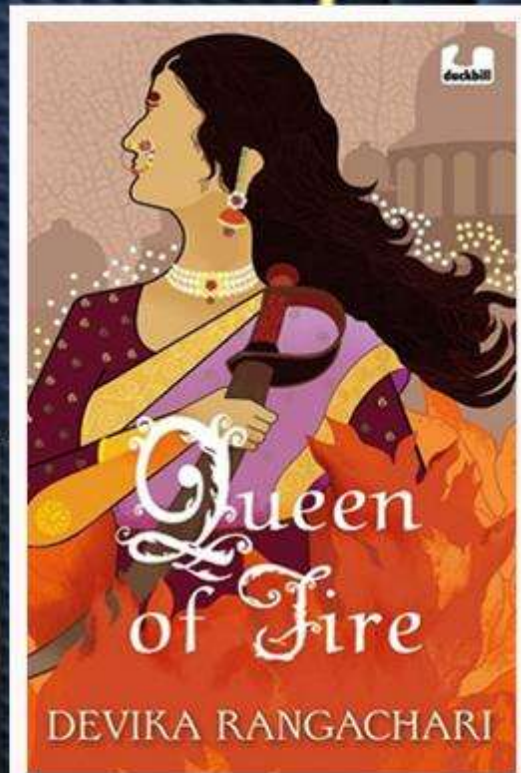
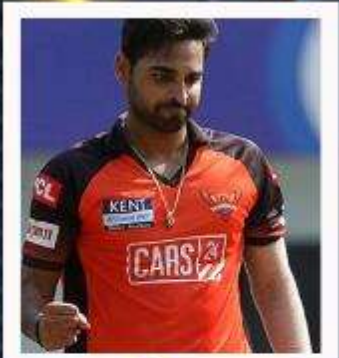


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TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Uday Kotak has announced to step down as the Chairman of the board of Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services (IL&FS).
 - CS Rajan, Managing Director, IL&FS has been appointed as Chairman and Managing Director for six months by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.
- ❖ Lok Sabha passed the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2022 on March 28, 2022.
 - The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2022 proposes the "Darlong" community as a sub-tribe of "Kuki" in the list of Scheduled Tribes in Tripura.
- ❖ The world's largest express transportation company FedEx has announced that its new Chief Executive Officer will be Indian American Raj Subramaniam.
 - The company was previously helmed by Frederick W Smith.
- ❖ Canada has qualified for the Qatar 2022 football World Cup for the first time in 36 years, after beating Jamaica 4-0 in Toronto.
 - Canada becomes the 20th team to qualify for the 2022 FIFA World Cup.
- ❖ World Bipolar Day is observed on March 30 to spread awareness about the mental health disorder that affects people all over the world.
 - This year's World Bipolar Day theme is #BipolarTogether.
- ❖ World Backup Day is marked every year on March 31.
 - The day reminds us to protect our precious digital documents as we've become more reliant on technology.
- ❖ The International Day of Drug Checking takes place on March 31 every year since 2017.
 - The day aims to promote harm reduction initiatives of drugs and reduce drug-related risks.
- ❖ Ecuador, a South American country has become the first country in the world to give legal rights to wild animals.
- ❖ The first edition of the Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) Maritime Exercise 2022 (IMEX-22) was held in Goa and in the Arabian Sea.
 - The objective of the exercise was to enhance the interoperability of the navies of member nations in Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) operations.
- ❖ Maharashtra and Telangana, Delhi have made masks not compulsory.
 - They have announced complete relaxation of the Covid-19 norms starting from April in view of the steady decline in the Covid-19 pandemic situation.



- ❖ The state government of Manipur has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Samsung Data System India Pvt Ltd and Abhitech IT Solutions Pvt Ltd.
 - This is for setting up a world-class “Sports Digital Experience Centre” as a domain of Manipur Olympian Park and Khuman Lampak Sports Complex.
- ❖ Amazon India announced 'Sambhav Entrepreneurship Challenge 2022'.
 - The initiative will provide participating startups from anywhere in the country a chance to showcase their business proposition.
- ❖ Indian weightlifter Mirabai Chanu was named the BBC Indian Sportswoman of the Year award for 2021.
- ❖ United Nations Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres appointed Arunabha Ghosh (India) to a High-Level Expert Group on the Net-Zero Emissions Commitments of Non-State Entities.
 - Arunabha Ghosh is the CEO of the Council on Energy, Environment, and Water (CEEW), a climate and energy think tank.
- ❖ The Indian government has named Vinay Mohan Kwatra, who is the country's ambassador to Nepal, as India's next Foreign Secretary.
 - He will be taking charge after incumbent Harsh Vardhan Shringla.
- ❖ In India, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has also projected changes in the spatial distribution of malaria.
 - It warned about the potential outbreaks in the Himalayan region, besides the southern and the eastern states.
- ❖ The Delhi government has set up Hobby Hubs for government schools in Delhi after school hours to promote extra-curricular activities.
 - The idea is to make optimum use of school infrastructure and to use it after school hours to promote these extra-curricular activities.
- ❖ HDFC Bank Limited has been adjudged Best Performing Bank in Self Help Group (SHG) Linkage by Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM).
 - HDFC Bank is the only private bank to be honored with the award for its contribution to SHGs by NRLM.
- ❖ Following the Russian withdrawal from the outskirts of Kyiv, videos and images of civilians lying dead on the streets of Bucha, Ukraine, have emerged.
 - The gruesome images have attracted worldwide condemnation and call for an investigation and stronger sanctions against Russia.
- ❖ An advisory committee of experts has been formed by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.



- This committee has been constituted to carry forward the government's plans of making India a global leader in the manufacturing, innovation, and design of semiconductors.
- ❖ United States Senate confirmed Ketanji Brown Jackson as the first Black woman to sit as Judge in the country's highest court.
- ❖ Mumbai's city administration reported that India's first case of the highly-transmissible coronavirus variant, XE.
 - The hybrid of two omicron strains BA.1 and BA.2 was detected in a 50-year-old woman who had travelled to the city from South Africa.
- ❖ Hollywood's film academy banned Will Smith from attending the Oscars for 10 years.
 - This was done after he slapped presenter Chris Rock on stage at the Academy Awards ceremony.
- ❖ World Homeopathy Day was observed every year on April 10.
 - The theme for this Day in India is 'People's Choice For Wellness.'
- ❖ Each year, the 11th of April is celebrated as National Pet Day in the US.
 - On this day, people scoop out some time from their busy schedules to pay extra attention, love, and care to their pets.
- ❖ M.K. Stalin, the Deputy Chief Minister, launched a Periyar memorial samathuva puram at Pilipakuttai.
 - Pilipakuttai is in Namagiripettai panchayat union in Namakkal District.
- ❖ Pakistan Opposition leader Shehbaz Sharif has been elected as the new Prime Minister of Pakistan.
 - He is the 70-year-old younger brother of former three-time prime minister Nawaz Sharif.
- ❖ Dr. Manoj Soni has been appointed the chairman of UPSC.
 - Dr. Soni has been appointed to replace the previous UPSC chairman Pradip Kumar Joshi.
- ❖ Indian duo Dipika Pallikal Karthik and Saurav Ghosal won the mixed double title at the 2022 WSF World Doubles Squash championship at Glasgow, Scotland.
 - This is the first gold medal for India at the WSF World Doubles Squash championship.
- ❖ For the G20 summit, which will be hosted in 2023 by India, Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla has been appointed as its chief coordinator.
 - This role has been newly created by the government to organize the summit.



- ❖ The Indian Coast Guard commissioned a squadron of Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) MK III.
 - This will strengthen maritime security.
- ❖ PM Modi virtually addressed the 14th Foundation Day of Umiya Mata Temple.
 - Umiya Mata Temple is a religious site in Gujarat's Junagadh.
- ❖ The Edible oil major Ruchi Soya said that its board has decided to change the company's name to Patanjali Foods Ltd.
- ❖ The first Khelo India National Ranking Women Archery will be held in Tata Archery Academy, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand.
 - The Archery Association of India, in collaboration with the Jharkhand Archery Association and TATA Steel, is organizing the tournament.
- ❖ Karnataka is likely to become the 13th state to provide eggs under the midday meal scheme.
- ❖ National Fire Service Day is observed on April 14.
 - The day is observed every year to pay homage to the incredible commitment and sacrifice by the 71 Fire Service personnel during an unfortunate mishap in 1944 on this day.
- ❖ The Union Minister G Kishan Reddy has inaugurated the three-day North-East festival called 'Ishan Manthan' at the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts in New Delhi.
 - The three-day Ishan Manthan programme will celebrate the rich ethnicity and colours of North East India.
- ❖ India is ready to host the Street Child Cricket World Cup in 2023.
 - This world cup is organized by Street Child United and Save the Children India.
- ❖ The Taliban have outlawed the cultivation of drugs, including opium poppy, across Afghanistan.
 - Afghanistan is the world's biggest opium producer, which accounts for 85 percent of global production.
- ❖ The first batch of the aircrew of the Indian Navy has completed its training in the US to operate the MH-60 'Romeo' multi-role helicopter.
 - India is procuring 24 MH-60R helicopters from the US.
- ❖ A rare event was witnessed recently in Nagpur and other parts of Maharashtra with blazing streaks of light piercing through the sky during the night.
 - While some are calling it a meteor shower, others are saying that it was actually a re-entry stage of a Chinese Rocket.



- ❖ Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur announced that the electricity bills till 125 units will be free of cost for the people of the state.
 - He further added people in rural areas will also be exempted from paying water bills.
- ❖ International Monetary Fund (IMF) has lauded India's PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana program.
 - It prevented the increased prevalence of extreme poverty in the country during Covid-19.
- ❖ Top Indian swimmer Sajin Prakash won the men's 200m butterfly gold at the Danish Open swimming meet in Copenhagen, Denmark.
- ❖ Indonesia has stopped imports of agricultural products from India.
 - It cited a failure by New Delhi officials to register laboratories that evaluate food safety and issue certificates of analysis.
- ❖ The Border Roads Organisation will build the world's highest tunnel at Shinku La Pass in Himachal Pradesh.
 - It will be constructed at 16,580 feet, to connect Himachal Pradesh and Ladakh.
- ❖ Young Indian Grandmaster D Gukesh of Chennai emerged victorious in the 48th La Roda International Open Chess tournament held at Spain.
 - R Praggnanandhaa took the third spot.
- ❖ The government has granted an extension of one year to Atomic Energy Commission Chairman Kamlesh Nilkanth Vyas.
 - This is the second extension for Vyas, who was first appointed to the post in September 2018.
- ❖ India is going to introduce a special AYUSH visa category for foreign nationals who want to come to India to take advantage of AYUSH therapy.
 - This was announced by PM Narendra Modi while inaugurating the Global AYUSH Investment and Innovation Summit at Gandhinagar.
- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the nation from the Red Fort on the 401st birth anniversary of Guru Tegh Bahadur.
 - He is the ninth Sikh guru who stood up against forcible conversions by the Mughals.
- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi confers Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.
 - It was awarded on the occasion of Civil Services Day (April 21).
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government has decided to set up four Olympic training academies in the four zones of the state.



- The announcement had been made under Rule 110 in the Assembly.
- ❖ The much-anticipated Women Cricket's Indian Premier League (IPL) is all set to get underway in 2023.
 - Franchise-based model is likely to have 6 teams in the inaugural season.
- ❖ Procter & Gamble India appointed LV Vaidyanathan, who leads the company's business in Indonesia, as the new chief executive officer.
 - He takes over from Madhusudan Gopalan who will move into a new role at the parent company.
- ❖ Digit Insurance has appointed Jasleen Kohli as the company's new managing director (MD) and chief executive officer (CEO).
 - She succeeds Vijay Kumar.
- ❖ The Serial entrepreneur Babita Singh has been conferred as a Global Peace Ambassador at the India International Conclave 2022 held in collaboration with Asia Africa Consortium.
 - He was awarded for promoting Peace through Education, Sports, Art, Culture & Diplomacy.
- ❖ Every year on April 23rd, the Spanish Language Day is celebrated as the second most spoken language in the world.
 - It's also a day to honor the most revered writer in the Spanish language, Miguel De Cervantes Saavedra.
- ❖ British Prime Minister Boris Johnson opened JCB's new export-focused factory in Halol near Vadodara, Gujarat.
 - The factory will fabricate parts for global production lines.
- ❖ The central government appointed economist Suman Bery as the vice-chairman of NITI Aayog after Rajiv Kumar resigned from the post.
 - Kumar had been appointed as the vice-chairperson of NITI Aayog five years ago.
- ❖ Palli village in Jammu's Samba district has become the country's first panchayat to become carbon neutral.
 - It is fully powered by solar energy.
- ❖ India will provide an additional \$500 million in financial aid to help the Srilanka island nation buy fuel.
 - This is the second \$500 million in gasoline credit that India has given to a Sri Lankan government.
- ❖ Sri Lanka defaulted on its \$51 billion foreign debt as the island nation grapples with its worst economic crisis.



- This was announced after running out of foreign exchange for imports.
- ❖ Elon Musk has taken control of the social media site Twitter.
 - Through this deal, he will be acquiring the social network for around USD 44 billion.
- ❖ The Delhi and Punjab governments signed a unique Knowledge Sharing Agreement.
 - The two governments are signing the agreement to share knowledge to learn from each other and move forward.
- ❖ Kane Tanaka, a Japanese woman believed to have been the world's oldest person, has died aged 119.
 - She was born in the Fukuoka region of Japan.
- ❖ Pennsylvania has become the first major fossil fuel-producing state in the US to adopt a carbon pricing policy to address climate change.
 - It joins 11 states where coal, oil, and natural gas power plants must buy credits for every ton of carbon dioxide they emit.
- ❖ Teenaged Indian Grandmaster D Gukesh of Chennai won the Menorca Open chess tournament.
 - He recently won the 48th Open Ajedrez La Roda chess tournament held in La Roda, Spain.
- ❖ Shikhar Dhawan became only the second batter after Virat Kohli to complete the milestone of 6,000 runs in the Indian Premier League.
 - Dhawan achieved the elusive feat against Chennai Super Kings (CSK) at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai.
- ❖ A court in military-ruled Myanmar convicted former leader Aung San Suu Kyi of corruption and sentenced her to five years in prison.
- ❖ BJP leader and former Union minister Vijay Sampla has been appointed as the chairperson of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC) for a second time.
 - Sampla had resigned as the NCSC chairman ahead of the Punjab elections and had contested the polls.
- ❖ Union Minister for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises Narayan Tatu Rane has inaugurated the MSME Ministry's Mega Event titled Enterprise India.
 - The event's aim is to create synergies between various concerned departments, ministries, and the Industry Associations.

TAMIL NADU

Lulu Group deal - Tamil Nadu

- ❖ Lulu Group will also set up food processing and logistics centers for procuring and processing agri-produce for exports to middle eastern countries.
- ❖ Lulu Group will invest ₹3,500 crores in Tamil Nadu to set up shopping malls, supermarkets, and a food-logistic park.
- ❖ According to the MoU, the first shopping mall will come up in Chennai by 2024.
- ❖ While the first supermarket is expected at the Laxmi Mills compound in Coimbatore.



Portfolio swap

- ❖ The portfolios of ministers R S Rajakannappan and S S Sivasankar have been swapped.
- ❖ “Transport, Nationalised Transport and Motor Vehicles Act” dealt with by Rajakannappan had been allocated to S S Sivasankar.
- ❖ “Backward Classes Welfare, Most Backward Classes Welfare, and Denotified Communities Welfare” dealt with by Sivasankar have been allocated to Rajakannappan.



Sahitya Akademi Fellowship

- ❖ Writer Indira Parthasarathy was conferred the Sahitya Akademi Fellowship by the Sahitya Akademi.
- ❖ The fellowship, which is India's highest literary honor, is presented to distinguished scholars of outstanding literary merit.
- ❖ The number of Akademi fellows at a given time is restricted to only 21.
- ❖ Indira Parthasarathy is a Padma Shri awardee.
- ❖ He has published 16 novels, 10 plays, and anthologies of short stories and essays.
- ❖ He won the Sahitya Akademi Award in 1977 for his novel Kuruthipunal.
- ❖ He is the only Tamil writer to have received both the Sahitya Akademi Award and the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award.



Chennai Metro Rail's Central Square



- ❖ Chief Minister M. K. Stalin formally inaugurated the 'Central Square' facility.
- ❖ The facility is aimed at connecting important buildings located in this area.
- ❖ It serves as a multi-modal hub.



Ganja Vettai 2.0

- ❖ Director-General of Police C. Sylendra Babu has ordered a month-long, State-wide raid against the sale of ganja and pan masala products.
- ❖ It is code-named Operation Ganja Vettai-2.0.
- ❖ The present operation is being conducted from March 28 to April 27.
- ❖ The police conducted a similar operation from December 2021 to January 2022 to curb the sale of ganja and pan masala products.

Supreme Court on Vanniyar reservation

- ❖ The Supreme Court upheld the Madras High Court judgment striking down the law (Tamil Nadu Special Reservation Act, 2021) brought in Tamil Nadu last year providing 10.5 percent reservation to Vanniyars, within the Most Backward Classes community.
- ❖ The reservation was in government jobs and admissions to educational institutions.
- ❖ The top court said it was done solely on the basis of numbers without adequate data to show the relative backwardness of the Vanniyar community.
- ❖ The court also ruled that though there is no fetter placed on the power of the state to legislate.
- ❖ For that caste can be the basis of such internal reservation, it cannot be the sole basis

Anaikatty resident

- ❖ A tribal resident of Anaikatty in Sigur in the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve buffer zone is one of 41 women water champions.
- ❖ It is recognized as part of an initiative by the Government of India and the UNDP-SIWI Water Governance Facility.

Gender lab

- ❖ The Greater Chennai Corporation has inaugurated a gender lab.
- ❖ It is said to be the first such initiative by an urban local body in the country.
- ❖ The civic body has appointed three specialists in the first phase to launch the facility.
- ❖ The three specialists, all women, will review every civic infrastructure project to suggest changes for improving the safety of women in public spaces.



Tamil Nadu Public Health Act

THE TAMIL NADU PUBLIC HEALTH ACT (1939)

- A Pioneering Act – 1939
- Steered by Great Scholar and Minister for Health Dr.T.S.S.Rajan
- The Death Relief Act
- To improve the Health of the people of Madras province

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government has withdrawn its notification issued under the Tamil Nadu Public Health Act, 1939.
- ❖ This is to ensure that all notified offices were occupied by persons vaccinated against COVID-19.
- ❖ The Directorate of Public Health and Preventive Medicine withdrew the November 18, 2021 notification.

Coins in Adichanallur

- ❖ The discovery of two punch-marked coins of the Sangam era, with symbols of sea turtles, marked the first of its kind found in the archaeological history of Adichanallur.
- ❖ It is a historic site located in the lower valley of Tamirabarani in Srivaikuntam taluk, Thoothukudi district.
- ❖ Adichanallur was largely known as an ancient burial mound where funerary urns were found.
- ❖ The site was first excavated by German archaeologist Dr. Jagor in 1876.
- ❖ With the latest collection of findings (punch-marked coins), the archaeological recovery suggests Adichanallur could have either been a coin manufacturing site or one of the earliest places of human settlement.



Kaaval Uthavi app

- ❖ Chief Minister M K Stalin launched the 'Kaaval Uthavi' (police assistance) app at the Secretariat, Chennai.
- ❖ The app was launched with over 60 features to enable the public, especially women, to seek police help in case of emergency.
- ❖ The app comprises emergency help and a dialing facility (Dial-112/100/101).
- ❖ It also has a facility for mobile-based complaints and a location-sharing facility.



State education policy

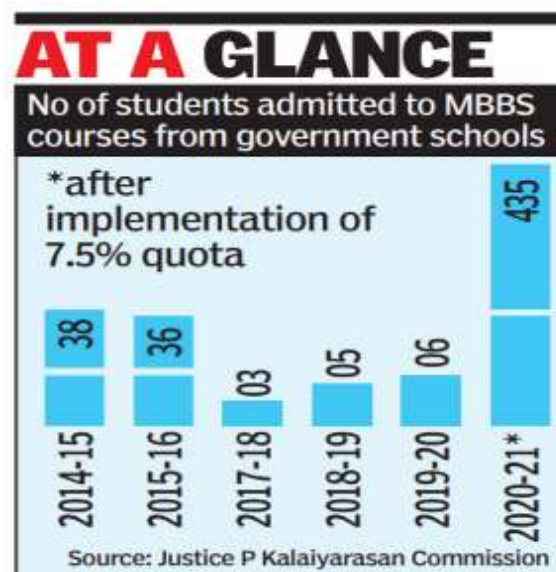
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government formed a 13-member panel headed by Delhi high court retired chief justice D Murugesan to frame the state education policy.
- ❖ Chief Minister M K Stalin said the panel would give its recommendations to frame the new education policy within a year.
- ❖ The members of the panel are: L Jawaharnesan, former vice-chancellor of Saveetha University, R Ramanujam, retired professor from Institute of Mathematical Science, Sulthan Ismail and R Sreenivasan, both members of State Planning Commission, Aruna Ratnam, former education specialist with Unicef,

Tamil writer S Ramakrishnan, former chess world champion Viswanathan Anand, musician T M Krishna, educationists Tulsidas and S Madasamy, R Balu, headmaster of Government Panchayat Union Middle School in Kichankuppam and Jayashree Damodaran from Agaram Foundation.

Maternal Immuno Analyzer

- ❖ Chief Minister Stalin inaugurated the Maternal Immuno Analyser machine and the State Health Assembly (SHA) program at the Government Multi Super Specialty Hospital (GMSSH) in Chennai
- ❖ It will be part of the Master Health Check-Up program at the hospital.
- ❖ Women who are 11-14 weeks pregnant can be screened for foetus genetic abnormalities.
- ❖ Then, mothers and their families can decide if they want to keep or terminate the pregnancy.
- ❖ This is to prevent birth anomalies.

7.5 quota for govt school students



- ❖ The Madras High Court upheld the constitutional validity of a State law passed in October 2020.
- ❖ It was to provide 7.5% horizontal reservation to students who pass out of government schools and clear the National Entrance-cum-Eligibility Test (NEET), in medical admissions.
- ❖ It was based on recommendation by the Kalaiyaran Committee.

Banks-on-wheels in Tamilnadu

- ❖ The Minister for Cooperation in Tamilnadu I.Periya Samy announced that 34 banks-on-wheels will be introduced.
- ❖ It will be introduced on behalf of the Tamil Nadu State Apex Cooperative Bank and all-district central cooperative banks.
- ❖ They will provide key banking services, including ATM services.

Chennai Corporation Budget 2022



- ❖ The Chennai Corporation Mayor Priya Rajan presented the civic body's budget after a gap of six years.
- ❖ Some of the important announcements made by the Mayor include:
 - Students will be provided breakfast in schools run by the civic body
 - CCTV cameras will be set up in schools
 - Efforts will be taken to improve English speaking in schools
 - Girl students will be given sanitary napkins under Nirbhaya Funds
 - 70 Chennai Corporation high and higher secondary schools will be provided with an internet connection.

Cheapest FDI location for electronics R&D

- ❖ Chennai has an estimated annual operating cost of \$1.24 million for a 50-person R&D center.
- ❖ This is the cheapest in the world.
- ❖ The Malaysian city of Penang took the second spot.
- ❖ It was followed by Gurgaon and Pune.



- ❖ Also, FDI in Tamil Nadu increased by 41.5 percent.
- ❖ Chennai ranked second after Seoul.
- ❖ In this ranking, Chennai was followed by Chinese cities like Guangzhou and Shenzhen.
- ❖ Three other Indian cities, Bangalore, Pune, and Gurgaon were among the top 10 cities on this list.

