state government has launched One District One Sport (ODOS) on the lines of One District One Product (ODOP) scheme of the state government.  
**Note:** Objectives: (1) Promoting sports culture and keeping the younger generation healthy, and (2) Providing a platform for sportspersons to nurture talents and skills. Under this scheme, one sport will be identified in each of the 75 districts of UP. State govt will take necessary steps to find district-wise sport-specific talents.
- 4. Odisha** state government has announced to transform the SHGs into Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) and turn them into vibrant financial hubs.

**Note:** It is to be noted that six lakh SHGs are working in Odisha. The government's decision to provide interest-free loans of up to Rs 5 lakh to the women under Mission Shakti will benefit lakhs of women. Mission Shakti initiative started in 2001 has now become a huge force of 70 lakh empowered women in Odisha.

5. **Assam** state cabinet has approved a bill to set up a Safai Karamchari Commission.

**Note:** The cabinet has also renamed the Dergaon Police Academy as Lachit Barphukan Police Academy. In addition to this, cabinet has also approved decisions related to providing maternity benefits, monitoring drug prices, protecting Safai Karmacharis' rights and filling up vacancies in the Forest Department.

6. **Union Health and Family Welfare Ministry** has organized a two days conclave on Universal Coverage Day 2022 at Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh on 10th December 2022.

**Note:** The conclave will be inaugurated by the Governor of Uttar Pradesh, Anandiben Patel. Universal Health Coverage aims to provide promotive, preventive, curative and rehabilitative access of health services. It also ensures that people do not suffer financial hardship while paying for these services.

7. **Jammu and Kashmir** has been awarded with first position in the category for Ayushman Bharat health account ID generation and 2nd prize in the category for Teleconsultation conducted during Universal Health Coverage Day 2022 (10th and 11th December) at International Cooperation and Convention Centre, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.

**Note:** Universal Health Coverage Day is celebrated every year to ensure quality healthcare closer to the people without any financial hardships.

8. **Tamil Nadu** state government has launched Sanitation Workers' Development Programme across the state and distributed safety equipment to a few workers.

**Note:** Aim: Improve the living standard of sanitation workers and economy. A survey will be carried out to identify sanitation workers and details will be uploaded on a mobile application. Initially, the first phase of this scheme will be implemented in five urban local bodies. He has also unveiled the statue of Dr BR Ambedkar at Perangudi.

9. Kerala CM, Pinarayi Vijayan has declared a seed farm as the first carbon neutral farm in the country. This seed farm is located in **Aluva** town of Kerala.

**Note:** The total amount of carbon emission from the seed farm in the last one year was 43 tons but its overall procurement was 213 ton. Compared to the emission rate, as many as 170 tons of more carbon have been procured at the farm, which helped it to

be declared as the first carbon neutral seed farm in the country.

10. **Tamil Nadu** state has launched the Climate Change Mission to protect the natural resources in the state besides restore them on a long-term basis.

**Note:** The state has also aimed to achieve carbon neutrality much ahead of 2070 target set by PM Modi. The state is first to launch its own Climate Change Mission to make Tamil Nadu a climate smart state. The state has roped in former director of UNEP, Erik Solheim to advise it on matters relating to climate action.

11. **114** Namma clinics has been inaugurated by the Karnataka Health Minister, Dr K Sudhakar in all the districts of Karnataka on 13th December 2022.

**Note:** Aim: To provide elderly care, emergency medical services, health check-ups and medicines to urban poor. In the initial phase, 114 clinics has launched simultaneously across the state. The government is working to operationalise all 438 Namma clinics across the state soon and all the remaining ones will be operational by January 2023.

12. **Manipur** state government has launched the Alternative Farming System for Tribal Jhumias/Poppy Planters in ten districts of state.

**Note:** Districts: Churachandpur, Pherzawl, Noney, Tamenglong, Senapati, Kangpokpi, Ukhrul, Kamjong, Tengnoupal, and Chandel. The programme was organized by the Eastern Border Areas Development Authority (EBADA), Govt of Manipur, under the funding of the North Eastern Council (NEC), Shilong.

13. CM Conrad K Sangma has inaugurated a football stadium at the P A Sangma Sports Complex, Dakopgre in Tura. He is a CM of **Meghalaya**.

**Note:** The stadium and the two indoor stadiums are built over a combined area of over 17,000 sqm. The indoor stadiums, along with gymnasium, swimming pool, a table tennis Hall, squash hall and a badminton hall will be ready for inauguration by December 2023. The government has also launched a talent identification programme for athletes.

14. Tal Chhappar blackbuck sanctuary is located in **Rajasthan**.

**Note:** The famous Tal Chhappar blackbuck sanctuary in Churu district of Rajasthan has received a protective cover against a proposed move of the State government to reduce the size of its eco-sensitive zone. The World Wildlife Fund for Nature has also taken up a major project for the conservation of raptors in the sanctuary, spread in an area measuring 7.19 sq. km. The Rajasthan High Court has intervened through a suo motu public interest litigation to protect the sanctuary.

15. **Tamil Nadu** state government has launched 'Friends of Library' programme, under which books

would be directly given to those who are unable to access state-run libraries.

**Note:** Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozi (School Education minister) has announced that volunteers' services would be employed for this. This project will be helpful to people with disabilities, seniors, kids, and hospital in-patients, among others, who are unable to visit a library.

- 16. Tamil Nadu** state government has made mandatory of Aadhaar number or Aadhaar identification for all those who are eligible for benefits (other than minor children) under various government schemes.

**Note:** According to the order, the Aadhaar card is mandatory for government employees, government pensioners and beneficiaries of various schemes. The government has also announced remedial mechanisms if Aadhaar identification fails due to poor biometrics or any other reason.

- 17. Jammu & Kashmir** state/UT government has announced three new schemes- (1) Holistic Development of Agriculture & Allied Sectors, (2) Aspirational Towns, and (3) Aspirational Panchayat for state/UT.

**Note:** Aim: To transform the agriculture economy of the Union Territory putting it on a new trajectory of growth. The projects have an outlay of Rs 5013 crores over the next five years. These schemes have been approved by the administrative council, chaired by the L-G.

- 18. Delhi** UT government has decided to introduce mini snack breaks to battle malnutrition in children.

**Note:** According to a circular by the Directorate of Education (DoE), schools have been directed to include a 10-minute mini snack break in the school timetable. The mini break should be 2.5 hours before the lunch break. Schools have been asked to prepare a weekly planner of snacks offering three food choices every day which may include food items such as seasonal fruits etc.

- 19. Kerala** state government is being hosting the Bekal International Beach Festival from 24 Dec - 2 Jan 2022 at the Spice Coast, in the far north of Kerala.

**Note:** Aim: To revitalise the district's development by showcasing its potential. The festival will be staged at the three venues of Chandragiri, Thejaswini, and Payaswini. The event will organised by Bekal Resorts Development Corporation (BRDC) in association with the District Tourism Promotion Council, Kudumbashree, Asmi Holidays.

- 20. Assam** state government has approved the proposal for grant of industry status to the tourism sector in the state.

**Note:** Aim: To boost investments and generate employment. The industry status, fresh investments in tourism infrastructure, permanent in nature, will contribute towards rapid employment generation,

public-private partnership and development. Tourism is to be one of the main sources of income generation for the people over the years.

- 21. Odisha** state government has launched the 'Drink From Tap' project in 19 cities and towns of the state.

**Note:** Aim: To provide safe drinking water provision at every home in the state. Earlier, this facility was unveiled in Puri and Gopalpur. Under the project, drinking water will be supplied round the clock through taps installed in households.

- 22. Ladakh** state/UT has celebrated Losar Festival on December 24, to mark the New Year.

**Note:** Ladakhi New Year is the major socio-religious festival of Ladakh celebrated in winter. The Losar festivities continue for nine more days from the new year with the offering of prayers in the name of God and Goddess, dances and songs in honour of Ibex and the pilgrimage of Mount Kailash. During the festival, they perform the traditional role of the three Lama Jogis and Grandparents.

- 23. Uttar Pradesh** state government has received the 'no-objection' certificates from the ministry of home affairs to change the names of two places in state ie. Mundera Bazaarmunicipal council and Chauri Chaura.

**Note:** With this consent, 'Mundera Bazaar' municipal council in Gorakhpur district has been renamed to 'Chauri Chaura' and 'Telia Afghan' village in Deoria district to 'Telia Shukla'. MHA gives a 'no-objection' certificate to change the name of any place after taking consent from ministry of railways, department of posts and Survey of India

- 24. Tamil Nadu** state government has launched an initiative for the conservation of the Nilgiri Tahr (State animal) at a cost of ₹25.14 crore.

**Note:** Aim: To develop a better understanding of the Nilgiri Tahr population through surveys and radio telemetry studies; reintroduce the Tahrs to their historical habitat. The project is to be implemented from 2022 to 2027. Nilgiris Tahr (Nilgiritragus hylocrius), endemic to the Western ghats and locally known as 'Varaiaadu'.

- 25. Telangana** state government has launched the 10th phase of Rythu Bandhu, the investment support scheme for farmers.

**Note:** Under this phase, 7,676 crores rupees will be deposited in the bank accounts of over 70 lakh 54 thousand farmers towards investment support for the Rabi crop season. It is a cash transfer programme. It provides investment support for agriculture and horticulture crops by way of a grant of Rs 5,000 per acre to farmers each season.

- 26. Odisha** state Cabinet has approved the provision of Rs 367.19 crores for five years (2022-23 to 2026-27) for implementation of "empowerment of women

in agriculture-promotion of entrepreneurship for women SHG”.

**Note:** The cabinet was headed by Odisha CM, Naveen Patnaik. Aim: To double the mushroom

production across the State through area expansion involving women beneficiaries and to make the state self-sufficient in the production of button mushroom and loose flowers

### November 2022

1. **CM, Yogi Adityanath (Uttar Pradesh)** has inaugurated North India's first hyper-scale data centre Yotta Yotta D1 in Greater Noida.  
**Note:** It was built at the cost of Rs 5,000 crore and spread over an area of 3,00,000 square feet. Hiranandani Group firm Yotta Infrastructure has also signed MoU with Uttar Pradesh to invest Rs 39,000 crore in over the next 5-7 years.
2. Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRL) has partnered with **Namma Metro** to launch WhatsApp chatbot-based QR ticketing service.  
**Note:** The chatbot is integrated with Unified Payments Interface (UPI) powered payments on WhatsApp. It will allow 'Namma Metro' commuters to purchase tickets and recharge their travel pass right within WhatsApp.
3. **Ranipur** tiger reserve of Uttar Pradesh has become the 53rd tiger reserve of India.  
**Note:** The tiger reserve is spread across over 529.36 sq km, of which the core area is 230.32 sq km and buffer area is 299.05 sq km. It is also the fourth tiger reserve in UP. Other three tiger reserves of state: Dudhwa, Pilibhit and Amangarh. Amangarh is a buffer zone of the Jim Corbett National Park and is located in Uttar Pradesh's Bijnor.
4. **Arunachal Pradesh** would get a fish museum, the first of its kind in the Northeast.  
**Note:** The museum would be a part of the Integrated Aqua Park (IAP), sanctioned by the Union Ministry of Fisheries. The existing Tarin Fish Farm, located at high-altitude Bulla village, would be upgraded as the IAP.
5. **Meghalaya** has launched the Citizen Engagement and Communication Programme to create awareness about the correct information of schemes to avail benefits to citizen.  
**Note:** The govt has launched various welfare programmes and information should be spread for the larger benefit of the public.
6. The Greenfield airport at Hollongi, Itanagar has been renamed as **Donyi Polo Airport**.  
**Note:** This reflect the people's reverence of the Sun (Donyi) and the Moon (Polo), that symbolize the traditions and rich cultural heritage of the state. It is the third airport of state after Pasighat and Tezu airports. The airport was developed by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) at a cost of ₹646 crore.
7. **Haryana** has launched the “CM dashboard” to access the real-time data of all departments and decisions taken on major schemes.  
**Note:** It will provide live monitoring of every department at the block, district and panchayat levels. This will enable tracking of methodology and analysis of reports, and also help the govt in comparing the old data with new data.
8. The first edition of the Tokhü Emong Bird Count (TEBC) was organised by **Nagaland** from November 4 to 7, 2022.  
**Note:** Aim: To spread awareness about Nagaland's bird diversity. This event was organised in collaboration with the Wokha Forest Division and the Divisional Management Unit, Nagaland Forest Management Project (NFMP), Wokha, and Bird Count India. It was held during the Tokhü Emong post-harvest festival of the Lotha Nagas.
9. **Haryana** Forest Department has signed for TOFI program with US Agency for International Development (USAID).  
**Note:** TOFI refers to Trees Outside Forests in India. Aim: To enhance carbon sequestration, support local communities, and strengthen the climate resilience of agriculture. This initiative also bring farmers, companies, and other private institutions together to rapidly expand tree coverage outside of traditional forests in the state.
10. **Kerala** state govt has launched Technology Transfer Scheme, to reimburse the expense incurred by the startup ventures to procure technology licenses from government research institutions.  
**Note:** Under the project 'Technology Transfer Scheme', implemented through Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM), the government will reimburse upto ₹10 lakh to startups purchasing or sourcing technology. It has invited applications from eligible startups to avail the benefits offered by the scheme.
11. Name the wildlife sanctuary The sanctuary was notified under Section 26-A of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 has been declared as the 17th wildlife sanctuary of Tamil Nadu.  
**Note:** It covers reserve forest areas in Krishnagiri and Dharmapuri districts, which is a home to 35 species of mammals, 238 species of birds and many more. This sanctuary will connect Cauvery North Wildlife Sanctuary (TN) with the Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary (Karnataka).



- 12. Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik** has announced to make its state slum-free by December, 2023.  
**Note:** He has also declared Hinjilich (his constituency) and Digapahandi town in Ganjam district as 'slum free' and dedicated 707 'Biju Adarsh Colonies' in 33 urban areas of the state. He also declared that land rights will be given to 2.5 lakh families by next year. Slum dwellers are being given land rights for their houses in 'Biju Adarsh Colonies', being built across the state.
- 13. Jharkhand** state Cabinet has approved Mukhya Mantri Shiksha Prothshahan Yojana (MMSPY) to promote education and skill development of students and youths.  
**Note:** Other launched scheme: (1) Eklavya Prasikshan Yojana (EPY), (2) Guruji Student Credit Card Yojana (GSCCY) and (3) Labour department's Mukhya Mantri Sarathi Yojana (MMSY). MMSPY: Class 10 pass students will be provided free coaching at state-based institutions. EPY: Job-oriented free coaching. MMSY: Part of State Skill Mission
- 14. 7th** edition of the Amur Falcon Festival has celebrated in Tamenglong district, Imphal, Manipur.  
**Note:** Aim: To spread awareness about the protection and conservation of the Amur Falcon. Amur Falcon (*Falco amurensis*) is the world's longest-flying migratory bird. It is generally celebrated in the first or second week of November to strengthen human-nature relationships. The first edition of the Amur Falcon Festival was celebrated in 2015.
- 15. Assam** state government has launched Mission Basundhara 2.0 with an aim to provide land rights to only natives.  
**Note:** It is only for the indigenous people with mandatory three generation clear residency. Govt. will verify the residency claims if gov.t have doubts. The doubtful claims will be reviewed later. The first phase of Mission Basundhara was launched last year. During the event, the Assam CM, Hemant Biswa has also launched e-stamping facilities in the State.
- 16. TechEagle**, drone delivery startup has organised the world's first vaccine delivery for Animal Husbandry in Arunachal Pradesh, India.  
**Note:** This service was carried out by TechEagle in collaboration with the Animal Husbandry department and EY. Aim: To robust Healthcare ecosystem of the animals. The flight took off from Roing to Paglam, which covered aerial distance of 29 km (road distance:120 km) in 20 minutes. It has used its hybrid drone Vertiplane X3 for the maiden flight.
- 17. Tamil Nadu** state Forest Department has introduced, first of its kind initiative in India, an elephant death audit framework.  
**Note:** Reason: Detailed and transparent process for recording and monitoring elephant deaths. The document also help to study the conditions of avoidable and unnatural deaths, while preparing developing preventative strategies. It also specifies a methodical standard process for carrying out an autopsy to ascertain the causes of an elephant's demise.
- 18. Tripura** state government has launched a new portal, 'Amar Sarkar' with an aim to provide bridge between the people and the government.  
**Note:** The portal will help people to register their problems and complaints through village committee officials. A total of 78 departments, including the panchayat department, has been included in the webportal. Earlier, the state government had launched the 'Har Ghar Sushasan' initiative
- 19. 53rd** edition of IFFI (International Film Festival of India) is all set to open to a colorful opening ceremony at Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Indoor Stadium, Taleigão in Goa.  
**Note:** It will showcase 280 films from 79 countries. The festival will open with Austrian film, Alma and Oskar, directed by Dieter Berner. It will have 25 feature films and 19 non-feature films from India with special section for Asha Parekh.
- 20. Haryana** state govt has introduced an award scheme to promote good governance and reward innovative human resources.  
**Note:** Those officials who have done innovative work in economic, infrastructure and social sector or state flagship programmes can apply for awards under the Haryana Good Governance Award Scheme, 2022 (Haryana Sushasan Puraskaar Yojana, 2022). State level: ₹ 51,000, ₹ 31,000 (2nd) and ₹ 21,000 (3rd). District level: ₹ 31,000, ₹ 21,000, ₹ 11,000
- 21. Odisha** state government has announced "Mukhyamantri Siksha Purashkar Yojna", an award and scholarship programme.  
**Note:** Aim: To encourage healthy competition between different state schools and to recognise excellence in education. The award will be given to 50,000 (students), 1,500 (Principals, school management committees, alumni, Gram Panchayats and district administrations). This programme will cost Rs 100 crore per year.
- 22. Tamil Nadu** state govt has declared the Arittappatti and Meenakshipuram villages near Melur in Madurai district as a biodiversity heritage site under Section 37 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002.  
**Note:** The site is situated in an area of 193.21 hectare. It is the first Biodiversity Heritage Site (BHS) to be notified in the state. The Arittappatti village is surrounded by a chain of seven barren

granite hillocks. The site also features various megalithic structures.

23. **Odisha** state government has launched AMLAN- 'Anemia Mukta Lakhya Abhiyan' programme to ensure complete eradication of anemia problem among women and children.

**Note:** The programme will be implemented with joint efforts of departments including Health and Family Welfare, School and Mass Education, Women and Child Development, Mission Shakti and ST and SC Development Department. The state has formulated a multi-pronged approach for accelerated reduction of anaemia.

24. SIPCOT Industrial Park has been launched by **Tamil Nadu** state government.

**Note:** He has also laid the foundation stone for the Phoenix Kothari Footwear Park. SIPCOT (State Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu Limited) industrial park in the industrially backward district of Perambalur. The park established on 243.49 acre in Eraiyrur on the Chennai-Tiruchy national highway.

25. **Meghalaya** state government has become the first state in the Northeast to pass first-ever Mental Health and Social Care Policy.

**Note:** After Kerala and Karnataka, Meghalaya becomes the third state in India to have such a policy. Aim: To promote overall mental health and well-being and facilitate appropriate access and care pathways. This policy will ensure that proper attention is given to mental health, particularly for our youth and adolescents.

26. Karnataka State Council for Science and Technology (KSCST) is developing an app-based networking platform for commercialisation of Intellectual Property Rights. **Patentkart** is the name of app.

**Note:** It will benefit patent holders and their clients in commercialising their IP. In the past three years, more than 700 patents have been filed by KSCST-assisted IP cells. Patent Facilitation Centre has supported setting up of a Patent Information Centre at KSCST, IISc.

### October 2022

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

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

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

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

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

**Note:** The app will help police to prepare a database of criminals. It also study the various offences that take place under different police stations in the district. The app was designed under the guidance of Kangra Superintendent of Police Kushal Sharma. The data available in the app from be accessed from anywhere and at anytime

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

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

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

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

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

**Note:** It is termed as 'DBT-NIPGR-Pandit Jaiwant Ram Upmanyu Science Museum'. This state-of-art institution will inspire young children to discover their potentials and use their innovative skills to find a source of livelihood in later life. It is set up by the National Institute of Plant Genome Research at Government Boys Senior Secondary School (GBSSS)

7. Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, Anurag Singh Thakur has inaugurated a Water Sports Center in **Koldam Barmana, Bilaspur, Himachal Pradesh**.  
**Note:** This centre has been dedicated for training of athletes in water sports like Rowing, Canoeing and Kayaking. It is a joint initiative of the Sports Authority of India (SAI) and National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC). During the event, the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was also exchanged between SAI and NTPC.
8. Delhi Lieutenant Governor, VK Saxena has granted an approval to e-commerce website, **Amazon India** to operate 24/7 in New Delhi.  
**Note:** The application was submitted by the company around three years back. Now Amazon's products can be delivered round-the-clock in New Delhi. Boost employment generation. Promote a positive and a favourable business environment.
9. PM Narendra Modi has declared **Modhera** village in Gujarat as the country's first 24x7 solar-powered village.  
**Note:** Modhera, is famous for Sun temple that was built during the Chalukya. The village has a ground-mounted solar power plant, and over 1,300 rooftop solar systems with 1kW capacity have been installed on houses to generate electricity. Both the central and state governments have invested over ₹80 crore in this project in two phases.
10. 'Football for All' an initiative, launched by **Odisha** state government in partnership with FIFA.  
**Note:** Aim to promote football among school children. The programme has been initiated by FIFA in partnership with the Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT) and the Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS). 2022 FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup host: Kalinga Stadium, Bhubaneswar, Odisha/ Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, Margao, Goa/ DY Patil Stadium, Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra
11. **TN govt** state will set up the first Indian sanctuary for Slender Loris, by merging the Karur and Dindigul districts.  
**Note:** They will create the Kadavur Slender Loris Sanctuary. They will be protected under Schedule I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. They are endangered species. Survival: Depends on its habitat improvement.
12. **Madhya Pradesh** state Wildlife Board has approved a 2,339 Sq km new tiger reserve, will be known as Durgavati Tiger Reserve.  
**Note:** The new tiger reserve will be spread across Narisinghpur, Damoh and Sagar districts of MP. The Board's meeting was chaired by Madhya Pradesh chief minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, who has approved a proposal to notify 1,414 sq km area as core area and 925 sq km as a buffer in the new tiger reserve. The proposal will be sent to NTCA for final approval.
13. **Google** has signed an MoU with the Assam government to promote digital growth and development in the State.  
**Note:** Under this new initiative, Google will collaborate with the Skill, Employment & Entrepreneurship Department (SEED) of Assam. Aim: To strengthen the school digitization efforts of state with digital learning tools and solution. Google will also provide scholarships for Google Career Certificates to youth in collaboration with Assam Skill Development Mission.
14. **Delhi government** has launched anti-firecracker campaign named 'Diya Jalao, Patake Nahi'.  
**Note:** Aim: To promote a pollution-free festival of Diwali. As per the order, those who will be found indulging in storage, production and sale of crackers will have to pay a fine of 5000 rupees and imprisonment of three years as well. Those who will be found bursting of firecrackers, will be imposed a fine of 200 rupees and imprisonment for six months.
15. **Ladakh MP**, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal has launched "Main Bhi Subhash" campaign.  
**Note:** This event was organised in collaboration with Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose-INA Trust and the Ministry of Culture on the occasion of Netaji's 125th Birth Anniversary on 23rd January, 2023. He has also inaugurated an exhibition on Netaji at Boys Higher Secondary School in Leh. Aim: To create awareness of Netaji's contribution in the freedom fight.
16. "Honesty shops" has been launched in **Ernakulam district** of Kerala for students up to Class 12.  
**Note:** This initiative was launched by the Student police cadet. Aim: To cultivate valuable lessons on trust, truth and integrity for students. There will be no salesperson in these shops and neither will they have a shopkeeper present. Students can choose items they need and drop the money for each item inside the collection box kept on a table.
17. Kerala Chief Minister, Pinarayi Vijayan has launched **Kunjapp** mobile application to prevent cyber crimes against children in the state.  
**Note:** He has also inaugurated the training for the newly appointed Child Welfare Committee (CWC) and Juvenile Justice Board (JJB) members at Kovalam. The duty of the CWC and JJB members is to ensure the safety and security of the children.
18. **Bestu Varas** has been celebrated a day after Diwali on the Pratipada Tithi in the month of Kartik. **Gujarat** state observed this day as new year.  
**Note:** The day is also called Varsha Pratipada or Padwa. In 2022, Gujaratis were celebrated their New Year on October 25. Significance: Gujarati

businessmen and traders start new books of account and close the old ones.