BEST LOCATIONS FOR COST OF OPERATING AN ELECTRONICS R&D CENTRE

RANK	LOCATION	COUNTRY	\$/YEAR
1	Chennai	India	1,241,653
2	Penang	Malaysia	1,321,254
3	Gurgaon	India	1,529,718
4	Pune	India	1,532,809
5	Kaunas	Lithuania	1,632,117
6	Jakarta	Indonesia	1,687,078
7	Bangalore	India	1,697,349
8	Ciudad Juarez	Mexico	1,783,171
9	Changzhou	China	1,812,795
10	Kuala Lumpur	Malaysia	1,867,036

Estimated cost to operate an electronics R&D centre with 50 employees and 2000 sq m of office space
Source: fDi Benchmark

Resolution against CUET

- ❖ The government of Tamil Nadu has adopted a resolution urging the government of India to drop the CUET (Central Universities Common Entrance Test) proposal.
- ❖ Except for the Bharatiya Janata Party, the resolution was unanimously supported by all other parties.
- ❖ In the resolution passed by the state, the assembly stated that an entrance exam based on the National Council of Education Research and Training syllabus will not be providing equal opportunity to all the students as there are varied state boards across the country.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu government has argued that due to CUET the number of students studying in various central universities in the state and their affiliated colleges would be reduced.
- ❖ Also, the state government argued that the CUET will not be able to uplift the marginalized students of society.

Equality Day

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin announced that the birthday of Dr. BR Ambedkar will be celebrated as 'Equality Day'.
- ❖ Dr. Ambedkar's birthday falls on April 14.
- ❖ He made the announcement under Rule 110 in the Assembly.
- ❖ Under rule number 110, the Chief Minister or any minister can announce or bring any resolution to the Assembly which can be passed without any discussion.

State Development Loans - Tamilnadu

- ❖ Tamil Nadu government has indicated that it will borrow ₹23,500 crores in the first quarter of fiscal 2022-23.
- ❖ The State governments/Union Territories are expected to borrow ₹1,90,375 crore in the April-June 2022 period through the issue of bonds called the State Development Loans (SDLs).
- ❖ In the comparable period during the first quarter of 2021-22, the Tamil Nadu government had indicated it will borrow ₹23,450 crores.
- ❖ But the actual amount raised was slightly higher at ₹24,000 crores.
- ❖ According to rating firm ICRA Ltd, Maharashtra has indicated the highest borrowing of ₹32,000 crores in the first quarter of FY2023.

Senior National Basketball Championship

- ❖ Tamil Nadu defeated defending champion Punjab 87-69 in the final to win the men's title in the 71st Senior National Basketball Championship.
- ❖ The Indian Railways team won the women's title, beating Telangana 131-82.



Vedaant Madhavan

- ❖ 16-year-old, Vedaant Madhavan bagged the silver medal in the men's 1500m freestyle event at Danish Open Swimming Meet
- ❖ It was held at Copenhagen, Denmark.
- ❖ He is the son of actor R Madhavan.
- ❖ He had won a bronze medal at the Latvia Open in March 2021.
- ❖ He had also impressed at the Junior National Aquatic Championships last year, bagging seven medals - four silver and three bronzes.



Kongu Chola-era hero stones – Annur



- ❖ The Archaeological enthusiasts from Tiruppur have recently discovered three hero stones.
- ❖ They are likely from the 11th or 12th century CE, during the rule of Kongu Cholas, at Annur in the Coimbatore district.
- ❖ The team from Virarajendran Archaeological and Historical Research Centre, led by the organization's director S. Ravikumar, found the stones near the Manneeswarar Temple in Annur in September 2021.



- ❖ Of the three hero stones, one is a 'Thalaibali sirpam'.
- ❖ The second one depicts the hero with a bow in his left hand and an arrow in his right hand.
- ❖ The third hero stone depicts the hero attacking an opponent with a sword and he is seen holding a bow in his left hand.

TANUVAS

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (TANUVAS) has been ranked first among the 15 State veterinary universities in India.
- ❖ It was ranked by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) in its recent (2020) rank list.
- ❖ TANUVAS has taken 12th place on the list of agriculture, veterinary, horticulture, and fisheries universities across the country.
- ❖ It is a significant achievement because it has moved from the 41st rank in 2017 to the 12th rank in 2020.

Dog breeding center

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (TANUVAS) has decided to set up a native dog research center in the Tenkasi district.
- ❖ This is "to restore and conserve the breeds".
- ❖ TANUVAS will breed and sell Rajapalayam, Chippiparai, Kanni, and Kombai, the breeds of Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ They are known for their guarding and hunting capabilities.
- ❖ TANUVAS has been running poultry farms and research centers for native cattle breeds.
- ❖ This is the first time it has launched a project for breeding native dogs.

Village secretariats

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government will set up 'village secretariats' that will help to implement its schemes in the rural areas,
- ❖ Mr. Stalin said the village secretariats would have an internet connection, rooms for the panchayat presidents, secretaries, and village administrative officers, meeting halls, and basic amenities.
- ❖ A total of 600 village panchayats would be covered in the first phase this year.



Appointment of university vice-chancellors

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Assembly adopted a Bill (Tamil Nadu Universities Laws Amendment Act, 2022) to empower the state government to appoint vice-chancellors in the state.
- ❖ The authority so far had rested with the Governor.
- ❖ It covers 12 universities in the state.
- ❖ A separate Bill is to amend the Chennai University Act, 1923.
- ❖ The Governor is the Chancellor of 13 universities in the state, with the Higher Education Minister being the Pro-Chancellor.
- ❖ In Gujarat, only the chief minister has had this power since 1949.
- ❖ A similar bill was passed last year in Maharashtra on this matter.
- ❖ Same was the case with other states including Telangana and Karnataka.
- ❖ In 2019, the West Bengal government took away the Governor's this authority.
- ❖ Punchhi Commission in 2007 also recommended this.

Tamil Nadu Minorities Rights Day

- ❖ The state government of Tamil Nadu has decided to observe the 18th of December annually as Minorities Rights Day at the state level.
- ❖ This day is being observed at the district level of Tamil Nadu under the concerned collectors.

Olive Ridley protection and rehabilitation Centre

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government will set up an international olive ridley turtle protection and rehabilitation center in Chennai.
- ❖ The center will undertake research on olive ridley turtles, collect data and create awareness.
- ❖ The facility will be set up with funding from the Japan International Cooperation Agency and the Tamil Nadu government.

Gram Sabha meetings in Tamilnadu

- ❖ The Tamilnadu state government announced the resumption of the observance of November 1 as the Local Governance Day.
- ❖ November 1 had been observed as Local Governance Day by the DMK government since 2007.
- ❖ The government would resume conferring the Uthamar Gandhi Village Panchayat Award on the best performing village panchayats on 10 parameters.



- ❖ It was introduced in 2006 under the DMK government, but was discontinued by the AIADMK government.
- ❖ One village panchayat in 37 districts would be chosen a year for this award.
- ❖ The gram sabha meetings in Tamilnadu would be held six times a year, which had so far been held on four days.
- ❖ Besides on the Republic Day (January 26), Labour Day (May 1), Independence Day (August 15) and the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi (October 2), the gram sabhas would meet on World Water Day (March 22) and Local Governance Day (November 1).

M Karunanidhi's birth anniversary

- ❖ Chief Minister MK Stalin announced in the State Assembly that birth anniversary of former CM M Karunanidhi will be celebrated on June 3rd every year as a government function.
- ❖ A statue of the DMK leader will also be installed at the Omandurar Government Estate Complex on June 3 this year.

Tamil Nadu based products - GI tags

- ❖ The Puliyanakudi acid lime, Thooyamalli rice and Virudhunagar sambha vathal (Chilly) have applied for a Geographical Indication (GI) tag recently.
- ❖ Puliyanakudi, a village in Tenkasi, is famous for acid lime cultivation.
- ❖ In Tamil Nadu, chillies are mainly grown in the districts of Virudhunagar, Ramanathapuram, Sivagangai and Thoothukudi.
- ❖ Thooyamalli rice is high in iron, magnesium and zinc.

TNEB 2.0

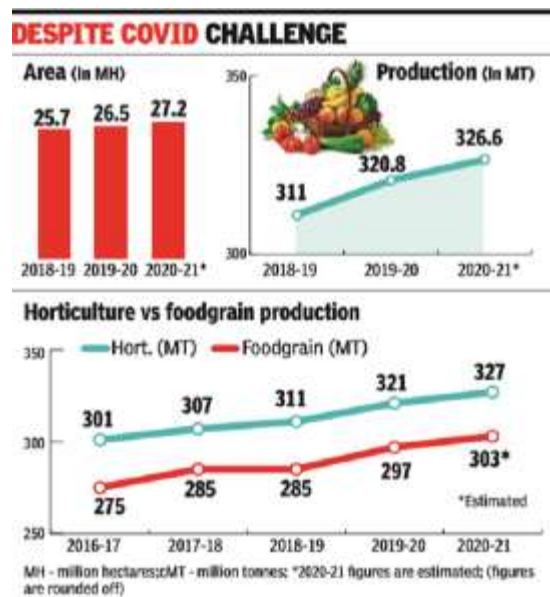
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation (Tangedco) will roll out 'TNEB 2.0'.
- ❖ This is to meet the surging power demand and modernize the distribution system by 2030.
- ❖ 'TNEB 2.0', similar to Singara Chennai 2.0, is aimed at doubling the electricity production in the State and upgrading the distribution system to ensure an uninterrupted supply.
- ❖ TNEB 2.0' was aimed at more than doubling the electricity production from 33,877 mega watt (MW) to 77,153 MW.
- ❖ The State's power generation capacity, comprising thermal, hydro and gas turbine, would be increased from 7,175 MW to 41,085 MW.

NATIONAL

Indian Jewellery Exposition Centre building

- ❖ Piyush Goyal inaugurates the Indian Jewellery Exposition Centre (IJEX) building in Dubai.
- ❖ During the launch of IJEX, the minister called upon the export members of the Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council to go for a USD 100 billion export target annually from the current USD 35 billion.

Horticultural Crops - Final Estimates of 2020-21



- ❖ The information regarding the Final Estimates of 2020-21 and First Advance Estimates of 2021-22 of Area and Production of various Horticultural Crops have been released by the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
- ❖ Total Horticulture production in 2020-21: 334.60 Million Tonne (estimated), an increase of about 14.13 Million Tonne (4.4 percent) from 2019-20.
- ❖ Production of Fruits: 102.48 Million Tonne (estimated). In 2019-20 it was 102.08 Million Tonne.
- ❖ Production of Vegetables: 200.45 Million Tonne (estimated) which is a 6.5 percent increase compared to 2019-20 production of 188.28 Million Tonne.
- ❖ Production of Onion: 26.64 Million Tonne. In 2019-20 it was 26.09 Million Tonne.
- ❖ Production of Potato: 56.17 Million Tonne (estimated) in 2020-21, which is an increase of 7.61 Million Tonne from 2019-20.



- ❖ Production of Tomato: 21.18 Million Tonne, in 2019-20 it was 20.55 Million Tonne.
- ❖ Aromatic & Medicinal crops: 12.4 percent increase to 0.83 Million Tonne in 2020-21 from 0.73 Million Tonne in 2019-20.
- ❖ Production of Plantation Crops: 16.63 Million Tonne in 2020-21, in 2019-20 it was 16.12 Million Tonne.
- ❖ Production of Spices: 9.7 percent increase to 11.12 Million Tonne in 2020-21 from 10.14 Million Tonne in 2019-20.
- ❖ Total Horticulture production in 2021-22: 333.3 Million Tonne (estimated), which is a 0.4 percent decrease of about 1.35 Million Tonne over 2020-21 (Final).

Permanent Body to prevent elephant deaths on railway tracks

- ❖ The Union Environment Ministry has constituted a “permanent” coordination committee that includes the Ministry of Railways and the Environment Ministry to prevent elephant deaths on railway tracks.
- ❖ 19 elephants were killed across the country on railway tracks in 2018-19, 14 in 2019-20, and 12 in 2020-21.
- ❖ Railway collisions were the second-largest reason for the unnatural deaths of elephants.

PARAM Shakti

- ❖ The National Supercomputing Mission has dedicated PARAM Shakti, a Petascale Supercomputer, to the country at IIT Kharagpur.
- ❖ It is a collaborative project of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and the Department of Science and Technology.
- ❖ The PARAM Shakti supercomputing facility is advancing research and development efforts in diverse disciplines of computational and data sciences.

New initiative for refuelling

- ❖ The Indian Air Force has unveiled a new initiative with the Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.
- ❖ Under it, IAF's convoys will be refuelled at fuel stations of the state-run energy major.
- ❖ As per the Defence Ministry, 'Fleet Card-Fuel on Move' has been rolled out to facilitate the refuelling of convoys belonging to the Indian Air Force.



Book release by Narendra Singh Tomar

- ❖ Union Minister Narendra Singh Tomar has released a book titled “Indian Agriculture towards 2030: Pathways for Enhancing Farmers’ Income, Nutritional Security and Sustainable Food and Farm Systems”.
- ❖ It was released at an event organized by NITI Aayog and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.
- ❖ Indian Agriculture towards 2030 captures the outcomes of the deliberative process of national dialogue by NITI Aayog and the Ministries of Agriculture and Farmers’ Welfare; and Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, and facilitated by FAO since 2019.

Konkan Railway Corporation

- ❖ The Konkan Railway Corporation has finished electrification of its entire 741-kilometer route that stretches from Roha, Maharashtra to Thokur, Karnataka.
- ❖ This electrification of the 741-kilometer stretch will bring about savings of fuel amounting to Rs 150 crore.
- ❖ It will also reduce the dependence on diesel along with ensuring pollution-free, seamless operations.
- ❖ By December 2023, the Indian Railways have plans for 100 percent electrification of its broad-gauge network.
- ❖ Mumbai is connected with Mangalore via the Konkan Railway.
- ❖ The Konkan Railways line passes through Goa, Maharashtra, and Karnataka along the country’s western coast.

INAS 316

- ❖ The second P-8I aircraft squadron of the Navy has been commissioned by the Indian Navy in a ceremony that was held at INS Hansa, Goa.
- ❖ ‘Condors’ is the title given to INAS 316.
- ❖ Condors are one of the world’s largest flying land birds and have a massive wingspan.

5th BIMSTEC Summit

- ❖ The Summit was held in Sri Lanka in a hybrid mode.
- ❖ BIMSTEC Summit 2022’s main outcome was the BIMSTEC Charter’s adoption and signing.

- ❖ This charter formalizes the BIMSTEC grouping into an organization that will have a flag, an emblem, and formally listed principles that are to be adhered to by the member nations.
- ❖ The BIMSTEC leaders also oversaw the signing of 3 different BIMSTEC agreements.
- ❖ Also, USD 1 million will be provided by India to the BIMSTEC secretariat for increasing its operational budget.
- ❖ The scope of the BIMSTEC scholarship program that is offered by the Nalanda International University is also being expanded.
- ❖ “Towards a Resilient Region, Prosperous Economies, Healthy People” is the summit’s theme.



VARUNA – 2022

- ❖ The 20th edition of the Bilateral Naval Exercise between the Indian Navy and French Navy named 'VARUNA' was conducted in the Arabian Sea from March 30 to April 03, 2022.
- ❖ The Bilateral Naval Exercises between the two Navies is being held since 1993.
- ❖ The exercise was christened 'VARUNA' in 2001.

Dogra Regiments



- ❖ General MM Naravane, Chief of the Army Staff, gave the prestigious President's Colours to two battalions of the Dogra Regiment.
- ❖ The regiments were 20 DOGRA and 21 DOGRA.
- ❖ It was awarded during the Parade held at the Dogra Regimental Centre, Faizabad (UP).

Armed Forces Special Powers Act



- ❖ The Central Government has announced the reduction of areas under the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) in the Northeast states of the country.
- ❖ The impacted states are Assam, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, and Manipur.
- ❖ In the year 1958, AFSPA was enacted with the aim of bringing the situation under control in all the conflict-hit areas of the country.
- ❖ In Assam, from 23 districts AFSPA will be removed while in one district it will be applied partially.
- ❖ In the state of Manipur, from 15 police stations in 6 districts, the AFSPA jurisdiction will be removed.
- ❖ In this state, in only 3 districts AFSPA will be applicable along with the jurisdiction of two police stations in another district.
- ❖ From 15 police stations in 7 districts of Nagaland, the jurisdiction of AFSPA will be removed.

FASTER software

- ❖ Chief Justice of India NV Ramana unveiled the 'Fast and Secured Transmission of Electronic Records' (FASTER) platform.
- ❖ It is a digital platform that allows the supreme court to send interim orders, stay orders, and bail orders to the appropriate authorities via a secure electronic channel.



- ❖ The Supreme Court Registry, in partnership with the NIC, created the FASTER system.

Varnika

- ❖ Bharatiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran Private Limited (BRBNMPL) has set up an Ink Manufacturing Unit named “Varnika” in Mysuru, Karnataka.
- ❖ It has an annual ink manufacturing capacity of 1,500 MT.
- ❖ It can enhance the security of banknotes.
- ❖ BRBNMPL is a wholly-owned subsidiary of RBI.
- ❖ Shaktikanta Das (Governor of RBI) has dedicated the Ink Manufacturing Unit to the nation.
- ❖ It is a boost to the ‘Make in India’ initiative.

Maritime Rescue Co-ordination Centre

- ❖ India and Sri Lanka signed a Memorandum of Understanding.
- ❖ This is to set up a Maritime Rescue Co-ordination Centre by Bharat Electronics Ltd in Colombo.
- ❖ This agreement is important for both nations as it will enhance the maritime security cooperation in the region of a part of the Indian Ocean where the rivalry between India and China has taken a centre stage.

India-Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement

- ❖ Under this agreement, Australia will be providing duty-free access for over 95 percent of Indian goods like leather, textiles, sports products, and jewelry in its market.
- ❖ India is the 9th largest trading partner of Australia.
- ❖ While for India, Australia takes the 17th rank among the trading partners.

Indian Antarctic Bill 2022

- ❖ Recently, the government has introduced the ‘Antarctic Bill’ in the Lok Sabha.
- ❖ It envisages regulating visits and activities to Antarctica as well as potential disputes that may arise among those present on the continent.
- ❖ The Bill is applicable to Indian citizens as well as foreign citizens.
- ❖ It aims at providing national measures to protect the Antarctic environment, and the dependent and associated ecosystems.

Indian Rhinoceros population



- ❖ The population of the greater one-horned or Indian rhinoceros in the Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve has increased by 200 in four years.
- ❖ The last rhino census conducted in 2018 had put the number at 2,413.
- ❖ The Indian rhinoceros is also called the greater one-horned rhinoceros and great Indian rhinoceros.
- ❖ It is a rhinoceros native to the Indian subcontinent.
- ❖ It is listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List and as a Schedule I animal in the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

Revised MGNREGA Wages

- ❖ Fresh wage rates have been notified by the central government under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act.
- ❖ This is for the financial year 2022-23.
- ❖ Out of 34 Union Territories and states, 21 of them have received hikes of less than 5 percent.
- ❖ A 5 percent hike has been given to 10 states.
- ❖ Mizoram, Manipur, and Tripura have not been given any hikes.
- ❖ This change in wage rates has been notified by the Ministry of Rural Development.
- ❖ Goa has recorded the highest increase with a 7.14 percent increase to Rs 315 per day in 2022-23.



- ❖ Meghalaya has seen the lowest hike with a 1.77 percent increase to Rs 230 per day.
- ❖ In Tamil Nadu, Assam, and Puducherry the hike was 2 to 3 percent.
- ❖ Five UTs and states with the highest wages are Haryana with wages of Rs 331 per day, Goa with Rs 315, followed by Kerala, Karnataka, and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.
- ❖ The five lowest UTs and states are Tripura with Rs 212, Bihar with Rs 210, followed by Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, and Madhya Pradesh.

Chairman of Payments Council of India

- ❖ Vishwas Patel has been re-elected as the Chairman of the Payments Council of India (PCI) for the second time in 2022.
- ❖ Previously he was elected as Chairman of PCI in the year 2018.
- ❖ In 2013, he served as Co-Chairman of PCI.
- ❖ PCI is a payment ecosystem industry body.
- ❖ It is a part of the Internet and Mobile Association of India.
- ❖ PCI aims to promote a cashless transaction society and vision to grow digital payment in India.

Startups Founders Hub

- ❖ Microsoft launched a new digital and inclusive platform for startup founders in India.
- ❖ The platform is called 'Microsoft for Startups Founders Hub'.
- ❖ It will support startup founders in India at every stage of their startup journey.
- ❖ The initiative will help the Startups to gain mentorship and skilling opportunities with industry experts and Microsoft Learn.

BJP exceeds 100 seats in Rajya Sabha

- ❖ After winning one seat in each of Assam, Tripura, and Nagaland the BJP became the first party since 1990 to reach the 100-seat mark in the Rajya Sabha.
- ❖ In the recently held biennial polls for 13 Rajya Sabha seats across six states, the BJP lost its solitary seat from Punjab.
- ❖ But it gained one each from the three northeastern states and Himachal Pradesh.

Broadcast Seva Portal

- ❖ Anurag Thakur, the Information and Broadcasting Minister has launched the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting's Broadcast Seva Portal.
- ❖ The country's media and entertainment sectors are rapidly growing.
- ❖ In the next two years, it will reach the USD 30 billion mark, and currently, it is at USD 25 billion.
- ❖ The country has over 1762 multi-service operators, more than 900 satellite TV channels, over 380 FM channels, and 350 community radio stations.
- ❖ The Broadcast Seva Portal falls in line with the Make in India, Ease of Doing Business, and Digital India initiatives.

Genome-edited Plants



- ❖ The Indian government has issued an order for the first time exempting certain types of crops that are genome-edited from the stringent regulations that are applicable in the country on genetically modified or GM crops.
- ❖ This order will give a boost to their development and research.
- ❖ The SDN1 and SDN2 genome-edited plants have been exempted by the ministry of environment and forest from Rules 7-11 of the Environment Protection Act (EPA).
- ❖ They are exempted for the purpose of manufacturing, importing, or usage or exporting and storage of microorganisms that are hazardous or organisms or cells that are genetically engineered rules-1989.
- ❖ This order would help the government to notify and approve the guidelines related to genome-edited plants that are pending since 2020.
- ❖ In 2012, genome editing was discovered.



Operation Upalabdh

- ❖ As part of a month-long pan-India operation on illicit ticketing, the Railway Protection Force (RPF) detained 1,459 touts and blocked 366 IRCTC agent IDs and 6,751 personal IDs, the Railways announced on the 2nd of April, 2022.
- ❖ The 'Operation Upalabdh' push was launched following the reinstatement of long-distance train services, with the expectation that the festival and summer rush would result in a sharp increase in demand for reserved train tickets.

Hurun Richest Self-Made Women in the World 2022

- ❖ Three Indian women Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw of Biocon, Falguni Nayar of Nykaa, and Radha Vembu of Zoho have been featured in the latest Hurun Richest Self-Made Women in the World 2022 (Hurun list of women self-made billionaires).
- ❖ Wu Yajun, a Beijing-based property developer in China has topped this list.
- ❖ Her estimated worth is USD 17 billion.
- ❖ CEO and Founder of Nykaa, Falguni Nayar with 7.6 billion dollars has been placed in the top 10 richest list.
- ❖ Radha Vembu is India's second-richest self-made woman billionaire with USD 3.9 billion.
- ❖ On the Hurun list, she has been placed on the 25th rank.
- ❖ Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, founder and executive chairperson of Biocon Biologics and Biocon Limited, has been placed 26th on the list with a wealth of USD 3.8 billion.

HDFC Limited and HDFC Bank

- ❖ HDFC's board of directors has approved the merger of HDFC Bank, India's largest private sector bank with HDFC (Housing Development Finance Corporation).
- ❖ The deal will be building the housing loan portfolio of the bank and will also be enhancing its existing customer base.
- ❖ Once the merger deal is completed, HDFC Bank will become a 100% publicly owned company with no identifiable promoter group.
- ❖ Post the merger deal, the existing shareholders of HDFC Ltd will own 41% stake in HDFC Bank.

India's Export in 2021-2022

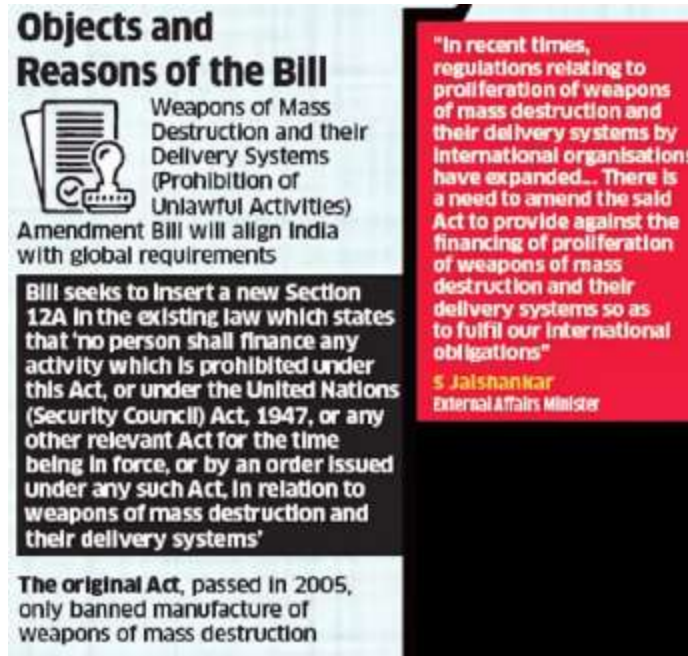
- ❖ In 2021-22 fiscal, the merchandise exports of India grew to touch a record high of USD 418 billion.
- ❖ The sectors that played a key role in the increase of merchandise exports include engineering, petroleum products, jewellery, gems, pharmaceuticals, and chemicals.
- ❖ During 2021-22, the goods trade (imports and exports) of the country crossed USD 1 trillion.
- ❖ India's imports also touched USD 610 billion a record of its own.
- ❖ In March 2022, the outbound shipments of the country also touched a record high of USD 40.38 billion.
- ❖ In 2020-21, the merchandise exports of the nation were worth USD 292 billion.
- ❖ During the period of April 2021 to March 2022 the Agriculture exports crossed USD 48 billion.
- ❖ The US, Bangladesh, the UAE, Singapore, the Netherlands, the UK, Hong Kong, Germany, and Belgium were the top export destinations for the products.



Bill To Ban Funding Of Weapons Of Mass Destruction

- ❖ A bill that seeks to ban funding of weapons of mass destruction and also empower the Centre to freeze, seize or attach financial assets and economic resources of people engaged in such activities was passed by Lok Sabha.

- ❖ The Weapons of Mass Destruction and their Delivery Systems (Prohibition of Unlawful Activities) Act, passed in 2005, only banned the manufacture of weapons of mass destruction.



Objects and Reasons of the Bill

Weapons of Mass Destruction and their Delivery Systems (Prohibition of Unlawful Activities) Amendment Bill will align India with global requirements

Bill seeks to insert a new Section 12A in the existing law which states that 'no person shall finance any activity which is prohibited under this Act, or under the United Nations (Security Council) Act, 1947, or any other relevant Act for the time being in force, or by an order issued under any such Act, in relation to weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems'

The original Act, passed in 2005, only banned manufacture of weapons of mass destruction

"In recent times, regulations relating to proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems by international organisations have expanded... There is a need to amend the said Act to provide against the financing of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems so as to fulfil our international obligations"

S Jaishankar
External Affairs Minister

Mission Integrated Bio-refineries

- ❖ Dr. Jitendra Singh has launched a clean energy initiative named Mission Integrated Bio-refineries.
- ❖ This mission has been launched with the aim of enhancing and accelerating clean energy solutions across the country through various Public-Private Alliances.
- ❖ The mission has been launched keeping in mind India's commitment to a low-carbon future that can be achieved through "Mission Innovation".

Prakriti

- ❖ A mascot named 'Prakriti' was launched by Bhupendra Yadav, Union environment minister.
- ❖ This mascot was launched with the aim of spreading awareness among the people of the country about the small changes that can contribute to a better environment for the nation's future generations.
- ❖ The launch of the mascot 'Prakriti' takes another step toward the elimination of single-use plastic.



The Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Orders (Second Amendment) Bill, 2022

- ❖ It amends the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 to exclude the Gond community as a Scheduled Caste in four districts of Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ It seeks to include Gond, Dhuriya, Nayak, Ojha, Pathari, and Rajgond communities in the ST list in these four districts.
- ❖ It also amends to omit the Bhogta community from the list of Scheduled Castes in Jharkhand.

3rd National Water Awards

- ❖ The President of India, Ram Nath Kovind, presented the third National Water Awards.
- ❖ It is given for exemplary work in the field of water resource management.
- ❖ He also launched the 'Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain campaign 2022' in New Delhi.
- ❖ Uttar Pradesh has been awarded first prize, followed by Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ Madurai Municipal Corporation, Tamil Nadu is one of the awardee in the "Best Urban Local Body" Category.
- ❖ Vellaputhur Panchayat, Chengalpattu District, Tamil Nadu is one of awardee in the "Best Village Panchayat" Category.
- ❖ Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Kaveripattinam in Tamil Nadu, Amalorpavam Lourds Academy, Thiruvallur, Puducherry and Amity International School, Noida, Uttar Pradesh won the awards in the Best School category.

12th edition of Sansad Ratna Award 2022

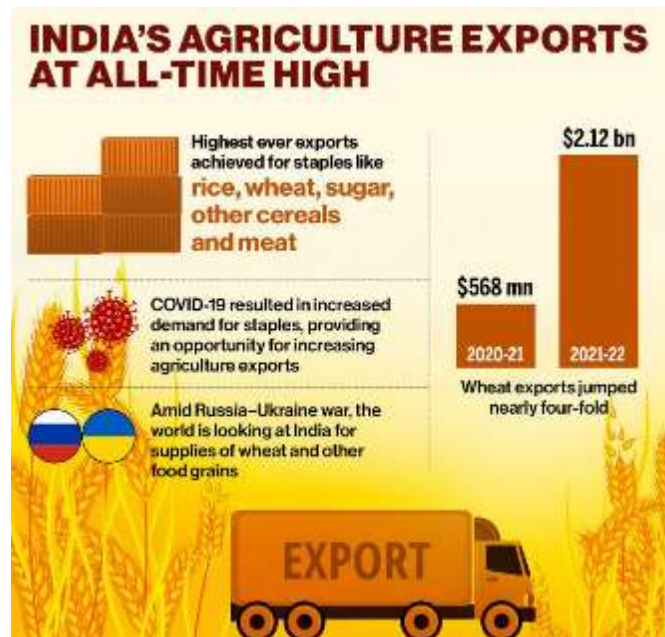
- ❖ It was given by the Prime Point Foundation.
- ❖ The Sansad Ratna Awards Committee was chaired by Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Arjun Ram Meghwal and co-chaired by T S Krishnamurthy, former chief election commissioner of India.
- ❖ The awardees were selected based on their cumulative performance from the beginning of the 17th Lok Sabha till the end of the winter session 2021 based on the data provided by PRS India
- ❖ A new feature of this session was the Lifetime Achievement APJ Abdul Kalam Award given to H V Hande, a former health minister in Tamilnadu.
- ❖ Former Karnataka chief minister Veerappa Moily also was given this award.

- ❖ Totally 11 MPs were honoured in this edition.

1) Nationalist Congress Party – Sule (Maharashtra)
2) Revolutionary Socialist Party - N K Premachandran (Kerala)
3) Shiv Sena - Shrirang Appa Barne (Maharashtra)
4) Trinamool Congress - Saugata Roy (West Bengal)
5) Congress MP Kuldeep Rai Sharma (Andaman and Nicobar Islands)
6) Bharatiya Janata Party - Bidyut Baran Mahato (Jharkhand)
7) Bharatiya Janata Party - Heena Vijayakumar Gavit (Maharashtra)
8) Bharatiya Janata Party - Sudhir Gupta (Madhya Pradesh)
9) Biju Janata Dal - Amar Patnaik (Odisha)
10) Nationalist Congress Party - Fauzia Tahseen Ahmed Khan (Maharashtra)
11) Communist Party of India (Marxist) K K Ragesh (Kerala)

India's Agriculture Exports

- ❖ Exports of agricultural products from India surpassed the USD 50 billion mark for the first time during the financial year 2021-22 (FY22).
- ❖ The highest ever exports have been achieved for staples like rice (USD 9.65 billion), wheat (USD 2.19 billion), Sugar (USD 4.6 billion), and other cereals (USD 1.08 billion).
- ❖ India has captured nearly 50% of the world's market for rice.





One Health pilot project

- ❖ The Government of India's Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying has launched a pilot project in Uttarakhand to implement the One Health Framework through the One Health Support Unit.
- ❖ The Unit's main goal is to create a national One Health roadmap based on the lessons learned during the pilot project's deployment.
- ❖ The implementation of the One Health Support Unit would be led by an inter-ministerial One Health committee chaired by the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India.

Nurse to population ratio

- ❖ In India, the current ratio of nurses per 1000 population stands at 1.96:1000.
- ❖ This was reported to the Rajya Sabha by the Union Health ministry.
- ❖ As per the records of the Indian Nursing Council, there is around 33.41 lakh registered nursing personnel in India.

Khanjar 2022

- ❖ The 9th Edition of the India-Kyrgyzstan Joint Special Forces Exercise was held at Special Forces Training School, Bakloh in Himachal Pradesh.
- ❖ Special Forces contingents from India and Kyrgyzstan have shared their experience and best practices in terms of tactics, techniques, and procedures for countering present and emerging threats throughout the conflict spectrum.

Exhibition on India's Freedom Struggle

- ❖ An exhibition was organized showcasing India's freedom struggle in the Parliament Library.
- ❖ This exhibition was organized by the Indian Council of Historical Research under the Ministry of Education.
- ❖ This exhibition showcased the country's freedom struggle from 1757 to 1947.

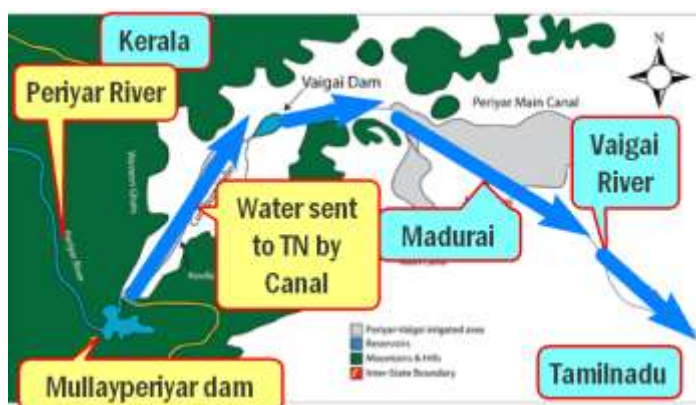
Raw Jute - Minimum Support Price

- ❖ The Minimum Support Price (MSP) for raw jute for the 2022-2023 season was approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs.
- ❖ The MSP for raw jute has been set at Rs. 4,750 per quintal for the 2022-2023 season.
- ❖ This is 250 rupees higher than the previous season.



Mullaperiyar Dam Verdict

- ❖ Kerala had demanded that the Central Water Commission chairman be made the oversight committee chairman.
- ❖ The Centre opposed it.
- ❖ The Centre is of the view that the present Chairman of the Oversight Committee need not be replaced.
- ❖ The Supreme Court had ruled that the legal powers of the National Dam Safety Authority in the Mullaperiyar case would be temporarily transferred to the oversight committee.
- ❖ The court ruled that the oversight committee would be strengthened to include each member from both states.
- ❖ The Central Government has also agreed to reorganize the committee.
- ❖ Each committee will include representatives from the states of Kerala and Tamil Nadu.



Banarasi Pashmina

- ❖ Recently, Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) launched “Banarasi Pashmina” to boost self-sustainability & Artisanal Creativity.

- ❖ This is for the first time that Pashmina products are being produced outside the region of Leh-Ladakh and Jammu & Kashmir.
- ❖ It creates a fusion of diverse artistry from Leh-Ladakh, Delhi, and Varanasi.
- ❖ It aims to generate sustainable employment opportunities for women in Ladakh and diversify the skills of traditional weavers in Varanasi.

‘Tour of Duty’ Scheme

- ❖ The Department of Military Affairs has finalized the “Tour of Duty (ToD)” scheme.
- ❖ It is a radical proposal for future recruitment to the armed forces.
- ❖ Under this scheme, the youngsters will be recruited as soldiers only for 3 to 5 years in the backdrop of the urgent need.
- ❖ This is to curb the ballooning salary & pension bills that are badly impacting military modernization.
- ❖ The scheme would not entail any pensionary benefits being given to them.
- ❖ ToD scheme, which is likely to be called the “Agnipath” recruitment, is likely to be launched on an experimental basis first.

NHA Health Benefit Package



- ❖ A new version of the Health Benefit Package 2022, has been launched by the National Health Authority under the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana.
- ❖ 365 new procedures have been added in the new version of the NHA Health benefit Package which takes the total to 1,949.



- ❖ Under this scheme, differential pricing has been introduced that is based on city type and the level of care.
- ❖ This package was launched at a two-day meeting that was held at Mahabalipuram, Tamil Nadu.

Atal Innovation Mission

- ❖ The Union Cabinet approved the continuation of the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) until March 2023.
- ❖ AIM's stated goals include developing 10,000 Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs), 101 Atal Incubation Centres (AICs), and sponsoring 200 entrepreneurs through the Atal New India Challenges, according to the statement.
- ❖ The AIM's goals are to foster an ecosystem of innovation and entrepreneurship across the country through interventions at the school, university, research, MSME, and industry levels.

Green Hydrogen into piped Natural Gas

- ❖ NTPC has taken the initiative of blending green hydrogen in the GGL (Gujarat Gas Limited) Piped Natural Gas (PNG) network at NTPC Kawas.
- ❖ This hydrogen blending project at NTPC Kawas is a ground-breaking initiative and the country's first of its type.
- ❖ This is a step toward decarbonizing the culinary sector and achieving energy self-sufficiency for the country.

AVSAR initiative

- ❖ The Airport Authority of India (AAI) has launched an initiative "AVSAR".
- ❖ This is to encourage the talent of women, artisans, and craftsmen and provide them with the right opportunities.
- ❖ AVSAR stands for 'Airport as Venue for Skilled Artisans Of The Region'.

Learning and Development Center of BRBNMPL

- ❖ Governor of Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Shaktikanta Das has laid the foundation stone for the establishment of a Learning and Development Centre (LDC) of the Bharatiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran Private Limited (BRBNMPL) in Mysuru, Karnataka.
- ❖ Bharatiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran Private Limited (BRBNMPL) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of RBI.

- ❖ LDC is being established with active collaboration from Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Limited (SPMCIL) and Bank Note Paper Mill India Private Limited (BNPMIPL).

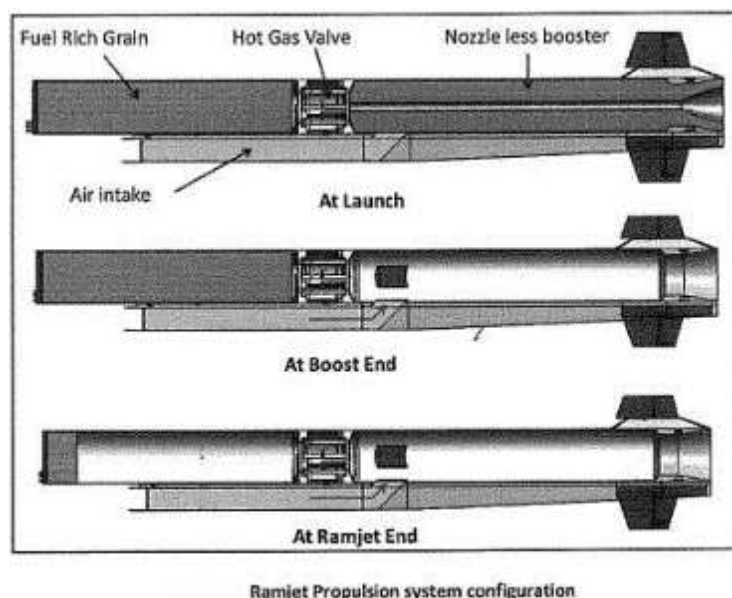
India-US 2 plus 2 Ministerial Dialogue

- ❖ India and the United States held a 2 plus 2 Defence and Foreign Ministry dialogue in Washington.
- ❖ Under the Biden administration, this will be the first such dialogue to be held.
- ❖ Following the dialogue, a pact on Space Situational Awareness will also be signed.

Pinaka Mk-I Enhanced Rocket System

- ❖ The Defence Research and Development Organisation and Indian Army successfully flight-tested a new version of the Pinaka rocket system at the Pokhran firing ranges.
- ❖ These included Pinaka Mk-I Enhanced Rocket System (EPRS) and Pinaka Area Denial Munition (ADM) rocket systems.
- ❖ With these trials, the initial phase of technology absorption of EPRS by the industry has successfully been completed
- ❖ The industry partners also are ready for user trials/series production of the rocket system.

Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet Booster





- ❖ The Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet (SFDR) booster missile system was successfully flight-tested by India.
- ❖ The testing was conducted at the Integrated Test Range (ITR) in Chandipur, Odisha.
- ❖ In 2017 India's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) began developing the SFDR.

National Tiger Conservation Authority meeting

- ❖ The 20th National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) meeting held at Arunachal Pradesh is chaired by Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav.
- ❖ It was held in Pakke tiger reserve in Arunachal Pradesh.
- ❖ The first-ever NTCA meeting was held in Arunachal Pradesh, outside of the National Capital.
- ❖ The NTCA has released a Forest Fire Audit Protocol for Tiger Reserves.
- ❖ This will assist tiger reserve managers in assessing their fire preparation and managing forest fires throughout their whole life cycle.

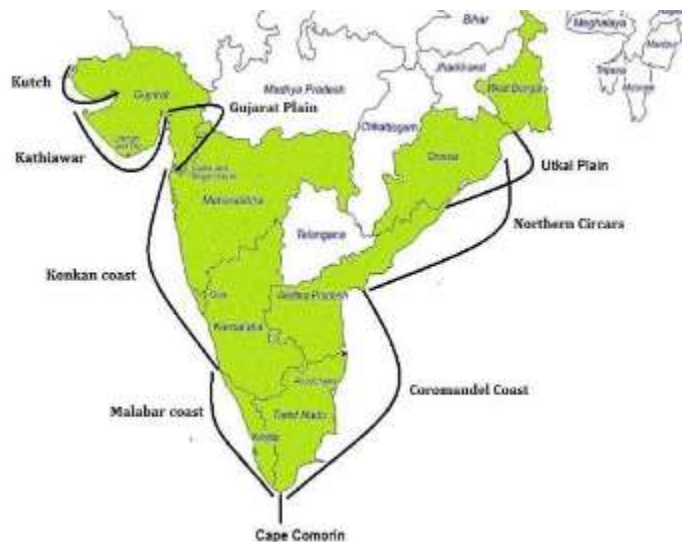
Seema Darshan Project

- ❖ Union Home and Cooperative Minister Amit Shah have inaugurated the Seema Darshan Project.
- ❖ It was inaugurated at Nadabet located on the Indo-Pak border in the Banaskantha District of Gujarat.
- ❖ 'Seema darshan Project' was initiated with the aim to provide an opportunity to the people so they can visualize the life and work of the BSF personnel on our border.

Status of India's Coastline

- ❖ The Ministry of Earth Sciences informed the Lok Sabha about the status of the coastline of the Indian mainland.
- ❖ The National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR) is monitoring shoreline erosion since 1990 using remote sensing data & GIS mapping techniques.
- ❖ About 6,907.18 km long Indian coastline of the mainland has been analyzed from 1990 to 2018.
- ❖ Of the 6,907.18-km-long coastline of the Indian mainland,
 - 34% is under varying degrees of erosion,
 - 26% is of an accreting nature, and

- The remaining 40% is in a stable state.
- ❖ In terms of percentage, West Bengal with a 534.35-km-long coastline suffered erosion along about 60.5% of the coast over the period from 1990 to 2018.
- ❖ This is followed by Kerala on the west coast, which has 592.96 km of coastline and 46.4% of it faced erosion.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu, with a coastline of 991.47 km, recorded erosion along 42.7% of it.
- ❖ Gujarat, with the longest coastline of 1,945.6 km, recorded erosion along 27.06% of it.
- ❖ In the Union Territory of Puducherry, with a 41.66-km-long coastline, about 56.2% of its coast recorded erosion.



Scheme on Fortified Rice

WHAT IS FORTIFIED RICE?

Fortification is the practice of deliberately increasing the content of an essential micronutrient, i.e. vitamins and minerals (including trace elements) in food to improve its nutritional quality and provide a public health benefit with minimal risk to health



➤ The fortification factor does not last for more than **45 days**, so it isn't advisable to store fortified rice for long

➤ According to National Family Health Survey, **78.7%** children and **75%** in the district are anaemic and suffer from malnutrition

➤ In the first phase, fortified rice will be distributed in Badangi, Bobbili, Ramabhadrapuram and Terlam mandals



- ❖ The Union Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved a scheme to distribute fortified rice under government programs by 2024.
- ❖ The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister has accorded its approval for the supply of fortified rice through,
 - Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) under the National Food Security Act (NFSA),
 - Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS),
 - Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman - PM POSHAN [erstwhile Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDM)] and
 - Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) of the Government of India in all states and union territories (UTs) in a phased manner.
- ❖ The initiative will be implemented in 3 phases.
 - Phase I - By March 2022, the covering of PM POSHAN and ICDS in the whole of India.
 - Phase II - By March 2023, Phase I coverage along with Other Government Welfare Schemes and TPDS in all High Burden Districts of the country on stunting (a total of 291 districts).
 - Phase III - By March 2024, Phase II along with the remaining districts of the country will be covered.

HELINA

- ❖ Indigenously developed Helicopter launched Anti-Tank Guided Missile 'HELINA' was successfully flight tested recently.
- ❖ The flight test was jointly conducted by the teams of scientists from the Defence Research and Development Organisation, the Indian Army, and the Indian Air Force.
- ❖ Helina has a maximum range of seven kilometers.

Microplastics in Cauvery River

- ❖ A new study has revealed that pollutants like microplastics might be causing growth defects like skeletal deformities in the fishes of the Cauvery river.
- ❖ The study has been published in the journal named Ecotoxicology and Environmental Safety.
- ❖ Upendra Nongthomba of the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bengaluru, has led this study.
- ❖ The first author of the study is Abass Toba Anifowoshe, a Ph.D. student in Nongthomba's lab.



Madhavpur Ghed Fair

- ❖ The President of India, Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated the Madhavpur Ghed Fair, at Madhavpur Ghed, Porbandar in Gujarat.
- ❖ The Madhavpur Ghed Fair is being organized by the Government of Gujarat in association with the Indian Ministry of Culture.
- ❖ It is to celebrate the sacred union of Lord Krishna and Rukmini.