19. Upper Bhadra lift irrigation scheme will be the first national project of **Karnataka**.

**Note:** It will revive the drought-prone districts of Chitradurga, Chikkamagaluru, Davanagere and Tumakuru, as it is expected to irrigate about 2.3 lakh hectares by drawing water from the Tunga and Bhadra rivers. He has also announced that the Tumakuru-Davanagere railway line has been reviewed.

20. **Assam** state government has launched the “trees outside forests in India (TOFI)” programme in collaboration with US Agency for International Development (USAID).

**Note:** Aim: To bring farmers, companies, and private institutions together to expand the tree coverage outside of traditional forests in the State. The new programme will enhance carbon sequestration, support local communities, and strengthen the climate resilience of agriculture.

21. **Kerala** state govt has launched a ‘women-friendly tourism’ project named State Responsible Tourism Mission (RT Mission).

**Note:** Aim: To establish women-friendly tourism centres and empower women. The project will be implemented to ensure the participation of women from all sections of society. Under the project, it will create a network of women’s units and tourism centres manned by women.

22. The Union ministry of forest, environment and climate change (MoFECC) has given its nod to establish the Terai Elephant Reserve (TER) in **Uttar Pradesh**.

**Note:** The area of reserve will be spread in a 3,049 sq km area, which include Dudhwa Tiger Reserve (DTR) and Pilibhit Tiger Reserve (PTR). It will be the second elephant reserve in UP and 33rd in India. Project Elephant: It is a centrally sponsored scheme and was launched in February 1992 for the protection of elephants.

## 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.
- 19. Indore (MP)** has implemented a fully digital addressing system that makes Indore the first city in India to do so.  
**Note:** For this smart city initiative, an MoU was signed with the firm Pataa Navigations. Pataa: This organisation has developed patented technology and is working with ISRO to develop a digital addressing system for the nation. Users of the Pataa App can upload images of their homes, landmarks, etc, along with their addresses in the full text.
- 20. Jharkhand** state has launched Sports Policy 2022 with an aim to reduce bottlenecks from the path of sportspersons in excelling at national and international events.  
**Note:** Aim: To create the country's first sports digital database for all the players of the state, establishment of a sports university, reservation for sportspersons in jobs and educational institutions. The sports policy has been made for a period of five years.
- 21.** The Delhi and **Punjab** state governments have joined hands to use Pusa bio-decomposer on 5,000 acres of land in the agrarian state to prevent stubble burning which is a major cause of air pollution.  
**Note:** Pusa bio-decomposer is a microbial solution that can decompose paddy straw in 15 to 20 days. In 2022, the total area under paddy cultivation in Punjab is pegged at 29-30 lakh hectares. The state on an average generates around 20 million tons of paddy straw annually.
- 22. Manipur** state government has launched a web portal named 'CM Da Haisi' (Inform to CM).  
**Note:** Aim: To receive complaints and grievances from the general public. The public can raise their grievances in the web portal by logging on to [www.cmdahaisi.mn.gov.in](http://www.cmdahaisi.mn.gov.in). With the help of this portal, the complainants can also check the status of their complaints. This portal will be used by the Public Grievances Redressal and Anti-Corruption Cell stationed at CM Secretariat.
- 23. Bihar** state government is ready to introduce a 'no-bag day' rule in schools and a mandatory games period at least once a week to reduce the burden on students.  
**Note:** Aim: To engage students in various activities which can positively impact their learning. As per the notification, the weekly "no-bag day" will have task-based practical classes. At least once a week, students will come to school only with their lunch boxes. They do not need to carry books.
- 24. Odisha state government** has approved Rs 261 crore for regeneration of coastal ecosystem and to enhance climate resilience among people living on the coast.  
**Note:** The government has decided to implement this livelihood action plan from the current year till 2026-27. The main coastal landscapes to be treated under the project and would include areas like Bhitarkanika in Kendrapara district, Bahuda and Chilika in Ganjam district, and Devi Mouth, Chilika in Puri district.
- 25. Assam** state government has decided to use the air pressure machine named 'SAANS' to provide lifesaving breathing support to infants in hospital settings as well as during travel.  
**Note:** 'SAANS' is a portable neonatal Continuous Positive Air Pressure (CPAP) system. It is developed by a Bangalore-based start-up, InnAccel Technologies. For the development of the machine, InnAccel Technologies has joined hands with the SAMRIDH Healthcare Blended Finance Facility.
- 26. Nagaland** state government to launch its own health insurance scheme called the Chief Minister's Health Insurance Scheme (CMHIS) on 1st of October.  
**Note:** Aim: To reduce out-of-pocket expenditure on hospital care for all bonafide citizens of the state. It provides free health insurance coverage of up to five lakh rupees per family per year. It will cover State government employees and pensioners and all the Indigenous and or Permanent residents of the State.
- 27. Chhattisgarh** state government will launch a special campaign called 'Hamar Beti - Hamar Maan' (our daughters, our honour).  
**Note:** Aim: For protection and safety of girls and women and provide them essential services. Implementation: Women police personnel will visit schools and colleges in all districts and educate girls about their legal rights. Govt will soon launch a helpline number for complaints about misbehaviour, molestation and other crimes against women.
- 28. Himachal Pradesh** state cabinet has given their nod to the 'Early childhood care and education tutor scheme-2022' for children in the age group of 3 to 6.  
**Note:** Aim: To provide an appropriate care and stimulation of the brain in early years to ensure healthy development and growth. The govt will be paid a sum of ₹9,000 a month to those candidates who have done a one-year diploma in nursery teacher, so that they can bridge courses to make them eligible.

## Important News – World

### December 2022

1. In December 2022, India has provided financial assistance of 100 million US dollars to **Maldives** in the form of budgetary support to tide over the difficult economic situation.  
**Note:** The assistance is in the form of budgetary support to tide over the difficult economic situation in the archipelago nation. The assistance is being extended without any conditions and Maldives is free to use it in its economic recovery as it deems fit. The financial assistance has extended by India to showcase the resilience and reliability of the India-Maldives relationship.
2. According to the MEA, India will take chairmanship of the Wassenaar Arrangement for a year on **January 1, 2023**.  
**Note:** At the 26th annual plenary of the Wassenaar Arrangement held in Vienna from Nov 30- Dec 1, 2022, Eoin O'Leary (Ireland's ambassador) has handed over the chairmanship to Jaideep Mazumdar (India's ambassador). Jaideep Mazumdar is the permanent representative to the UN and international organisations in Vienna. India joined the Wassenaar Arrangement in Dec 2017.
3. Paris Club creditor nations (group of 22 countries) has proposed 10-year moratorium on debt and another 15 years of debt restructuring as a formula to resolve the debt crisis of **Sri Lanka**.  
**Note:** The Paris club aims to find sustainable solutions for challenges faced by debtor countries. Earlier this year, Sri Lanka had defaulted on its 51 billion dollar external debt in the midst of spiralling political and economic crisis. India has provided emergency aid to Sri Lanka.
4. **Three** India-origin women have been selected as Australia's Superstars of STEM 2022.  
**Note:** Neelima Kadiyala: She is an IT Program Manager at Challenger Limited and has over 15 years of experience delivering extensive transformation programmes. Dr Ana Baburamani: She is a scientific advisor in the Department of Defence - Science and Technology Group. Dr Indrani Mukherjee: She is a deep-time geologist at the University of Tasmania.
5. As per the Forbes India Rich List 2022, **\$800 billion** is the present combined wealth of India's 100 richest.  
**Note:** The top 10 richest Indians are worth a cumulative \$385 billion. Adani Group chairman, Gautam Adani has bagged the top spot on the list with a net worth of \$150 billion. He is also the third richest billionaire globally. After Adani, Mukesh Ambani (\$88 billion) placed second, followed by Radhakishan Damani, Cyrus Poonawalla, and Shiv Nadar
6. **India** country has taken charge as the President of the UN Security Council for December 2022.  
**Note:** This is the second time in its two-year tenure as an elected member of the UNSC that India has assumed the Presidency of the Council. Earlier, India had assumed the Presidency of the UNSC in August 2021. The presidency of the Council is held by each of the members in turn for one month (English alphabetical order of member states). Permanent Representative of India to UN: Ruchira Kamboj
7. According to the US think-tank 'Early Warning Project' (EWP) report, **Pakistan** has topped the list of countries at the highest risk of experiencing mass killings.  
**Note:** While, Yemen and Myanmar in placed second and third spots respectively in the list. Afghanistan and India were placed in the seventh and eighth spots respectively. Syria and Iraq were placed in the 11th and 12th spots respectively and China was placed 23rd in the list.
8. **48th** is the rank of India in the 2022 global aviation safety ranking, published by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).  
**Note:** In 2018, India was ranked at the 102nd position. In the ranking (2022), Singapore has topped the list, followed by the UAE and South Korea at the second and third positions, respectively.
9. Three Indian billionaires, **Gautam Adani, Shiv Nadar, and Ashok Soota** were listed in the 16th edition of Forbes Asia's Heroes of Philanthropy list.  
**Note:** Gautam Adani (Adani chairman): For having pledged ₹60,000 crores (\$7.7 billion) when he turned 60 in June 2022. Shiv Nadar (HCL co-founder & chairman): For having channelled close to \$1 billion of his wealth to various social causes. Ashok Soota (Happiest Mind chairman): Pledged ₹600 crore to the medical research trust
10. **Goblin mode** has been selected by the Oxford University Press (OUP), publishers of Oxford English Dictionary as the 2022 Oxford word of the year.  
**Note:** It refers to a type of behavior which is an unapologetically self-indulgent, lazy, slovenly, or greedy, typically in a way that rejects social norms or expectations. For the first time, a group of lexicographers at OUP gave people a choice of: "Goblin mode," "metaverse," and "#IStandWith".
11. **Volodymyr Zelensky (Ukraine President)** has been named as the 2022 person of the year by Time magazine.

- Note:** Reason: He has put up a feisty resistance against the Russian invasion (2022). Since the invasion of Russia (February 24), Zelenskyy has delivered daily speeches that are followed by Ukrainians, and governments around the globe. Zelenskyy has shared the 2022 title with "the spirit of Ukraine". Time magazine has presented its first Person of the Year award in 1927.
12. **Six** Indian women have been listed in the 2022 Forbes' annual list of The World's 100 Most Powerful Women.  
**Note:** FM Nirmala Sitharaman has ranked at 36 for fourth time in a row. Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw (Biocon Executive Chairperson) ranked 77, Falguni Nayar (Nykaa founder) ranked 89. Roshni Nadar Malhotra (HCL Chairperson) ranked 53, Madhabi Puri Buch (SEBI Chief) ranked 54, and Soma Mondal (SAIL Chief) ranked 67. Top: Ursula von der Leyen (Belgium), European Commission President
13. **Four** Indian women have been listed in the British Broadcasting Corporation list of 100 most influential women in the world 2022.  
**Note:** The list has included women from several areas such as politics, science, entertainment and literature. In this list, four Indian women have also included - Actress Priyanka Chopra Jonas, Geetanjali Shree (Author), Sirisha Bandla (engineer and astronaut), and Sneha Jawale (social worker). The list also included European Commission President, Ursula von der Leyen.
14. According to the Forbes, Bernard Arnault and Family has replaced Tesla CEO, Elon Musk to become the world richest person. He is a CEO of **LVMH**.  
**Note:** As of December 9, 2022, the personal wealth of Bernard Arnault is \$186.1 billion and net worth of Elon Musk is \$185.0 billion. But as per the Bloomberg's Billionaires Index, the Tesla CEO is still estimated to be the world's wealthiest person with a net worth of \$171 billion (As of 9th Dec 2022).
15. According to the 2022 Hurun Global 500 list, released by the Hurun Research Institute, **5th** is the rank of India.  
**Note:** Among 20 most valuable firms of India, 11 are based in Mumbai, four in Ahmedabad and one each in Noida, New Delhi, Bengaluru and Kolkata. Reliance Industries has topped the list of Indian companies with the valuation of \$202-billion, while it ranked 34th in the world. It was followed by TCS (\$139 billion) and HDFC Bank (\$97 billion). The US has topped the list.
16. **New Zealand** has passed a new anti-smoking laws, which banned the future generation (born on or after Jan. 1, 2009) of nation from purchasing tobacco.  
**Note:** This law has banned the selling tobacco to anyone born on or after Jan. 1, 2009 and punishable by fines up to NZ\$150,000 (\$95,910). The ban will remain in place for a person's whole life. It will also reduce the amount of nicotine, that allowed in smoked tobacco products. Retailers licensed to sell tobacco will be cut to 600 by the end of 2023 from 6,000.
17. **The US** wildlife officials have declared a Nevada wildflower as endangered species.  
**Note:** It is found on a high-desert ridge, where a lithium mine is planned to help meet the growing demand for electric car batteries. The Fish and Wildlife Service has formally listed Tiehm's buckwheat and its accompanying area of 910 acres for the 6-inch-tall flower with yellow blooms. Ioneer (Australian mining company) is planning to dig for lithium where the flower grows.
18. Japan's capital Tokyo has passed a new regulation, which stated that all new houses in capital city built by large-scale homebuilders after April 2025 must install solar power panels to cut household carbon emissions.  
**Note:** Currently, Japan stands at fifth spot in the world's largest carbon emitters list. This mandate requires about 50 major builders to equip homes of up to 2,000 square metres (21,500 square feet) with renewable energy power sources, mainly solar panels.
19. **India** has launched a 'Group of Friends' to promote accountability for crimes against peacekeepers.  
**Note:** EAM, S Jaishankar has announced that New Delhi will maintain a database that will record all crimes against the Blue Helmets. Along with India, contributing countries like Bangladesh, Egypt, France, Morocco and Nepal were participated as its co-chairs. It represents the "political will" of member states, particularly of the troop and police contributing countries
20. **European Union** has adopted a plan for a global minimum 15 percent tax on multinational businesses, after leaders gave final approval following months of wrangling.  
**Note:** The landmark agreement between nearly 140 countries is intended to stop governments racing to cut taxes to lure the world's richest firms to their territory. The plan was drawn up under the guidance of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).
21. Pokhara Regional International Airport will be officially brought into operation from 1st January 2023. This airport is located in **Nepal**.  
**Note:** Inauguration programme of the airport will include different processions, fashion shows at coordination of Pokhara Metropolitan City and Pokhara Tourism Council. This airport is going to be a milestone for the promotion of tourism not only in Pokhara. This is constructed by a Chinese construction company.



22. According to a government survey, the Associated Press reported, **Polar bears** in Western Hudson Bay of Canada, an inland sea connected to the Arctic Ocean, are dying at a fast rate.

**Note:** The study has also revealed that females and younger polar bears are the worst affected. When the last survey took place in 2016, there were 842 bears in the area, but now only 618 bears left in Western Hudson Bay. The polar bear is classified as “vulnerable” on the IUCN Red List

23. Bangladesh PM, Sheikh Hasina has flagged off the first metro rail in Dhaka for its first journey between **Diabari and Agargaon station.**

**Note:** This is part of the ambitious Bangladesh project of Mass Rapid Transit to be completed by

2030, that will cover a total length of 129 kilometres out of which 61 kilometres will be underground. The rail service was built with financial and technical support from Japan. The event was attended by Kiminori Iwama (Japanese Ambassador).

24. **North Korea** has fired three short-range ballistic missiles towards the sea to the east of the Korean peninsula.

1. **Note:** South Korea's military has said that these ballistic missiles launch is a grave provocation that undermines peace and stability on Korean Peninsula as well as the international community. This latest volley comes 5 days after North Korea flew drones into South Korea's airspace for the first time since 2017

## November 2022

1. **Switzerland** country has the world's longest passenger train.

**Note:** The train has 100 coaches, measures 1910 metres and consists of 4,550 seats. The train was seen passing through the mountainous landscape in the Swiss Alps.

2. The 41st edition of the Sharjah International Book Fair (SIBF), that organised from November 2 to 13 at the Expo Centre Sharjah, was inaugurated by **Dr Sultan bin Mohammed Al Qasimi (Supreme Council Member and Ruler of Sharjah).**

**Note:** Sheikh Sultan bin Ahmed bin Sultan Al Qasimi, Deputy Ruler of Sharjah, was also present at the inauguration of the event, which is organized by the Sharjah Book Authority, under the theme 'Spread the Word.'

3. African country **Ghana** has assumed the rotating monthly Presidency of the United Nations Security Council \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** During the month of November 2022, Ghana shall preside over the meetings of the Council (adoptions, debates and consultations) and, under its authority, shall represent the Security Council in its capacity as an organ of the United Nations.

4. According to **2022 Global Gender Wealth Equity** report, published by WTW, on average women are expected to reach retirement with just 74% of the wealth that are accumulated by men.

**Note:** Asia Pacific has one of the lower global wealth gaps on average for gender wealth equity. The gender wealth gap is the largest in India at 64%. Only 3% of women in the workforce occupying senior positions.

5. Ministry of Tourism has participated in World Travel Market (WTM) 2022 that is being organised in **London, UK** from 7-9 November 2022.

**Note:** Theme 2022: The Future of Travel Starts Now. With this participation, India can showcase the diverse tourism products and services including Medical Value travel, luxury trains and the gamut of tourism products to the international business community. The Indian delegation is being led by Arvind Singh (secretary, tourism ministry).

6. According to recent data (2022), published by US News and World Report, India has bagged **31st** position in the overall Best Countries ranking .

**Note:** In the overall Best Countries ranking, Switzerland has topped the chart, followed by Germany, Canada, US and Sweden. India has been ranked as the nation with the cheapest manufacturing cost ahead of China and Vietnam. India is also featured at the 37th spot in the 'Open for Business' category.

7. Tech giant has launched a platform named 'FloodHub' to provide information about flood.

**Note:** It will provide information area and time where floods could occur, so that , authorities can assist people with effectively. Google has also expanded its AI flood forecasting services to 18 countries - Latin America, Africa and SE Asia. These flood forecasting services supported by AI were first introduced in India back in 2018.

8. **IIT-Bombay** has ranked 40th in the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) Asia University Rankings 2023.

**Note:** It is followed by IIT Delhi (46). Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore is placed at the 52nd spot followed by IIT Madras (53), IIT Kharagpur (61), IIT Kanpur (66), and University of Delhi (85). Top 4: China's Peking University; National University of Singapore, Tsinghua University, Beijing, and The University of Hong Kong

9. Three Indian women entrepreneurs, who have been featured in the Forbes' Asia's Power Businesswomen 2022 list -- **Soma Mondal, Ghazal Alagh, Namita Thapar.**

**Note:** Steel Authority of India chairperson, Soma Mondal; Mamaearth's co-founder, Ghazal Alagh; and Emcure Pharma executive director, Namita Thapar are the top Indian business leaders in the Asia's power list. Other women: Choi Soo-yeon (CEO of Naver); Anna Nakajima and Mizuki Nakajima (co-founders of Coly).

10. According to the 'World Population Prospects 2022' report, which was released on World Population Day (11 July), the global population has reached the mark of eight billion on **15th November 2022.**

**Note:** It was also projected that India will surpass China as the world's most populous country in 2023. The latest projections by UN has also suggested that the global population could grow to around 8.5 billion in 2030 and 9.7 billion in 2050.

11. **The US** department of Transportation has fined Air India \$1.4 million (around Rs 11.3 crore) for delaying refunds worth \$121.5 million (around Rs 985 crore) to passengers whose flights were cancelled during the Covid-19 pandemic.

**Note:** Air India is among the six airlines that were probed by the US government. Totally, over \$600 million in refunds were paid and \$7.25 million penalties imposed against six airlines for "extreme delays in providing refunds".

12. **East Timor** has received an in-principal approval from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) as the 11th member of the group.

**Note:** The Timor Leste will also be granted observer status at high-level ASEAN meetings. The country would be the first new member of the regional grouping, since Cambodia was admitted in 1999. ASEAN was founded on August 8, 1967 in Bangkok Thailand. Members: Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam

13. India ranked at **Eighth** as per the Climate Change Performance Index 2023 (CCPI).

**Note:** The Climate Protection Performance is assessed in four categories: Greenhouse Gas emissions, Renewable Energy, Energy use, and Climate Policy. In Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Energy Use category, India has been rated high, while in Climate Policy and Renewable Energy, nation rated medium. The report placed Denmark in fourth place, followed by Sweden and Chile.

14. A special fund **Loss and damage fund** was created at the UN's COP27 climate summit, with an aim to cover the damages suffered by vulnerable nations battered by the impacts of global warming.

**Note:** The expected monetary compensation from the L&D fund is estimated to be nearly \$500 billion and rising by \$200 billion annually. The committee will provide recommendations on few subjects at the COP28, which is set to be held in UAE in 2023.

15. India's steel, mining, and Infrastructure Company, Jindal Steel and Power (JSPL) has won the tender to build a 300-megawatt (MW) coal-fired power plant in **Botswana.**

**Note:** It is the only fossil fuel-based power plant the Southern African country plans to procure in the next 20 years. Under the project, Jindal will finance the plant and recouping its investments from selling electricity to the Botswana Power Corporation (BPC).

16. **India's** proposal to strengthen the protection of Leith's Soft-shelled Turtle has been adopted by the Conference of Parties to CITES in its 19th Meeting at Panama.

**Note:** Proposal: Transferring Leith's Softshell Turtle from Appendix II to Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of wild fauna and flora. Reason: To ensure that legal international trade in the species does not take place for commercial purposes.

17. **India** has won the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) Vice Presidency and Strategic Management Board (SMB) Chair for the 2023-25.

**Note:** India has secured the 90% of votes cast by full members of IEC during its General Meeting in San Francisco, USA. India's Vimal Mahendru will be the IEC Vice President representing India. IEC: International standard-setting body, that publishes international Standards for all electrical, electronic, and related technologies.