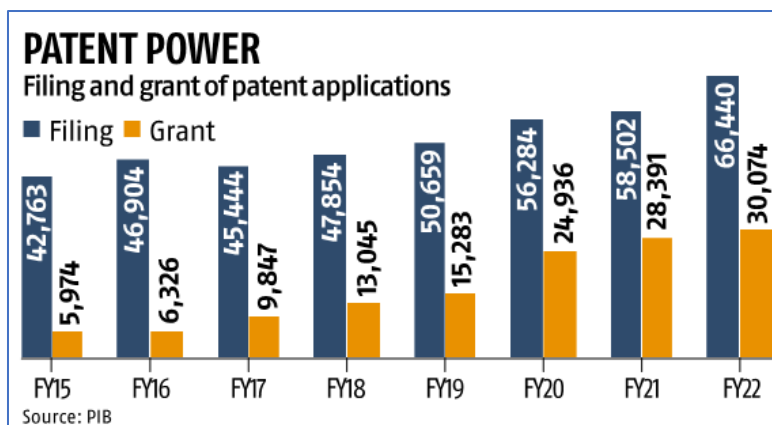
India's Gold Import in 2021-22

- ❖ In FY 2021-22, the gold imports of India have risen by 33.34 percent to USD 46.14 billion due to higher demand.
- ❖ In 2020-21, the gold imports were worth USD 34.62 billion.
- ❖ The world's second-biggest gold consumer is India while the biggest is China.
- ❖ From April 2021 to February 2022 the gold imports of the country in terms of volume stood at 842.28 tonnes.

World Bank on India's Learning Poverty

- ❖ During the COVID-19 pandemic, the education sector was one of the many sectors that took a massive hit.
- ❖ World Bank has raised the concern stating that the 'learning poverty' of India has risen to 70 percent.
- ❖ This has worsened the education sector of the country.
- ❖ This concern has been raised by Jaime Saavedra, Global Director of Education of the World Bank.

Patent filings in India



- ❖ The number of domestic patent filing has surpassed the number of international patent filing during January-March 2022 for the first time in 11 year.
- ❖ A total of 19,796 patent applications were filed.
- ❖ Out of that, 10,706 (54%) were filed by Indian applicants as compared to 9,090 by non-Indian applicants.

Students to pursue two full-time academic programmes

- ❖ The University Grants Commission (UGC) announced that students will now be able to pursue two full-time academic programs in physical mode.
- ❖ The guidelines will apply to all the programmes available across the country.
- ❖ The Students can either choose a combination of a diploma programme and an undergraduate (UG) degree, two master's programmes, or two bachelor's programmes.
- ❖ If a student is eligible to pursue a postgraduate (UG) degree and also wants to enrol in a bachelor's degree in a different domain, he/she will be able to pursue a UG and PG degree simultaneously.

Megalithic stone jars



- ❖ In the Dima Hasao district of Assam, a number of megalithic stone jars have been discovered.
- ❖ This discovery has highlighted the possible links, that date back to the second millennium BC, between Southeast Asia and the Northeast region of India.
- ❖ Three distinct shaped jars have been documented in the paper, 'An archaeological survey of the Assam stone jar sites'.
- ❖ In a site named Nuchubunglo, 546 jars were discovered making it the largest such site across the planet.
- ❖ The study has called for more research so as to understand this cultural relationship between Laos and Assam and Indonesia.

- ❖ Indonesia and Laos are the only two other sites where such similar jars have been discovered.

2026 Commonwealth Games



- ❖ In a deviation from the conventional single host city approach, the Commonwealth Games will be held in Victoria in 2026.
- ❖ The majority of events will be organized by the state's regional centers.
- ❖ In March 2026, the Games will be held in numerous towns and regional centers around Australia, including Melbourne, Geelong, Bendigo, Ballarat, and Gippsland.

Coal gasification plant

- ❖ Jindal Steel & Power Plans has plans of setting up a coal gasification plant at its Raigarh plant in Chhattisgarh.
- ❖ This is the second in the country.
- ❖ The company is already using the coal gasification technology to produce steel at its plant in Angul, Odisha.

Global Wind Report 2022

- ❖ It is released by Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC).
- ❖ It was established in 2005.
- ❖ It is the international trade association for the wind power industry, representing the united voice of the industry, globally.

- ❖ Wind energy installations every year across the world must quadruple from the 94 GW installed in 2021 within this decade to meet the global climate targets.
- ❖ New offshore installations in 2022 are likely to decline to the 2019/2020 levels, primarily due to the reduction of installations in China.

SVANidhi se Samridhhi Program

- ❖ The 'SVANidhi se Samridhhi' program has been launched by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
- ❖ It is launched in additional 126 cities across 14 States and UTs of India.
- ❖ This program was successful in providing social security benefits to lakhs of street vendors and their families across the country thus protecting them from the livelihoods risks.

Top 10 busiest airports

Ranks	Airport	PASSENGERS*
1	Atlanta	75,704,760
2	Dallas Fort Worth	62,465,756
3	Denver	58,828,552
4	Chicago O'Hare	54,020,339
5	Los Angeles	48,007,284
6	Charlotte	43,302,230
7	Orlando International	40,351,068
8	Guangzhou	40,259,401
9	Chengdu	40,117,496
10	Las Vegas	39,754,366

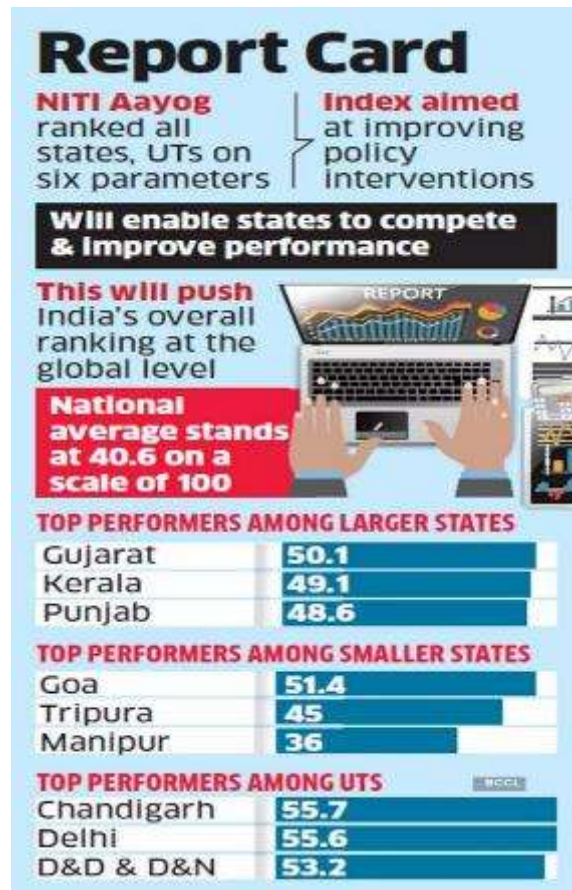
- ❖ The Airports Council International released the list of the top 10 busiest airports worldwide for 2021.
- ❖ Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (USA) has topped the list with 75.7 million passengers.
- ❖ Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport (USA) is second, followed by Denver International Airport (USA) at the third spot.

Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya

- ❖ Narendra Modi inaugurated the Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya in New Delhi.
- ❖ The Sangrahalaya, located at the iconic Teen Murti complex, was inaugurated as part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav.

- ❖ The museum recalls the tenures of 14 Prime Ministers from Jawaharlal Nehru to Manmohan Singh.
- ❖ It is a tribute to all the prime ministers India had since its Independence.
- ❖ The museum will become a source of inspiration for the youth who will be able to witness the hardships each PM faced and how they overcame them to lay the foundations of a new India.

NITI Aayog's State Energy and Climate Index



- ❖ Gujarat has acquired a top position in the NITI Aayog's State Energy and Climate Index-Round 1 among the larger states with a score of 50.1 points.
- ❖ Gujarat is followed by Kerala and Punjab in second and third place under the same category.
- ❖ State Energy and Climate Index aim at ranking the states and the Union Territories on six parameters including energy efficiency, discom's performance, and environmental sustainability.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu ranks 9th in this list with 43.4 score.

Waterways Conclave 2022



- ❖ It was organized by the Inland Waterways Authority of India in Dibrugarh, Assam.
- ❖ The aim of this conclave was to focus on harnessing the potential of the international and domestic waterway ecosystem in the country's North-eastern region.
- ❖ The industry partner of this conclave was the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry.

InTranSE - II Program

- ❖ The government has launched Indigenous Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Solutions for Indian Traffic Scenario under Intelligent Transportation System Endeavor for Indian Cities Phase-II Program.
- ❖ Intelligent Transportation System Endeavour (InTranSe) for Indian Cities is a National level Collaborative Research and Development Program.
- ❖ InTranSE -II is an initiative of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).

First Long-Range Forecast

- ❖ The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a long-range forecast for the southwest monsoon season rainfall during the period June to September.
- ❖ The prediction has stated that rainfall will be normal this year.
- ❖ According to the forecast, the southwest monsoon seasonal rainfall will likely be normal i.e. 96 to 104 percent of the Long Period Average (LPA).



EX KRIPAN SHAKTI

- ❖ The Trishakti Corps conducted EX KRIPAN SHAKTI at Teesta Field Firing Ranges (TFFR) near Siliguri in West Bengal.
- ❖ The exercise was aimed at orchestrating and synergizing the capabilities of the Indian Army and the Central Armed Police Forces to fight an integrated battle.

Exemption of Customs Duty on Cotton Import

- ❖ To reduce the cotton prices, the Indian government has decided to exempt all customs duties on the imports of cotton.
- ❖ This exemption announced by the government will be benefiting the textile chain-fabric, yarn, made-ups, and garments as well as provide relief to the consumers and the textile industry.
- ❖ The removal of 5 percent Agriculture Infrastructure and Development Cess (AIDC) and 5 percent Basic Customs Duty (BCD) on raw cotton has been demanded by the industry.
- ❖ The exemption of the Agriculture Infrastructure development Cess and Customs Duty for import of cotton has been notified by the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC).

Dornier 228 aircraft

- ❖ Alliance Air's made-in-India Dornier 228 aircraft has taken its first commercial flight on Dibrugarh-Pasighat route
- ❖ Alliance Air became India's first commercial airline to fly Indian-made aircraft for civil operations.
- ❖ Its first flight was between Dibrugarh in Assam and Pasighat in Arunachal Pradesh.

Landmark ruling on the death penalty

- ❖ A bench in the Supreme Court has made the psychological evaluation of the condemned prisoner mandatory.
- ❖ It has also sought a report on the inmate's conduct at the time of examining whether the gallows remain the only fitting punishment.

Punjab National Bank Foundation Day

- ❖ Punjab National Bank has celebrated its 128th Foundation Day on April 12, 2022.
- ❖ It is India's second-largest bank.

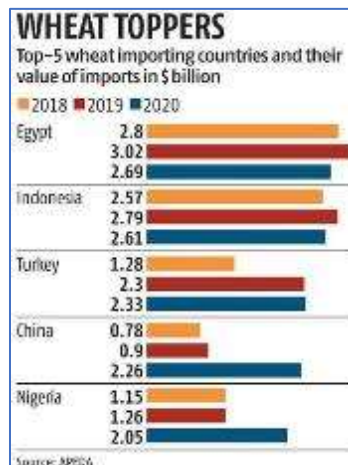
- ❖ PNB was established by the great freedom fighter Lala Lajpat Rai in 1894.
- ❖ It is proudly known as Sher-e-Punjab (Lion of Punjab).
- ❖ PNB was the First Swadeshi Bank after being influenced by the swadeshi movement.



India in 4 UN ECOSOC Bodies

- ❖ India has been elected to the United Nations Economic and Social Council's (ECOSOC) four major bodies, including the Commission on Science and Technology for Development.
- ❖ To the Committee for Economic, Social and Cultural Right, Ambassador Preeti Saran has been re-elected.
- ❖ The 4 bodies to which India has been elected are
 - The Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights
 - The Commission for Social Development
 - The Committee on Non-Governmental Organisations
 - The Commission on Science and Technology for Development

India - New Wheat Supplier of Egypt



- ❖ Egypt, the world's largest importer of wheat from Ukraine and Russia, has given approval to India as one of its wheat suppliers.
- ❖ India will be supplying around one million tonnes of wheat.
- ❖ The world's second-largest wheat producer was India with a share of around 14.14 percent in global wheat production in 2020.
- ❖ The major wheat-growing states are Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Bihar, Rajasthan, and Gujarat.

e-Bill Facility



PRODUCTIVITY ENHANCEMENT AND INVESTMENT (1/3)
EASE OF DOING BUSINESS 2.0
"TRUST BASED GOVERNANCE"

UNION BUDGET 2022-23

- ▶ Integration of central and state level systems through IT bridges
- ▶ **Unique Land Parcel Identification Number** for IT-based management of land records
- ▶ Establishing **C-PACE** to facilitate voluntary winding up of companies
- ▶ End to end online **e-Bill System** and utilising **surety bonds** in government procurement
- ▶ Animation, Visual effects, Gaming, and Comic (AVCG) promotion task force
- ▶ Support to 5G under **PLI** scheme
- ▶ Opening up defence R&D for **Industry, startups and academia**
- ▶ **68%** capital procurement budget for Defence sector from domestic industry in 2022-23

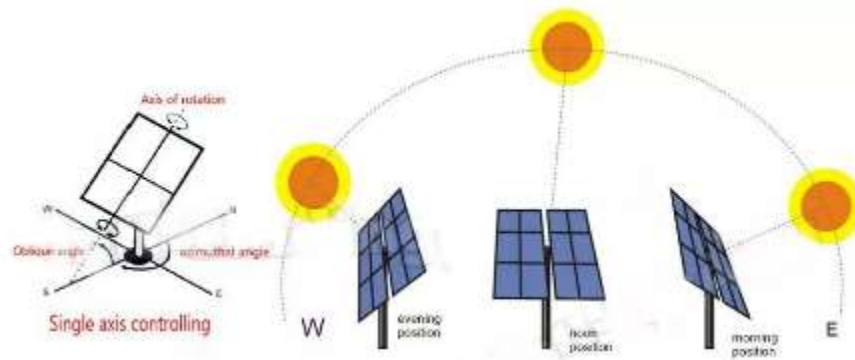
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- ❖ Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman launched the Electronic Bill (e-Bill) processing system.
- ❖ It was launched on the occasion of the 46th Civil Accounts Day.
- ❖ E-bill system is part of the Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) and Digital India ecosystem to bring in broader transparency and expedite the process of payments.

Single-axis solar tracker system

- ❖ Tata Power arm Tata Power Renewables has commissioned a 300 MW solar plant in Dholera, Gujarat.
- ❖ It is India's largest single-axis solar tracker system.
- ❖ The project will generate 774 MUs annually.

- ❖ Along with this, it will reduce approximately 704340 MT/year of carbon emission.



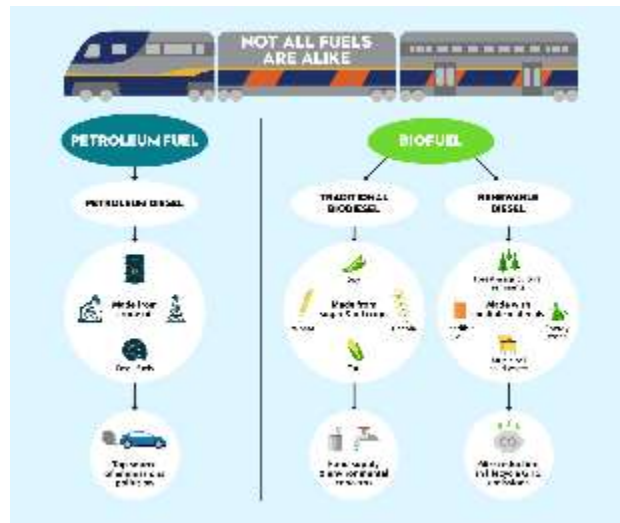
108 ft Lord Hanuman Statue

- ❖ On the occasion of Hanuman Jayanti, Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled a 108 feet statue of Lord Hanuman in Gujarat's Morbi.
- ❖ The statue is the second of the four statues being built in the four directions across the country, as part of the 'Hanumanji Char Dham' project.
- ❖ A similar Hanuman statue is seen in Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.
- ❖ Two more statues are planned to be established in Rameswaram and West Bengal.



Bio-Diesel in Diesel Locos

- ❖ The Indian Railways is planning to run its diesel locomotives fleet using bio-diesel.
- ❖ The Indian Railways has informed the Parliament that the B-5 bio-diesel has been tested for the operation of diesel locomotives by the Research Designs and Standards Organisation (RDSO).
- ❖ Bio-diesel usage will help in saving on the diesel bill of the railways.
- ❖ Bio-diesel will also help in reducing emissions, thus decreasing pollution.



National Time Release Study 2022

- ❖ The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) has recently presented a set of Time Release Studies (TRS) that have been conducted by the department.
- ❖ TRS is a tool for performance measurement and assesses the international trade's cargo clearance process.
- ❖ The World Trade Organization (WTO) recommends the TRS under the World Customs Organization (WCO) and the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA).
- ❖ The TRS mechanism adopts the average release time of cargo, i.e. the time it takes for the cargo to arrive at the customs station to its eventual release for export or import.

Satellite 'Shakuntala'

- ❖ Bengaluru-headquartered space technology startup Pixxel announced that it has successfully launched its first full-fledged commercial satellite.
- ❖ This will eventually be part of its planned 36-satellite constellation, aboard a SpaceX Falcon-9 rideshare mission.
- ❖ The 'Shakuntala' satellite hosts one of the highest-resolution hyperspectral commercial cameras ever flown to space.
- ❖ It is bringing the company one step closer to building a 24x7 health monitor for the planet.
- ❖ Weighing less than 15kg, Shakuntala (TD-2) is capable of capturing orbital images in more than 150 bands of color from the visible and infrared spectrum.
- ❖ This indicates the growing role of India's private enterprises in the space sector.

AB-PMJAY

- ❖ The National Health Authority has launched a new version of the Health Benefits Package, 2022, under the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY).
- ❖ It added 365 new procedures which took the total to 1,949.

Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan



The infographic features a circular image of Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the right. On the left, it lists key details of the scheme's continuation. The title 'Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) 1/2' is prominently displayed. The background is a collage of rural scenes and people.

CABINET DECISIONS
13 APRIL 2022

Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) 1/2

- Cabinet approves continuation of revamped Centrally Sponsored Scheme of **Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA)**
- To be implemented from **01.04.2022** to **31.03.2026**
- Will extend to **all States and UTs of the country**
- Total financial outlay of the scheme is **Rs.5911 crore**

Central Share	Rs.3700 crore
State Share	Rs.2211 crore

- ❖ The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the continuation of the revamped Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) for implementation during the period from 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2026.
- ❖ The scheme is now co-terminus with the 15th Finance Commission period.
- ❖ The scheme is aimed to develop the governance capabilities of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs).
- ❖ The scheme was first approved by the Cabinet in 2018 for implementation from 2018-19 to 2021-22.

Sewage treatment plant - Okhla

- ❖ Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat recently inspected the under-construction 564 Million Litres Per Day (MLD) Okhla Sewerage Treatment Plant, Delhi.
- ❖ It is expected to play a major role in the Yamuna cleaning process.



- ❖ The plant will be the largest one in Asia.
- ❖ It aims to remove contaminants from sewage to produce an effluent that is suitable for discharge to the surrounding environment or an intended reuse application, thereby preventing water pollution.

Hunar Haat

- ❖ Union minister Anurag Thakur will open the 40th edition of “Hunar Haat” in Mumbai.
- ❖ Hunar Haat is a forum to preserve, protect, and promote local artists and craftsmen.
- ❖ ”Hunar Haat” is bolstering Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s appeal for “voice for local” and “Aatmanirbhar Bharat”.
- ❖ It will bring together at least 1,000 artisans and craftsmen from across the country.

National Data and Analytics Platform

- ❖ NITI Aayog plans to launch the National Data and Analytics Platform.
- ❖ It would give government data in a user-friendly manner and encourage data-driven decision-making and research.
- ❖ The platform, conceived in 2020, aims to standardize data across government sources and provide flexible analytics that allows users to easily analyze data using numerous datasets.

Migration Tracking System

- ❖ The Maharashtra government has developed a website-based migration tracking system application to map the movement of vulnerable seasonal migrant workers through individual unique identity numbers.
- ❖ It is a first-of-its-kind project in the country.
- ❖ The MTS project is envisaged to maintain the continuity of the Integrated Child Development Services like nutrition supply, immunization, health check-up, etc. to migrant beneficiaries.

UDAN scheme

- ❖ The Regional Connectivity Scheme UDAN (UdeDeshkaAamNagrik) has been selected for Prime Minister’s Award for Excellence in Public Administration 2020 under the category “Innovation (General) – Central”.

- ❖ It is the flagship scheme of the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA).
- ❖ UDAN scheme emphasizes on Good Governance, Qualitative achievements, and last-mile connectivity rather than only on achievement of quantitative targets.



Semicon India Conference 2022



- ❖ First-ever Semicon India-2022 Conference will be held in Bengaluru.
- ❖ The Conference will be organized by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.
- ❖ The theme is - Design and Manufacture in India, for the World: Making India a Semiconductor Nation.
- ❖ Semicon India - 2022 aims to make India a significant player in the Global Semiconductor value chain.



Mynvax

- ❖ In India, a prospective vaccine against COVID-19 or SarsCov2 is being developed
- ❖ That doesn't require refrigeration or stored in cold-chain storage.
- ❖ According to a study published in the peer-reviewed journal 'Viruses', the vaccine, in mouse trials has generated antibodies against various variants of the virus.
- ❖ This 'warm' vaccine is being developed by Mynvax laboratories, a Bengaluru-based company that was incubated at the Indian Institute of Science Bangalore.
- ❖ It is a unique vaccine that can be stored at 37 degrees Celsius for a period of four weeks and for up to 90 minutes at 100 degrees Celsius.

Ammonia in Yamuna

- ❖ Water supply was disrupted in parts of Delhi once again when ammonia levels in the Yamuna river remained high.
- ❖ The concentration of ammonia in the river was 7.4 ppm (parts per million).
- ❖ This is seven times the level of around 1 ppm that the Delhi Jal Board's water treatment plants can process.

World Bank Report on Extreme Poverty in India



- ❖ According to a working paper of the World Bank, extreme poverty in India has dropped from 22.5 percent in 2011 to 10.2 percent in the pre-Covid year of 2019.
- ❖ Also, the pace of poverty reduction in rural India has been more than in urban areas of the country.
- ❖ In the urban and rural areas, the poverty levels declined by 7.9 percent and 14.7 percent respectively during the period 2011 to 2019.



- ❖ In 2019, the poverty level stood at 11.6 percent in rural areas and 6.3 percent in urban areas.
- ❖ In 2016, the year of demonetization, urban poverty rose by 2 percentage points while rural poverty rose by 10 basis points in 2019.

Radio Aksh

- ❖ India's first-ever radio channel for the visually impaired, named 'Radio Aksh' has been launched in Nagpur, Maharashtra.
- ❖ Nagpur's 96-year-old institution, The Blind Relief Association Nagpur (TBRAN), and Samdrushti Kshamata Vikas Avam Anusandhan Mandal (Saksham) are the organizations behind this idea.
- ❖ The channel will be available on various internet radio platforms for free.

Hoverport - Okha

- ❖ Director-General of Indian Coast Guard (ICG) VS Pathania inaugurated the hoverport at Okha.
- ❖ He also laid the foundation stone for a Coast Guard jetty at Vadinar.
- ❖ Both are located in Gujarat's coastal Devbhumi Dwarka district.
- ❖ A hoverport is a terminal for hovercraft, having passenger facilities where needed and infrastructure to allow the hovercraft to come on land.

Vidya Samiksha Kendra

- ❖ The Command and Control Centre or Vidya Samiksha Kendra are set up by the Gujarat Education Department in Gandhinagar.
- ❖ It tracks enrolment, attendance, learning outcomes, drop-outs, and school accreditation and monitors schools, teachers and block and cluster resource centre coordinators.
- ❖ The centre is aimed at leveraging data and technology to improve learning outcomes.