18. A UN panel has suggested to put the Great Barrier Reef as a world heritage site that is in danger. This is world heritage site of **Australia.**

**Note:** Reason: It was significantly impacted by climate change and warming of oceans. Frequent bleaching events are threatening the reef, which include the first during La Nina phenomenon, which typically brings cooler temperatures. Bleaching: When the water warms too much, causing corals to expel the colourful algae living in their tissues and turn white.

19. **Gaslighting** has been selected as the 2022 word of the year by the Merriam-Webster.

**Note:** Merriam-Webster has defined Gaslighting, "The act or practice of grossly misleading someone especially for one's own advantage". Interest in the term was up by 1,740% over the previous years according to searches of the online dictionary. Other popular words 2022: Oligarch, Omicron, Codify, Queen Consort, Raid

20. As per the US based consulting firm, 'Morning Consult', in November 2022, **PM Modi** remains the

world's most popular leader with an approval rating of 77%.

**Note:** Andrés Manuel López Obrador (Mexico President) stands at second position followed by Anthony Albanese (Australian PM). While, the US

President Joe Biden is placed at 9th position followed by Rishi Sunak (UK Prime Minister) among the 22 world leaders. The latest ratings are based on data collected from 16th to 22nd November

## 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.
9. Mastercard Lighthouse MASSIV has partnered with **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** to amplifying the private sector's role in creating a significant positive impact on people.  
**Note:** It is a free-of-charge startup partnership program dedicated to helping one billion people live more prosperous and secure lives by 2025. Purpose: To support the impact tech companies on their impact measurement and management and connect them to the broader UN initiatives.
10. India has launched a joint whitepaper on 'Urban Wastewater Scenario in India' with **Denmark** at World Water Congress and Exhibition 2022.  
**Note:** Aim: Capturing the current status of wastewater treatment in India and potential pathways for future treatment structures, co-creation, and collaborations. The event was attended by Jal Shakti Minister, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat along with Danish Environment Minister Lea Wermelin.

11. In the declaration, the rotational presidency of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) has been handed over to India at Samarkand, Uzbekistan.  
**Note:** India will hold the presidency of SCO for a year until September 2023 and also host the SCO summit in 2023. The leaders of SCO Member States have signed the Samarkand Declaration in the meeting of the Council of Heads of State. Member of States has highlighted the impacts of global climate change.
12. India has overtaken **China** to emerge as the largest bilateral lender for Sri Lanka.  
**Note:** India has provided a total of 968 million US dollars in loans to Sri Lanka in four months of 2022. In the past five years from 2017-2021, China has been the largest bilateral lender to Sri Lanka. Asian Development Bank (ADB) has been the largest multilateral lender in the past five years and disbursed funds amounting to 610 million dollars in 2021.
13. According to **Bloomberg Billionaires Index**, **Gautam Adani** has become the second richest person in the world, after surpassing Amazon founder Jeff Bezos.  
**Note:** As of 17th September 2022, the net worth of Adani is \$147 billion and Tesla's founder Elon Musk who has net worth of \$264 billion. Bezos' net worth has declined \$45.5 billion so far this year while Adani's wealth has jumped by \$70.3 billion. Ambani has been ranked tenth on the list with net worth of \$88.7 billion.
14. **India** has the current presidency of Asia-Pacific Institute of Broadcasting Development (AIBD).  
**Note:** The decision was taken unanimously by the AIBD member countries at the two-day General Conference held in New Delhi. Currently, CEO of Prasar Bharati and DG of Doordarshan, Mayank Kumar Agrawal is the President of AIBD. The conference was inaugurated by Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Singh Thakur.
15. SBI Foundation has partnered with **WWF India** to generate fine-scale information on Red Panda species at a transboundary level and engage with communities in safeguarding them in the Khangchendzonga landscape of Sikkim and West Bengal.  
**Note:** The event was organised at the Himalayan Zoological Park in Gangtok. International Red Panda Day is celebrated every year on the third Saturday of September to support Red Panda conservation. SBI Foundation is the CSR arm of SBI.
16. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has announced to provide financial assistance of **USD 1.27 billion** to address poverty and social inequalities.
- Note:** As per the annual Goalkeepers report, that every indicator of the UN SDGs are off track for achieving them by 2030. 2022 Goalkeepers awards:
- **Global Goalkeeper Award:** Ursula von der Leyen (Germany)
  - **Campaign Award:** Vanessa Nakate (Uganda)
  - **Changemaker Award:** Zahra Joya (Afghanistan)
  - **Progress Award:** Dr. Radhika Batra (India)
17. **QUAD group** of nations have signed the Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) partnership guidelines during a ministerial meeting hosted by the US on the sidelines of UNGA in New York.  
**Note:** The partnership was announced during the Quad Leaders' Tokyo Summit 2022 as part of the grouping's shared vision of free and open Indo-Pacific. These guidelines aim to respond to disasters occurring in the Indo-Pacific region.
18. As per the IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List 2022, **Gautam Adani** has topped the list with an estimated wealth of Rs. 10,94,400 crore.  
**Note:** While, Mukesh Ambani has been named as the 2nd richest in India with an estimated wealth of Rs. 7,94,700 crore. Nykaa Founder & CEO, Falguni Nayar became India's richest self-made woman, surpassed Biocon chief, Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw in net worth. She is also the richest female in India, followed by Rekha Jhunjhunwala of Rare Enterprises.
19. **Vitamin Angels India** has partnered with the UNICEF India for Poshan Maah 2022.  
**Note:** Aim: To implement a comprehensive, unified outreach and awareness programme to enhance nutritional content, delivery, outreach, and immunity to disease and undernutrition. This partnership also includes the launch of the Poshan Innovation Platform (PIP) in January 2023. A phase-wise approach will be followed to assemble the PIP between September 2022 and December 2026.
20. As per the 2022 Global Innovation Index of World Intellectual Property Organization, the rank of India is **40<sup>th</sup>**.  
**Note:** India was at 46th position in 2021 and at 81st rank in 2015. Switzerland with the score of 64.6, has emerged as the world's most innovative economy for the 12th consecutive year. The second position was secured by the US followed by Sweden, and UK. Other countries: China (11th); Lithuania(39th); Latvia (41st); Bangladesh (102nd); Guinea (132nd, last)
21. **Zerodha's founder, Nikhil Kamath** has topped a self-made rich list of individuals under 40 years, released by the IIFL Wealth Hurun India 40 & Under Self-Made Rich List 2022.  
**Note:** Ola Electric CEO, Bhavish Aggarwal, with a wealth of Rs 11,700 crore has been placed second in the list, followed by Divyank Turakhia (Media



Network, with Rs 11,200 crore). The Hurun India rich

list has 53 entrepreneurs under 40 years of age.

## Government Schemes

### December

#### 1. Government extends Rooftop Solar Programme till March 2026

- Government has extended Rooftop Solar Programme till 31st March 2026 for providing subsidy, which was fixed at Rs. 14,588/- per kW (for capacity upto 3 kW).
- Implemented by: **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.**
- It is being implemented in the state by distribution companies (DISCOMs).
- Under this, Ministry is providing a 40% subsidy for the first 3 kW and 20% subsidy beyond 3 kW and upto 10 kW of solar panel capacity.
- Any consumer willing to install rooftop solar can apply on National Portal and track complete process starting from registration to release of subsidy directly into his bank account.

#### 2. Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma launched Orunodoi 2.0 scheme

- 'Orunodoi' is the flagship scheme of the state government that provides financial security to financially disadvantaged families.
- It was first launched in 2020 and around 17 lakh women have been receiving an amount of Rs 1,250 each on the 10th of every month through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) method under the first phase of this social sector scheme.
- The second version of the scheme will facilitate 10.5 lakh new beneficiaries.
- Deen Dayal Divyangana Pension Yojana and Indira Miri Widow Pension Scheme would be subsumed under Orunodoi 2.0.
- It will also include Divyangans and transgenders.

#### 3. Comprehensive insurance coverage under PMFBY

- Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare will provide comprehensive insurance coverage against crop loss on account of non-preventable natural risks under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)
- PMFBY is the third largest crop insurance scheme in the World that was launched in 2016.
- It covers all Food & Oilseeds crops and Annual Commercial/Horticultural Crops for which past yield data is available and for which requisite number of Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs) are conducted being under General Crop Estimation Survey (GCES).

#### 4. PM SVANIDHI SCHEME Extended to December 2024

- Government has extended PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) Scheme till December 2024.
- It was launched in 2020, for providing affordable working capital loans to street vendors to resume their livelihoods that have been adversely affected due to Covid-19 lockdowns.
- This Central Sector Scheme has introduced 3rd loan of upto '50,000 in addition to 1st & 2<sup>nd</sup> loans of '10,000 and '20,000 respectively.

#### 5. Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY)

- Finance Ministry informs over 37.76 crore loans disbursed since inception of PMMY
- PMMY was launched in April 2015 for providing loans up to 10 lakh to the non-corporate, non-farm small/micro enterprises

by Commercial Banks, RRBs, Small Finance Banks, MFIs and NBFCs.

#### **6. Museum Grant Scheme and Scheme for Promotion of Culture of Science for New Age Museums**

- Implemented by: **Ministry of Culture**
- Aim: To provide financial assistance to State Governments, Societies, Autonomous bodies, Local Bodies, PSUs and Trusts registered under Societies Registration Act, 1860 for establishment/development and create a congenial spatial setting for diverse exhibitions, galleries and visitors' amenities, digitization, etc. in the Museums.

#### **7. Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Ko Kaam Karyakram (PMKKK) renamed as Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS) Scheme**

- Implemented by: Ministry of Minority Affairs
- This is a Central-Sector integrated scheme converges five erstwhile schemes of the Ministry viz. Seekho aur Kamao, USTTAD, Hamari Dharohar, Nai Roshni and Nai Manzil.
- Aim: To improve the livelihoods of minorities, particularly artisan communities, using the components of skill development, education, women leadership & entrepreneurship.

#### **8. J& K tops scheme to assist microenterprises**

- Jammu & Kashmir has generated most number of jobs among all the states and UTs under Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP).
- PMEGP is a central sector credit-linked subsidy scheme facilitates employment generation opportunities by assisting in setting up of new self-employment projects and microenterprises in the non-farm sector.

- Implemented by: Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) and Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC)

#### **9. Union Cabinet approves One-Rank-One-Pension revision for veterans**

- Union Cabinet has approved revision of pension of Armed Forces Pensioners/family pensioners under One Rank One Pension (OROP) w.e.f. July 01, 2019.
- Who will be covered? Armed Forces Personnel retired up to June 30, 2019 {excluding pre-mature (PMR) retired}
- It will benefit more than 25.13 lakh (including over 4.52 lakh new beneficiaries) pensioners, family pensioners, including war widows and disabled pensioners.
- Arrears will be paid in four half-yearly instalments.

#### **10. Cabinet approves Minimum Support prices (MSP) for copra for 2023 season**

- Cabinet committee on economic affairs has announced to fix MSP of milling copra at Rs 10,860 per quintal and for ball copra at Rs 11,750 per quintal for the 2023 season based on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices.

#### **11. Railway Ministry to renovate 1,000 small stations under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme**

##### **About the scheme:**

- It will equip the stations with facilities inspired by the mega-upgradation of marquee stations like New Delhi and Ahmedabad, albeit at a lower cost.
- It is based on a long-term master plan that will redevelop stations according to the demands and usage of the station.
- This is apart from the ambitious plan to revamp 200 big stations under a separate redevelopment programme.

## 12. Telangana govt launches 10th phase of Rythu Bandhu

- Under 10th phase, 7,676 crores will be deposited in the bank accounts of over 70,54,000 farmers towards investment support for the Rabi crop season.
- **Rythu Rythu Bandhu scheme or Farmer's Investment Support Scheme (FISS)** is a

**November**

welfare support for farmer's investment for two crops a year and incentivize state's farmers for their day-to-day work.

- It provides crop investment to the farmers at the rate of Rs 10,000 per acre for both Kharif and Rabi seasons.

## 1. Union Ministry of Rural Development wants to link performances of States under UNNATI project with its labour budget.

### About Project Unnati

- It was launched in 2020 to reduce dependence on MGNREGA scheme for transition from partial employment to full employment.
- It has been extended till 2024 from 2022
- As of now, project has trained 25,056 persons against the 2 lakh target.
- It aims to train one adult member (18-45 years) of a household that has completed 100 days of work under the MGNREGA using 3 established training programmes: Deen Dayal Upadhyay Grameen Kaushal Yojana (DDU-GKY), Rural Self Training Institute (RSETI) and Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK).

## 2. PM has launched Karmayogi Bharat Technology Platform and Karmayogi Prarambh module.

- Karmayogi Bharat is responsible for digital assets pertaining to the Mission Karmayogi Programme, including iGOT - Karmayogi platform.
- It will be responsible for owning, managing, maintaining, and improving the digital assets on behalf of Government with an annual subscription-based revenue model.

## 3. National Suicide Prevention Strategy

- Launched by: Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

- It is the first of its kind in the country, with time-bound action plans and multi-sectoral collaborations.
- It seeks to establish effective surveillance mechanisms for suicide within the next 3 years.

## 4. National Bio Energy Programme

- Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has notified to continue National Bioenergy Programme (NBY) till 2025-26 from FY 2021-22
- NBY will aid the use of huge surplus biomass, cattle dung, and industrial and urban bio-waste available in the country for energy recovery.
- It comprises of 3 sub-schemes: Waste to Energy Programme, Biomass Programme and Biogas Programme

## 5. Total 42 firms approved for PLI scheme

- Ministry of communications has expanded production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme for telecom and networking products with 42 companies, including 28 MSMEs, cleared for receiving sops for a total investment of Rs 4,115 crore.
- Companies like Nokia, Samsung, Tejas Networks, Flextronics, VVDN, Jabil and HFCL, etc are in the list.

## 6. Construction of ponds started on 53,050 sites under Mission Amrit Sarovar

- The Mission was launched on 24th April 2022 to harvest and conserve water for future generation.

- Initially, it planned to construct or rejuvenate 50,000 Amrit Sarovar ponds across India till 15th August 2023 but now, additional 50,000 Amrit Sarovar ponds will be constructed by 15th August 2023.

#### 7. **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.

#### 8. **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 Udhya 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

#### 9. **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 scholarship amount of Rs 231 crore.

#### 13. **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.

- It works through States and Districts with convergence from various schemes like Mahatma Gandhi NREGS, 15th Finance Commission Grants, PMKSY, etc.

- Birth rate of girl child in the state has also increased from 927 to 956 per thousand.

#### 10. **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.

#### 11. **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.

#### 12. **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.
- 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.

- PM-GKAY was implemented first on 26th March 2020.
- The program comes under Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.

#### 14. **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.

#### 15. 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'.

#### 16. 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.

#### 17. Cabinet approves extension of Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) till March 2023

- 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.

#### 18. AAI launches 'AVSAR' Scheme

- 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.

#### 19. Phase II of 'SVANidhi se Samridhi' launched to cover 28 lakh street vendors

- 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.

#### 20. 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.

#### 21. 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.

#### 22. 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.

#### 23. Stand-Up India Scheme completes 6 years

- The scheme re-imbursed loans of over '30,160 Cr sanctioned to over 1,33,995 accounts

- 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.
- 24. 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 anchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs).
- 25. 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.
- 26. 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
- 27. Mission Indradhanush: Odisha tops list of full immunization with 90.5% cove**
- 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%
- **Mission Indradhanush** : Health mission launched in 2014 to drive towards 90% full immunization coverage of India.
- 28. 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
- 29. 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
- 30. 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.
- 31. '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.
- 32. 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.
- 33. 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.
- 34. 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.
- 35. 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.
- 36. 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
  - 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.
- 37. 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.
- 38. 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 Saarthi 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
- 39. 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.
- 40. '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.
- 41. 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
- 42. 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.
- 43. 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.

#### 44. Rashtriya Uchcharat Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) Scheme

- Govt has approved Rashtriya Uchcharat 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.

#### 46. 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.

#### 47. 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.

#### 48. Intra-State Transmission System of Green Energy Corridor Phase-II

- 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

#### 49. 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

#### 45. 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.

Cities to document landmark projects undertaken by Smart Cities Mission.

#### 50. 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

#### 51. 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.

#### 52. 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.

#### 53. 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.



#### 54. 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

December 2022

#### 1. Committee set up by Home Ministry to investigate demand for 'Frontier Nagaland'

- **Head of the committee:** A K Mishra.
- **Other members:** Mandeep Singh Tull and A K Dhyani
- It will study the demand of Eastern Nagaland People's Organisation (ENPO) for a separate 'Frontier Nagaland' state that arrived in eastern Nagaland on December 16.
- ENPO:
  - It constitutes seven of the major tribes of Northeastern State of Nagaland.
  - They are demanding a separate state by the name of Frontier Nagaland alleging inequitable development in the state.

#### 2. Sebi expands committees on cyber security and information systems

- **Head of the committee:** Navin Kumar Singh
- **Other members:** G Padmanabhan and Sushil Kumar Nehra.
- SEBI has expanded High Powered Steering Committee on Cyber Security (HPSC-CS) and Information Systems Security Committee (ISSC) to eight members from six earlier
- It strengthens cyber security frameworks and cyber resilience requirements.

#### 3. D Y Chandrachud constituted Committee to Conduct Accessibility Audit of SC Premises

- **Head of the committee:** S Ravindra Bhat
- Chief Justice of India, D Y Chandrachud has constituted committee to conduct an audit of physical

and functional access of the top court premises to make them disabled friendly.

- The committee is titled as 'Supreme Court Committee on Accessibility'
- It will prepare a report on the accessibility audit, result of the survey of persons with disability and recommendations/proposals geared towards removing the barriers to access.
- Other members: Sanjay Jain, Shakti Mishra, V Sridhar Reddy and Nilesh Singit.

#### 4. SEBI forms a high-level panel to review corporate takeover rules

- **Head of the committee:** Shiavax Jal Vazifdar (former Chief Justice of Punjab and Haryana High Court)
- It will review the takeover norms in a move to simplify and strengthen the current rules by adopting appropriate global practices.
- Other members: Sundareswaran S, Rajendra Kanoongo, K Srinivas, Ankur Verma, and Dolphy Dsouza Partner.

#### 5. Grievance appellate committees (GACs) for social media platforms

- Government is considering 3 grievance appellate committees (GACs) to investigate complaints by users against decisions of social media platforms, and consultations on various modalities of the panels
- IT rules had been strengthened in October to settle often-ignored user grievances against the way social media platforms addressed their complaints regarding content and other matters.

## November 2022

### 1. Education ministry sets up panel to strengthen assessment of institutions

- **Head of the committee:** Dr. K. Radhakrishnan (Chairperson of Board of Governors, IIT Kanpur, and Chairperson of Standing Committee of IIT Council)
- The committee will strengthen the assessment and accreditation of Higher Educational Institutions.
- It will prepare a road map for the National Accreditation Council envisioned in the National Education Policy, 2020.

### 2. Gujarat Government Set Up Committee to Implement Uniform Civil Code (UCC)

- It will be headed by a retired High Court judge and will have three or four members.
- Gujarat is the second BJP-led state after Uttarakhand to constitute a committee of experts on the UCC.
- Currently, Goa is the only state in India that has uniform civil code regardless of religion, gender and cast.

### 3. SEBI panel suggests steps to boost exchange governance

- **Head of the committee:** G Mahalingam
- It was tasked with proposing governance norms at Market Infrastructure Institutions like stock exchanges, depositories and clearing houses.

- The panel suggested measures for developing effective metrics for monitoring various aspects of the functioning of the MIs: stock exchanges, depositories and clearing corporation and its KMPs.

### 4. Centre forms panel to revamp MGNREGA job guarantee scheme

- **Head of the committee:** Amarjit Sinha (former Rural Development Secretary)
- It was set up a committee to find out reasons for gaps in implementation and underutilization of funds under the scheme in several states with low per capita income.
- It is also tasked with suggesting measures to make the scheme more efficient in its functioning across the country.

### 5. BCCI Dissolves 4-Member National Selection Committee

- **Head of the committee:** Chetan Sharma
- Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has dissolved 4-member National Selection Committee, after India team's uninspired performance in T20 World Cup.
- Other members: Sunil Joshi, Harvinder Singh and Debashish Mohanty.
- BCCI also invited fresh applications for the position of National Selectors for the senior men's team and deadline to submit the applications is 28th November.

## October 2022

### 1. Three-member panel to study on SC status for Dalit converts

- **Head of the committee:** K G Balakrishnan (former Chief Justice of India)
- Centre has appointed three-member commission to consider the possibility of granting SC status to new persons who have historically belonged to the Scheduled Castes but have converted to religions other than Hinduism, Buddhism and Sikhism.
- According to 2011 Census, SC account for 16.6% of the total population.

- **Head of the committee:** CK Mishra
- The committee is based on sustainable finance, constituted by the International Financial Services Centres Authority at the GIFT City
- **Recommendation:** To develop a voluntary carbon market, framework for transition bonds, enabling de-risking mechanisms, promoting regulatory sandbox for green fintech & facilitating the creation of a global climate alliance.

### 3. Govt forms expert committee to probe WHO report on deaths of children in Gambia

### 2. Panel on sustainable finance submits suggestions to IFSCA

- **Head of the committee:** Dr. YK Gupta (Vice Chairperson of Standing National Committee on Medicines)
- Centre has formed 4-member expert committee to investigate the report sent by WHO on the deaths of 66 children in Gambia by consumption of cough syrups from Sonipatbased company Maiden Pharmaceuticals Limited.

#### 4. NAREDCO sets up finance committee to help builders procure funds from banks and NBFCs

- NAREDCO Finance Committee will enable member developers to easily access funds from banks and financial institutions based on merit and viability of the projects.
- National Real Estate Development Council (NAREDCO) is an apex body formed under the aegis of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- It will also support large-scale projects to access funds via financial institutions and educate members about the ways to enhance their credit ratings

#### 5. Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) sets up health insurance consultative committee

- **Head of the committee:** Rakesh Joshi
- It is a 15-member Health Insurance Consultative Committee with an aim to achieve the goal of universalization of health insurance in the country.
- It will identify the challenges in carrying out the health insurance business smoothly & make recommendations to facilitate ease of doing business.

#### 6. IRDAI panel to develop insurance cover for rural population

- **Head of the committee:** Thomas M Devasia
- It is a 24-member committee to develop and suggest an affordable and comprehensive cover for the rural population.

It will explore and recommend on how to bring about synergies in the working and operations of 'Bima Vahak', 'Bima Vistaar' and the digital platform 'Bima Sugam'.

### September 2022

#### 1. SEBI restructured panel on cyber security

- **Head of the committee:** Kumar Singh (DG at National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre (NCIIPC))
- SEBI has restructured its high-level panel on cyber security that suggests measures to safeguard the capital markets from such attacks
- The panel earlier had 4 members but now has 6 members.
- Other members: Sanjay Bahl, H Krishnamurthy, Sandeep Shukla, Debdeep Mukhopadhyay and Sugata Gangopadhyay.

#### 2. Government sets up Kirit Parikh committee to moderate gas prices

- **Head of the committee:** Kirit S Parikh (Former planning commission member)

- **Aim:** The panel will review the formula that dictates the pricing of gas produced by companies like ONGC and Reliance as it looks to moderate the steep increase that producers would have otherwise got. It will suggest fair price to the end consumer.

#### 3. Govt constitutes expert committee to address regulatory and other issues

- **Head of the committee:** M Damodaran (former SEBI chairman)
- The committee will examine & suggest measures to address regulatory and other issues to enable scaling up investments by venture capital and private equity investment.
- It will suggest measures to further accelerates investment into start-ups & sunrise sector

## Science and Defence

### December 2022

1. **Sudarshan Chakra Corps** of Indian Army has conducted Exercise Sudarshan Prahar in the deserts of Rajasthan on 30th November 2022.  
**Note:** Focus: On the synergised application of combat power through the integration of force multipliers & practising new battle techniques. The exercise was attended by Lt Gen AK Singh, Goc-in-C, Southern Command.
2. **12th** edition of a bilateral exercise between the Singapore & Indian Army, 'Agni Warrior' has been concluded on 30 November 2022.  
**Note:** Location: Field Firing Ranges, Devlali, Maharashtra. During the exercise, both armies have showcased the joint firepower planning, execution and use of New Generation Equipment by the Artillery arm of both armies. Aim: To enhance the mutual understanding of drills & procedures and improving interoperability between the two armies.
3. ISRO has signed an MoU with **Social Alpha** organisation to launch SpaceTech Innovation Network (SpIN).  
**Note:** It is the India's first dedicated platform for innovation curation and venture development for the burgeoning space entrepreneurial ecosystem. It will primarily focus on facilitating space tech entrepreneurs in three categories - Geospatial Technologies and Downstream Applications; Enabling Technologies for Space & Mobility; and Aerospace Materials, Sensors, and Avionics.
4. ISRO has signed an MoU with **Vyom Space Exploration and Services Private Limited** for its human and cargo transportation capsule program.  
**Note:** It was facilitated by India's nodal space authorization body, Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Center (In-Space). In space mission, 'Capsule' is the module inside which any cargo is placed for being carried to space. In manned missions, the capsule is what hosts the astronauts.
5. Japanese space startup, **ispace** has launched the world's first commercial moon lander, HAKUTO-R on 11th December 2022 after several delays.  
**Note:** This mission was took off from Cape Canaveral, Florida, after two postponements caused by inspections of its SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket. HAKUTO refers to the white rabbit that lives on the moon in Japanese folklore. The national space agencies of the United States, Russia and China have already achieved the soft landings on moon.
6. After completing **25 Days**, NASA Orion capsule has returned to the Earth from the moon on December 11, 2022.  
**Note:** NASA has launched the Orion capsule from Kennedy Space Center on November 16, 2022. This capsule was hit the atmosphere at 32 times the speed of sound, and endured reentry temperatures of 5,000°F (2,760°C) before splashing down west of Baja California near Guadalupe Island. The space agency needed a successful splashdown to stay on track for the next Orion flight around the moon.
7. Indian TV actor, **Dev Joshi** has confirmed that he will be joining the "dearMoon CREW" and taking a week-long trip around the moon in a SpaceX rocket in 2023.  
**Note:** He is best known for his role in TV show 'Baal Veer'. The 'dearMoon' project was first announced in 2017 and it is the first civilian mission to the Moon. Japanese billionaire, Yusaku Maezawa, who has purchased all the seats in 2018, has revealed the name of the eight people who will be joining him for this trip.
8. Along with INS Kochi, and Kavaratti, Indian Navy Ship **Sumedha** has participated in the maiden International Fleet Review (IFR), organised at Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh.  
**Note:** The ships has taken part in a variety of activities that was conducted as a part of BN IFR-22 from 06 to 09 December 2022. In 2022, the IFR-22 was organised by Bangladesh Navy, to commemorate the Birth Centenary of Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and to celebrate Golden Jubilee of Independence of Bangladesh.
9. **39th** edition of India-Indonesia Coordinated Patrol (IND-INDO CORPAT) between the Indian Navy and the Indonesian Navy is being conducted from 08 - 19 December 2022.  
**Note:** INS Karmuk, an indigenously built Missile Corvette participated in the pre-deployment briefing at Belawan, Indonesia. Along with India's INS Karmuk, L-58 and Dornier Maritime Patrol Aircraft are participating in the CORPAT. India and Indonesia have been carrying out CORPATs twice a year since 2002.
10. **6th edition** of India-Kazakhstan joint training exercise 'KAZIND-22' has been conducted at Umroi, Meghalaya from 15 to 28 December 2022.  
**Note:** The Joint annual training exercise with the Kazakhstan Army was instituted in 2016 as Exercise Prabal Dostyk. In 2018, this exercise was upgraded to a company level exercise and renamed as Ex Kazind. This joint exercise enables the two armies to train, plan and execute a series of combined tactical drills for neutralising threats.
11. The 16th edition of Indo-Nepal joint army training exercise, SURYA KIRAN has been started in **Nepal Army Battle School, Saljhandi, Nepal**.  
**Note:** This exercise will continue till 29 December 2022. Aim: To enhance inter-operability in jungle warfare and counter-terrorism operations in mountainous terrain and Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) under UN mandate. Shree Bhawani Baksh Battalion (Nepal Army) and 5 GR (Indian Army) are participating in the exercise.
12. The second warship of the P15B class of stealth guided-missile destroyers, **INS Mormugao (D67)** has been commissioned at Naval Dockyard, Mumbai on December 18, 2022.  
**Note:** It was designed by the Indian Navy's in-house organisation Warship Design Bureau. It was constructed by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL), Mumbai. It has 70-km MRSAM system, torpedo and rocket



- launchers. The event marked the formal induction of the second of the four 'Visakhapatnam' class destroyers.
13. Sailor boat **INSV Tarini** has set sail for an expedition to Cape Town, South Africa for participating in the 50th edition of Cape to Rio Race 2023.  
**Note:** This ocean sailing race will be flagged off on 2nd January, 2023 from Cape Town and will culminate at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Aim: To train crew onboard, in essential seamanship skills including Navigation, Communication, and Planning. The expedition is being undertaken by an Indian Navy crew of five officers including two women officers
14. Fifth indigenously-built Scorpène submarine of Project 75 Kalvari Class submarines, **Vagir** has been received by Indian Navy.  
**Note:** These submarines are being constructed at Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited Mumbai, under collaboration with M/s Naval Group, France. The submarine would shortly be commissioned into the Navy and enhance its capability. Project - 75 includes the indigenous construction of six submarines of Scorpene design.
15. The first ship of ASW SWC Project, that has been launched by the Indian Navy at Kattupalli, Chennai.  
**Note:** This ship built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE). The contract for building eight ASW SWC ships was signed between Defence Ministry and GRSE, Kolkata in April 2019. Arnala class of ships will replace the Abhay class ASW Ships of the Indian Navy and are designed to undertake anti-submarine operations in coastal waters and Low Intensity Maritime Operations.
16. The Indian defence forces will induct ballistic missiles **Pralay** that can hit targets from 150 to 500 km.  
**Note:** Pralay is a quasi-ballistic surface-to-surface missile. Pralay is powered with solid propellant rocket motor with the capability to destroy enemy targets within a range of 150 to 500km. The proposal moved by the Indian defence forces is at an advanced stage and is scheduled to be taken up for clearance during a high-level meeting.
17. India has successfully carried out the night trials of **Agni-V** nuclear-capable ballistic missile from Abdul Kalam Island, off the coast of Odisha on 15th December, 2022.  
**Note:** The test was conducted to check the new technologies and equipment on the missile which is now lighter than before. The missile has a capacity to hit targets beyond 5,000 kilometres. The Agni series I to IV missiles have ranges from 700 km to 3,500 km.
18. According to the Ministry for Space, **₹1,100 crore (approx)** has been earned by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) in the last five years from the launch of foreign satellites.  
**Note:** In the last five years (January 2018 - November 2022) ISRO, via its commercial arms has successfully launched 177 foreign satellites from 19 countries. Under commercial agreement, ISRO launched these satellites on-board PSLV and GSLV-MkIII.
19. Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) chairman, PD Vaghela has announced that India will be the first country to auction spectrum for SatCom, and it should be designed to attract investments in the sector. **Satellite Communication** is the full form of SatCom.  
**Note:** Satellite communication: It refers to any communication link that involves the use of an artificial satellite in its propagation path. They can be found in geostationary, Molniya, elliptical, and low Earth orbits.
20. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has launched the SWOT satellite from California to survey nearly all bodies of water on Earth, offering key insights on how they influence or are impacted by climate change. The full form of SWOT is **Surface Water and Ocean Topography**.  
**Note:** This satellite project was jointly developed by NASA and CNES (France space agency). It will start collecting scientific data in about six months after undergoing checks and calibrations.
21. India and Japan will organise their maiden bilateral air combat exercise, Veer Guardian 2023 from January 16 to 26 at Hyakuri air base and Iruma air base.  
**Note:** Reason: To promote the mutual understanding and strengthen defence cooperation between the Air Forces and enhance JASDF's tactical skill. India will deploy four Sukhoi-30MKI fighters supported by two C-17 Globemaster-III strategic lift aircraft, one IL-78 mid-air refueler and around 150 IAF personnel.
22. **Russia** will begin supplying India with the third squadron of the S-400 air defence missile system in January or February of next year.  
**Note:** India has already put its first two missile system squadrons into service. India and Russia have agreed to a three-year, more than ₹35,000 crore deal for India to buy five squadrons of S-400 air defence missiles, and all deliveries are anticipated to be completed by the end of the following fiscal year.
23. The Indian Air Force has successfully test-fired the extended range version of BrahMos supersonic cruise missile against a ship target in Bay of Bengal from **Sukhoi-30MKI**.  
**Note:** Achievement: Carry out precision strikes from Sukhoi against land and sea targets over very long ranges. The current weight of missile is 2.65 tonnes, which will come down to 1.33 tonnes with BrahMos-NG (under development). BrahMos is a JV between DRDO and NPO Mashinostroyeniya of Russia
24. **Nasa** has announced that Mars InSight lander has been retired four years after it touched down on the surface of the red planet.  
**Note:** It was the first robotic probe, which was specially designed to study the deep interior of a distant world. Mission controllers at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) concluded that the mission had ended when two consecutive attempts to re-establish radio contact with the lander failed. InSight landed on Mars in late November 2018.

25. Researchers at **IIT Kanpur** have developed organic solar cells under the DST-RCUK APEX project.

**Note:** Organic solar cell: It is a combination of an organic polymer and PCBM developed on steel substrates can potentially convert a steel roof into an energy-producing

device. The devices consist of a blend of organic polymer PTB7 as a donor and PCBM as an acceptor. It is a jointly developed programme of the Department of S&T and the Research Councils United Kingdom (RCUK).

### November 2022

1. **China** has successfully launched a second lab module, Mengtian, by using a Long March-5B Y4 rocket.

**Note:** It was launched from the Wenchang Spacecraft Launch Site on the coast of the southern island province of Hainan. Scientific equipment will be used for studying microgravity and carrying out experiments in fluid physics, materials science, combustion science, and fundamental physics

2. Royal Australian Navy has sent ships HMAS Adelaide and Anzac for Exercise 'Indo-Pacific Endeavour', that was conducted by Indian Navy at **Visakhapatnam**.

**Note:** Meanwhile, the Indian Navy hold the Commanders Conference in New Delhi which was addressed by Rajnath Singh. IPE 2022 will see engagements with the Maldives, Timor-Leste, Vietnam, the Philippines, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Laos, Cambodia, India, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei and Indonesia

3. **DRDO** has conducted a successful maiden flight-test of Phase-II Ballistic Missile Defence interceptor AD-1 missile from APJ Abdul Kalam Island, Odisha.

**Note:** This flight-test was carried out with the participation of all BMD weapon system elements. AD-1 is a long-range interceptor missile. It is designed for both low exo-atmospheric and endo-atmospheric interception of long-range ballistic missiles as well as aircraft.

4. The process for registration of Indian army improved new design and camouflage pattern uniform was completed by **Kolkata's** Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trademark.

**Note:** The Ministry of Defence has announced that the Indian Army has registered 'Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)' of the new design and camouflage pattern uniform. With the IPR, the rights of design and camouflage pattern rests solely with the Indian Army. Unauthorized manufacturer will be liable to face legal repercussions.

5. **Indian Army** has approved project sanction orders of five Make II projects to provide an impetus to India's vision for self-reliance.

**Note:** Projects: High-Frequency Man Packed Software Designed Radio, Drone Kill System, Infantry Training Weapon Simulator, 155mm Terminally Guided Munitions and Medium Range Precision Kill System. These are industry-funded projects, that involves design, development and

innovative solutions by Indian vendors for development of prototypes.

6. **11<sup>th</sup>** edition of the annual Joint Military Training (JMT) between the Indian Air Force (IAF) and the Republic of Singapore Air Force (RSAF) will be held at Air Force Station, Kalaikunda, West Bengal.

**Note:** The six weeks long military training will be conducted from 09 to 18 November 2022. The RSAF will participate the JMT-2022 with F-16 aircraft. While, the Indian Air Force would showcase Su-30 MKI, Jaguar, MiG-29 and LCA Tejas aircraft.

7. India's first private rocket, **Vikram-S** is ready to launch between November 12 and 16, from ISRO's launchpad at Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.

**Note:** It is a single-stage sub-orbital launch vehicle, which would carry three customer payloads, and validate the majority of the technologies in the Vikram series of space launch vehicles. The rocket was developed by the Skyroot Aerospace (Hyderabad). This rocket will launch under their maiden mission named 'Prarambh' (the beginning)

8. ISRO has successfully tested the hot test on **Cryogenic engine** at Mahendragiri in Tamil Nadu.

**Note:** This engine will power the heaviest rocket of ISRO, the LVM-3 (Previously called as GSLV-Mk3). LVM-III went through the hot test at an uprated thrust level of 21.8 tonnes for the first time. Aim: To test that the engine can support a payload capability of up to 450 kg with additional propellant loading.

9. India has participated in **26<sup>th</sup>** edition of International Malabar Naval Exercise, organised in Yokosuka of Japan in November 2022.

**Note:** The naval exercise also joined by Australia, Japan and the USA. The exercise will continue till the 18th of next month. From India, Indian Naval Ships Shivalik and Kamorta have been demonstrated at the event. The MALABAR exercise was initiated in 1992 between the navies of India and the United States. Later, it was joined by Japan in 2015, Australia in 2020.

10. **Indian Army** has launched a single window facility named Veerangana Sewa Kendra (VSK) for welfare and grievances redressal of Veer Naris.

**Note:** The Indian Army has launched this facility with a motto of "Taking Care of Our Own, No Matter What". The project was inaugurated by President Army Wives Welfare Association at the Directorate of Indian Army Veterans premises located at Delhi

Cantt. The VSK will be available on [www.indianarmyveterans.gov.in](http://www.indianarmyveterans.gov.in).

11. The 7th edition of the bilateral air exercise between IAF and the French Air and Space Force (FASF), 'Garuda-VII', was concluded at Air Force Station **Jodhpur**.  
**Note:** Exercise Garuda-VII provided the two Air Forces with the opportunity for professional interaction and sharing of operational knowledge and experience. The exercise also provided a platform for cultural exchange between the Air Force personnel of both the countries.
12. **NASA** has successfully took off the Artemis 1 mission from Launch Pad 39B at Kennedy Space Center in Florida, US.  
**Note:** The project, comprising the Space Launch System (SLS) rocket and Orion spacecraft. It carries a toy called Shaun the Sheep, and two dummies, Helga and Zohar which pack 5,600 radiation sensors. Ten payloads, including Lunar IceCube and Lunar Polar Hydrogen Mapper, are also onboard. The Artemis 1 project will be followed by the Artemis 2 and Artemis 3 missions.
13. India's first ever private Suborbital rocket **Vikram-S** has been launched from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota.  
**Note:** This rocket reached an altitude of 89.5 km with three payloads weighing 83 kilogram and safely splashed in the Bay of Bengal at around 115 km after the lift-off from Sriharikota. It is built by Skyroot Aerospace.
14. **18th** edition of India-US joint military training exercise 'Yudh Abhyas 22' has been started in Auli, Uttarakhand.  
**Note:** Focus: High altitude and extremely cold climate warfare. The exercise has been participated by US Army soldiers of 2nd Brigade of the 11th Airborne Division and Indian Army soldiers from the Assam Regiment. This joint military exercise is conducted annually between India and US with the aim of exchanging best practices, Procedures, Tactics, Techniques.
15. **Third** edition of the 'Pan-India' Coastal Defence Exercise 'Sea Vigil-22' has organised from 15th - 16th November 2022.  
**Note:** The exercise held along the entire 7516 km coastline and Exclusive Economic Zone of India. It is also involved all the Coastal States and UTs along with other maritime stakeholders, including the fishing and coastal communities. It is conducted by the Indian Navy, Coast Guard and other ministries entrusted with the task of maritime activities.
16. Annual show, 'Air Fest 2022' showcasing maneuvers of planes & helicopters in the arsenal of Indian Air Force (IAF) is organized in **Vayusena Nagar in Nagpur**.  
**Note:** It is being conducted as a part of the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'. Objective: to showcase various facets of Indian Air Force (IAF) and motivate the youth of Nagpur to choose Indian Air Force for an exciting career.
17. **South Western Command** of the Indian Army has organised Integrated Fire Power Exercise named "SHATRUNASH" at MFFR in Thar desert, Rajasthan.  
**Note:** During the exercise, Indian army has used multi farious firing platforms in an integrated manner involving both ground & aerial manoeuvres. Various actions included ion of troops, offensive ground actions involving comprehensive coordination incorporating contemporary technologies in a multi domain environment.
18. **Eighth** edition of joint military exercise between India and Indonesia, "Garuda Shakti" has been organised in Sangga Buana Training Area, Karawang, Indonesia.  
**Note:** The exercise was commenced on 21 November 2022. Aim: To enhance understanding, cooperation and interoperability between the Special Forces of both armies. It also focus on a high degree of physical fitness, tactical drills, and techniques.
19. India has successfully launched Agni-3 from APJ Abdul Kalam Island, Odisha. It is an **Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile**.  
**Note:** It is a routine user training launch, carried out under the aegis of the Strategic Forces Command. Agni series missiles: Agni-1 (700km), Agni-2 (2,000km), Agni-3 (3,000 km), Agni-4 (4,000 km) and Agni -5 (longest striking range of 5,000 km). With Agni and BrahMos (tactical cruise missile), India can easily take care of targets between 30 to 5,000 kms.
20. Indian Air Force has conducted the annual Joint Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Exercise 'Samanvay 2022' from 28th-30th November 2022 in **Agra**.  
**Note:** Aim: To assess the efficacy of institutional Disaster Management structures and contingency measures. The exercise will also see participation by representatives from the ASEAN countries. Rajnath Singh will be Chief Guest for the Capability Demonstration events on 29th Nov 2022.
21. **13th** edition of bilateral exercise between the Indian navy and the Royal Oman navy, Naseem Al Bahr-2022 was organised on the coast of Oman.  
**Note:** The exercise was conducted from 19 to 24 Nov 22. The exercise organised in three phases: harbour phase, sea phase and debrief. The Indian Navy's guided missile stealth frigate, INS Trikand, offshore patrol vessel, INS Sumitra, and Maritime Patrol Aircraft, (MPA) Dornier were participated in the exercise.

22. The bilateral training exercise between Indian and Australian Army, "AUSTRALIA HIND 22" has started at Mahajan Field Firing Ranges in **Rajasthan**.  
**Note:** It is the first exercise in the series of AUSTRALIA HIND with participation of all arms and services contingent. The Australian Army contingent comprised soldiers from the 13th Brigade of the 2nd Division. The Indian Army is represented by troops from the DOGRA Regiment.
23. A joint military exercise between India-Malaysia, Harimau Shakti-2022 has been started in **Pulau Klang in Malaysia** city of Malaysia.  
**Note:** The military exercise will culminate on the 12th December 2022. Aim: To enhance the defence cooperation between Indian Army and the Malaysian Army. The combat troops of the Garhwal Rifles Regiment of the Indian Army and the Royal Malay Regiment of the Malaysian Army participated in the exercise.
24. ISRO has conducted the 200th consecutive successful launch of **RH200** sounding rocket from Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station, Thiruvananthapuram on 24th November 2022.  
**Note:** Sounding Rockets: It is used for the scientific community for carrying out experiments on meteorology, astronomy and similar branches of space physics. RH-200: It is a two-stage rocket capable of climbing to a height of 70 km bearing scientific payloads. The '200' in the name denotes the diameter of the rocket in mm.
25. ISRO's PSLV has successfully injected Earth observation satellite 'Oceansat' into a sun-synchronous orbit, from Satish Dhawan Space Centre on 26th November 2022. **Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle** is the full form of PSLV.  
**Note:** The Earth Observation Satellite or the Oceansat successfully separated from the rocket and was placed into orbit. The Earth Observation Satellite-6 is the third-generation satellite in the Oceansat series. ISRO Headquarters: Bengaluru; Chairman: Sreedhara Somanath
26. Space-tech startup, **AgniKul Cosmos** has set up India's first private launchpad and mission control centre at Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota.  
**Note:** The launchpad is designed and operated by AgniKul. It has incubated at the Indian Institute of Technology-Madras, plans to guide and control its upcoming launches from this facility. In its first launch, a two-stage launch vehicle, 'Agnibaan' is intended to carry a payload of up to 100 kg to around 700 km altitude.
27. **Artemis 1 Orion capsule** space craft of NASA has set a new space flight record for spacecraft designed to carry humans by travelling 401,798 km from Earth.  
**Note:** The previous record was held by Apollo 13 on April 14, 1970 by travelling 400,171 km. Apollo 13 was not designed to travel that far and the spacecraft was only made to complete a moon landing. Since the Orion was not staffed, the Apollo 13 crew still holds the record for the farthest distance from Earth reached by humans.

### October 2022

1. The Indian Mars Orbiter Craft, Mangalyaan has runs out of fuel and battery after completing **8 years**.  
**Note:** ISRO has launched the Mars Orbiter Mission (MoM) on November 3, 2013. The spacecraft entered the Martian orbit on September 24, 2014. It helped to study the Martian landscape including surface geology, morphology, atmospheric processes, surface temperature, and atmospheric escape process. India is the first nation in the world to reach Mars on a Maiden attempt.
2. Indian Air Force has decommissioned 51 Squadron, which is also known as **Swordarms**.  
**Note:** It was raised at Chandigarh on February 1, 1985 under the command of Wg Cdr VK Chawla. The Squadron moved to its present location at Srinagar on May 1, 1986. The Squadron operation has been stopped from 30 June 2022. Now, IAF has three only MiG squadrons remaining now. This aircraft was flown by Wing Commander, Abhinandan Varthaman had shot down a Pakistan Air Force's F-16.
3. Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh has formally inducted the indigenously-developed LCH **Prachanda** in the Indian Air Force at Air Force Station, Jodhpur in Rajasthan.  
**Note:** It would be inducted into the 143 Helicopter Unit. It was developed by Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL). This helicopter is powered by two Shakti engines and equipped with stealth features, all-weather combat capability, and armour protection.
4. Indian Navy has signed an agreement with **Royal New Zealand Navy** country on White Shipping Information Exchange.  
**Note:** Aim: To promote greater transparency in the Maritime Domain. The agreement was signed between Navy chief Admiral, R Hari Kumar and Rear Admiral, David Proctor, Chief of Royal New Zealand Navy (RNZN). The white shipping information refers to the exchange of prior information on the movement and identity of commercial non-military merchant vessels.
5. SpaceX has launched group of four astronauts to the International Space Station (ISS) as part of **Crew-5**



- mission** from Launch Complex 39A, Kennedy Space Center, Florida.
- Note:** This is the first time that the SpaceX has launched a Russian cosmonaut on its vehicle, which comes as part of an exchange deal between Nasa and Roscosmos. The Crew-5 flight carried Nasa astronauts Nicole Mann and Josh Cassada, Koichi Wakata (JAXA), and Anna Kikina (Roscosmos cosmonaut).
6. According to the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), the X-ray spectrometer 'CLASS' on the Chandrayaan-2 orbiter has mapped an abundance of **Sodium** chemical compound on the moon for the first time.
 