Centre for traditional medicine

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate WHO Global Centre for traditional medicine at Jamnagar, Gujarat.
- ❖ It is the first of its kind in the world.

- ❖ The Centre aims to channel the potential of traditional medicine, by integrating it with technological advancements and evidence-based research.



Changes in Environmental Clearance process



- ❖ The Union Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change has introduced a number of changes to the environmental clearance process for projects development projects.
- ❖ While it is proposing to exempt others entirely from its jurisdiction.
- ❖ Due to this the environmentalists are showing concern.
- ❖ For 39 types of developmental projects, the environmental clearance (EC) is mandatory.
- ❖ The developmental projects include hydropower, mining, thermal power, etc.
- ❖ The clearance process is outlined by the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) notification that was issued in 2006.

Integrated Command - Control Centre in All Smart Cities

- ❖ Out of the 100 cities in the country that are being developed under the Smart Cities Mission (SCM), in 80 of them, the Integrated Command and Control Centres (ICCCs) have already been set up.
- ❖ By 15th August 2022, the rest of them will also have the Integrated Command and Control Centres.
- ❖ The Integrated Command and Control Centres or ICCCs are a key part of the Smart Cities project.
- ❖ This project has the aim of developing 100 self-sustainable, citizen-friendly urban settlements.
- ❖ The home ministry has the aim of finalizing the ICCC model and implementing a pilot project across the states of Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Rajasthan.

Actinimenes koyas



- ❖ A new species of shrimp has been discovered by scientists from the ICAR-National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources.
- ❖ The newly discovered species has been named Actinimenes koyas.
- ❖ The newly-discovered shrimp species were collected from Agatti Island's coral atoll.
- ❖ Agatti Island forms a part of the Lakshadweep islands.
- ❖ The discovery was done by a team comprising A. Dhinakaran, Purushothaman Paramasivam, Kuldeep K. Lal, and T.T. Ajith Kumar.

e-DAR Portal

- ❖ The Supreme Court has recently received a demonstration of a web-based portal e-DAR to streamline data on Motor Vehicle Accidents and Claims sought under the Act.



- ❖ e-DAR (e-Detailed Accident Report) is a web portal developed by the Ministry of Roads, Transport and Highways in consultation with insurance companies.
- ❖ It will provide instant information on road accidents with a few clicks and help accelerate accident compensation claims, bringing relief to victims' families.

NATPOLREX-VIII

- ❖ The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) kicked off the 8th edition of the two-day National Level Pollution Response Exercise, 'NATPOLREX-VIII' off Mormugao harbour, Goa.
- ❖ The marine spill preparedness exercise was inaugurated by the Defence Secretary Dr. Ajay Kumar.
- ❖ The objective of NATPOLREX-VIII is to enhance the preparedness and response capability of all the stakeholders in combating marine spills.

Portable solar rooftop system

- ❖ The first portable solar rooftop system in India has been inaugurated at the Swaminarayan Akshardham temple complex in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- ❖ The 10 Photovoltaic PV Port system has been manufactured by New Delhi-based Servotech Power Systems Ltd .
- ❖ The systems have been installed under the initiative of the Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy to develop renewable energy cities across India.

Vagsheer

- ❖ Vagsheer, the sixth submarine of the P75 project of the Indian Navy was launched recently.
- ❖ It is the last of the Scorpene-class submarines made under the P75 project.
- ❖ Under P75, INS Kalvari, INS Khanderi, INS Karanj, and INS Vela have been commissioned.
- ❖ Sea trials are on for Vagir.
- ❖ Vagsheer is named after the sandfish, a deep-sea predator of the Indian Ocean.
- ❖ The first submarine Vagsheer, from Russia, was commissioned into the Indian Navy on December 26, 1974, and was decommissioned on April 30, 1997.

India's first pure green hydrogen plant

- ❖ India's first pure green hydrogen plant has been commissioned in Jorhat, Assam.
- ❖ It is Commissioned by Oil India Limited (OIL).
- ❖ The plant produces Green Hydrogen from the electricity generated by the existing 500kW Solar plant using a 100 kW Anion Exchange Membrane (AEM) Electrolyser array.



World's highest tunnel



- ❖ The world's highest tunnel will be constructed by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) at Shinku La Pass of Himachal Pradesh at 16,580 feet.
- ❖ This tunnel will be connecting Ladakh's Zaskar Valley to Himachal Pradesh.
- ❖ Project Yojak has been set up by the central government to execute this ambitious project.
- ❖ The tunnel's south portal will be at Shinku La.
- ❖ The tunnel's north portal will be at Lakhang.

National Cyber Security Incident Response Exercise

- ❖ The National Cyber Security Incident Response Exercise (NCX India) is being organized by the National Security Council Secretariat for government officials and critical sector organizations.
- ❖ It is organized with the aim of strengthening the cyber posture of the country.
- ❖ The National Cyber Security Incident Response Exercise was inaugurated by National Security Advisor Ajit Doval.

Kharif Campaign – 2022

- ❖ The National Conference on Agriculture for Kharif Campaign 2022-23 has been inaugurated by Union Agriculture Minister, Narendra Singh Tomar.
- ❖ It was inaugurated at the NASC Complex, New Delhi.
- ❖ As per the 2nd Advance Estimates (2021-22), the country's total production of foodgrains is estimated at 3160 lakh tonnes.
- ❖ It is an all-time record.
- ❖ The production of oilseeds and pulses will be 371.5 and 269.5 lakh tonnes, respectively.
- ❖ As per the 3rd advanced estimate, during 2020-21 the horticulture production is 3310.5 lakh tonnes
- ❖ It is the highest ever for the country's horticulture.

India's first International Cruise Conference



- ❖ India's first International Cruise Conference - 2022 will be hosted in Mumbai.



- ❖ The two-day event in Mumbai is being organized by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Mumbai Port Authority, and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI).

Global Ayush Investment & Innovation Summit 2022

- ❖ The Prime Minister Narendra Modi will open the summit at Mahatma Mandir in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- ❖ The three-day conference will bring together key policymakers, entrepreneurs, investors, startups, and other national and international players.
- ❖ The summit will enable them to discuss innovation and how India can become a global Ayush destination for entrepreneurship.

Smart Cities, Smart Urbanization conference

- ❖ The three-day “Smart Cities, Smart Urbanization” conference kicked off in Surat.
- ❖ The event is being organized by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs in collaboration with Surat Smart City Corporation Development Ltd.
- ❖ The Best City award went to Surat and Indore, and the Best State award went to Uttar Pradesh.

State of India’s Children

- ❖ The latest report on the State of India’s Children: Status and Trends in Multidimensional Child Development will be jointly developed and launched by NITI Aayog and UNICEF India.
- ❖ This is the India’s first report on State of India’s Children.
- ❖ The report will create frameworks for understanding health and nutrition, education, water and sanitation, household living standards, and a child-friendly environment across states.

Principal scientific advisor

- ❖ Ajay Kumar Sood, an eminent physicist has been appointed as the central government’s principal scientific advisor.
- ❖ He is a member of the Science, Technology, and Innovation Advisory Council to the prime minister.
- ❖ He has been appointed to the post for a three-year period.
- ❖ He is known for his work on graphene.

- ❖ Also, he is a physics professor at the Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru.
- ❖ The appointment has been approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.
- ❖ He will be succeeding in renowned biologist K VijayRaghavan.



India's Oil production in FY22

- ❖ The crude oil production of India fell 2.67 percent in the fiscal year that ended on 31st March 2022.
- ❖ The production of ONGC was less than the target.
- ❖ But KG production by Reliance-BP's natural gas output rose.
- ❖ In 2021-22 (April 2020 to March 2022) the crude oil production was 29.69 million tonnes.
- ❖ Which is 2.63 percent lower than the 30.5 million tonnes output in 2020-21.
- ❖ The primary reason for the decline in the country's crude oil production is the aging fields where natural production is declining.

UPI in UAE

- ❖ NPCI International Payments Ltd has announced that across the UAE, BHIM UPI is live on NEOPAY terminals.
- ❖ This initiative will be empowering the millions of Indians who travel to the UAE to make payments in a convenient and safe manner.
- ❖ The payments can be made using BHIM UPI across the NEOPAY-enabled merchant stores and shops.
- ❖ NEOPAY is Mashreq Bank's payment subsidiary.
- ❖ NIPL partnered in 2021 with NEOPAY to create the UPI acceptance infrastructure in the country.

All India Police Science Congress

- ❖ The Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the 48th All India Police Science Congress (AIPSC).
- ❖ It was organized by the Bureau of Police Research and Development.
- ❖ The two-day event was held at the Central Academy of Police Training in Bhopal.
- ❖ The main objective of this event is to provide a common platform for various police forces, units, social scientists, forensic experts, and other stakeholders to deliberate on selected themes of topical interest to the Indian police.
- ❖ For the first time, the AIPSC will be attended by police forces, units, social scientists, forensic experts and stakeholders along with the officers of the department of correctional administration.

3D manufacturing policy



- ❖ India will aim to achieve certain targets such as 50 India-specific technologies for material, machine, and software, 100 new startups for additive manufacturing, and 500 new products.
- ❖ This is as per the National Strategy for Additive Manufacturing, by 2025.
- ❖ 3D printing or additive manufacturing uses computer-aided designing to make prototypes or working models of objects by laying down successive layers of materials such as plastic, resin, thermoplastic, metal, fiber, or ceramic.

Nuclear power plants

- ❖ Dr. Jitendra Singh has said that the Government has accorded In-Principle approval for five new sites for locating nuclear power plants in the future.
- ❖ The Government has accorded administrative approval and financial sanction for the construction of 10 indigenous 700 Mega Watt Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors PHWRs to be set up in fleet mode.
- ❖ The nuclear capacity is expected to reach 22,480 Mega Watt by 2031.



UPSC aspirants with disabilities

LOGICALLY CHALLENGED?	
WHAT SENSE DO THESE RULES MAKE?	
Level of disability	Services open
Both hands or arms	Eligible for IAS but not any other service
One arm and leg	Eligible for IFS but not for IAS and several other services
Both legs	Eligible for all accounts services except Indian Audits and Accounts Service
One arm or one leg	Armed Forces Headquarters Service open only to these two kinds of locomotor disability
One leg or hearing impaired	Eligible for Delhi, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli police service (DANIPS) but not for any other police service

- ❖ In an interim order, the Supreme Court allowed candidates with physical disabilities, who have cleared the civil services written exam.
- ❖ They can now provisionally apply for selection to Indian Railways Protection Force Service (IRPFS), Indian Police Service (IPS), as well as Delhi, Daman & Diu, Dadra, and Nagar Haveli, Andaman, and Nicobar Islands, and Lakshadweep Police Service (DANIPS).

Posoco - IIT Delhi

- ❖ Power System Operation Corp. Ltd.'s (Posoco) Northern Regional Load Despatch Centre signed a memorandum of understanding with Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi (IIT Delhi).
- ❖ This is to encourage research on issues relating to India's power sector and strengthen the interaction between academia and industry.

Raisina Dialogue 2022

- ❖ The Raisina Dialogue was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- ❖ The chief guest of the event was European Commission President Ursula Von Der Leyen.
- ❖ It is the flagship geo-economics and multilateral foreign policy conference of the country.
- ❖ "Terranova- Impassioned, Impatient, Imperilled" is the theme of the Raisina Dialogue 2022.

Trade and Technology Council

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi held bilateral talks with European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen in New Delhi recently.
- ❖ There was an agreement to launch the EU-India Trade and Technology Council to strengthen the strategic partnership.
- ❖ With this, India becomes 2nd country to launch Trade and Technology Council with the EU.

Urja Pravaha

- ❖ The Indian Coast Guard Inducts New Vessel 'Urja Pravaha'.
- ❖ It was inducted at Gujarat's Bharuch.



Ratle and Kwar Power Projects

- ❖ The Prime Minister recently laid the foundation stone of the 850 MW Ratle Power Project and 540 MW Kwar Hydro Project in J&K.
- ❖ These dams will be constructed on the Chenab river in Kishtwar District.

Registration of Overseas Voters

- ❖ Sushil Chandra, India's Chief Election Commissioner has urged the members of the Indian Community who are staying abroad to register as Overseas Voters.
- ❖ The extension of the Electronically Transmitted Postal Ballot System facility to the overseas Indian voters is also being contemplated.

Household consumer spending survey



- ❖ The All-India Household Consumer Expenditure Survey is usually conducted by the National Statistical Office (NSO) every five years.
- ❖ It is designed to collect information on the consumption spending patterns of households across the country, both urban and rural.
- ❖ The data gathered in this exercise reveals the average expenditure on goods (food and non-food) and services.
- ❖ It is used to arrive at estimates of poverty levels in different parts of the country and to review economic indicators like the Gross Domestic Product.
- ❖ India hasn't had any official estimates on per capita household spending since 2011-12.

Kisan Bhagidari, Prathmikta Hamari – campaign



- ❖ The 'Kisan Bhagidari, Prathmikta Hamari' campaign is being organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
- ❖ This campaign is being organized under the government's 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' in collaboration with various other Departments and Ministries.

- ❖ During the period of this campaign, various countrywide programs at the regional level for the farmers of the nation are being organized by the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

Guinness Book of World records – India



- ❖ India created history by entering the Guinness Book of World records by simultaneously waving 78,220 national flags on April 23, 2022.
- ❖ This took place in the presence of Union Home Minister Amit Shah.
- ❖ It was done at the 'Veer Kunwar Singh Vijayotsav' programme at Bhojpur, Bihar.

AAHAR-2022: International Food and Hospitality Fair



- ❖ Asia's biggest international food and hospitality fair named AAHAR-2022 is being organized by the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development

Authority (APEDA) in collaboration with the India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO).

- ❖ It was held at New Delhi's Pragati Maidan.
- ❖ This is the 36th edition of this fair.
- ❖ This fair will be providing the visitors as well as the participants with an unrivaled opportunity that will help them to generate new business leads.
- ❖ This fair will also help in marketing the country's dynamic growing market in an efficient and effective manner.

Trilateral Development Corporation Fund

- ❖ India and the United Kingdom have launched their Global Innovation Partnership (GIP) as both countries look to bolster their innovation ecosystem to benefit the start-ups.
- ❖ GIP is expected to provide a model for utilizing the Trilateral Development Corporation (TDC) Fund for projects with other countries like Germany, Japan, the European Union, France, etc that are willing to work with India on the field of development and innovation.
- ❖ The GIP will be co-financed by India and the UK.

India - steel growth

worldsteel
ASSOCIATION

MARCH 2022 CRUDE STEEL PRODUCTION

TOP 10 STEEL-PRODUCING COUNTRIES				
	Mar 2022 (Mt)	% change Mar 22/21	Jan-Mar 2022 (Mt)	% change Jan-Mar 22/21
China	88.3	-4.4	243.4	-10.5
India	10.9	+4.4	31.8	+3.9
Japan	8.0	-4.3	23.0	-2.9
United States	7.0	-1.7	20.3	-0.4
Russia	6.6	-1.8	18.7	-1.2
South Korea	5.7	-6.1	16.9	-3.8
Germany	3.3	-11.8	9.8	-5.7
Turkey	3.3	-2.9	9.4	-4.7
Brazil	3.0	+3.4	8.5	-2.2
Iran	2.3	-6.1	6.9	-4.4



- ❖ India is the only country among the top ten steel-producing nations in the world that grew steel output from January to March 2022 over the same period last year.
- ❖ This is according to data released by the World Steel Association.
- ❖ India produced 9 million tonnes of steel, up 5.9% over the previous year.
- ❖ India's growth rate is 4.4 percent, with 9 million tonnes of steel produced in March 2022.

MP quotas scrapped - Kendriya Vidyalayas

- ❖ The Union government has scrapped the quota through which members of Parliament could recommend names for admissions in Kendriya Vidyalayas (KV).
- ❖ Under the KVS Special Dispensation Admission Scheme, a Member of Parliament had the power to recommend a maximum of 10 students from their respective constituencies in every academic year for admissions in classes 1 to 9.

Pact on Sustainable Development Goals

- ❖ The Ministry of Panchayati Raj and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) signed a joint statement of understanding on the localization of Sustainable Development Goals.
- ❖ The agreement was signed by Sunil Kumar, Secretary, Panchayati Raj, and UNDP resident representative Shoko Noda.

Sivagiri Pilgrimage & Brahma Vidyalaya

- ❖ PM Modi participated in the inaugural ceremony of year-long joint celebrations of the 90th anniversary of the Sivagiri Pilgrimage and the Golden Jubilee of Brahma Vidyalaya.
- ❖ PM Modi will also launch the logo dedicated to the year-long joint celebrations.
- ❖ Both Brahma Vidyalaya and Sivagiri Pilgrimage were started with the blessing and guidance of great social reformer Shri Narayan Guru.

Smart Cities India expo 2022

- ❖ The Smart Cities India Expo combines transformational technology with essential pillars of urban development, such as green buildings, clean energy, clean environment, water, urban mobility, and the use of smart ICT for resource optimization and making cities smart and sustainable.



- ❖ The Smart Cities India 2022 Awards are a one-of-a-kind platform that honors, recognizes, and encourages individuals, policymakers, businesses, municipalities, government organizations, and associations for their efforts in both the urban and rural sectors.
- ❖ Chennai, Coimbatore, Dindigul, Erode, Madurai, Salem, Thanjavur, Thoothukudi, Tiruchirappalli, Tirunelveli, Tiruppur and Vellore are the 12 smart cities of Tamilnadu.

Category	Winners	Projects
Best Green Buildings Project	Faridabad Smart City Limited	ICCC Building
Best Healthcare Initiatives	Bhopal Smart City Development Corporation Limited	COVID Management through ICCC
Best Startup Initiatives	Bhopal Smart City Development Corporation Limited	A-Neet Foundation
Best Water Management	Solinas Integrity Private Limited	Pipeline Management Project for 24x7 Water Supply
City Innovation	Ujjain Smart City Limited	Digital Center
COVID 19 Recovery Innovation Award	Jabalpur Smart City Limited	Leveraging ICCC against COVID Pandemic
Digital City	New Town Kolkata Green Smart City Corporation	Digital Services in New Town Kolkata
Governance and Economy	Pimpri Chinchwad Smart City Limited	Smart Sarathi
Public Private Partnership Initiatives	Indore Smart City Development Limited	Sha Kurj
Safe City	Bahadur Smart City Limited	DTCC
Smart Energy Project	Jabalpur Smart City Limited	Smart Light Project
Smart Parking Initiatives	Indore Smart City Development Limited	Two Wheeler Multi-Level Parking
Smart Urban Mobility	Bilwara Smart City Limited	E-Bus Project
Smart Waste Disposal and Clean City	New Town Kolkata Green Smart City Corporation	Integrated Solid Waste Management System in New Town Kolkata
Smart City of the Year	Ujjain Smart City Limited	MRTDA

Renewable Energy Transfer Project

- ❖ India and Maldives have agreed to set up a transmission interconnection for the purpose of transferring renewable power between both countries.
- ❖ Two Memoranda of Understandings (MoUs) were proposed during the meeting.
- ❖ One was on the transmission interconnection under the One Sun, One World, One Grid (OSOWOG) and the other one was on energy cooperation.

Innovative Agriculture

- ❖ NITI Aayog organized a National Level Workshop on “Innovative Agriculture” in Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.
- ❖ At this workshop, the need to understand the fundamentals, science, and processes behind natural farming practices was highlighted.
- ❖ The step-wise adoption of natural farming was highlighted.



- ❖ The increase in the awareness of good health, nutritious food, and immunity during the COVID-19 pandemic was also highlighted.
- ❖ The importance of livestock and cattle to ensure better nutrition was also talked about.
- ❖ The importance of technology and science in natural farming was also highlighted.

Integrated Road Accident Database

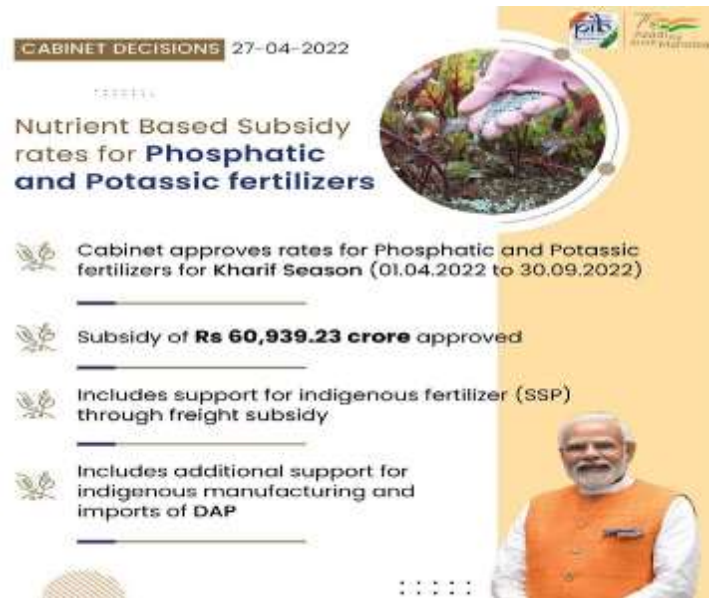
- ❖ iRAD (Integrated Road Accident Database) is an initiative of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH).
- ❖ Its objective is to improve road safety in the country.
- ❖ The main idea behind it is to create a Centralised Accident Database to host and access all accident-related data by various departments/stakeholders.
- ❖ It was launched in Chandigarh recently.
- ❖ The iRAD application is an initiative of the MoRTH to capture relevant details about the accident-prone areas throughout India.

Indian embassy in Lithuania

- ❖ The Union Cabinet gave its approval to a proposal for opening a new Indian embassy in Lithuania.
- ❖ This will be the first full-fledged embassy of India in the Baltic region.
- ❖ Lithuania is at the center of a diplomatic spat with China after it allowed the opening of a de-facto embassy by Taiwan.
- ❖ Lithuania was the first Baltic country that opened an embassy in India in the year 2008.

Nutrient Based Subsidy rates for P&K fertilizers

- ❖ The central government announced the Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) rates for phosphatic and potassic (P&K) fertilizers.
- ❖ The announcement is for this year's Kharif season which is from April to September 2022.
- ❖ It will be increased to Rs 60,939 crore, as against Rs 57,150 crore for the whole of 2021.
- ❖ This increase in subsidy will insulate the farmers from the global price increase of di-ammonium phosphate (DAP) and other non-urea nutrients.



CABINET DECISIONS 27-04-2022

Nutrient Based Subsidy rates for Phosphatic and Potassic fertilizers

- Cabinet approves rates for Phosphatic and Potassic fertilizers for Kharif Season (01.04.2022 to 30.09.2022)
- Subsidy of **Rs 60,939.23 crore** approved
- Includes support for indigenous fertilizer (SSP) through freight subsidy
- Includes additional support for indigenous manufacturing and imports of DAP

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INTERNATIONAL

Balikatan 2022 military drills

- ❖ The United States military and the military of the Philippines kicked off the military drill Balikatan 2022.
- ❖ The Philippine-led annual exercise will take place across Luzon in the Philippines region near Taiwan.
- ❖ Around 8,900 Filipino and American troops are participating in the military drill, making it the largest Balikatan military exercise ever.

HURUN Global U40 Self-Made Billionaires 2022

- ❖ Hurun Research Institute has released the Hurun Global Forty and Under Self-Made Billionaires 2022.
- ❖ It ranks the self-made billionaires in the world (in terms of US dollars) aged forty years and under.
- ❖ The Hurun Report 2022 lists 87 Self-Made Billionaires in the world aged 40 and under.
- ❖ India ranks 4th in this report

- ❖ The USA leads the list with 37 self-made billionaires.
- ❖ China is second with 25 billionaires, followed by the United Kingdom (8), India (6), and Sweden (3) respectively in the top five.
- ❖ Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg is the world's richest self-made billionaire aged 40 and under with a total wealth of \$76 billion.
- ❖ He is followed by ByteDance CEO Zhang Yiming, FTX CEO Sam Bankman-Fried, Airbnb CEO Brian Chesky, and Facebook co-founder Dustin Moskovitz, respectively.

	Country	No. of Billionaires	Change		City	No. of Billionaires	Change
1	USA	37	6	1	San Francisco	15	0
2	China	25	5	2	Beijing	13	-4
3	UK	8	5	3	Palo Alto	8	4
4	India	6	2	4	London	7	5
5	Sweden	3	2	5	Bengaluru	4	0
6	Brazil	2	2	5	Shenzhen	4	0
6	UAE	2	0	7	Stockholm	3	2
8	Bahamas	1	1	8	Sao Paulo	2	2
8	Denmark	1	1	8	Santa Monica	2	0
8	Australia	1	-1	8	Guangzhou	2	0
8	Singapore	1	-2	8	Mumbai	2	2
				8	Dubai	2	0
				8	LA	2	0
				8	Phoenix	2	0

↑ Rank increase YOY ↓ Rank decrease YOY No change
Source: Hurun Global Rich List 2022

World's Biggest Electric Cruise Ship

- ❖ The largest electric cruise ship in the world has returned back to port in Yichang in central Hubei province, China after traveling up and down the Yangtze River for its maiden voyage.
- ❖ This cruise ship has been powered by a 7,500-kilowatt-hour massive-sized marine battery.
- ❖ The name of the ship is Yangtze River Three Gorges 1.
- ❖ This ship will mainly be used for the purpose of conducting sightseeing trips.

State of World Population Report 2022

- ❖ The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) publishes the State of World Population report annually.
- ❖ The recently released State of World Population Report 2022 has been titled "Seeing the Unseen: The case for action in the neglected crisis of unintended pregnancy."
- ❖ Between the years 2015 to 2019, there was a rise in unintended pregnancies which numbered around 121 million across the globe annually.



- ❖ There was a lack of modern and safe methods of contraception and across the globe, around 257 million women are not using such methods of contraception to avoid pregnancies.

Anti-Lynching Act

- ❖ Joe Biden, the president of the US has signed a law that makes lynching a hate crime in the United States of America.
- ❖ The Emmett Till Anti-Lynching Act is named after Emmett Till.
- ❖ He is a Black boy of 14-years of age.
- ❖ In the year 1955, he was brutally killed in Mississippi after he was accused of offending a white woman in the grocery store.

Public Emergency in Sri Lanka

- ❖ Sri Lanka's president Kotapaya Rajapaksa has declared a state of emergency in the country
- ❖ Which gives sweeping powers to the country's security forces.
- ❖ This was declared after hundreds of citizens of the county tried to storm his house seething with anger over the economic crisis Sri Lanka is facing.
- ❖ Inflation in the country has hit 18.7 percent.
- ❖ Food prices have soared by 30.1 percent.
- ❖ Diesel shortages have also sparked outrage across the country.
- ❖ Daily 13-hours of a power cut is being imposed as there is no diesel for running the generators.

WWF Report on Online Wildlife Trade

- ❖ The World Wildlife Fund has released a report stating that in Myanmar illegal purchases of wildlife online are increasing.
- ❖ It is causing a threat to both endangered species and public health.
- ❖ Following the 2021 military takeover causing political turmoil, enforcement of bans on such transactions has weakened.
- ❖ By 74 percent, such dealings rose in over a year.
- ❖ Out of 173 species traded, 54 are facing global extinction.
- ❖ 639 Facebook accounts have been identified that belong to wildlife traders.



UN Human Rights Council – climate expert

- ❖ The United Nations Human Rights Council has appointed Dr. Ian Fry as the world's first independent expert on human rights and climate change.
- ❖ Dr. Fry has been appointed for a period of three years.
- ❖ He holds dual citizenship of Tuvalu and Australia.
- ❖ The first to hold the post will be Ian Fry, who holds both Australian and Tuvaluan nationality.

Award	Winner	Runner-Up
Men's Single	Carlos Alcaraz (Spain)	Casper Ruud (Norway)
Women's Single	Iga Świątek (Poland)	Naomi Osaka (Japan)
Men's Double	Hubert Hurkacz / John Isner	Wesley Koolhof / Neal Skupski
Women's Double	Laura Siegemund / Vera Zvonareva	Veronika Kudermetova / Elise Mertens

International Air Connectivity Scheme

- ❖ The International Air Connectivity Scheme (IACS) has been launched by the Ministry of Civil Aviation.
- ❖ It is launched with the objective of enhancing air connectivity from India's certain states with some selected international destinations so as to promote socio-economic growth.
- ❖ This newly launched scheme has been supported by the State Governments.

Sri Lanka's Cabinet

- ❖ Sri Lanka's entire Cabinet Ministers have decided to resign amid rising public anger against the government over the economic crisis in the country.
- ❖ The Public Emergency is Revoked.
- ❖ Apart from Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa, others resigned.

5th UNEA Assembly



- ❖ The Assembly is made up of the 193 UN Member States.
- ❖ It convenes every two years to advance global environmental governance
- ❖ It was held at Nairobi, Kenya.
- ❖ It concluded with 14 resolutions to strengthen actions for nature to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.
- ❖ It agreed to establish an Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee with the mandate to forge an international legally binding agreement to end plastic pollution by 2024.
- ❖ It was followed by the UNEP@50 event.
- ❖ The countries of the world celebrated the 50th anniversary of the founding of United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) as an initiative of the 1972 Stockholm Conference.
- ❖ The decision to establish UNEP's headquarters in Nairobi was taken by the UN in 1972.



- ❖ The United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON) remains the only UN headquarters in the southern hemisphere.
- ❖ The UNEP contributed to the adoption of a global solution in 1987 – the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.

Pakistan Crisis

- ❖ Pakistan PM Imran Khan had effectively lost the majority in the 342-member National Assembly of Pakistan.
- ❖ The Deputy Speaker Suri of Pakistan dismissed the no-confidence motion moved by the Opposition against Prime Minister Khan.
- ❖ He termed it against the Constitution and rules of Pakistan.
- ❖ After that, Imran Khan advised President Alvi to dissolve the National Assembly.
- ❖ Meanwhile, President Alvi dissolved both assemblies.
- ❖ He said fresh elections will be held within 90 days.
- ❖ The Supreme Court in Pakistan is all set to hear the dismissal of a no-confidence vote against Prime Minister Imran Khan.
- ❖ Chief Justice Umar Ata Bandial was taking a suo motu cognizance of the current political situation in the country.
- ❖ Meanwhile, Imran Khan may continue as Pakistan's prime minister till President Alvi appoints the caretaker prime minister.
- ❖ But however, Imran Khan nominated former Chief Justice Gulzar Ahmed for the office of caretaker Prime Minister.

QS World University Rankings by Subject 2022

- ❖ QS (Quacquarelli Symonds) of the UK released the 12th edition of the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2022.
- ❖ The subject-wise rankings of institutes across the world are compilations of multiple lists.
- ❖ The QS World University Rankings by Subject are compiled annually to help prospective students identify the leading universities in a particular subject.
- ❖ Indian Institute of Technology(IIT)-Bombay ranked 65th and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)- Delhi ranked 72nd, are the only Indian institutes to be featured among the top 100 ranks under the Engineering and Technology category.
- ❖ Top 3 QS World University Rankings 2022 are
 - Massachusetts Institute of Technology,
 - The University of Oxford,
 - Stanford University & the University of Cambridge.

Suspension of Russia from UNHRC



- ❖ Russia has been suspended from the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) after there were allegations that its soldiers violated human rights in Ukraine.
- ❖ The member nations of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) voted to suspend Russia.
- ❖ The UNGA can suspend any Council member that committed human rights violation during its membership term.
- ❖ A two-thirds majority vote is required by the General Assembly to suspend a member.
- ❖ In this case, there were 93 votes were in favor, 24 against, and 58 abstentions.
- ❖ India abstains from Voting in this regard.

No-trust motion

- ❖ Pakistan's Prime Minister Imran Khan has been ousted from power after losing a no-confidence vote in his leadership.
- ❖ Mr Khan is now the first Pakistani prime minister to be ousted by a no-confidence vote.
- ❖ The no-trust motion against the PM was moved by Opposition leader Shahbaz Sharif.

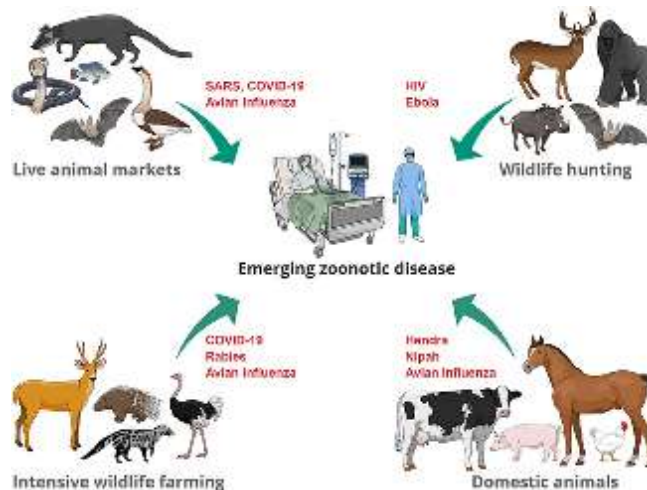
Maitri

- ❖ President Ram Nath Kovind landed in Amsterdam for the final leg of his two-nation journey.
- ❖ This is his first visit to the Netherlands in 34 years.
- ❖ During the visit, he named a new yellow tulip variety 'Maitri'.

Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure

- ❖ Madagascar joined the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI).
- ❖ It now becomes the 30th country to join the partnership.
- ❖ CDRI was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his speech at the UN Climate Action Summit in September 2019.
- ❖ CDRI is a partnership of national governments, UN agencies and programs, multilateral development banks and financing mechanisms, the private sector, and knowledge institutions.
- ❖ It aims to promote the resilience of new and existing infrastructure systems to climate and disaster risks in support of sustainable development.
- ❖ The CDRI Secretariat is based in New Delhi, India.
- ❖ As of April 2022, 30 members, consisting of 23 national governments and 7 organizations have joined CDRI.

Deer-to-Human COVID-19 Transmission



- ❖ According to a new study, the first potential case of the novel coronavirus being passed to a person from a deer has been reported in Canada.
- ❖ Highly mutated clusters of SARS-CoV-2 genomes were identified by researchers in white-tailed deer.
- ❖ It indicates that the deer could act as an animal virus reservoir.

77 million into poverty

- ❖ The pandemic pushed 77 million additional people into severe poverty last year even before the Ukraine war.
- ❖ Many developing nations are unable to recover due to the heavy cost of loan repayments.



- ❖ 812 million people lived in severe poverty on \$1.90 per day or less in 2019, and by 2021.
- ❖ These are according to the report released by United Nations.

Tropical Storm Megi

- ❖ Tropical Storm Megi wreaked havoc on the Philippines, killing at least 167 people in landslides and floods.
- ❖ According to the national disaster organization, another 110 persons are missing, and 1.9 million people have been impacted.
- ❖ It's the third tropical depression and the second tropical storm of the typhoon season in the Pacific for 2022.

Hello Payment system

- ❖ Russian Central Bank has included a new payment system called HELLO into the national register of credit institutions.
- ❖ Russian commercial bank TransKapitalBank will be the operator of the system's payment infrastructure services.
- ❖ The payment system HELLO is a set of payment services and institutions that facilitates money transfer transactions.

Sarmat intercontinental ballistic missile

- ❖ It is an intercontinental ballistic missile recently successfully test-launched by Russia.
- ❖ The new missile complex has the highest tactical and technical characteristics and is able to overcome all modern means of anti-missile defense.
- ❖ The name Sarmat is based upon the nomadic Sarmatian tribes
- ❖ They used to live between the 6th and 4th century BC in the current territories of Russia, Ukraine, and Kazakhstan.

China-Solomon Islands Security Agreement

- ❖ A security pact has been signed between China and the Solomon Islands.
- ❖ This agreement has been signed to enhance the existing cooperation arrangements with the Solomon Islands.
- ❖ With the announcement of the pact, concerns are rising about the impact of this pact as it gives China a foothold in this South Pacific region.



Cyber defence exercises

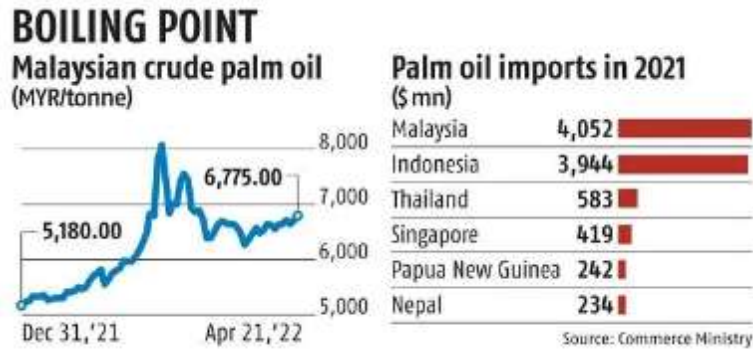
- ❖ Cyber defence exercises called Locked Shields conducted by NATO in Estonia.
- ❖ A cyber organisation recognised by the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation will undertake the world's largest and most complicated "live-fire" cyber defence drills.
- ❖ The biennial Locked Shields event is designed to improve the skills of cyber security experts protecting national IT systems and vital infrastructure against real-time attacks.

Paris Book Festival 2022

- ❖ India is designated as the Guest of Honour Country at the Paris Book Festival 2022.
- ❖ The last time India was invited to the event was in 2007.
- ❖ France will be the guest of honor at the New Delhi World Book Fair postponed to May 2022.



Palm oil exports – Indonesia

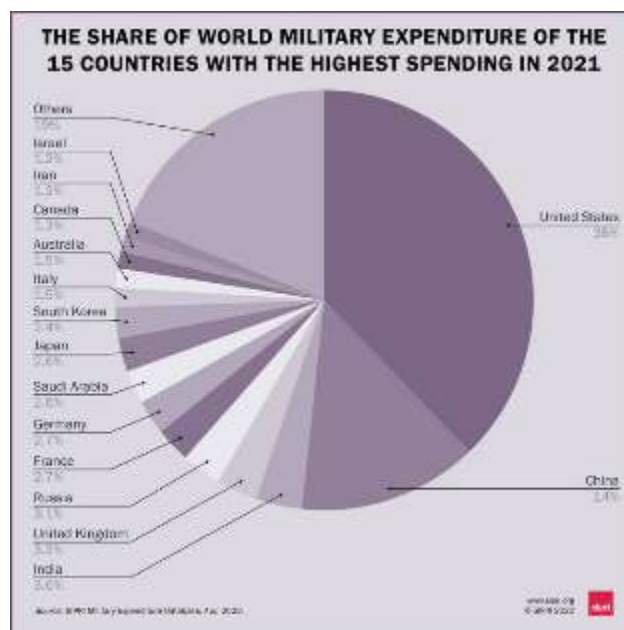


- ❖ Indonesia has decided to ban the export of palm oil from April 28.
- ❖ The decision has been taken to control skyrocketing domestic prices and ensure the availability of food products at home.
- ❖ Indonesia is the world's biggest exporter of palm oil.

Emmanuel Macron

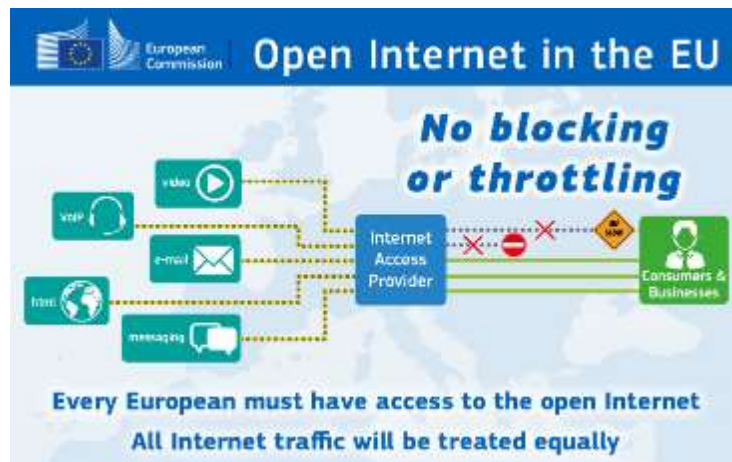
- ❖ Marine Le Pen has been defeated by Emmanuel Macron.
- ❖ He is to be re-elected as the President of France.
- ❖ Macron is the first French sitting president in the past 20 years to have been re-elected.

World military expenditure



- ❖ World military expenditure reached an all-time high of USD 2.1 trillion in 2021.
- ❖ This is according to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)
- ❖ The top three largest spenders were the United States, China, and India.
- ❖ India's military spending ranked third with USD 76.6 billion last year.
- ❖ This is an increase of 0.9 percent in comparison with 2020.

European Union New Internet Rules



- ❖ The European Union finalized new legislation that will require the world's big tech companies to remove harmful content.
- ❖ This is the latest move of the union to regulate the world's online giants.
- ❖ The Digital Services Act (DSA) has the aim of ensuring tougher consequences for websites and platforms that will be hosting banned content ranging from disinformation to hate speech and images of child sexual abuse.

International Religious Freedom Report 2022

- ❖ The US Commission on International Religious Freedom has recommended for the second year in the row to put India on a list (Countries of Particular Concern or CPCs) for the worst violations of religious freedoms in 2021.
- ❖ Other than India, countries recommended for the CPC designation are Afghanistan, Nigeria, Syria, and Vietnam.
- ❖ Countries recommended for redesignating include Myanmar, China, Eritrea, Iran, North Korea, Pakistan, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan as CPCs.



Russia and UNWTO

- ❖ The UN World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) has announced that Russia has decided to withdraw from the UNWTO.
- ❖ Russia decided to withdraw from this organization ahead of a vote by the body to suspend Russia for its war against Ukraine.
- ❖ This is the first time the UNWTO has met to discuss the suspension of one of its member nations.

ECONOMY

Interest rates on Small Savings Schemes

- ❖ The Ministry of Finance has decided to keep the interest rates unchanged on small savings schemes or post office schemes for the Quarter -1 of FY2022-23 (April-June 2022).
- ❖ The interest rates on the various instruments for April-June 2022 range from 4.0 percent to 7.6 percent.
- ❖ It must be noted that the Government notifies the Interest rates for small savings schemes on a quarterly basis.
- ❖ This is the eighth consecutive quarter when the interest rates on small savings instruments remained unchanged.



HOW THEY STACK UP

Instruments	Interest rate* (in%)
Savings deposit	4.0
1-year time deposit	5.5
2-year time deposit	5.5
3-year time deposit	5.5
5-year time deposit	6.7
5-year recurring deposit	5.8
Senior Citizen Savings Schemes	7.4
Monthly income account	6.6
National Savings Certificate	6.8
Public Provident Fund scheme	7.1
Kisan Vikas Patra	6.9
Sukanya Samriddhi Account Scheme	7.6

* From April 1-June 30, 2022

Source: Finance Ministry

Axis Bank - Citibank Deal

- ❖ Citigroup has announced that Axis Bank will be acquiring Citibank's India consumer business for an amount of USD 1.6 billion in an all-cash deal.
- ❖ This transaction will be including Citibank India's consumer banking businesses, which include retail banking, credit cards, consumer loans, and wealth management.
- ❖ Citibank India's consumer business employees, around 3,600, will be transferred to Axis after the completion of this deal.

RAMP program

- ❖ The government authorized a World Bank-backed program costing USD808 million.
- ❖ It is called the "Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance" (RAMP) program.
- ❖ RAMP is a new scheme and would commence in FY 2022-23.
- ❖ It has been launched to aid and improve the functioning of the country's Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises.

India's Borrowing Estimate



- ❖ To fund the revenue gap for the economy's revival Rs 8.45 lakh crore has been targeted by the government of India that will be raised through borrowings in the first half of 2022-23.
- ❖ The gross market borrowing that is estimated for the next financial year is Rs 14.31 lakh crore.
- ❖ The planned Rs 8.45 lakh crore borrowing will be targeted in the April to September period.



- ❖ 60 percent of the borrowing for FY 2022-23 would be completed in the fiscal year's first six months.
- ❖ For 2021-22, the gross borrowing was Rs 12,05,500 crore.

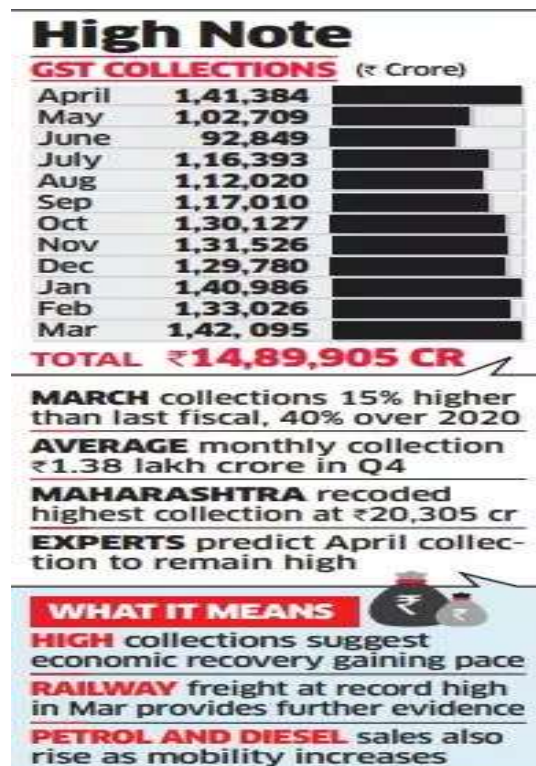
Fraud incidences

- ❖ In the nine months ending December, 96 incidences of fraud were recorded by 27 scheduled commercial banks and financial institutions.
- ❖ It totals Rs 34,097 crore.
- ❖ Punjab National Bank had the greatest amount of fraud at Rs 4,820 crore.
- ❖ Bank of India had the highest number of frauds at 13.

WMA limit for States/UTs

- ❖ The Reserve Bank reduced the Ways and Means Advances (WMA) for states and union territories to Rs 47,010 crore from Rs 51,560 crore.
- ❖ WMAs are short-term loans provided by the RBI to the government to help it deal with any discrepancies between receipts and payments.

Goods and Services Tax





- ❖ The greatest ever GST was collected in March, which is very good for the economy.
- ❖ The Goods and Services Tax (GST) collection totaled in March month is Rs 1,42,095 crore.
- ❖ It is breaking the previous high of Rs 1,40,986 crore collected in January 2022.
- ❖ The March 2022 revenues are 15% greater than the same month last year.
- ❖ It is 46% higher than the March 2020 revenues.

Trade deficit of India

- ❖ The trade deficit of India rose by 87.5 percent from USD 102.63 billion in 2020-21 to USD 192.41 billion in 2021-22.
- ❖ The total export in the last fiscal year touched a record margin of USD 417.81 billion
- ❖ The imports for the same period imports too soared to touch USD 610.22 billion.
- ❖ Thus it is leaving USD 192.41 billion trade gap.

First Defence Fund

- ❖ HDFC Mutual Fund's Defense Fund will be the first of its kind in the mutual fund industry.
- ❖ HDFC Mutual Fund has filed for this with SEBI.
- ❖ It will invest in companies in the defense and allied sectors.
- ❖ HDFC Mutual Fund is the country's third-largest asset manager.