**Note:** Chandrayaan-1's X-ray Fluorescence Spectrometer (C1XS) has detected sodium from its characteristic line in X-rays. CLASS was built at the U R Rao Satellite Centre of ISRO in Bengaluru. It provides clean signatures of the sodium line due to its high sensitivity and performance.
  7. **Asteria Aerospace Limited** has received India's first micro category drone type certification for its indigenously designed A200 drone from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).
 

**Note:** The A200 drone was found to be fully compliant with the Certification Scheme for Unmanned Aircraft Systems. Asteria's A200 drone has been developed for surveying and mapping applications in GIS, agriculture, construction, mining and other industries.
  8. **Russia** has launched a GLONASS-K navigation system from northern cosmodrome.
 

**Note:** This system was carried by Soyuz-2.1b medium-class launch vehicle. GLONASS-K is a navigation satellite intended as a part of the Russian GLONASS radio-based satellite navigation system. Russia has spent billions of dollars in the past two decades on developing the GLONASS system.
  9. **Mahendra Singh Dhoni** has launched a 'made-in-India' camera drone named 'Droni' with advanced features.
 

**Note:** This drone was manufactured by Garuda Aerospace. The new drone is useful for surveillance and will be available for purchase towards the end of 2022. During the event, it was also announced the launch of Kisan Drone, a battery-powered device, aimed at farmers who want to spray pesticides.
  10. As per the report, 'Developing the Space Ecosystem in India: Focusing on Inclusive Growth', India's space economy is expected to touch \$12.8 billion by the year **2025**.
 

**Note:** The report was released by the Indian Space Association (ISpA) and Ernst and Young. Reason: Increasing private participation, increased demand for small satellites. It was also noted that, India has of over 100 space tech start-ups with investments in the segment touching \$68 million in 2021.
  11. **National Security Guard (NSG)** has organised the multinational Joint Anti-Terror Exercise (JATE), "Manesar Anti-Terror 2022" at Manesar Garrison.
 

**Note:** The exercises was conducted under the framework of SCO Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS). It is the second stage of the exercise, as the Stage-1 was conducted from July 27 to August 1 by the National Counter Terrorist Forces of SCO Member Countries in their respective territories.
  12. NASA has announced that DART spacecraft has successfully managed to change the motion of the asteroid 'Dimorphos'. **Double Asteroid Redirection Test** is the full form of DART.
 

**Note:** This is the first demonstration of the "kinetic impactor" method of asteroid mitigation. It was launched in November 2021 and crashed into the space rock on September 26, 2022. Prior, it took Dimorphos 11 hours and 55 minutes to orbit its asteroid Didymos, now it changed the moonlet asteroid's orbit by 32 minutes
  13. **Convergence Energy Services Ltd (CESL)** has set up a solar-powered charging station for electric vehicles in Ladakh region.
 

**Note:** The integrated carport was inaugurated by LG of Ladakh, R K Mathur in Leh. He also handed over customised electric cars that was manufactured by Hyundai Motor Company. The EV carport constitutes 100 kW solar PV panels with a 860 kW/hour lithium-ion battery storage system.
  14. The President of India, Droupadi Murmu has inaugurated 'PARAM KAMRUPA' Supercomputer facility at **IIT Guwahati**.
 

**Note:** This facility will be provided to conduct advanced research in various scientific fields such as weather and climate, bioinformatics, computational, AI, etc. This is a state-of-the-art supercomputer, set up under the National Supercomputing Mission (NSM).
  15. Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) in association with **Power-CSIRTs** have conducted Cyber Security Exercise named "PowerEX" for 193 power sector utilities.
 

**Note:** Aim: To recognize, analyze & respond to Cyber Incident in IT & OT Systems. 2022 Theme: Defending Cyber induced disruption in IT & OT infrastructure
  16. Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh has launched **Maa Bharati Ke Sapoot** website on October 14, 2022 to enable citizens to contribute for the Armed Forces Battle Casualties Welfare Fund (AFBCWF).
 

**Note:** It is a Tri service fund that will be utilised for grant of immediate financial assistance of ex-gratia, to the Next of Kin and dependents of Battle Casualties. The government appoints veteran actor, Amitabh Bachchan as the Goodwill Ambassador.
  17. **Eastern Naval Command** has conducted an offshore security exercise, 'Prasthan' in the Krishna Godavari Basin Offshore Development Area (ODA) on October 11 and 12.
 

**Note:** The exercise is conducted every six months. It aims to integrate the efforts of all maritime stakeholders involved in offshore defence. The exercise resulted in refining the standard operating procedures

- (SOPs) and response actions to several contingencies in the Offshore Defence Area, off Kakinada.
18. **INS Arihant**, the nuclear-powered submarine of India has carried out a successful launch of a submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM) in the Bay of Bengal.  
**Note:** Reason: To validate the operational and technological parameters of the weapon system. INS Arihant: It is a 6,000-tonne submarine. It is a lead ship of India's Arihant class of nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarines. It is India's first indigenous nuclear submarine that has been inducted in the Indian Navy.
  19. 7<sup>th</sup> edition of IBSAMAR, a joint multinational maritime exercise was organised Port Elizabeth, South Africa from 10 - 12 Oct 22.  
**Note:** In the exercise, Indian Navy has represented the Teg class guided missile frigate, INS Tarkash, Chetak helicopter and personnel from the Marine Commando Force. The harbour phase of 7th edition includes professional exchanges such as damage control and fire-fighting drills, VBSS/cross boarding lectures and interaction among Special Forces.
  20. The 12th edition of biennial DefExpo is being organised in Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar, Gujarat from 18th - 22nd, Oct, 2022. '**Path to Pride**' is the theme of 12th DefExpo.  
**Note:** Agenda: Live demonstrations showcasing the equipment and skill set of the Armed Forces, DPSUs and Industry. This also provide an opportunity to showcase their equipment and platforms and to explore the capabilities of the expanse of Indian Defence industry for forging business partnerships.
  21. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) will launch its third mission to the moon, Chandrayaan-3 in **June 2023**.  
**Note:** The launch of Chandrayaan-3 (C-3) will be onboard from the Launch Vehicle Mark-3 (LVM3). It will be launched with more robust lunar rover onboard which is crucial for future inter-planetary explorations. Chandrayaan-3 is the successor to the Chandrayaan-2 mission. ISRO also plans to fly Indian astronauts into orbit by the end of 2024.
  22. **Ola** cab organisation has officially launched 'S1 Air', its most affordable electric scooter in the country.  
**Note:** The price of the new electric scooter is set at ₹85,000. The new Ola electric scooter will compete against Honda Activa, TVS Jupiter, Suzuki Access and Yamaha Fascino. The electric scooter comes equipped with the company's latest MoveOS 3 and is said to have a range of 76km. The all-new Ola S1 Air packs 2.5KWh lithium-ion battery and takes about 4.5 hours to charge fully.
  23. **Indian Institute of Technology-Madras** and NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory researchers have studied the interactions between microbes in the International Space Station (ISS).  
**Note:** Finding: A microbe that resides on the ISS, was found to be beneficial to various other microorganisms but hampered the growth of a fungus. This study would help devise strategies for the disinfection of space stations to minimise any potential impact of microbes on the health of astronauts.
  24. The ISRO is set to launch **36** broadband communication satellites on board its biggest rocket, the LVM3-M2 at Sriharikota spaceport in AP.  
**Note:** The LVM3-M2 mission was created specifically for a foreign client, OneWeb, by NewSpace India Limited (NSIL). It is the first multi-satellite mission, carrying 36 OneWeb satellites to LEO as the largest payload ever for LVM3 (5,796 kg). The LVM3-M2 mission represents NewSpace India Ltd's 1st dedicated commercial mission.
  25. ISRO has renamed the Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) Mark -III as **Launch Vehicle Mark-III**.  
**Note:** Reason: To identify its task of placing satellites into a variety of orbits. The rocket is no longer to the geosynchronous orbit. This rocket can go anywhere - GEO (Geosynchronous Earth Orbit), MEO (Medium Earth Orbit), LEO (Low Earth Orbit). It will be used for India's maiden human space flight, Gaganyaan, which is tentatively scheduled for late 2024.
  26. The Indian and **US military** force have conducted a three-day joint humanitarian assistance exercise, "Tiger Triumph" exercise at Eastern Naval Command in Visakhapatnam.  
**Note:** Aim: To build strategic cooperation between the two countries. Focus: Staff planning, with an emphasis on processes for streamlining diplomatic, operational, and logistical coordination. This exercise is the second collaboration between the Indian and US militaries to coordinate disaster relief in the region
  27. Prime Minister, Narendra Modi will lay the foundation stone of the facility for the aircraft manufacturing unit in **Vadodara** on 30th October 2022.  
**Note:** The new plant will manufacture C-295 transport aircraft that are on order by IAF under a ₹21,935 crore deal inked in 2021. Airbus (European aviation major) and India's TATA group will jointly manufacture at least 40 C-295 transport aircraft in India.
  28. Indian Navy is hosting **29th** edition of Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX) from 26th to 30th October 2022 at Visakhapatnam.  
**Note:** It is being conducted in two phases: Harbour Phase at Visakhapatnam from 26 to 27 October 2022 followed by Sea Phase in Bay of Bengal from 28 to 30 October 2022. SIMBEX exercise began in 1994 and were initially known as Exercise Lion King. RSS Stalwart and RSS Vigilance (Victory Class Corvette) from Singapore will join the exercise
  29. Indian Air Force (IAF) and **French Air and Space Force (FAF)** have jointly conducting a bilateral exercise named 'Garuda VII' at Air Force Station Jodhpur from 26 October to 12 November 2022.  
**Note:** In the exercise, FAF has participated in with Rafale fighter aircrafts, A-330 Multi Role Tanker

- Transport aircraft and a contingent of 220 personnel. While the IAF has participated with Su-30 MKI, Rafale, LCA Tejas and Jaguar fighter aircraft, as well as LCH and Mi-17 helicopters.
30. **India** has participated in the first edition of India-Mozambique-Tanzania Trilateral Exercise (IMT TRILAT) commenced at Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania on 27 October.
- Note:** Indian Navy has represented the guided missile frigate, INS Tarkash, a Chetak helicopter and MARCOS (Special Forces). Objectives: (1) Capability development to address common threats through

training and sharing of best practices, (2) Enhancing interoperability, and strengthening maritime cooperation

31. India successfully test-fired 'Agni Prime', a new generation of ballistic missiles from **Odisha**.
- Note:** The 'Agni Prime', or 'Agni-P', is a nuclear-capable new-gen advanced variant of the Agni class of missiles. It is a two-stage canisterised missile with a maximum range of 2,000 km. It weighs 50% less than the Agni 3 missile and has new guidance and propulsion systems. In addition, since it is canisterised, it can be launched from rail or road.

## 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.
15. **China's space agency** has agreed to join hands with UAE's Mohammed Bin Rashid Space Centre to land a rover on the Moon aboard a lander developed by the latter.  
**Note:** Presently, the UAE is working on launching a rover to the Moon later 2022, under the Emirates Lunar Mission in a lander. The lander has been developed by a Japanese company named ispace. Rover named Rashid, is the robotic rover weighing 10 kg will be carried to the Moon inside the HAKUTO-R (lander).
16. The first female camel riding squad of BSF is ready to be deployed along the India-Pakistan border in Rajasthan and **Gujarat**.  
**Note:** The squad will also participate for the first time in the BSF Raising Day Parade on 1st December. This Squad will be the first of its kind in the world. This squad has received intensive training at the Bikaner Regional Headquarters of BSF under the supervision of skilled trainers.
17. Indian Navy has decommissioned **INS Ajay** after rendering 32 years of glorious service to the nation at Naval Dockyard, Mumbai.  
**Note:** It was commissioned on January 24, 1990 at Poti, Georgia in the erstwhile USSR. It was a part of the 23rd Patrol Vessel Squadron under the operational control of Flag Officer Commanding, Maharashtra Naval Area. Participation: Op Talwar during Kargil War and Op Parakram in 2001
18. ENC Yachting Championship was conducted by INWTC, INS Circas under the aegis of HQENC at **Vishakhapatnam**.  
**Note:** The Prize distribution and closing ceremony were facilitated by the Chief Guest, Cmde Sumantra Hazarika, Director MWC (V). In total 38 races were conducted in Enterprise Dinghly, ILCA 6, ILCA 7 classes, and BicNova Wind Surfer. A total of 46 yachtsmen and 8 yacht women took part in the ENC Yachting Championship.
19. **Israel's** Heron drones would be equipped with strike capabilities as part of the Indian Air Force's Project Cheetah under the Make in India programme.  
**Note:** The Project Cheetah aims to improve the Indian Air Force's fleet of Israeli-made Heron unmanned aerial vehicles with stronger communication capabilities and long-range missiles that can hit enemy sites.
20. **36** satellites of OneWeb, the Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellite Communications Company has been arrived at Satish Dhawan Space Centre ahead of a planned launch from Sriharikota.  
**Note:** The satellites will be launched by the heaviest ISRO rocket, the GSLV-MkIII. OneWeb has partnered



with NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) to facilitate the launch. NSIL is the commercial arm of national space agency Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

21. The researchers of **China** have discovered a rare lunar crystal and nuclear power source on near side of the moon.

**Note:** Changesite-(Y): It is a small, transparent crystal (Diamond shape). It was named after the Chinese moon goddess Chang'e. It is as wide as a human hair. Chang'e-5 Mission: It is China's first lunar sample-return mission and fifth lunar exploration mission.

22. **ISRO's Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre** has developed an intelligent artificial limb, under an MoU with National Institute for Locomotor Disabilities, Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya National Institute for Persons with Physical Disabilities (Divyangjan).

**Note:** Weight: 1.6 kg; It has enabled an amputee to walk about 100 metres in the corridor with minimum support. It is a microprocessor-controlled knees (MPKs) that offers extended capabilities for the amputee.

23. The Defence Ministry has signed an MoU with Bank of Baroda and **HDFC Bank** under the SPARSH (System for Pension Administration).

**Note:** Aim: To cover pension of seventeen lakh defence pensioners across the country. The Defence Secretary, Dr Ajay Kumar has announced that the average time in pension settlement has come down significantly to about 16 days. Till now, the SPARSH initiative has crossed one million pensioners onboard mark and disbursed 11,600 crore rupees in the 2021-22

24. An Indo-US coast guard joint exercise called Abhyas-01/22 held was conducted in **Chennai coast**.

**Note:** Aim: Search and rescue, anti-piracy operation and coordinated joint boarding of vessels Anti-piracy demonstration: A scenario of pirates hijacking a ship was created and the coast guard personnel of both the countries carried out a coordinated interdiction of the vessel. Search and rescue operation involves activities and external fire-fighting to salvage burning ships.

25. **Israeli Navy** has completed a complex test of the Gabriel V anti-ship missile system from the new Sa'ar 6 corvette.

**Note:** The missile was manufactured by Israel Aerospace Industries, IAI. Range: over 200 km

26. The Ministry of Defence has signed an agreement with BrahMos Aerospace Pvt. Ltd. (BAPL) for acquisition of additional dual-role capable Surface to Surface BrahMos missiles for **₹1700 Crore (approx)** under "Buy-Indian" Category.

**Note:** The Induction of these dual-role capable Missiles will enhance the operational capability of Indian Navy fleet assets. BrahMos variants can be launched from land, air and sea, and all three variants are in service in the Indian armed forces.

27. **DRDO** has conducted successful test flights of Very Short Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS) missiles at the Integrated Test Range, Chandipur, Odisha.

**Note:** It is a Man Portable Air Defence System that is designed and developed by DRDO's Research Centre Imarat, Hyderabad in collaboration with other DRDO facilities. Use: To neutralize low-altitude aerial threats at short ranges. The design of the missile including the launcher has been highly optimized to ensure easy portability

## Honour & Awards

### December 2022

1. **Manthan** platform of government of India has won NSEIT the Best Tech Initiative of the Year at the Dun & Bradstreet Business Excellence Awards 2022.

**Note:** Reason: For building the technology infrastructure to support Manthan. Manthan is a platform that promotes collaboration at scale between industry and the scientific research and development ecosystem. The development of the platform was conceptualized and implemented by the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA), GoI.

2. **Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT)** institute has conferred the Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar 2022.

**Note:** The award was presented by President Draupadi Murmu to Dr Achyuta Samanta (Founder of KIIT and KISS). The award presented to KIIT in recognition of KIIT's sustained focus towards the development of sports since its inception. The University has sponsored the education and training of hundreds of sportspersons (including: Dutee Chand, Olympian CA Bhavani Devi).

3. **Tree Tag** start-up has won Climathon-2022 prize, under the category Life On Land.

**Note:** This hackathon was organized by the Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM) in collaboration with EY Global Delivery Services, UNDP, Startup India, Global Shapers Kochi, NASSCOM and TiE Kerala. The winners has received a prize money of Rs 5 lakh. Climathon-2022 has focused on climate change with the theme of securing a sustainable and climate-resilient future.

4. **Canara Bank** has won the "Banker's Bank of the Year Award 2022" for the Indian segment of the Global Banking Summit.

**Note:** The public sector lender has been adjudged as the Best Bank in India for 2022. The event was held in London where the bank's MD and CEO L V Prabhakar received the award from the organisers. The Bankers' Bank of the year awards are considered to be like Oscar awards for the banking sector.

5. **SS Rajamouli** has won the Best Director Award for his film, RRR at the New York Film Critics Circle.

**Note:** The group is one of the first critics' groups to weigh in on the awards season. At the New York Film Critics Circle, Todd Field's Tar has won the Best Picture of the year, also nabbing Best Actress for Cate Blanchett's leading performance. Colin Farrell won Best Actor for two of his performances this year — After Yang and The Banshees of Inisherin.

6. **Greenhouse-in-a-Box** has won Earthshot Prize 2022 for providing sustainable solution for small farmers.

**Note:** The solution has been devised by Telangana startup Kheyti. The 1 million pounds Earthshot Prize has been founded by Britain's Prince William and dubbed the Eco Oscars'. Kheyti, one of the five winners at a gala green carpet awards ceremony in Boston, won the prize in the Protect and Restore Nature category. Kheyti offers shelter from unpredictable elements and destructive pests.

7. NHA and Maha-Metro have achieved a Guinness world record, to construct the longest double-decker viaduct on the Wardha Road in Nagpur, Maharashtra. **3.14 km** is the length of this double-decker viaduct.

**Note:** The project has already bagged records from Asia Book and India Book.

8. **Veena Nair** Indian-origin teacher was honoured with the 2022 Prime Minister's Prize for Excellence in Science Teaching in secondary schools in Australia.

**Note:** She is ViewBank College's Head of Technology and STEAM project leader. She was awarded for demonstrating practical application of STEAM to students, and how they can use their skills to make a real impact in the world. She started

her teaching career in Mumbai, where she provided computers to low socio-economic schools.

9. **Former VP, Venkaiah Naidu** has conferred with the 25th Sri Chandrasekarendra Saraswathi National Eminence Award (SIES).

**Note:** The awards are given in the fields of public leadership, community leadership, science and technology, and social thinkers. Awardees: Arif Mohammed Khan (Governor of Kerala), Ratan Tata (Industrialist), Dr Marthanda Varma Sankaran Valianathan (Cardiologist), Ajay Sood (Scientific Advisor to the Govt) and Vishakha Hari (Harikatha artiste)

10. **Meghalaya** state government has been awarded for its initiative 'jan andolan' (people's movement) against Tuberculosis at a national workshop on ACSM to end TB in India.

**Note:** The award was presented in the category of Best Practice in Advocacy, Communication and Social Mobilisation in Tuberculosis control to representatives of state's health department. PM Modi had put a national target to eliminate the disease by 2025. Meghalaya CM: Conrad Sangma

11. **Jos Buttler (England captain)** has been named ICC Men's Player of the Month award for November 2022.

**Note:** Reason: For his remarkable performance to triumph the T20 World Cup in Australia. While, Pakistan opening batter, Sidra Ameen has become the second successive winner of the women's Player of the Month award from Pakistan. Reason: For posting mammoth scores in the recent successful ODI series against Ireland on home soil.

12. **SpiceJet** airline has been awarded the 'Safety Performer of the Year' award by GMR Delhi Airport Awards 2022 for being the top performer among the self-handling airlines.

**Note:** Recently, SpiceJet was audited by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), and its operations, safety processes, and systems were found to be strong and at par with the global best practices and safety standards. ICAO Headquarters: Montreal, Canada; Founded: 7 December 1944

13. **Iga Swiatek (Polish tennis player)** has been selected for the 2022 WTA Player of the Year by the Women's Tennis Association (WTA).

**Note:** While, Barbora Krejčíková (Czech Republic) and Katerina Siniakova (Czech Republic) have been named the WTA 2022 Doubles Team of the Year.

- Most Improved Player of the Year: Beatriz Haddad Maia (Brazilian)
- Newcomer of the Year: Zheng Qinwen (Chinese)
- Comeback Player of the Year: Tatjana Maria (German).

**14. Utama (Bolivian movie)** movie was awarded Suvarna Chakoram for Best Film at the 27th edition of IFFK which was held in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.

**Note:**

- Director: Alejandro Loayza Grisi
- The Hungarian filmmaker, Bela Tarr was bestowed with the Lifetime Achievement Award.
- Best Asian Film: Alam (Director: Firas Khoury)
- Rajata Chakoram for Best Director: Tayfun Pirselimoglu for Kerr
- Audience poll award: Nanpakal Nerathu Mayakkam directed by Lijo Jose Pellissery

**15. Indian personality Sargam Koushal (Mumbai)** has won the title of Mrs World 2022, after 21 years.

**Note:** Mrs World 2021, Shaylyn Ford (U.S.A) has presented the crown to Mrs. Koushal at a ceremony held at Westgate Las Vegas Resort and Casino. Mrs Polynesia was named the first runner-up, followed by Mrs Canada as the second runner-up. India has won this title after 21 years. Dr Aditi Govitrikar had won the Mrs World title in 2001.

**16. Rafael Nadal** has won the Fan' Favorite singles title at the Association of Tennis Professionals, ATP Awards 2022.

**Note:**

- Carlos Alcaraz (Spain) has won the title of Most Improved Player of the Year at the ATP awards 2022.
- Fan's favourite (doubles): Nick Kyrgios and Thanasi Kokkinakis
- Newcomer of the Year: Holger Rune
- Comeback Player of the Year: Borna Coric
- Coach of the Year: Juan Carlos Ferrero
- Arthur Ashe Humanitarian Award: Andy Murray

**17. National Mining company NMDC** has won the coveted IEI (Institution of Engineers, India) Industry Excellence Award 2022 in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

**Note:** The largest producer of the iron ore in the country was felicitated at the 37th Indian Engineering Congress for its outstanding performance and high level of business excellence. N R K Prasad, CGM (IE & MS), NMDC has received the award from Dr. K Ponmudy, Minister for Higher Education, Government of Tamil Nadu.

**18. 'Duare Sarkar'** (Government at doorstep) has been selected for the Platinum Award at the Digital India Awards 2022, is a flagship scheme of **West Bengal**.

**Note:** The scheme has been awarded in the 'Public Digital Platforms — Central Ministries, Departments and States' category. President Droupadi Murmu will give the award to the state on

January 7, 2023 at a function in Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi. 'Duare Sarkar' scheme was launched in December 2020.

**19. Indian film RRR** has bagged three awards at the 2022 Philadelphia Film Critics Circle Annual Awards.

**Note:** Categorizes: Best Foreign Language Film, Best Cinematography, and Best Score/Soundtrack categories. Earlier, the film has also received nominations in two categories for 2023 Golden Globes. The film has been nominated in the Best Picture – Non-English Language category and "Naatu Naatu" in the Best Original Song – Motion Picture category.

**20. Sethrichem Sangtam** has been honoured with the first Rohini Nayyar prize for outstanding contribution to rural development.

**Note:** Reason: To triple the incomes of 1,200 marginalised farmers in Eastern Nagaland. He introduced them fruit growing, prompting the farmers to change from shifting farming to permanent farming. He was awarded the prize by NITI Aayog Vice Chairman, Suman Bery. The award was instituted by the family of late Dr. Rohini Nayyar.

**21. Three sites Vadnagar town, Sun Temple at Modhera, and the rock cut sculptures of Unakoti in Tripura** have been added to the tentative list of UNCESO World Heritage Sites in December 2022.

**Note:** The UNESCO tentative list is an "inventory of those properties which each State Party intends to consider for nomination". With the addition of these three sites, India now has 52 sites on the UNESCO tentative list. India has a total of 40 sites which enjoy the UNESCO World Heritage tag.

**22. Sudeep Sen** was honoured with the prestigious Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize 2021-22 for **Anthropocene: Climate Change, Contagion, Consolation (Pippa Rann Books & Media, 2021)**.

**Note:** The prestigious Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize 2021-22 has been jointly won by Sudeep Sen and Shobhana Kumar. While, Shobhana Kumar for her haibun collection A Sky Full of Bucket Lists (Red River, 2021). The winner receives \$10,000 along with a Rabindranath Tagore statuette, while the shortlisted authors each receive \$500.

**23. Sahitya Akademi** has announced its annual Sahitya Akademi Awards in **23** languages on 22nd December 2022.

**Note:** 7 books of poetry, 6 of novel, 2 of short stories, 3 Play/Dramas, 2 Literary Criticism, one each of Autobiographical Essays, Collection of Articles and Literary History have won the Sahitya Akademi Awards 2022. The awardee will receive an engraved copper-plaque, a shawl and Rs.1,00,000 in

Cash. It also announced the 'Sahitya Akademi Translation' awards for 2022.

24. Indian professor **Pradeep Thalappil** has received the VinFuture Prize 2022 instituted by the VinFuture Prize Council to honour breakthrough research projects.

**Note:** He has been awarded the 'Special Prize dedicated to Innovators from Developing Countries' for his development of a low-cost filtration system to remove arsenic and other heavy metals from groundwater. He was also honoured with the Padma Shri (2020), Nikkei Asia Prize (2020).

25. **PV Sindhu** is the only Indian female player, who listed in the top 25 in Forbes' annual list of the highest-paid female athletes in the world.

**Note:** Sindhu, the 2016 Rio Olympics silver medallist, occupies the 12th spot in the list. Japanese tennis star Naomi Osaka tops the list. The 27-year-old made 7 million US Dollars of her earnings. For the 3rd straight year, Osaka tops Forbes' annual list of the World's highest-paid female athletes.

26. **English football player, Beth Mead** has been awarded the 2022 BBC Sports Personality of the Year as she was the player of the tournament and top scorer at Euro 2022.

**Note:** Beth Mead has defeated Germany in the finals at Wembley to win England's first major women's football trophy. She has competed against Ben Stokes and Ronnie O'Sullivan for the BBC Sports Personality of the Year for 2022 award. While, Sarina Wiegman (England's manager) has won the Coach of the Year.

27. Government owned organisation **Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)** has won Data Security Council of India's (DSCI) award 2022 in Best Security Practices in Government Sector category.

**Note:** The award was given to UIDAI during DSCI's three-day Annual Information Security Summit (AISS) in New Delhi. Reason: For its significant role in securing national critical Aadhaar infrastructure that provides digital identity-based welfare services to residents. UIDAI CEO: Dr. Saurabh Garg

28. **NHPC Limited** owned organisation has been awarded the 'Best Globally Competitive Power Company of India - Hydropower and Renewable

Energy Sector' award at PRAKASHmay '15th Enertia Awards 2022'.

**Note:** Reason: For its leadership in the hydropower sector with a gross asset class renewable energy capacity of more than 7000 MW. The award also recognizes that NHPC has more than 5000 MW of projects under construction and an ambitious 7000 MW plus plan for Solar capacity addition.

29. Dr Aleida Guevara has been selected for the first KR Gouri Amma national award 2022. She is associated with which **Cuba**.

**Note:** She is an active member of the Cuban Medical Mission that works to improve the health profile of children in Latin America. The award will be presented by Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan at Olympia Hall at Chandrasekharan Nair Stadium. The award consists of \$3,000, a statute and a citation

30. **IIT Madras** programmes on BS Data Science and NPTEL in collaboration with IISc Bangalore, have won the Wharton-QS Reimagine Education Awards 2022 for the best programmes.

**Note:** The BS in Data Science and Applications programme won Silver in the 'Best Online Program' category. The NPTEL-National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning, has won the Gold in the 'Lifelong Learning' category.

31. **Prabhu Chandra Mishra** was honoured with the prestigious Atal Samman Award during the 9th Atal Samman Samaroh, organised in New Delhi.

**Note:** He was awarded for his excellence in field of science & research. He has worked in the area of StemCell & Regenerative Medicine in infertility especially when In vitro fertilization (IVF) failed. Under his work, diseases like premature ovarian failure, and Asherman syndrome have shown satisfactory results with body's own cells.

32. The anti-drug & illicit liquor campaign of **Chhattisgarh** state police named 'Nijaat' has been selected for the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) 2022 award under the 'Leadership in Crime Prevention' in the institutional category.

**Note:** This campaign was launched under the leadership of the IPS officer Santosh Kumar Singh. Under this campaign, strict action taken against illegal drug dealers, intensive public awareness and rehabilitation of the addicts.

## November 2022

1. Name the Malayalam literary, who has been selected for the Kerala government for its first 'Kerala Jyothi' award.

**Note:** It was instituted by the Kerala govt on the lines of the Padma awards. Aim: To honour individuals who have made priceless contributions

to the society. Kerala Prabha: Omcheri N N Pillai and T Madhava Menn

Kerala Sree: Sathyabhama Das Biju, Gopinath Muthukad, Kanayi Kunhiraman, Kochouseph Chittilappilly, M P Parameswaran and Vijayalakshmi.



2. The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has conferred the 'Union Home Minister's Special Operation Medal 2022' to officers for four special operations --**63**  
**Note:** The special operations was conducted by the security and police forces. 63 officers from Punjab (16), Telangana Police (13), Delhi (19), Jammu and Kashmir (4) and Maharashtra (11) have been named for this award.
3. **A Sethumadhavan** has been selected for 2022 Ezhuthachan Puraskaram.  
**Note:** Reason: For his valuable contribution to Malayalam language and literature. He has also served as the chairman of South Indian Bank, director of State Bank of Travancore and chairman of National Book Trust. Ezhuthachan Puraskaram is the highest literary award of Kerala government.
4. **Tata Steel** has received India's first ResponsibleSteel certification for three facilities in its Jamshedpur steel plant.  
**Note:** Three production facilities: Steel Works, Tubes Division and Cold Rolling Mill (Bara). ResponsibleSteel is the first global multi-stakeholder standard and certification initiative of steel industry. Aim: To address challenges including climate change, diversity, human rights and more.
5. Indian cricketer **Virat Kohli** has been named Men's Player of the Month for October 2022 by the International Cricket Council (ICC).  
**Note:** He was recognized for his outstanding performances in the shortest format of the game. While, Pakistani cricketer, Nida Dar was named the ICC Women's Player of the Month. She has been honour for her sensational form in their Women's Asia Cup campaign.
6. **National Security Advisor** Ajit Doval is among five distinguished people, who was honoured with the 2022 Uttarakhand Gaurav Samman.  
**Note:** Othe awardees: Late CDS General Bipin Rawat, Prasoon Joshi (Chairperson of CBFC), late Girish Chandra Tiwari 'Girda' (lyricist) and late Viren Dangwal (poet).
7. **Dr. Subhash Babu** has received the prestigious 2022 Bailey K. Ashford Medal.  
**Note:** He was also honoured with the 2022 Fellow of the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (FASTMH) award. He is also the first Indian to receive such prestigious award. Reason: For his outstanding research and contributions to tropical medicine.
8. Along with Shivnarine Chanderpaul, Charlotte Edwards, **Abdul Qadir** has been inducted into ICC's Hall of Fame in November 2022.  
**Note:** Shivnarine was inducted in 107th ICC's hall of Fame and finished with 20,988 international runs, 41 centuries and 125 half-centuries across formats. Charlotte was inducted in 108th ICC's Hall of Fame, her 5992 runs in women's ODIs are the second most in the game's history. Qadir was the 109th inductee on the list.
9. **National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB)** was awarded India Agribusiness Awards 2022 at the 'AgroWorld 2022' in 'Best Agribusiness Award under Fisheries Sector' category.  
**Note:** NFDB comes under the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, GoI. While, Haryana has received the 'India Agribusiness Awards 2022' in the best state category for their contribution in the areas of agriculture.
10. Journalist, Arfa Khanum Sherwani, who has been selected for the the prestigious Kuldip Nayar Patrakarita Samman for 2022, is a **The Wire's senior editor**.  
**Note:** The Gandhi Peace Foundation has announced the name of Ajit Anjum (independent journalist and YouTuber). The announcement was made at a press conference held at New Delhi's Press Club of India by the well-known academic and author, Ashis Nandy. Ravish Kumar was the first person who was honoured with this award in 2017, followed by Marathi journalist Nikhil Wagle.
11. **Madhu Kankariya (31st) and Dr Madhav Hada (32nd)** have been awarded the 31st and 32nd Bihari Puraskar, respectively.  
**Note:** It is one of the three literary awards instituted by KK Birla Foundation in 1991. Named after the poet Bihari, the award for Rajasthani authors carries a cash prize of ₹2.5 lakh, a plaque and a citation. Kankariya was awarded the Puraskar for her 2018 novel 'Hum Yahan The' while Hada was awarded for his 2015 literary criticism book 'Pachrang Chola Pahar Sakhi Ri'
12. **Venki Ramakrishnan** has been awarded the prestigious Order of Merit by Britain's King Charles III in recognition of his distinguished service to science.  
**Note:** The 70-year-old UK-based molecular biologist is among six appointments made to the historic order by the late Queen Elizabeth II before her death in and the first to be appointed by Charles. The Order of Merit is an exclusive mark of honour conferred by the British sovereign.
13. **Carlos Saura** will be conferred the Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award 2022 at the 53rd edition of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) at Goa.  
**Note:** This announcement was made by L Murugan (MoS, Information and Broadcasting). Carlos was honoured with the Golden Bear for Best Director at Berlin International Film Festival for Deprisa Deprisa in 1981. Spotlight country: France; Opening Film: Alma and Oskar; Closing film: Perfect Number

- 14. Sharath Kamal Achanta** has been selected for 2022 Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award and will be awarded on 30th November by President of India.  
**Note:** Arjuna Awards: This year 25 sportspersons have been selected for this award. Five coaches have been chosen for Dronacharya Award in the regular category and three coaches in lifetime category. Dhyan Chand Award for Lifetime Achievement: Ashwini Akkunji C, Dharamvir Singh, B.C Suresh and Nir Bahadur Gurung.
- 15.** The Infosys Science Foundation (ISF) has conferred the Infosys Prize 2022 in **Six** categories.  
**Note:** The award conferred for their contributions to science and research impacting India.
- Engineering & CS: Suman Chakraborty
  - Humanities: Sudhir Krishnaswamy
  - Life Sciences: Vidita Vaidya
  - Mathematical Sciences: Mahesh Kakde
  - Physical Sciences: Nissim Kanekar
  - Social Sciences: Rohini Pande
- 16. Rane Group chairman, L. Ganesh** was conferred with the prestigious Deming award for outstanding contribution in dissemination and promotion (overseas) of total quality management (TQM).  
**Note:** He is the third Indian and fifth globally to be bestowed with this prestigious award. This award was established in 1951, to pay tribute to W. Edwards Deming, who made a significant contribution to the spread of statistical quality control in Japan, following World War II.
- 17.** Emmanuel Lenain (Ambassador of France to India) has conferred the Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur (Knight of the Legion of Honour) to **Sumeet Anand** the President of FICCI.  
**Note:** Reason: For contributions in the fields of business and industry, and promoting Indo-French education ties. Sumeet Anand is a founder of IndSight Growth Partners, and President of the Indo-French Chamber of Commerce & Industry.
- 18.** Minister of State for Education has conferred National Swachh Vidyalaya Puraskar 2021-22 in Akashwani Bhawan, Delhi. **Subhash Sarkar** is Minister of State for Education.  
**Note:** The award has been conferred on 39 schools, including 5 in the national category and 34 in the overall category. Rs 60,000 were given to the national category winners and 20,000 rupees were given to the other category.
- 19. Kathak exponent, Uma Sharma** has received the prestigious 'Sumitra Charat Ram Award' on 17th November, 2022, organised at Kamani Auditorium by Shriram Bharatiya Kala Kendra (SBKK).  
**Note:** Reason: For her contribution in the field of Indian classical music and dance. The award was presented by former governor of J&K, Karan Singh and Sarod player, Ustad Amjad Ali Khan. She was also honoured with the Padma Shri (1973) and Padma Bhushan (2001). This award was instituted in 2010.
- 20. NTPC QC Team** from Unchahar ABHYUDAYA has won the "GOLD" award in the 47th International Convention on Quality Control Circle (ICQCC-2022).  
**Note:** The convention was held from 15th-18th November in Jakarta, Indonesia. The theme for ICQCC-2022 was "Built Back Better through Quality Efforts". NTPC QC Team presented on "Frequent Choking of Collecting tanks of AHP-IV".
- 21. India** was conferred the Excellence in Leadership in Family Planning (EXCELL) Awards-2022 at the International Conference on Family Planning held in Pattaya, Thailand.  
**Note:** Reason: For ensuring access to quality family planning choices based on right information & reliable services. As per the NFHS-5 data, the overall Contraceptive Prevalence Rate has increased substantially from 54% to 67%. Mission Parivar Vikas: To reduce the unmet needs in family planning
- 22.** The book titled "The Paradise of Food" has been awarded the JCB Prize for Literature 2022, is authored by **Khalid Jawed**.  
**Note:** It was translated into English from Urdu by Baran Farooqi and published by Juggernaut. The literary work is the fourth translation and the first Urdu work to win the JCB Prize. Award: Rs 25 lakh prize and the trophy (a sculpture titled 'Mirror Melting' by Delhi artist duo Thukral and Tagra).
- 23. 14th Dalai Lama** was conferred the Gandhi Mandela Award 2022 at Thekchen Choeling McleodGanj, in Dharamshala.  
**Note:** The award was presented by Himachal Pradesh governor, Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar. The Tibetan spiritual leader is the recipient of the 1989 Nobel Peace Prize.
- 24.** The 2022 Edition of UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize has been given to Franca Ma-ih Sulem Yong, belongs to **Cameroon**.  
**Note:** She is a President of the NGOs #Afrogiveness and Positive Youths Africa. Reason: For the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence. The Prize is named after its benefactor, former Indian artist, writer and diplomat Madanjeet Singh (1924-2013) who was also a UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador. This award is awarded every two years to individuals.
- 25. Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports** has announced the 2021 Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award and awarded on 30th November 2022.  
**Note:** The National Selection Committee was constituted under the chairpersonship of Secretary

- (Youth Affairs). Winners: Naina Dhakad (Land Adventure category); Shubham Dhananjay Vanmali (Water Adventure), and Group Captain Kunwar Bhawani Singh Samyal (Life Time Achievement).  
Award: Statuettes, certificates and Rs. 15 lakh each
- 26. The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) has honoured **Rajendra Singh Pawar**, the Chairman & Founder of NIIT with 2022 Lifetime Achievement Award 2022.**  
**Note:** The award ceremony held at the 8th FICCI Higher Education Excellence Awards in New Delhi. Reason: For his contribution and exemplary work in the field of education as well as creating the IT Training industry.
- 27. Ravi Kumar Sagar** has been conferred with the most prestigious Dr. Abdul Kalam Seva Puraskar 2022.  
**Note:** Reason: For his persistent service to society. Dr. Kalam Seva Puraskar is hosted every year by Vandhe Bharat Foundation and LeadIndia Foundation. The award is conferred on the birth anniversary of Dr. Kalam for recognizing various people who have been doing extraordinary work for society.
- 28. Film 'Dear Diary' has won the 53-Hour Challenge for '75 Creative Minds of Tomorrow' in best movie category, at International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in Goa. This movie was created by **Team Purple**.**  
**Note:** The competition was launched by Union Information & Broadcasting Minister Anurag Singh Thakur.
- 29. National Gopal Ratna Awards 2022 has awarded on 26th November. This award is honoured by **Fisheries, Animal Husbandry Ministry**.**  
**Note:** Award Categories: Best Dairy Farmer Rearing Indigenous Cattle and buffalo Breeds, Best Artificial Insemination Technician and Best Dairy Cooperative, Milk Producer Company, Dairy Farmer Producer Organization. Award: Rs 5 lakh (1st), Rs 3 lakh (2nd) and Rs 2 lakh (3rd). It is one of the highest National Awards in the field of livestock and dairy sector.
- 30. e-Panchayat Mission Mode Project (eGramSwaraj and AuditOnline)** project of Ministry of Panchayati Raj has won the GOLD AWARD 2022 under the National Awards for e-Governance.  
**Note:** Category: Excellence in Government Process Re-engineering for Digital Transformation. It is a recognition of the excellent and exemplary work done by Team eGovernance and supported by Team NIC-MoPR.
- 31. The highest Award of Excellence at the Unesco Asia Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation** 2022 has been awarded to **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya**.  
**Note:** The Stepwells of Golconda in Hyderabad won the Award of Distinction. While Domakonda Fort in Telangana, and Restoration work of 169 years old, Byculla Railway station (Mumbai) received the Award of Merit.
- 32. Avani Lekhara** has been awarded the 2022 Para Sports Person of the Year.  
**Note:** While Shrey Kadyan was recognized as the Special Sports person of the Year at the Turf 2022 and India Sports Awards of FICCI. Former Ranji cricketer, Sarkar Talwar has been honoured with the Lifetime Achievement of the Year award. Odisha was recognized as the best state for promoting sports. The All India Chess Federation won the National Sports Federation of the Year Award.
- 33. Indian snow leopard experts, Charudutt Mishra and Koustubh Sharma, along with Chyngyz Kochorov (Kyrgyzstan) have received the Madrid-based BBVA Foundation's Worldwide Biodiversity Conservation Award on behalf GSLEP, which is group of how **12** countries.**  
**Note:** The Global Snow Leopard Ecosystem Protection Program (GSLEP) is a 12-nation intergovernmental alliance. 12 countries: Afghanistan, Bhutan, China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan
- 34. Iranian film, **Nargesi** directed by Payam Eskandari has won the ICFT-UNESCO Gandhi Medal at the 53rd edition of IFFI.**  
**Note:** This award conferred to a film that best reflects Mahatma Gandhi's ideals of peace, tolerance and non-violence.
- Other awards:
  - Indian Film Personality of the Year – Chiranjeevi
  - Best Film (Golden Peacock)- I Have Electric Dreams
  - Best Actor (Female)- Daniela Marin Navarro (for I Have Electric Dreams)
  - Best Actor (Male)- Vahid Mobasheri (for No End)
- 35. The pavilion of **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** has won the Outstanding Contribution towards Public Communication and Outreach award at 41st India International Trade Fair (IITF) 2022 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.**  
**Note:** 2022 theme of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare: Heal in India, Heal by India. The Health Pavilion has showcased various initiatives, schemes and achievements of the Union Health Ministry. IITF 2022 Theme: Vocal for Local, Local to Global

**36. V Annamalai aka Imayam (Tamil poet)** has been selected by Rashtrakavi Kuvempu Prathishtana Kuppali for the Kuvempu National award for the year 2022.

**Note:** Kannada National Poet Kwembu Rashtriya Puraskar Award is presented annually in memory of

the late poet Kwembu. The award carries a cash prize of Rs 5 lakh, a silver medal and a citation. A committee headed by BL Shankar, acting president, Rashtrakavi Kuvempu Trust.

### October 2022

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

- Note:** Reason: For experiments with entangled photons, establishing the violation of Bell inequalities and pioneering quantum information science. While John Clauser developed John Bell's ideas, Alain Aspect has developed the setup, and Anton Zeilinger, using refined tools and a long series of experiments.
- KK Birla Foundation has confirmed that the 32nd Bihari Puraskar will be awarded to writer **Dr Madhav Hada**.  
**Note:** Reason: For his 2015 literary criticism book 'Pachrang Chola Pahar Sakhi Ri'. He has written extensively on literature, media, culture and history. He has also been a member of the general council of the Sahitya Akademi and the Hindi Advisory Board. He was also a recipient of the Bhartendu Harishchandra Award and the Devraj Upadhyay Award.
  - Angela Merkel** has won the 2022 United Nations refugee agency's prestigious Nansen Refugee Award.  
**Note:** Reason: For her determination to protect asylum seekers while in office. In 2015 and 2016, Germany had welcomed the more than 1.2 million refugees and asylum seekers of migrant crisis. Nansen Award was established: 1954. This award was created to honour of the first UNHCR, Norwegian Arctic explorer and humanitarian Fridtjof Nansen.
  - The 2022 Nobel Prize in Chemistry has been awarded to Carolyn Bertozzi (American), Morton Meldal (Danish) and Barry Sharpless (American) for the discovery of **Click chemistry**.  
**Note:** Reason: For their work on snipping molecules together which is known as click chemistry. Click chemistry: It is about linking together molecules like those in living cells. Use: To explore cells and track biological processes; can be applied in cancer treatment drugs. Before this, Barry Sharples has won Nobel in 2001 for chemistry.
  - Annie Ernaux (French writer)** has been awarded the 2022 Nobel Prize in literature.  
**Note:** Reason: For the courage and clinical acuity with which she uncovers the roots, estrangements and collective restraints of personal memory. She is known for works that blur the line between memoir and fiction. She becomes the 17th female writer to have won the prize. Her notable books: Cleaned Out; The Years; and Simple Passion.