RBI Monetary Repo rates

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India's Monetary Policy Committee voted to keep the benchmark repo and reverse repo rates unchanged for the straight 11th time in a row.
- ❖ The Governor of the Reserve Bank of India Shaktikanta Das stated that the Committee has voted unanimously to leave the repo rates unchanged at 4 percent.
- ❖ Also, the Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) rate and the Bank rate have remained unchanged at 4.25 percent.
- ❖ The real GDP growth is now projected at 7.2% with Quarter 1 2022-23 at 16.2%, Q2 at 6.2%, Q3 at 4.1%, and Q4 at 4.0%.

Tax Revenues

- ❖ Tax revenues in 2021-22 exceeded Union Budget's estimates by ₹ 5 lakh crore
- ❖ Against the Union Budget estimates of ₹ 22.17 lakh crore, the revenue collections as per the pre-actual figures were ₹ 27.07 lakh crore.
- ❖ The tax revenue during 2021-22 was 34 per cent higher than ₹ 20.27 lakh crore recorded in 2020-21.



Current Account Deficit

- ❖ India's Current Account Deficit (CAD) increased to \$23 billion (2.7 per cent of GDP) in the third quarter (Q3) of 2021-22 from \$9.9 billion (1.3 per cent of GDP) in Q2 of 2021-22 and \$2.2 billion (0.3 per cent of GDP) in Q3 of 2020-21.
- ❖ According to the Reserve Bank of India, the widening of CAD in Q3 of 2021-22 was mainly on account of a higher trade deficit.

Standing Deposit Facility

- ❖ The Standing Deposit Facility is viewed as a strong tool to suck out the surplus liquidity.
- ❖ It was proposed by the RBI.
- ❖ This concept, first recommended by the Urjit Patel committee report in 2014, may soon become part of the central bank's toolkit to manage liquidity.

- ❖ A standing deposit facility is a remunerated facility that will not require the provision of collateral for liquidity absorption.

PROPOSED SYSTEM

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Banks park more than ₹7 trillion liquidity surplus with RBI ▪ Central bank has bonds worth up to ₹9 trillion to use as collateral | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Standing Deposit Facility can absorb this liquidity without issuing collaterals ▪ If introduced, it will have lower rate than reverse repo |
|--|---|

Cash Withdrawal via UPI

- ❖ A cardless cash withdrawal facility has been made available at all ATMs by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- ❖ This facility will be made available via the Unified Payment Interface (UPI) irrespective of the bank.
- ❖ This decision was made by the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the RBI.
- ❖ All banks have been given permission by the RBI to introduce card-less cash withdrawals through ATMs.

Asset monetization target for FY22

Key Assets Monetised (in Rs. Crores)



- ❖ According to the evaluation, the central government has exceeded its asset monetization target of 88,000 crores for FY22.
- ❖ It has concluded agreements worth 96,000 crores.
- ❖ Roads, power, coal, and mineral mining are among the industries that have made significant contributions to asset monetization.

Vikas Siri Sampat-1111 scheme

- ❖ A 1,111-day deposit scheme has been introduced by the Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB).
- ❖ Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank is a Dharwad-based regional rural bank.
- ❖ The 1,111-day deposit pays 5.70 percent interest to the general public and 6.20 percent to senior citizens.
- ❖ This scheme allows for a minimum deposit of ten thousand rupees and a maximum deposit of two crore rupees.
- ❖ Canara Bank sponsors the Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank, an Indian Regional Rural Bank.
- ❖ It is owned by the Ministry of Finance of the Government of India.

Regulatory Framework on microfinance loans

More Freedom RBI has raised annual household income to ₹3 lakh for a collateral-free loan to be classified as microloan Unsecured loans by other NBFCs, irrespective of end use, will now be classified as microloans Monthly loan repayment is capped to below half the monthly household income to prevent debt traps	Margin cap was introduced a decade ago to stop NBFC-MFIs from charging usurious rates They now have freedom in fixing board-approved rates but will be under RBI scrutiny	 ₹2.32 L cr Combined microcredit portfolio as of Dec 31, 2021, up 1.9% YoY
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- ❖ Reserve Bank of India announced Regulatory Framework on microfinance loans.
- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has done away with the margin caps on the pricing of small loans given by non-banking financial company-microfinance institutions (NBFC-MFIs).
- ❖ Earlier, there was a limit on the interest rate charged by microfinance lenders.
- ❖ The maximum interest rate was 10-12% above the cost of funds incurred by the institution or 2.75 times the average base rate of the five-largest commercial banks, whichever is lower.
- ❖ Now, the removal of margin caps brings NBFC-MFIs to the same level as other lenders such as banks.
- ❖ Also, the annual household income, to be eligible to avail of microfinance level has been raised to ₹3 lakh.



USA Fed rate hike

- ❖ The US Federal Reserve's decision to raise the interest rate will have only a limited spillover effect on India, as the markets have mostly priced in the impact.
- ❖ The Monetary policy will continue to be anchored by domestic macro-economic conditions rather than global factors.

Asian Development Outlook 2022

- ❖ India's GDP growth has been forecasted by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to 7.5 percent in 2022-23 from 2021-22's estimated 8.9 percent.
- ❖ The report has also suggested that the growth will pick up and reach 8 percent in 2023-2024.
- ❖ The Russia-Ukraine conflict has been factored in by the ADB for India.
- ❖ Due to this crisis oil prices will rise.
- ❖ The COVID-19 pandemic's severity will also subside with the rise in the rate of vaccination.
- ❖ China is expected to grow at 5 percent in 2022-23 and by 4.8 percent in 2023-24.

Nexo Card

- ❖ The London-based Cryptocurrency lender, Nexo has joined hands with global payments company Mastercard.
- ❖ This is to launch the world's first "crypto-backed" payment card.
- ❖ Electronic money firm DiPocket is Nexo's card issuer.
- ❖ The card requires no minimum repayments, monthly, or inactivity fees.
- ❖ There are no FX fees (foreign transaction) for up to 20,000 euros per month.
- ❖ Interest remains at 0% for customers who maintain a loan-to-value ratio of 20% or below.

Fincluvation

- ❖ India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) has announced the launch of Fincluvation
- ❖ Fincluvation is a joint initiative to collaborate with the Fintech Startup community to co-create and innovate solutions for financial inclusion.
- ❖ Fincluvation is an Industry first initiative to create a powerful platform to mobilize the start-up community toward building meaningful financial products aimed at financial inclusion.
- ❖ Fincluvation will be a permanent platform of IPPB to co-create inclusive financial solutions with participating start-ups.



Dhanlaxmi Bank

- ❖ For the collection of taxes, Dhanlaxmi Bank has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) and the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC).
- ❖ Dhanlaxmi Bank said in a regulatory filing that the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has authorized the bank to collect different taxes based on a recommendation from the Controller General of Accounts.
- ❖ Dhanlaxmi Bank is based in Kerala.

Digital Banking Units

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released the guidelines on the “Establishment of Digital Banking Units (DBUs)”.
- ❖ This is to commemorate the 75 years of independence of our country (Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav).
- ❖ These guidelines apply to all domestic scheduled commercial Banks (excluding Regional Rural Banks, Payments Banks, and Local Area Banks).
- ❖ DBUs are specialized fixed point business unit/hub housing certain minimum digital infrastructure for delivering digital banking products & services.
- ❖ It will also extend its service to existing financial products & services digitally.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

New Chemical Reference Material

- ❖ Six new and rare Reference Materials (RMs) have been indigenously developed by the National Dope Testing Laboratory (NDTL).
- ❖ RMs are the purest form of chemical that is required in all WADA-accredited laboratories across the world for anti-doping analysis.
- ❖ the six RMs have been indigenously developed by NDTL in collaboration with the CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (IIIM), Jammu, and the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER)-Guwahati.
- ❖ Anurag Thakur, Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports launched the RMs during NDTL’s 15th Governing Body Meeting.
- ❖ Till now, India has been importing RMs from Australia and Canada.



Astronomers detect identical twin of Jupiter

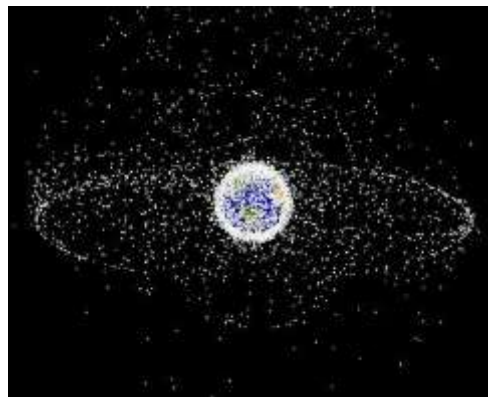


- ❖ Astronomers have discovered an identical twin of Jupiter dubbed as K2-2016-BLG-0005Lb.
- ❖ It has a similar mass of Jupiter.
- ❖ It is at a similar location (420 million miles away) from its star as Jupiter is from our Sun (462 million miles away).
- ❖ The study has been published as a preprint on ArXiv.org.
- ❖ It was submitted to the journal Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society.
- ❖ The exoplanet is about 17,000 light-years from the Earth, and it was first detected by the Kepler space telescope in 2016.
- ❖ To spot the planet, scientists used Albert Einstein's Theory of Relativity and Gravitational Microlensing.
- ❖ K2-2016-BLG-0005Lb is the first bound microlensing exoplanet to be discovered from space-based data.

Global Wind Report 2022

- ❖ In 2021 the wind energy sector had its second-best year
- ❖ But wind energy installations need to be increased dramatically so that it remains on track with the net-zero goals.
- ❖ The cumulative capacity for wind energy grew to 837 GW.
- ❖ This is according to the Global Wind Report 2022.
- ❖ This report has been published by the Global Wind Energy Council.

India's Space Debris



- ❖ The space debris that was created after India conducted anti-satellite tests in March 2019 seems to have disintegrated or decayed.
- ❖ This is according to the latest data by NASA.
- ❖ Due to this, the country's contribution to space debris has reduced to the lowest levels in the time period of the last four years.
- ❖ The United States, China, and the former Soviet Union countries have the highest number of defunct and active satellites.
- ❖ This also causes the said countries to produce the largest number of space debris.
- ❖ In 2019, India's contribution to space debris increased after the anti-satellite test.

Polycentric prosthetic knee

- ❖ Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, have unveiled India's first Polycentric Prosthetic Knee.
- ❖ It seeks to improve the conditions for thousands above the amputees.
- ❖ 'Kadam' is a polycentric knee for above Knee Prosthesis created in collaboration with Society for Biomedical Technology (SBMT) and Mobility India.

- ❖ It is also a 'Made in India' product.



HD1 - Most Distant Galaxy Ever Seen



- ❖ A galaxy named HD1 might be the most distant object that has ever been spotted by astronomers.
- ❖ The brightness of this galaxy might be due to an enormous black hole that is at its centre or due to the creation of large primordial stars.
- ❖ The galaxy HD1 was discovered by Fabio Pacucci along with his colleagues at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, Massachusetts of USA.

Spider species

- ❖ The World Spider Catalog (WSC) has announced that 50,000 known different species of spider crawling the Earth.
- ❖ It is based at the Natural History Museum of Bern in the Swiss capital.
- ❖ WSC's publishers said, "We estimate that there are still approximately 50,000 more spider species out there to discover".
- ❖ Guriurius minuano was registered as the 50,000th species of spider known across the world.

Bernardinelli - Bernstein comet



- ❖ Recently, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) Hubble Space Telescope has confirmed that the huge Bernardinelli-Bernstein comet is indeed the largest icy comet nucleus ever seen by astronomers.
- ❖ The nucleus is called the C/2014 UN271 which has an estimated diameter of almost 129 kilometers.
- ❖ The nucleus is around 50 times larger than that of most known comets, and its mass is estimated to be around 500 trillion tonnes.
- ❖ The comet was discovered by astronomers Pedro Bernardinelli and Gary Bernstein in archival images from the Dark Energy Survey at an astronomical observatory in Chile.
- ❖ It was discovered in November 2010 and has been intensively studied since.

Space Bricks

- ❖ Researchers from the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) have developed a way to make 'space bricks'.
- ❖ The team has demonstrated that the slurry-casting method is used to make 'space bricks' from Martian soil with the help of bacteria and urea.
- ❖ These 'space bricks' can be used to construct building-like structures on Mars that could facilitate human settlement on the red planet.



Paxlovid antiviral covid pill

- ❖ WHO made a strong recommendation for nirmatrelvir and ritonavir, sold under the name Paxlovid, for mild and moderate COVID-19 patients at the highest risk of hospital admission.
- ❖ WHO calls it the best therapeutic choice for high-risk patients to date.



Axiom Space Ax-1 Mission



- ❖ The Axiom-1 flight became the first private mission to the International Space Station.
- ❖ It was planned and organized by the private space company Axiom Space.
- ❖ Axiom-1 received permission from NASA and used a Dragon spacecraft from SpaceX to make its successful flight to the ISS.
- ❖ By making space travel more commercially viable, Axiom Space is hoping to improve our understanding of space and the human body by bringing researchers into space.

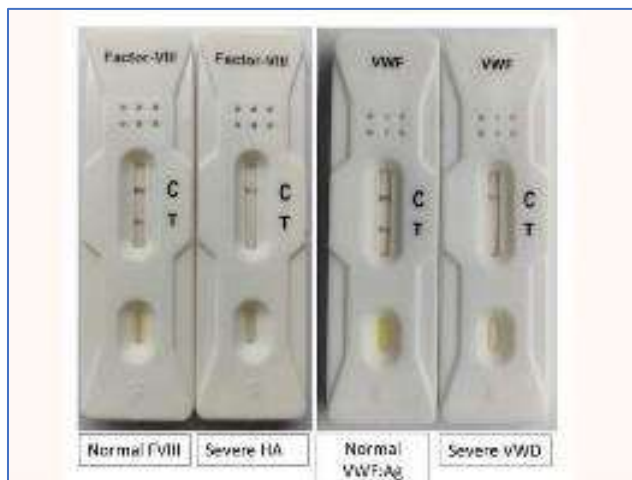
Capture of Solar Eclipse on Mars

- ❖ The Perseverance Mars rover of NASA has captured a video of an eclipse on Phobos.
- ❖ Phobos is one of the two moons of Mars.
- ❖ This Martian eclipse has provided the scientists with a new perspective regarding the subtle shifts in the orbits of the moons.
- ❖ The moon Phobos is inching very slowly towards Mars and they will collide millions of years from now.

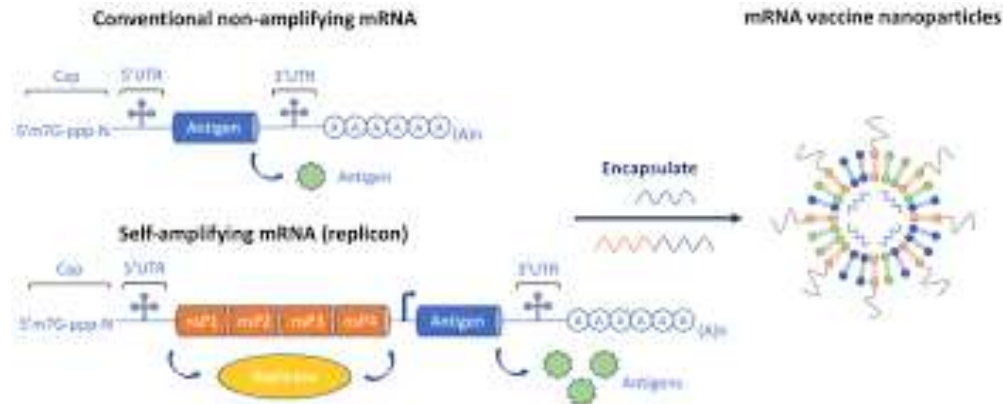


ICMR-NIIH kit

- ❖ ICMR-NIIH ((National Institute of Immunohaematology) has developed a simple and rapid result test kit to test for the diseases Haemophilia and Von Willebrand's disease (VWD).
- ❖ This kit has got the green signal from DGCI and it has been called for mass production.
- ❖ Von Willebrand disease is a bleeding disorder that is lifelong.



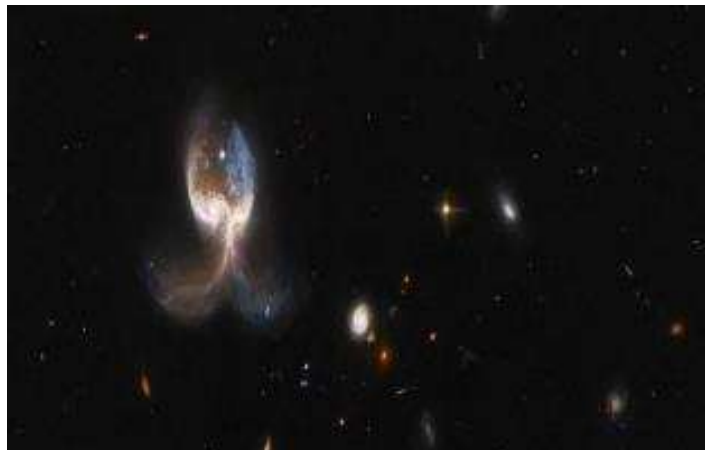
Self-replicating mRNA Covid-19 Vaccines



- ❖ A self-amplifying mRNA vaccine is one in which the delivered RNA multiplies inside the body.
- ❖ It has shown promising results against Covid-19 in ongoing trials.
- ❖ The vaccine, ARCT-154, has been developed by Arcturus Therapeutics Holdings, based in San Diego, California.
- ❖ Its trials are in progress in Vietnam.
- ❖ It offered 95% protection against severe Covid-19 and death, and 55% against Covid infection.

Image of Merging Galaxies

- ❖ NASA has showcased a picture of two merging galaxies that are located in the VV-689 system.
- ❖ These two merging galaxies have been given the nickname “Angel Wing”.
- ❖ The image of the colliding galaxies has been taken from the Galaxy Zoo citizen science project.





ENVIRONMENT

Chandrapur - hottest city

- ❖ According to the El Dorado weather website, Chandrapur in Maharashtra was the third hottest city in the world.
- ❖ It had a maximum temperature of 45.3 degrees Celsius.
- ❖ Kayes city of Mali is the hottest place on earth.
- ❖ Segou of Mali is second on the list.
- ❖ According to the Regional Meteorological Centre, Nagpur was also the hottest city in Vidarbha followed by Akola.

Warmest Days in 121 Years

- ❖ The analysis of the India Meteorological Department has shown that India has recorded its warmest March days, on average, in 121 years.
- ❖ The maximum temperature across the nation crossed 1.86°C above normal.
- ❖ This figure was mostly due to large deviations in the northwest and central India's maximum temperature.
- ❖ The primary reasons were the lack of rainfall and consistent hot and dry westerly winds that was blowing into central and northwest India.

IPCC's Sixth Assessment Report – Highlights

PREVIOUS IPCC ASSESSMENT REPORTS: HIGHLIGHTS

FIRST REPORT, 1990

- Emissions resulting from human activities are increasing atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases
- Global temperatures have risen by 0.3°–0.6°C in 100 years. In business-as-usual scenario, likely to increase by 2°C compared to pre-industrial levels by 2025, and 4°C by 2100
- Sea-level likely to rise 65 cm by 2100
- Report formed basis for negotiation of UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in 1992

SECOND REPORT, 1995

- Revises projected rise in global temperatures to 3°C by 2100, and sea-level rise to 50 cm
- The scientific underpinning for Kyoto Protocol in 1997

THIRD REPORT, 2001

- Revises predicted temperature rise to 1.4°–5.8°C by 2100 compared to 1990
- Rainfall to increase; sea-level likely to rise by 80 cm from 1990 by 2100.
- Frequency, intensity and duration of extreme weather events to increase
- Presents new and stronger evidence

to suggest most of warming attributable to human activities

FOURTH REPORT, 2007

- Greenhouse gas emissions rose by 70% between 1970 and 2004
- Atmospheric concentrations of CO₂ in 2005 (379 ppm) the highest in 650,000 years
- In worst-case scenario, global temperatures could rise 4.5°C by 2100 from pre-industrial levels; sea-levels could be 60 cm higher than in 1990

- Wins 2007 Peace Nobel for IPCC
- Report is the scientific input for the 2009 Copenhagen climate meeting

FIFTH REPORT, 2014

- Temperature rise by 2100 could be 4.8°C from pre-industrial times
- Atmospheric concentrations of CO₂, CH₄ and N₂O “unprecedented” in last 800,000 years
- More frequent and longer heat waves “virtually certain”
- “Large fraction of species” face extinction
- Forms scientific basis for negotiations of Paris Agreement in 2015

- ❖ The latest series of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's Sixth Assessment Report has highlighted that without immediate emissions reductions across all sectors, it would be difficult to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius.
- ❖ The report also stated that to keep the temperature checked to 1.5 degrees Celsius, the global emission of greenhouse gas has to peak before 2025 and by 2030 it must be reduced by 43 percent.

Air Quality Database 2022



- ❖ Ahead of World Health Day (7th April), the World Health Organisation (WHO) has released Air Quality Database 2022.
- ❖ It shows that Almost the entire global population (99 %) breathes air that exceeds WHO's air quality limits.
- ❖ The WHO for the first time has taken ground measurements of annual mean concentrations of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂).
- ❖ It also includes measurements of Particulate Matter with diameters equal to or smaller than 10 µm (PM₁₀) or 2.5 µm (PM_{2.5}).
- ❖ According to the report "Air quality is poorest in the Eastern Mediterranean and Southeast Asia regions, followed by Africa".
- ❖ The highest concentrations of Nitrogen dioxide were found in the eastern Mediterranean region.
- ❖ In low and middle-income countries, air quality in less than 1% of the cities complies with WHO recommended thresholds.

Expanding Heat Resilience report

- ❖ The cities and districts of India must increase their efforts to protect the vulnerable during the summer.
- ❖ This is according to a new report titled 'Expanding Heat Resilience'.
- ❖ According to this report, the cities of the country are reeling under heatwaves.
- ❖ In Kerala, and Himachal Pradesh extreme temperatures are being recorded.
- ❖ These states have no history of heatwaves.

Study on Forest Fires

- ❖ A study has found that in the past two decades the intensity and frequency of forest fires, as well as an increase in the number of months in which forest fires occur, have increased.
- ❖ It is released by the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW).
- ❖ The study is titled 'Managing Forest Fires in a Changing Climate.'
- ❖ This study found that in the past two decades there has been a ten-fold increase in forest fires.
- ❖ The study has also found that over 62 percent of the states in India are vulnerable to high-intensity forest fires.
- ❖ Significant forest fires have been reported in Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand, and Rajasthan.

STATES

Catch the Rain Campaign 2022

- ❖ The Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain Campaign - 2022 was launched by N. Biren Singh, the Chief Minister of Manipur.
- ❖ The campaign was launched with the aim of intensifying the various measures of water conservation in all the identified water-stressed districts and blocks across Manipur.
- ❖ "Catch the Rain, where it falls, when it falls" is the theme selected for this campaign.



Living Root Bridges - Meghalaya



- ❖ 'Jingkieng Jri or Living Root Bridge' has been included in the tentative list of World Heritage Sites of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).
- ❖ It is found in over 70 villages in Meghalaya
- ❖ It highlights the socio-cultural, social, and botanical links between people and nature.
- ❖ Villagers grow the living root bridges by training the 'ficus elastica' tree on both sides of water bodies.
- ❖ These trees over a period of about 10 to 15 years form the bridge.

Assam and Meghalaya agreement

- ❖ Assam and Meghalaya agreed to resolve their five-decade-long border dispute in six of the 12 contested places.
- ❖ Chief Ministers of Assam and Meghalaya, Himanta Biswa Sarma and Conrad Sangma, respectively, inked the agreement in the presence of Union Home Minister Amit Shah.
- ❖ The two states share an 884.9-kilometer boundary.