- 10. Memorial and Centre for Civil Liberties** has been awarded the 2022 Nobel Peace Prize.  
**Note:** Belarusian human rights advocate Ales Bialiatski, Russian human rights organization 'Memorial', and Ukrainian human rights organization 'Centre for Civil Liberties' have been jointly awarded 2022 Nobel Peace Prize. This award was announced by the Norwegian Nobel Committee for promoting the right to criticize power and protecting the fundamental rights of citizens.
- 11. Harmanpreet Singh** has been voted the 2021/22 FIH Player of the Year for the second year running.  
**Note:** He becomes the fourth player to win the Player of the Year award in men's category in consecutive years. He joined an elite list, that includes Teun De Nooijer (Netherlands), Jamie Dwyer (Australia) and Arthur van Doren (Belgium). Felice Albers of Netherlands has been named 2021/22 FIH Player of the Year in women's category.
- 12. Harmanpreet Kaur** has won the ICC Player of the Month awards for September 2022 in women's category.  
**Note:** She beat her deputy, Smriti Mandhana and Bangladesh counterpart, Nigar Sultana. This was India's first series win in England since 1999. While in men's category, Pakistan wicketkeeper batter, Mohammad Rizwan won the ICC Player of the Month awards for September 2022.
- 13.** The 2022 Nobel Prize for Economics has been awarded to Ben S. Bernanke (USA), Douglas W. Diamond (USA) and Philip H. Dybvig (USA) for **Research on banks and financial crises.**  
**Note:** Their research has significantly improved the understanding of the role of banks in the economy, particularly during financial crises. Diamond has demonstrated that how banks perform another societally important function. While, Ben Bernanke has analysed the Great Depression of the 1930s.
- 14. Hyderabad city of Telangana** has been awarded 'World Green City Award 2022' at the AIPH World Green City Awards 2022 held in Jeju, South Korea.  
**Note:** Hyderabad was awarded in the category of "Living Green for Economic Recovery and Inclusive Growth" for Green Garland to the State of Telangana. Mexico City's Environmental and Climate Change Program of Mexico City was also awarded in Living Green for Climate Change. Living Green for Social Cohesion: OASIS Schoolyard Project, Paris
- 15.** Sri Lankan author, Shehan Karunatilaka has won the prestigious Booker Prize for fiction, for his book **The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida.**  
**Note:** The book is about a war photographer murdered in the country's civil war. He received a trophy from Queen Consort Camilla at a ceremony on in London. He is the second Sri Lankan to win the award, after Michael Ondaatje's victory in 1992 for The English Patient. He has also received a 50,000 pound (\$56,700) prize.
- 16. Prof. Barbara Metcalf** has been awarded the Sir Syed Excellence Award 2022 by the Aligarh Muslim University (AMU).  
**Note:** The award ceremony was held on the 205th birth anniversary of the founder of AMU, Sir Syed Ahmad Khan. She has written extensively on the history of the Muslim population of India and Pakistan. Sir Syed Ahmad Khan established the Muhammadan Anglo-Oriental (MAO) College in 1875, later known as Aligarh Muslim University (AMU).
- 17. Real Madrid's Karim Benzema** has won the 2022 Ballon d'Or trophy at the 66th Ballon d'Or ceremony, held at Theatre du Chatelet Paris, France.  
**Note:** While, Barcelona's Alexia Putellas won the women's Ballon d'Or. Kopa Award: Barcelona's Gavi (best-performing player under the age of 21). Gerd Muller: FC Barcelona's Robert Lewandowski. Socrates Award: Bayern Munich's Sadio Mane. Club of the Year Award: Manchester City. Yachine Award: Thibaut Courtois (Real Madrid)
- 18. European Parliament** has awarded the people of Ukraine its annual Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought to honour their fight against Russia's invasion.  
**Note:** The prize money of 50,000 euros (\$49,100), will be distributed to representatives of Ukrainian civil society. The prize was named after the late Soviet dissident Andrei Sakharov. This awarded annually since 1988 to individuals and organizations defending human rights and freedoms.
- 19.** The masterpiece of Satyajit Ray, **Pather Panchali** has been declared the best Indian film of all time by the Indian chapter of the International Federation of Film Critics (FIPRESCI).  
**Note:** Pather Panchali, an adaptation of Bibhutibhushan Bandyopadhyay's Bengali novel of the same name, is widely regarded as one of the greatest films ever made. This film is the first film in Ray's Apu trilogy, which is followed by Aparajito and Apur Sansar.
- 20. Hyderabad Haleem of Telangana** has won the 'Most Popular GI' award after defeating other food items including Rasgulla, Bikaneri Bhujia, and Ratlami Sev.  
**Note:** GI tag: It is given to products to ensure that authorised users can only use the popular product name. Hyderabad Haleem has received the GI status in 2010. It was expired in December 2019. However, later, the registrar of Geographical Indicator renewed the tag for the dish for 10 years.
- 21.** The first prize of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Urban Awards 2021 has been awarded to **Uttar Pradesh.**

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

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

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

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

**Note:** This award was instituted by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade,

Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The criteria for evaluation was patent applications, grants and commercialisation. The award was presented by Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal

24. **West Bengal** state was awarded the prestigious SKOCH award for its 'Lakshmir Bhandar' scheme under the women and child development category. **Note:** Lakshmir Bhandar: This scheme was launched the scheme in August 2021. Aim: To provide financial support to a woman head of a family. Age group: 25-60 years. Rs 500 per month is being given to general category and around Rs 1,000 per month to SC and ST categories.

## September 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'

8. **CEO of Haqdarshak, Aniket Doegar** has been honoured with the 13th Social Entrepreneur of the Year (SEOY) Award-India.  
**Note:** The award has been established by Jubilant Bhartia Foundation and Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship. Haqdarshak is a tech platform that connects citizens with their eligible government welfare schemes. The award has been presented by Anurag Singh Thakur, Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting.
9. Science magazine 'Vigyan Pragati' has received National Rajbhasha Kirti Award at the Second All India Rajbhasha Sammelan held during 14th-15th September 2022 in the Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay Indoor Stadium, Surat. This magazine has been published by **CSIR**.  
**Note:** It was organized by Department of Official Language, Ministry of Home Affairs. Vigyan Pragati is one of India's best popular science magazines and was started by Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) in 1952.
10. **TRaiCEInc** startup has won the NASSCOM-NIPP GCC Fintech Challenge in the 'Predictive Analytics for Customer Retention' category.  
**Note:** Reason: By showcasing how the platform uses predictive AI to help lenders improve operational efficiencies for faster and safer financing. TRaiCEInc is a no-code AI-augmented Early Warning and Business Risk Monitoring System. The NIPP GCC Fintech Challenge is a competition where startups can pitch solutions that address in financial services sector.
11. **Dr Swati Piramal** has been conferred the top civilian honour of France 'Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur or Knight of the Legion of Honour' by Catherine Colonna (France's Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs).  
**Note:** She has been honoured for her contributions in the fields of business and industry, science, medicine, and towards strengthening Indo-French ties. She is the vice-chairperson of the Piramal Group. She has also received the Padma Shri in 2012.
12. **Chhello Show (Last Film Show)** Gujarati Film has been selected as the India's submission to the Best International Feature Film category at the 95th Academy Awards.  
**Note:** This movie was directed by Pan Nalin. This movie was honoured the Golden Spike at the 66th Valladolid International Film Festival in 2021. This movie was premiered at Tribeca Film Festival in 2021.
13. **India Hypertension Control Initiative (IHCI)** Indian initiative has won the '2022 UN Interagency Task Force and WHO Special Programme on Primary Health Care Award' at the UN General Assembly, held at New York in USA.  
**Note:** Reason: For its initiative to control and prevent hypertension under the government's National Health Mission. This initiative was launched in 2017 and expanded in a phased manner to cover more than 130 districts across 23 states.
14. **Daniel A. Spielman** has been honoured with the 2023 Breakthrough Prize in Mathematics for multiple discoveries in theoretical computer science and mathematics.  
**Note: In Fundamental Physics:** Charles H. Bennett, Gilles Brassard, David Deutsch and Peter Shor. Reason: Discovering the fundamental physics that underlie quantum computation. **Life Sciences:** Clifford Brangwynne and Anthony Hyman; Demis Hassabis and John Jumper; Emmanuel Mignot and Masashi Yanagisawa
15. **Meena Kandasamy** has been named as the recipient of the Hermann Kesten Prize by the PEN Centre in Germany's Darmstadt.  
**Note:** The Hermann Kesten Prize honours to those personalities who are in the spirit of the charter of the PEN association and stand up for the rights of persecuted authors and journalists. Her notable works: The Gypsy Goddess (2014), When I Hit You: Or, A Portrait of the Writer as a Young Wife (2017), and Ms Militancy (2010).
16. **Cochin International Airport Ltd (CIAL)** has received the Airport Service Quality award-2022 for its meticulous implementation of a programme 'Mission Safeguarding' in 2021-22.  
**Note:** This programme has ensured seamless traffic and reinforced passenger satisfaction in the aftermath of the pandemic. Category: 5-15 million passenger category of airports operating in the Asia-Pacific region. The award was instituted by Airport Council International (ACI).
17. **Suella Braverman (UK Home Secretary)** has been honoured with the first-ever Queen Elizabeth II Woman of the Year award in 20th Asian Achievers Awards, held at London.  
**Note:** In 2022, she has replaced Priti Patel for the position of Home Secretary. Art and Culture: Namit Malhotra (Chairman of DNEG). Business Person of the Year: Shamil and Kavi Thakrar (Founders of Dishoom). Community Service: Dr Zareen Roohi Ahmed (CEO of Gift Wellness)
18. **Kumar Sanu** has been honoured with the National Lata Mangeshkar Award for 2021.  
**Note:** Kumar Sanu and Shailendra Singh (Playback singers) and Anand-Milind (music-composer duo) will be conferred with the National Lata Mangeshkar Award for different years. The prestigious award will be presented on September 28 (birth anniversary of the late legendary singer) at her birthplace Indore. Shailendra Singh will be given the Lata Mangeshkar

Award for 2019. While Anand-Milind will be conferred with the honour for 2020.

19. **Asha Parekh** has been awarded the highest recognition in the field of Indian cinema, Dada Saheb Phalke award for 2020.

**Note:** She will receive the award from President Droupadi Murmu at the 68th National Film Awards on September 30. She was conferred the Padma Shri in 1992. She also became the first woman to head the Central Board of Film Certification from 1998-2001. The Dadasaheb Phalke Award was instituted in 1969 and it was first presented to Devika Rani.

20. **Uttarakhand** state has received the first prize for the best adventure tourism destination and all-around development of tourism from the Ministry of Tourism.

**Note:** The State's Tourism and Culture minister, Satpal Maharaj has received the awards from Vice

President Jagdeep Dhankar during the presentation of the National Tourism Awards 2018-19 in New Delhi. Uttarakhand Governor: Gurmit Singh; Chief minister: Pushkar Singh Dhami

21. Indian women's rights activist, **Srishti Bakshi** was honoured with the 'Changemaker' award at UN SDG Action Awards.

**Note:** Reason: For confronting gender-based violence and advocating for safe access to public spaces. This is a flagship of the UN SDG Action Campaign that 'Mobilise, Inspire and Connect' people to drive action towards a more sustainable future on a healthy planet. Other categories awards:

- Mobilise: SUPvivors say NO MORE
- Inspire: Masungi Story
- Connect: CyprusInno

## Sports News

### December 2022

1. **Stephanie Frappart** has become the first female referee at the men's 2022 FIFA World Cup Qatar.

**Note:** She has taken charge of the group stage game between Costa Rica and Germany, held on December 2, 2022. Neuza Back (Brazil) and Karen Diaz Medina (Mexican) are the other women officials who have been designated for the same fixture. In 2021, she became the first woman to referee a men's World Cup qualifying match (Netherlands against Latvia).

2. **Third** edition of T20 World Cup Cricket Tournament for the Blind organised from December 5 to 17, 2022 in India.

**Note:** The participating nations for World Cup 2022 are Australia, Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan, South Africa, Sri Lanka and the host, India. The tournament is being organised to mark the World Disability Day celebrations universally. Former India batter Yuvraj Singh is the brand ambassador of the tournament.

3. Indian shooter **Rudranksh Patil** clinched gold at the ISSF President's Cup held in Cairo, Egypt from 28th Nov to 4th Dec 2022.

**Note:** He has defeated Danilo Sollazzo (Italy) in the 10-metre rifle by 16-8. He had also bagged India's first quota for the 2024 Paris Olympics in October 2022. Olympian, Anjum Moudgil (world No. 4) had secured silver after losing to Anna Janssen (Germany) in the women's 50m rifle 3 positions final.

4. **Saurashtra cricket team** has defeated Maharashtra cricket team by 5 wickets in the final to win the 2022 Vijay Hazare Trophy at the Narendra Modi Stadium, Ahmedabad, Gujarat.

**Note:**

- Player of the match: Sheldon Jackson (Saurashtra, 133 runs in 135 Balls)
- Player of the tournament: Ruturaj Gaikwad (Maharashtra, Games: 5; Runs: 660)
- Most Runs: N Jagadeesan (TN): 830runs, 8 innings
- Highest Score: N Jagadeesan
- Most Fours: N Jagadeesan
- Most Sixes: Ruturaj Gaikwad

5. Team of Manu Bhaker and Sarabjot Singh won the gold in **10m air pistol** category of mixed team at the 65th National Shooting Championship Competitions (NSCC), held at the MP Shooting Academy range, Bhopal.

**Note:** Duo of Manu and Sarabjot defeated Karnataka pair, Divya T.S. and Imroz by 16-4 in the gold medal encounter. While, in the junior mixed team pistol, Uttar Pradesh's Anjali and Sagar defeated Uttarakhand's Yashsavi and Abhinav to win the final.

6. Indian shuttler, **Anish Thoppani** has clinched a silver medal in the Men's single under-15 category at the Badminton Asia Junior Championships, held in Nonthaburi, Thailand.

**Note:** Anish lost the men's singles final against Chung-Hsiang Yih (Chinese Taipei) by 8-21, 24-22,



- 19-21. While, India's under-17 men's duo Arsh Mohammad and Sanskar Sraswat won silver medal. Unnati Hooda won silver at the U-17 (women's singles category), she lost to Sarunrak Vitidsarn of Thailand.
7. Tokyo Olympic medallist, Mirabai Chanu has secured the silver medal in **49kg** women category, at the ongoing 2022 World Weightlifting Championships, held in Bogotá, Colombia.  
**Note:** She managed to lift a total weight of 200kg (87kg in snatch and 113kg in 'clean and jerk'). She lost to Jiang Huihua from China, who won the gold with a total effort of 206kg (93kg+113kg). While Hou Zhihua settled for bronze medal with the total lift of 198kg (89kg+109kg).
8. Footballer **Cristiano Ronaldo** has signed two-and-a-half year agreement for 200 million euros each season with Saudi Arabian club Al-Nassr Football Club.  
**Note:** Manchester United has terminated his contract after a controversial bombshell interview with broadcaster Piers Morgan. Al Nassr Football Club was formed in 1955. The club plays its home games at the Mrsool Park. Al-Nassr FC Chairman: Musalli Al Muammar
9. **Aditya Mittal** has become the 77th chess Grandmaster of India, during an ongoing Ellobregat Open tournament, Spain.  
**Note:** He had secured three GM norms, crossed live rating of 2,500 ELO points mark during the sixth round of the ongoing tournament. He drew the game against Francisco Vallejo Pons to achieve the feat. He won his maiden GM norm at Serbia Masters 2021. Subsequently, he obtained his second GM norm at Ellobregat Open 2021 and third at Serbia Masters 2022.
10. Eden Hazard has announced his retirement from international football, is associated with **Belgium** team.  
**Note:** He was the captain of Belgium in the 2022 FIFA World Cup. He made his debut against Luxembourg in 2008. He moved to Real Madrid from Chelsea for an estimated £150m in 2019. In 2018 World Cup, he helped Belgium to reach semi-finals, where they lost to eventual champions France
11. Along with Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone, **Mondo Duplantis** has been honored with the 2022 World Athletes of the Year at the World Athletics Awards.  
**Note:** McLaughlin-Levrone (USA): She had broken the world women's 400m hurdles record twice. She became the first American to win Athlete of the Year since fellow 400m hurdler Dalilah Muhammad in 2019. Duplantis: He broken the world pole vault record on three occasion and became world champion indoors and outdoors.
12. **Viktor Axelsen (Denmark)** has won his eighth title for men's single BWF World Tour Finals 2022 in Bangkok, Thailand.  
**Note:** In this tournament, he defeated Anthony Ginting from Indonesian. While, Akane Yamaguchi of Japan has defeated Taiwanese, Tai Tzu Ying to win her women's singles title. Men's doubles: Liu Yuchen and Ou Xuanyi (Chinese). Women's doubles: Chen Qingchen and Jia Yifan (Chinese). Mixed doubles: Zheng Siwei and Huang Yaqiong (Chinese)
13. **Ishan Kishan** has scored fastest double century in the history of ODI cricket.  
**Note:** He has scored 210 against Bangladesh in the 3rd game of the series at the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium, Bangladesh. He has broken seven-year-old record, created by the West Indies' Chris Gayle. He has achieved the feat in just 126 balls while Gayle took 138 balls to achieve the milestone. He also surpassed Sourav Ganguly's score and became India's highest individual run-scorer opener batter.
14. **Divya T.S.** has secured her first women's 10m air pistol national title at the 65th National Shooting Championship Competitions in Pistol events, held in Bhopal from 20th Nov to 12th Dec 2022.  
**Note:** She defeated Sanskriti Bana from Uttar Pradesh by 16-14 and Rhythm Sangwan from Haryana has settled for bronze. Olympian, Manu Bhaker has won the junior women's air pistol, after defeating Esha Singh (Telangana). Rhythm Sangwan has won the gold in the Youth category.
15. **Joe Root (Former England captain)** has become the third cricketer in history to score 10000 runs and pick up 50 wickets in Test cricket.  
**Note:** He has achieved the milestone during the ongoing second Test against Pakistan in Multan. He has joined the Jacques Kallis (South African) and Steve Waugh (former Australian skipper) in scoring 10000 runs and claiming 50 wickets in the longest format. Presently, Waugh has 10927 runs (92 wickets) and Kallis has 13289 runs (292 wickets).
16. Lionel Messi, who has confirmed his retirement after Qatar FIFA 2022, is associated with **Argentina**.  
**Note:** He is playing at his fifth World Cup (FIFA 2022) and has surpassed Diego Maradona and Javier Mascherano. With his fifth goal in Qatar FIFA 2022, he has also surpassed Gabriel Batistuta as the top Albiceleste scorer at World Cups, netting 11 times.

He led Argentina to the final in the 2014 edition as well.

**17. Tata Steel Limited** has signed an MoU with Hockey India to become an Official Partner of the FIH Hockey Men's World Cup 2023.

**Note:** The 15th edition of the Hockey Men's World Cup will take place in Bhubaneswar-Rourkela from January 13 to January 29, 2023. It will be the fourth time that India will be hosting the prestigious tournament after having played hosts in 1982 in Bombay, 2010 in New Delhi, and 2018 in Odisha. A total of 16 nations will take part in the tournament.

**18.** India has defeated **Bangladesh** by 120 runs to win their third consecutive title of the T20 World Cup 2022 for the Blind at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium, Bangalore.

**Note:** Sunil was declared Man of the Match in the final and also received the Man of the Series in the B3 category. Ajay was adjudged Man of the Series in the B2 category while Bangladesh's Mohammed Mahmud Rashid was the Man of the Series in the B1 category. Earlier, the Indian team has won the title in 2012 and 2017.

**19.** Indian Women's Hockey team has defeated **Spain** by 1-0 in the final to win the FIH Women's Nations Cup 2022, held in Valencia, Spain, from 11 to 17 December 2022.

**Note:** Hockey India has announced Rs 2 Lakh for each player and 1 Lakh rupees for each support staff of the Indian Women's Hockey Team. Indian has also got promoted to the 2023-24 FIH Hockey Women's Pro League. Goalkeeper of the tournament: Savita Punia

**20. Argentina** has defeated France by 4-2 on penalties to win the 2022 FIFA World Cup, held at the Lusail Stadium in Doha, Qatar.

**Note:** This is third-ever World Cup victory of Argentina and first since 1986. Kylian Mbappé (France) has won the 2022 FIFA World Cup Golden Boot award with 8 goals.

- Lionel Messi won Golden Ball (best player award) at the 2022 Fifa World Cup in Qatar.
- Best goalkeeper (golden glove): Emiliano Martínez (Argentina)
- Fair play award: England

**21. Jaipur Pink Panthers** has defeated Puneri Paltan by 33-29 in the summit clash to emerge champions of the 2022 Pro Kabaddi League.

**Note:** The tournament was played across Bengaluru, Pune and Hyderabad while the playoffs were played in Mumbai. V Ajith, Sunil Kumar and Arjun Deshwal

emerged as the best players for Jaipur side with six points each.

**22. Viacom18 Media Private Limited (Viacom18)** has secured the exclusive media rights to broadcast the Olympic Games Paris 2024.

**Note:** It has also secured the non-exclusive rights to the Winter Youth Olympic Games Gangwon 2024, in Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. In 2024, Olympics will be hosted by France in Paris, beginning from July 26 to August 11.

**23.** India's first ever World Table Tennis (WTT) series event will be hosted by **Goa** from February 27 to March 5 2023.

**Note:** The event will be held at the Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Indoor stadium, located at the Goa University Campus. Stupa Analytics, a homegrown sports analytics firm, will be the tournament host with active support from the Goa government.

**24. England all-rounder Sam Curran** has emerged as the most expensive player in the IPL's history as Punjab Kings bought him for Rs 18.50 crore.

**Note:** The most expensive player in IPL so far was South African all-rounder Chris Morris, who received Rs 16.25 crore at the 2021 auction. Australia all-rounder Cameroon Green was the second-highest earner, fetching ₹17.5 crore bid from Mumbai Indians.

**25.** Badminton player, Geto Sora (7) has won title of 2022 Junior International Badminton Championship in the below 9 years category, organised in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. She hails from **Arunachal Pradesh**.

**Note:** He has defeated Jaryl Teh from Malaysia in straight sets 21-5, 21-16. In November 2022, he had won the U-9 boys singles title in the Yonex-Singha-BTY Championships 2022, held at the Banthongyord Badminton School in Bangkok, Thailand.

**26.** Lovlina Borgohain has defeated Arundhati Choudhary of Services in the category of **75kg** at Women's National Boxing Championship 2022, organised in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

**Note:** Nikhat Zareen defeated Anamika of Railways in the 50kg category. While, The Railways team has topped the medals tally with 10 medals – five golds, three silvers and two bronze. MP placed second in medal tally, followed by Haryana.

**27. Australia** has renamed the men's Test Player of the Year award to honour legendary spinner Shane Warne \_\_\_\_\_.

**Note:** The Shane Warne Men's Test Player of the Year award will be presented annually at the Australian Cricket Awards. Warne himself won the award once, in 2006 after an incredible year that included a record 40 wickets in the famous 2005 Ashes series in England. This Australian Cricket Awards will be announced on January 30, 2023.

**28. GM Magnus Carlsen (Norway)** has secured his fourth title of 2022 World Rapid Championship, held in Almaty, Kazakhstan.

**Note:** Vincent Keymer (Germany) has settled for silver and Fabiano Caruana (America) has secured bronze. While, Tan Zhongyi (China) has won gold in 2022 Women's World Rapid Champion. Indian chess player, B Savitha Shri has won bronze medal in women's event and became third Indian after Viswanathan Anand and Humpy to win a medal at the world rapid championship.

**29.** Portugal Football team captain Cristiano Ronaldo has joined **Saudi Arabian club Al Nassr** on a contract until 2025 with worth over USD 75 million per year.

**Note:** Al Nassr have won the Saudi top-flight titles 9 times, last in 2019. This move inspires their league, nation, and future generations, boys, and girls to be

the best version of themselves. Portugal captain was free after leaving Manchester United following a controversial interview in which he had criticized the club.

**30.** Indian female chess player, **Koneru Humpy** has won India's first-ever silver medal in FIDE World Blitz Chess Championships in Almaty, Kazakhstan after defeating China's Zhongyi Tan.

**Note:** He scored an impressive 12.5 points, just half a point behind the gold medal winner Bibisara Balabayeva of Kazakhstan. He is the second Indian to win a medal at World Blitz, after Viswanathan Anand.

**31. Hockey Haryana** hockey women's team has won Khelo India Youth Games 2022 Women's Under 18 Qualifiers after defeating Madhya Pradesh 2-0 in the final at Bhubaneswar.

**Note:** Pooja and Gurmail Kaur scored a goal each for Haryana to make the team the trophy winner Odisha stepped up to claim 3rd place after beating Hockey Jharkhand 2-1 in the 3rd and 4th place encounter. Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha and Jharkhand have qualified for the Khelo India Youth Games to be held in MP in 2023

## November 2022

**1. Bangladesh** has conferred the prestigious 'Friends of Liberation War' honour on former US Senator Edward M Kennedy posthumously.

**Note:** Reason: For his contribution to the liberation of Bangladesh. The honour was handed over to his son Edward M Ted Kennedy Junior.

**2.** Indian batter **Suryakumar Yadav** has become the world's number one batter in T20 Internationals and also become the second Indian player to hold the top T20I batter ranking.

**Note:** He has overtaken Pakistan opener, Mohammad Rizwan. In T20I, he has scored one century and 11 fifties from 37 appearances for India. Devon Conway (NZ) has ranked third with 792 points.

**3.** Carnatic vocalist **Aruna Sairam** was honoured with the French government's highest honour- Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des award.

**Note:** She was selected for her singing prowess and her contribution towards development of the Indo-France relationship. She has started her classical training under her mother, Rajalakshmi

Sethuraman. She is a disciple of legendary vocalist, Sangita Kalanidhi T. Brinda

**4. Kerala** state road transport corporation was won the national 'Commentation Award in Urban Transport' in the category of 'City with the best Public Transport System'.

**Note:** The 'Grama Vandi' was launched by the KSRTC in association with local self-government institutions, has also won Award of Excellence in Urban Transport.

**5. Suryakumar Yadav** becomes the first Indian and second player to score 1,000 T20 International runs in a calendar year.

**Note:** He has accomplished this feat in final Super 12 stage match against Zimbabwe at Melbourne. Mohammad Rizwan, who scored the 1326 runs in 2021, was the first player to achieve the feat.

**6.** Indonesian badminton player **Anthony Sinisuka Ginting** has won the Men's Single title of the badminton's HYLO Open 2022, after defeating Chou Tien-chen.

**Note:** While, Han Yue (Chinese) has defeated Zhang Yi Man (Chinese) to win the women's single title at

HYLO Open 2022. Men's doubles: Lu Ching-yao and Yang Po-han (Chinese Taipei). Women's doubles: Benyapa Aimsaard and Nuntakarn Aimsaard (Thailand). Mixed doubles: Rehan Naufal Kusharjanto and Lisa Ayu Kusumawati (Indonesia)

7. **Denmark's** Holger Rune, who has defeated the six-time champion, Novak Djokovic to clinch his first Men's single, 2022 Masters title in Paris.

**Note:** He has become the youngest winner of the Paris tournament since Boris Becker in 1986. He is the fifth first-time Masters winner this season and will be the first Danish man to break into the top 10. While the Men's double was won by Wesley Koolhof (Netherlands) and Neal Skupski (United Kingdom)

8. The Boxing Federation of India (BFI) has confirmed that **2023** of IBA Women's World Boxing Championships will be hosted by India, in New Delhi.

**Note:** This will be the third time, when the prestigious women's competition will be held in India. Earlier, the event was organised in 2006 and 2018 in New Delhi. The tournament is likely to be held at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium. The 2023 men's world championship will be held in Tashkent in May.

9. **Third** edition of Khelo India National University Games (2023-24) will be held in four cities of Uttar Pradesh.

**Note:** These cities are Lucknow (main host city), Gorakhpur, Varanasi and Noida. Navneet Sehgal (UP's Additional Chief Secretary) announced that around 4,500 athletes will represent 150 universities across the country. The inaugural edition of the Khelo India National University Games was held in Odisha (2020) while Karnataka was the host for the second edition

10. Indian batsman **Virat Kohli** has scripted history as he became the first batter in history to reach 4000 runs in T20 Internationals.

**Note:** He reached the landmark in the second semi-final of the T20 World Cup 2022 against England in Adelaide, Australia. Earlier, he became the all-time leading run-scorer in the men's T20 World Cups against Bangladesh in Adelaide.

11. In cricket, **England** team has won their second T-20 world cup, after defeating Pakistan by five wickets at the Melbourne Cricket ground, Australia on November 13, 2022.

**Note:** They are now the only side who are the defending ODI and T20 World Cup champions. Sam Curran was named Player of the Match as well as Player of the series. Most runs: Indian batsman

Virat Kohli (296). Most wickets: Sri Lanka's Wanindu Hasaranga (15)

12. **2024** edition of Under 19 men's T-20 World Cup will be hosted by Sri Lanka.

**Note:**

- Under-19 Men's: The 2026 edition will be staged in Zimbabwe and Namibia.
- The 2025 Under 19 women's T20 World Cup will be held in Malaysia and Thailand.
- The 2027 Under 19 women's event will be jointly hosted by Bangladesh and Nepal.

13. Indian boxer **Shiva Thapa** defeated by Uzbekistan's Ruslan Abdullayev in the men's 63-kg finals, but secured a silver medal at the 2022 Asian Elite Boxing Championships held in Amman, Jordan.

**Note:** India finished the Championships with 12 medals, which included four gold, two silver and six bronze. All the gold medals came through women's boxers, Lovlina Borgohain, Saweety Boora, Parveen and Alfiya Pathan.

14. The World Kabaddi Federation (WKF) has announced that **West Midlands** country will host the 2025 Kabaddi World Cup.

**Note:** The tournament will take place across the West Midlands during the first quarter of 2025. The UK region will become the first destination outside of Asia to host this prestigious global tournament. The 2025 Kabaddi World Cup will be organized by England Kabaddi, Scottish Kabaddi, and the British Kabaddi League. President of World Kabaddi Federation: Ashok Das.

15. MC Mary Kom, PV Sindhu, Mirabai Chanu and Gagan Narang were among 10 eminent sportspersons elected as members of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) Athletes Commission. The headquarters of IOA is located in **New Delhi**.

**Note:** Other six members: Shiva Keshavan, Sharath Kamal, Rani Rampal, Bhavani Devi, Bajrang Lal and Om Prakash Singh Karhana. All the 10 elected members of the apex body are Olympians. As per the new constitution of IOA, the athletes commission is to have equal representation of male and female members.

16. The Indian pistol team of Singhraj, Manish Narwal and Deepender Singh has bagged a silver medal in **P4- Mixed 50m Pistol SH1** event at the 2022 Para Shooting World C'ship 2022, held at Al Ain, UAE.

**Note:** Indian finished with a total score of 1579-13x. The South Korean team of Sea Kyun Park, Aeekyung Moon and Jungnam Kim, won the gold medal with an aggregate score of 1592-21x. While, the Turkey has secured the bronze medal with a total of 1574-23x.



17. Arjun Babuta and Mehuli Ghosh clinched the gold medal in **10 m air rifle** category of the mixed team at Asian Airgun Championship 2022, being held in Daegu, South Korea.  
**Note:** In the 10 m air rifle mixed team junior event, Divyansh Singh Panwar and Ramita won gold medal against Sri Karthik Sabari Raj Ravishankar and Nancy. Kanishka Dagar clinched bronze in 10 m air pistol youth women's event. While, Sandeep Bishnoi received gold in the 10 m air pistol junior men's event.
18. President of the Paris 2024 Organising Committee for the Olympic and Paralympic Games, Tony Estanguet has unveiled the mascots for Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The name of the mascot for Paris 2024 is **The Phryges**.  
**Note:** It is a red Phrygian caps, type of hat that has become an enduring symbol of freedom throughout French history. Motto: Alone we go faster, but together we go further
19. **Manika Batra** has clinched the bronze medal at the ongoing ITTF-ATTU Asian Cup tournament at Huamark Indoor Stadium in Bangkok, Thailand.  
**Note:** She became the first Indian female paddler to win a medal at the event. She defeated World number six and three-time Asian champion Hina Hayata by 4-2 to clinch the bronze medal.
20. **Red Bull's driver, Max Verstappen** has clinched title of F1 2022 Abu Dhabi Grand Prix, held at Yas Marina Circuit, Abu Dhabi, UAE.  
**Note:** He has also set new records for the most race wins (15) and most points in a single season (454) in 2022. Charles Leclerc (Ferrari) placed second in the race, followed by Sergio Pérez (Red Bull).
21. **Novak Djokovic** has secured the men's single ATP Finals (2022) title, after defeating Norway's Casper Ruud.  
**Note:** Djokovic has defeated his opponent by 7-5, 6-3 in summit clash. He has now equalled the record of Swiss legend Roger Federer, who has six ATP title wins. He has won ATP finals in 2008, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2022 (Turin, Italy). Doubles: Rajeev Ram (United States) and Joe Salisbury (United Kingdom).
22. **Army Red Team** team has won the 72nd Inter Services Volleyball Championship 2022-23 title, after defeating the Army Green.  
**Note:** The closing ceremony of the Championship was conducted at Eagles Indoor Volleyball Stadium in Secunderabad. The event provided an opportunity to outstanding sportsmen for getting selected to the Services Volleyball team. The trophy was presented by Telangana and Andhra Sub Area officiating GoC, Brigadier K Somashankar.
23. **Canada** country has clinched their first 2022 Davis Cup title defeating Australia by 6-3, 6-4 in Malaga, Spain.  
**Note:** In final, Felix Auger-Aliassime (Canada) had defeated Alex de Minaur (Australia). The Davis Cup is the premier international team event in men's tennis and run by the International Tennis Federation (ITF). Most titles: United States (32 titles)
24. Vishwanath has won the medal after defeating Ronel Suyom (Philippines) in **48kg** category of men's, IBA Youth Men's and Women's World Championships 2022, held in La Nucia, Spain.  
**Note:** Devika (Pune) won gold after defeated England's Lauren Mackie in the women's 52kg. Bhawna Sharma won silver in the women's 48kg category. Ashish (54kg) won silver medal.
25. **Madras Boat Club** has clinched the Adyar trophy 2022 in women's category at the 81st Annual Madras-Colombo Rowing Regatta at Colombo, Sri Lanka.  
**Note:** While, The Colombo Rowing Club (men) has lifted the Deepam trophy at the event. The first-ever Madras-Colombo Regatta was held in 1898 and is considered to be the second oldest sporting event next only to Oxford - Cambridge Regatta. The two rowing clubs, the Madras Boat Club and the Colombo Rowing Club organise the regatta alternately.

### October 2022

1. **Antim Panghal** has secured her gold medal in women's 53kg wrestling at the National Games 2022.  
**Note:** She has defeated Priyanshi Prajapati of Madhya Pradesh to clinch the title. She hails from Haryana. While, Hina Khalifa (Gujarat) and Swati Sanjay (Maharashtra) won the bronze medals in the women's 53kg. Olympian gymnast, Pranati Nayak has won two gold medals at the Sama Indoor Sports Complex in Vadodara.
2. The government has launched Fit India Freedom Run 3.0 has launched at **Major Dhyanchand National Stadium** in New Delhi on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti.

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

3. Who have clinched the 2022 ATP 250 Tel Aviv Watergen Open men's doubles title \_\_\_\_\_.

**Note:**

- They defeated the third seeded Mexican-Argentine pair of Santiago Gonzalez and Andres Molteni by 6-2, 6-4.
- It was Bopanna's third ATP title of the season and 22nd overall.
- Meanwhile, Novak Djokovic has lifted the Tel Aviv Watergen Open men's singles title after beating Marin Cilic.
- It was his third title of the season and 89th overall.

4. **Sergio Perez (Red Bull driver)** has secured the 2022 Singapore F1 Grand Prix, held at Marina Bay Street Circuit, Singapore.

**Note:** Ferrari drivers, Charles Leclerc and Carlos Sainz Jr. have secured second and third place, respectively, in the race. While, Max Verstappen has finished seventh in the race and Hamilton secured ninth.

Other F1 GP: Belgian 2022; Dutch Grand Prix 2022; Italian Grand Prix 2022; Hungarian Grand Prix 2022 – Max Verstappen (Netherlands)

5. **PR Sreejesh** has been voted the 2022 FIH goalkeeper of the year title in the men's categories.

**Note:** He is the third player to win this title in a row. Earlier, David Harte (Ireland) won the prize twice in 2015 and 2016, while Vincent Vanasch (Belgium) won it three times in a row from 2017 to 2019. While, Savita Punia (captain) was voted the FIH Women's Goalkeeper of the Year. She is the third athlete to win this title in Women category for three years in a row.

6. The National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) has suspended **Shivpal Singh (Uttar Pradesh)** from competing till October 2025.

**Note:** Reason: Due to a doping violation. The ban comes into effect from October 21, 2021. He has been subsequently tested positive for the banned substance methandienone that is a performance-enhancing steroid.

7. **Pankaj Advani** has secured his 25th gold medal after winning the 2022 IBSF World Billiards Championship in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

**Note:** He has defeated Sourav Kothari by 4-0 to defend the title for the fifth time in a row. He had won

his last world title in Qatar 6Reds World Cup 2021, where he won the IBSF 6-Red Snooker World Cup. Pankaj Advani has been awarded Arjuna Award (2004), Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna (2006), Padma Shri (2009) and Padma Bhushan (2018).

8. **Red Bull, Max Verstappen** has declared Formula One world champion after winning a 2022 Japanese Grand Prix.

**Note:** Sergio Pérez (Red Bulls) finished second in the list, while, the second-place finisher, Charles Leclerc was given a five-second penalty, dropping him to third. Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes) placed fifth.

9. **Novak Djokovic** has clinched his 90th ATP title after defeating Greek, Stefanos Tsitsipas by 6-3, 6-4 in the final of Astana Open in Kazakhstan.

**Note:** He joined Rafael Nadal and Roger Federer in the list of players in Open Era with 90 or more ATP titles. In men's doubles, Nikola Mektic and Mate Pavic have captured their fifth tour-level title of the season and beat Adrian Mannarino and Fabrice Martin by 6-4, 6-2.

10. The Indian Olympic Association has announced that the 37th edition of the National Games will be hosted by **Goa** in October 2023.

**Note:** The date of the 37th National Games will be decided while keeping in view of the dates of 19th Asian Games that will be held from 23rd September to 8th October, 2022 in Hangzhou, China. Goa had received the rights to host the National Games in 2008, failed to host them, due to different reasons.

11. The medal tally of 36th National Games has been topped by **Services** team with a total of 128 medals (61 Gold, 35 silver, and 32 bronze).

**Note:** Followed by Maharashtra and Haryana. Best female player: Harshika Ramchandran (Karnataka); Best Male player: Sajan Prakash (Kerala)

12. The 6th Senior Asian Pencak Silat Championship that is being held in **Srinagar**.

**Note:** J&K LG, Manoj Sinha has inaugurated 6th Senior Asian Pencak Silat Championship that is being held in Srinagar. Pencak Silat is relatively new to India and was introduced in 2014. The event brings together over 150 athletes from different countries. Pencak silat: It is an umbrella term for a class of related Indonesian martial arts.

13. **India's** women team has clinched the Women's Asia Cup 2022 title, after defeating Sri Lanka by eight wickets in the final, held at Sylhet International Cricket Stadium, Bangladesh.

**Note:** India has defeated Sri Lanka for the fifth time in an Asia Cup final. This is India's record seventh Women's Asia Cup title. Deepti Sharma has been

adjudged Player of the Tournament. While, Renuka Singh adjudged Player of the Match.

- 14. Rudrankksh Balasaheb Patil** the India shooter who won the gold medal in men's 10m air rifle event at ISSF World Championship held in Cairo, Egypt.

**Note:** He defeated Danilo Dennis Sollazzo from Italy by 17-15. This win helped him to secure 2024 Paris Olympics quota for the country. He is only the second Indian to achieve this feat, after Olympic champion Abhinav Bindra, who had won the gold in 2006 in Zagreb, Croatia.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**26. Indian wrestler, Aman Sehrawat** has become the first Indian wrestler to win a gold medal at the U-23 World Wrestling Championships in Pontevedra, Spain.

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

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

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

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

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

**29. Spain** has clinched the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup 2022 after defeating Colombia by 1-0 victory in

the finals, held at the D Y Patil Sports Stadium, Mumbai, Maharashtra.

**Note:** Vicky Lopez from Spain was adjudged as the player of the tournament. While, Spain goalkeeper, Sofia Fuente has won the award for best goalkeeping. Earlier, Nigeria beat Germany by 3-2 in a shootout and remained at third placed in the match.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## September 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. **AnishkaBiyani** has won the gold medal in the Malaysian Age Group Rapid Chess Championship at Kuala Lumpur.  
**Note:** She is a first-grade student of DhirubhaiAmbaniSchool 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](http://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.
16. **India** has secured the **South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) U-17 Championship** title after defeating Nepal by 4-0 in the final in Colombo, Sri Lanka.  
**Note:** India has played well to lift the title for the fourth time (2013, 2017, 2019, 2022). India captain, Vanlalpeka Guite has named the **Most Valuable Player** of the Tournament, while goalkeeper, Sahil won the Best Goalkeeper awards. SAFF members: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka
17. Indian woman wrestler **Vinesh Phogat** has clinched a bronze in 53-kilogram category at the World Championships, in Belgrade, Serbia.  
**Note:** She becomes the first Indian woman wrestler to win two medals at the World Championships. She has defeated reigning European champion, Emma Malmgren of Sweden. This is her second bronze medal at the Championships.
18. Roger Federer has announced his retirement, is associated with **Tennis**.  
**Note:** He has played more than 1500 matches over 24 years the Marvel of Tennis exponent Federer. He has played his first junior match in 1996 at the age of 14 at a grade 2 tournament in Switzerland. He won his first grand slam championship at Wimbledon in 2003 at 21.
19. Rachael Haynes, who has announced her retirement from international cricket at the age of 35, is belong to **Australian**.  
**Note:** But, she would play one more season for Sydney Thunder in the Women's Big Bash League. The left-hand batter has scored 3,818 runs in more than 150 internationals over all three formats since her debut in 2009. She has won six global titles with Australia and became the vice-captain in 2018.
20. **Pranav Anand** has become the 76th Grandmaster of India in the ongoing World Youth Chess Championship in Mamaia, Romania.  
**Note:** He has crossed the 2,500 Elo mark in the ongoing event in Romania. He has already met the other requirements that are necessary for a GM title. Eligibility to become GM: A player need to secure three GM norms and cross the live rating of 2,500 Elo points. He had scored the third and final GM norm at the 55th Biel Chess in Switzerland.
21. **Linda Fruhvirtova (Czech)** has secured the 2022 WTA Chennai Open after beating third seed, Magda Linette (Poland) by 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 at the SDAT Stadium, Chennai.  
**Note:** At 17 years and 141 days old, she is the youngest titlist of the season on the WTA Tour so far. She is the youngest singles champion on tour since Coco Gauff won Parma last year at 17 years, 70 days old. Doubles WTS Chennai Open: Gabriela Dabrowski and Luisa Stefani.
22. In men's wrestling, **Bajrang Punia** has secured bronze medal in the men's 65 kg category at World Wrestling Championships.  
**Note:** He defeated Sebastian C Rivera from Puerto Rico by 11-9. This is Punia's fourth medal at the Championships, starting his journey with bronze in 2013. This is India's second medal at the ongoing edition of the World Wrestling Championships.
23. **Bengaluru FC** team has defeated Indian Super League (ISL) giants Mumbai City FC by 2-1 to clinch the 131st edition of the Durand Cup at the Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan in Kolkata.  
**Note:** The goal by Alan Costa in 61st minute gave Bengaluru FC the winning lead against Mumbai. The first edition of the competition was played in 1888.
24. **Bangladesh** country has secured the maiden SAFF Women's Championship title at the Dashrath Rangshala Stadium in Kathmandu, Nepal.  
**Note:** The Bangladesh has defeated hosts Nepal by 3-1 in the finals. Sabina Khatun (Bangladesh skipper) has become the top scorer of the tournament with 8 goals in 5 matches. She was also named as the Most Valuable Player of the tournament for her extraordinary game.
25. Veteran Assamese swimmer, **Elvis Ali Hazarika** has become the first from the North East to cross the North Channel.  
**Note:** The North Channel is the strait between north-eastern Northern Ireland and south-western Scotland. Elvis and his team clocked a timing of 14

hours 38 minutes to achieve this feat. With this, Elvis has become the oldest Indian swimmer to cross the North Channel.

**26. India** will host its maiden MotoGP World Championships race in 2023.

**Note:** MotoGP commercial rights owner, Dorna has signed an MoU with the Noida-based race promoters, Fairstreet Sports to host the premier two-wheel racing event in India for next seven years. MotoGP has plans to also introduce MotoE into the Indian

racing scenario that will not only be a first in Asia but a green initiative with net zero carbon emission.

**27. Eliud Kipchoge (Kenya)** has shattered his own world record by lowering the mark to 2:01:09 (new record) to win at the Berlin Marathon.

**Note:** His previous best in an official 42.2km race was 2:01:39 set on the same course in 2018. He has long been dubbed the world's best marathon runner. He was the first athlete to run a marathon distance in under two hours in Vienna in 2019. Tigist Assefa (Ethiopia) has won the women's race in a course record of 2:15:37.

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