Vinaya Samarasya Yojana

- ❖ The government of Karnataka announced the Vinaya Samarasya Yojana.
- ❖ It is a public awareness campaign against caste prejudice in the state's gramme panchayats.
- ❖ It will be formally launched on April 14, the birth anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar.



- ❖ The initiative was named after Vinay, a three-year-old Dalit kid who strayed into a temple in Miyapur hamlet in Karnataka's Koppal district to seek shelter from the rain in September 2021.

Rajasthan Foundation Day

- ❖ On 30th March Rajasthan Diwas (Rajasthan Foundation Day) is observed to commemorate the state's formation.
- ❖ On 30th March 1949, Rajasthan was formed after the merging of Rajputana into the Indian Union.
- ❖ The 73rd foundation day of Rajasthan is being celebrated on Rajasthan Day 2022.
- ❖ The largest state by area in India is Rajasthan.
- ❖ 4 percent of the country's geographical area is covered by Rajasthan.
- ❖ Rajasthan is India's seventh-largest state by population.
- ❖ The state has three national tiger reserves which are Ranthambore National Park (Sawai Madhopur), Sariska Tiger Reserve (Alwar), and Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve (Kota).
- ❖ Rajasthan is also known as the Land of Kings.

India's top vegetable producer

- ❖ Uttar Pradesh has become the top producer of vegetables.
- ❖ It got back its first position by demoting West Bengal to the second position
- ❖ Andhra Pradesh remains the top fruit producer.

 Fruits production (mt)			 Vegetables production (mt)		
	2020-21	2021-22		2020-21	2021-22
Andhra Pradesh	17.70	18.01	Uttar Pradesh	29.16	29.58
Maharashtra	11.74	12.30	West Bengal	30.33	28.23
Uttar Pradesh	11.23	11.26	Madhya Pradesh	21.33	20.59
Karnataka	7.99	8.55	Bihar	17.84	17.77
Gujarat	8.24	8.24	Maharashtra	14.21	16.78
All India	102.48	102.92	All India	200.45	199.88

Personal loans to prisoners

- ❖ The Maharashtra government has introduced a scheme that allows prisoners to obtain personal loans from banks.

- ❖ This is to help their families improve their living conditions and meet expenses related to their legal matters.
- ❖ It will be a first-of-its-kind initiative in our country.
- ❖ The Maharashtra State Co-operative Bank would provide loans up to 50,000 under the scheme at a 7% interest rate.
- ❖ This type of loan is called a “khavti” loan.

India Boat & Marine Show

- ❖ The 4th edition of the India Boat & Marine Show (IBMS) was held at Bolgatty Palace in Kochi in Kerala.
- ❖ IBMS is India’s only and most influential Boat and Marine industry-related exhibition.
- ❖ The event is organized by Kochi-based Cruz Expo.

Gangaur festival

- ❖ It is celebrated in Rajasthan and some parts of Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, and West Bengal.
- ❖ It is one of Rajasthan’s most important festivals.
- ❖ The women worship Gauri, the wife of Lord Shiva.

Delhi Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Bill



- ❖ The Rajya Sabha passed the bill.

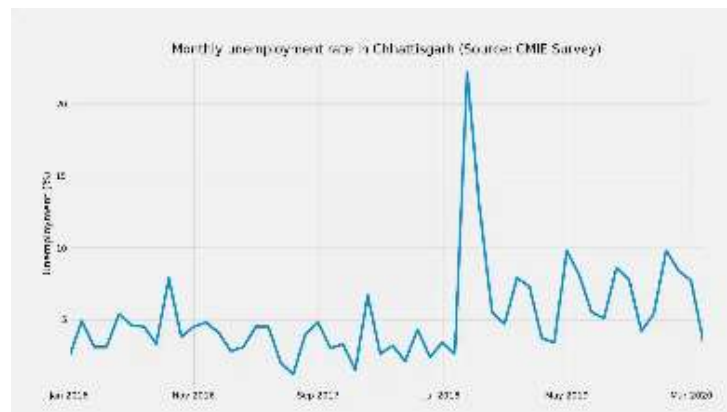


- ❖ The bill is aimed at unifying the three Municipal Corporations of Delhi (North, South, East).
- ❖ This is to ensure a robust setup for synergized and strategic planning and optimal utilization of resources.
- ❖ The Lok Sabha had previously passed the Bill, which seeks to amend the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act of 1957.

Sarhul Festival 2022

- ❖ Sarhul is the festival of the New Year celebrated in the state of Jharkhand by the tribal communities as part of the local Sarna religion.
- ❖ It is celebrated in the Hindu month of Chaitra, three days after the appearance of the new moon.
- ❖ It is also a celebration of the beginning of spring.
- ❖ The word "Sarhul" is connected with tree worship.

Lowest unemployment rate – Chhattisgarh



- ❖ Chhattisgarh has topped the country with the lowest unemployment rate in the month of March.
- ❖ This is according to the latest figures on unemployment recently released by the Center for Monitoring Indian Economy Organization.
- ❖ The unemployment rate in Chhattisgarh has reached the lowest level ever (0.6 percent).
- ❖ The unemployment rate in the country is 7.5%.
- ❖ The urban unemployment rate is 8.5 percent and the rural unemployment rate is 7.1 percent.

Note

- ❖ Chhattisgarh adopted a new model three years ago in line with Mahatma Gandhi's vision of 'Gram Swaraj' while setting the goal of inclusive growth, with an emphasis on increasing economic connectivity between villages and cities.
- ❖ Rozgar (Employment) Mission is being operated to create 12 to 15 lakh new employment opportunities in the coming 5 years in Chhattisgarh.

Nandini Ksheera Samridhi Cooperative Bank

- ❖ Karnataka Chief Minister, Basavaraj Bommai established the 'Nandini Ksheera Samridhi Cooperative Bank'.
- ❖ It is a revolutionary initiative that will provide greater financial strength for the milk producers.
- ❖ Karnataka is the only state in the country to set up an exclusive bank for milk producers.
- ❖ Union Home Minister Amit Shah launched the logo of "Nandini Ksheera Samurdhi Sahakar Bank".

Kangra Tea

- ❖ Himachal Pradesh's Kangra Tea will soon get a European Commission Geographical Indication Tag (GI Tag).
- ❖ This tag helps Kangra tea to get an opportunity to enter the European market.
- ❖ Kangra tea received the Indian GI tag in 2005.

Community museum



- ❖ In Ladakh, a community museum is opened in the Gya - Sasoma villages of the Leh district.
- ❖ This is to preserve and promote the region's rich cultural history.
- ❖ This is India's 1st community museum.

Him Prahari scheme

- ❖ The Government of Uttarakhand is set to implement the 'Him Prahari' Scheme.
- ❖ The Him Prahari scheme is meant for ex-servicemen and youngsters.
- ❖ It is aimed at stopping the migration of people from the state.

Karnataka 'Integration Day'

- ❖ Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai announced that Sri Siddalinga Swami of Tontadarya Mutt's birth anniversary in Gadag will be celebrated across the state as 'Integration Day'.
- ❖ This was announced after the Chief Minister inaugurated the Aikya Mantapa.
- ❖ The Mantapa is a structure built around the location where the seer's mortal remains were buried on the Tontadarya Mutt grounds in Gadag.

300 units of free power for Punjab



30 DAYS REPORT CARD

300 UNITS OF FREE ELECTRICITY FROM JULY 1

LAUNCH OF ANTI-CORRUPTION ACTION LINE (+91 9501-200-200)

25,000 NEW GOVERNMENT JOBS ANNOUNCED

REGULARISATION OF 35,000 CONTRACTUAL WORKERS

DOORSTEP DELIVERY OF RATION ANNOUNCED

- Private schools instructed to not increase fees.
- Anti-gangster task force set up and directed SSPs and Police Commissioners to take strict action against gangsters.
- Over ₹1000 crore received for Rural Development Fund with concerted efforts.
- Photographs of Shaheed Bhagat Singh and Baba Sahib Dr. B.R. Ambedkar in Government Offices.
- Compensation worth ₹101 crore plus released to farmers.
- One MLA, One Petition.
- Withdrawal of excess security from all MLAs.
- March 23 declared as public holiday to mark Shaheed Diwas.
- MLAs directed to remain available 24x7 to the general public.
- Farmers assured that every single grain of farmer's produce will be procured smoothly.
- All DCs asked to upgrade relief centres within a month.

Department of Information & Public Relations, Punjab

- ❖ Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann announced 300 units of free electricity each month for every household in the state from July 1.

- ❖ Mann said Scheduled Castes, backward castes, below-poverty-line households, and freedom fighters currently getting free 200 units each month will now get 300 units of electricity monthly.

Highest Indian national flag

- ❖ Manipur chief minister, N Biren Singh announced that a 165-foot-high Indian national flag would be hoisted at the Indian National Army (INA) headquarters complex in Moirang in Manipur's Bishnupur district.
- ❖ It would be the tallest in the Northeast.

African Swine Fever

- ❖ African Swine Fever cases have been detected on a government breeding farm in Tripura.
- ❖ A total of 63 mature pigs had died.
- ❖ The farm is located in Devipur, Sepahijala district.
- ❖ It is run by the state's Animal Resources Development Department.



L-root server

- ❖ The first state in the country to get the L-root server is Rajasthan.
- ❖ With seamless internet connectivity, this server will assist the State government in providing its flagship digital services and enforcing e-governance.
- ❖ This new server has been installed at Rajasthan's Bhamashah State Data Centre, Jaipur in collaboration with the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN).
- ❖ Currently, there are three J-root servers deployed in Mumbai, New Delhi, and Gorakhpur, and two L-root servers deployed in Kolkata and Mumbai.

Electric three-wheeler plant

- ❖ Telangana is to host the world's largest electric three-wheeler plant with the California-based Biliti Electric Inc.
- ❖ It plans to set up a factory, in phases, to produce 2.40 lakh EVs a year in the State.
- ❖ It will be the world's largest electric three-wheeler factory.

Social Awareness and Action to Neutralise Pneumonia



- ❖ Health and Medical Education Minister of Karnataka, K. Sudhakar launched the 'Social Awareness and Action to Neutralise Pneumonia Successfully' (SAANS).

- ❖ SAANS is a campaign that has been launched to ensure early detection and greater awareness of pneumonia in children under the age of five.
- ❖ Pneumonia is a lung infection that is caused due to viral, bacterial, or fungal infection.
- ❖ As per SRS 2018, Karnataka's under-five mortality is at 28 per 1000 live births.
- ❖ To achieve the National Health Policy goals, pneumonia mortality has to be reduced to less than 3 deaths per 1,000 live births.
- ❖ In India, childhood pneumonia contributes to 15 percent of the nation's under-five deaths.

Parboiled rice issue

PARBOILED RICE STOCK WITH FCI (LAKH TONNES)	
STATE	STOCKS
Andhra Pradesh	0.66
Telangana	16.52
Chhattisgarh	1.49
Odisha	2.07
Jharkhand	2.98
Kerala	3.00
Tamil Nadu	12.09
West Bengal	0.43
Karnataka	0.1
Bihar	1.09
Haryana	0.11
Punjab	0.04
TOTAL	40.58
<i>As on April 1. Source: Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution</i>	

- ❖ Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao and members of his Cabinet staged a dharna at Telangana House of New Delhi, demanding a uniform paddy procurement policy.
- ❖ The protest came after the Centre said it was stopping the purchase of excess parboiled rice, of which Telangana is a major producer.
- ❖ The Centre has said demand is low and it cannot waste money on buying the excess quantity of parboiled rice.
- ❖ The expression parboiled rice refers to rice that has been partially boiled at the paddy stage, before milling



Digital bus service

- ❖ Maharashtra State Environment Minister Aaditya Thackeray inaugurated the city's first completely digital bus on the Gateway of India to Churchgate route of Mumbai.
- ❖ Brihanmumbai Electricity Supply and Transport (BEST) is India's first bus service to go completely digital.

Manipur-Nagaland border dispute

- ❖ The Southern Angami Public Organisation had announced a bandh earlier in the month of March.
- ❖ This was because of Manipur's failure in withdrawing armed personnel and permanent structures from the disputed Kezoltsa area.
- ❖ Southern Angami Public Organisation is a tribal body of Nagaland.
- ❖ The root cause is the old land ownership dispute between three Naga tribes - the Angamis of Nagaland, and the Maos and Marams of Manipur.
- ❖ Kezoltsa is a thickly forested area on the periphery of the picturesque Dzukou Valley, bordering Nagaland and Manipur.
- ❖ The claim that the entire Dzukou Valley belongs to Nagaland is made by Southern Angami Public Organisation, not by the Nagaland state.

World-Class Data Centre

- ❖ A Memorandum of Understanding has been inked between the government of Tripura and the NIXI-CSC Data Services Centre to establish an international standard Data Centre in the state.
- ❖ To set up this proposed data centre, CSE e-governance services Ltd and the National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI) have floated a joint venture.
- ❖ The international standard Data Centre will be located at Indranagar, Tripura.

Dudh Vani Community Radio Station

- ❖ PM Modi inaugurated a community radio station named Dudh Vani in Gujarat.
- ❖ It is dedicated to animal husbandry.
- ❖ The Banas Dairy Community Radio station has been established by the Banaskantha District Cooperative Milk Producers Union.
- ❖ It is also known as Banas Dairy.
- ❖ This is the nation's first community radio station that is dedicated solely to the cattle breeders.

Village library

- ❖ Jamtara in Jharkhand has become the only district in the country where all gram panchayats have community libraries.
- ❖ This district with a population of about eight lakh has a total of 118 gram panchayats under six blocks.
- ❖ Each panchayat has a well-equipped library.

Meghalaya Enterprise Architecture Project

- ❖ The government of Meghalaya's Planning Department's initiative of the "e-Proposal System", has won the UN Award - World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Forum Prizes 2022.
- ❖ The "e-Proposal System" is a part of Meghalaya Enterprise Architecture (MeghEA), which eliminates 75 percent physical work of files in all government departments in the state.
- ❖ It aims to improve governance and service delivery for the people of the state using the power of various digital technologies.



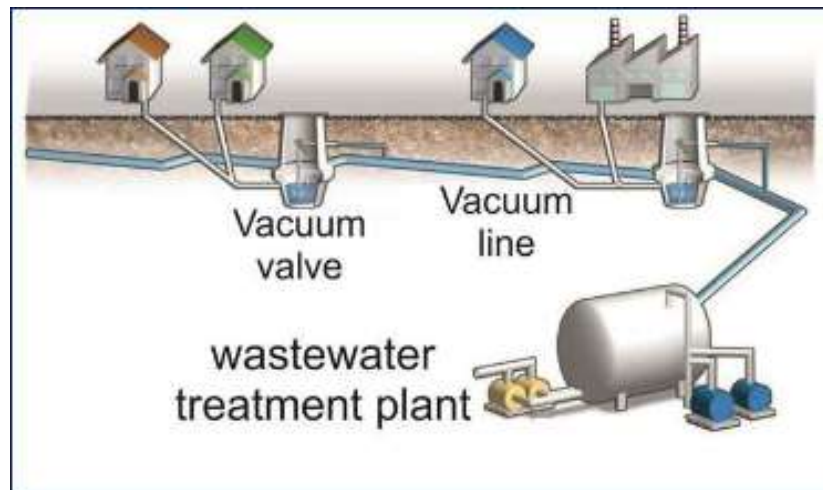
Cosmos Malabaricus Project

- ❖ Kerala has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Netherlands for a project that is named 'Cosmos Malabaricus.'
- ❖ This project will be helping to further illustrate Kerala's history in the 18th century.
- ❖ The state will also be collaborating with the Netherlands to establish paint academies in Malappuram and Kollam.

Khongjom Day

- ❖ Khongjom Day was observed in Manipur at the Khongjom War Memorial Complex.
- ❖ Rich tributes were paid in Manipur to the valiant sons of the state who made tremendous sacrifices fighting against the British in the battle of Khongjom during the 1891 Anglo-Manipuri War.
- ❖ Every year on the 23rd of April, Manipur commemorates Manipuri warriors who battled against the British.

Vacuum-based Sewer System



- ❖ Agra, Uttar Pradesh has become the first city in the country to have vacuum-based sewer systems.
- ❖ These vacuums would be used in public places.
- ❖ Agra Smart City officials told the media that the municipal corporation has linked 240 such houses near the Taj Mahal with vacuum-based sewers.
- ❖ This system will automatically issue an alert if there is a choke or any other problems.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

Dune - Namit Malhotra

- ❖ This year's Oscars was named to Dune as the Timothee Chalamet and Zendaya starrer sci-fi thriller bagged six wins.
- ❖ Dune was nominated in 10 categories and it won in 6 of them.
- ❖ This win was a proud moment for India because of Namit Malhotra.
- ❖ Namit Malhotra is the CEO and Chairman of Double Negative (DNEG).
- ❖ This studio did the VFX for the film.

President of the Badminton Association of India

- ❖ The incumbent president of the Badminton Association of India (BAI), Himanta Biswa Sarma has been re-elected unopposed for a second four years term, from 2022 to 2026.
- ❖ He is also the current Chief Minister of Assam.
- ❖ He was first elected as BAI chief in 2017.
- ❖ Apart from this, Sarma also serves as Vice President of Badminton Asia and a member of the Badminton World Federation Executive Council.

Most valued celebrities

Rank	Name	Brand Value (in Millions)
1	Virat Kohli	USD 185.7
2	Ranveer Singh	USD 158.3
3	Akshay Kumar	USD 139.6
4	Alia Bhatt	USD 68.1
5	MS Dhoni	USD 61.2
6	Amitabh Bachchan	USD 54.2
7	Deepika Padukone	USD 51.6
8	Salman Khan	USD 51.6
9	Ayushmann Khurrana	USD 49.3
10	Hrithik Roshan	USD 48.5

- ❖ Indian Cricketer Virat Kohli was ranked as the most valued celebrity for the 5th consecutive time in 2021.
- ❖ This is according to the Celebrity Brand Valuation Report 2021 (7th Edition) titled "Digital Acceleration 2.0." released by Duff & Phelps (Now Kroll).

- ❖ Alia Bhatt has ranked 4th and has become the most valued female celebrity.
- ❖ She is the youngest celebrity among the top 10 and she is the most valued brand amongst female Bollywood actors.

Aprajita Sharrma

- ❖ Ms. Aprajita Sharrma has been appointed vice-chair of the Standing Committee on Administration and Management at the International Telecommunication Union's Council sessions in Geneva from March 21 to March 31, 2022.
- ❖ Aprajita will continue to serve as vice-chairperson of the Council Standing Committee in 2023 and 2024.
- ❖ She will serve as chairman in 2025 and 2026.

Anandi Gopal Joshi



- ❖ The 157th birth anniversary of Anandi Gopal Joshi of Bombay presidency was observed on March 31, 2022.
- ❖ She is one of India's first female doctors of western medicine.
- ❖ She secured a degree in medicine at the age of 21 from Women's Medical College of Pennsylvania of USA.

Grammy Awards 2022

- ❖ At The Grammy Awards 2022, the highest honors in the music industry were bestowed on deserving artists in Las Vegas.
- ❖ This time the venue was shifted also from Los Angeles to Las Vegas in USA.
- ❖ The show will be hosted by Trevor Noah.



- ❖ Olivia Rodrigo won the Grammy for Best New Artist as well as for Best Pop Vocal Album.
- ❖ Doja Cat and SZA won for Best Pop Duo/ Group.
- ❖ Jon Batiste won Best Album Of The Year.

Best new artist: Olivia Rodrigo
 Song of the year (songwriter's award): "Leave the Door Open," Silk Sonic (Brandon Anderson, Christopher Brody Brown, Dernst Emile II and Bruno Mars)
 Best rap performance: "Family Ties," Baby Keem featuring Kendrick Lamar
 Best country album: "Starting Over," Chris Stapleton
 Best music video: "Freedom," Jon Batiste
 Producer of the year, non-classical: Jack Antonoff
 Best R&B song: "Leave the Door Open," Silk Sonic
 Best R&B performance: (tie) "Leave the Door Open," Silk Sonic, and "Pick Up Your Feelings," Jazmine Sullivan
 Best music film: "Summer of Soul"
 Best dance/electronic album: "Subconsciously," Black Coffee
 Best global music: "Mohabbat," Arooj Aftab
 Best global music album: "Mother Nature," Angélique Kidjo
 Best traditional blues album: "I Be Trying," Cedric Burnside
 Best contemporary blues album: "662," Christone "Kingfish" Ingram
 Best folk album: "They're Calling Me Home," Rhiannon Giddens with Francesco Turrisi
 Best historical album: "Joni Mitchell Archives, Vol. 1: The Early Years (1963-1967)"
 Best Pop Duo / Group Performance: Doja Cat and SZA for "Kiss Me More"
 Record of the year: "Leave the door open" by Bruno Mars and Anderson Paak
 Album of the year: "We Are" by Jon Batiste

Book by by Devika Rangachari

- ❖ Award-winning children's writer and historian, Devika Rangachari have authored a new novel titled "Queen of Fire".
- ❖ It explores the story of Rani Lakshmibai of Jhansi.
- ❖ The book focuses on the journey of Rani Lakshmibai as a queen, soldier, and statesman.

Grammy Awards 2022 - Indian Winners

- ❖ At the 64th Annual Grammy Awards, two Indian musicians were among the winners.
- ❖ Falu, an Indian-American singer-songwriter won her maiden Grammy in the category of Best Children's Music Album.
- ❖ Falguni Shah or Falu won the award for her album A Colorful World.
- ❖ Composer Ricky Kej also won his second Grammy as he and Stewart Copeland won the award in the category of Best New Age Album.

- ❖ In 2015, Ricky Kej had won his first Grammy Award.



Asia's richest person

- ❖ Gautam Adani became Asia's richest person with a net worth touching \$100 billion.
- ❖ Adani is at 10th position in the global Index, while Reliance Industries chairman Ambani slipped to 11th position.
- ❖ According to Bloomberg Billionaires Index, Adani has also become a centibillionaire.
- ❖ Centibillionaire refers to a person with a net worth of \$100 billion or above.

Book by Professor Alok Chakrawal

- ❖ Union Minister of Education and Skill Development, Dharmendra Pradhan released a book titled “Birsa Munda – Janjatiya Nayak”.
- ❖ The book has been written by Prof. Alok Chakrawal.
- ❖ This book is a comprehensive attempt to bring to the fore the struggle of Bhagwan Birsa Munda and the contribution of forest dwellers in the freedom movement.

Chameli Devi Jain Award

- ❖ Aarefa Johari was awarded the Chameli Devi Jain Award for an Outstanding Woman Media person 2021.
- ❖ It was announced by the Media Foundation.
- ❖ Aarefa Johari works for ‘Scroll’ in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- ❖ Chameli Devi Jain Award is the annual prestigious recognition in the field of Journalism for women media person journalists in India who have reported on themes such as social development, politics, equity, gender justice, health, war and conflict, and consumer values.



Book by Ashwini Shrivastava

- ❖ A new book titled “Decoding Indian Babudom” authored by Ashwini Shrivastava and published by Vitasta Publishing Private Limited launched.
- ❖ This is a first-of-its-kind book by a journalist covering the bureaucratic system of India.
- ❖ It highlights India’s administrative system and functioning of governance from a common man’s point of view.
- ❖ The author recommended “15 Sutras” to achieve good and effective governance that can bring in investment by boosting businessmen’s confidence in the administration.

Pritzker Prize 2022

- ❖ Francis Kere becomes first African and the first black to win this prize.
- ❖ He was born in Burkina Faso, Africa.
- ❖ It was established by the Hyatt Foundation in 1979 in the USA.
- ❖ It is an award presented annually to honor a living architect.
- ❖ It is often referred to as the Nobel Prize for architecture.

Billie Eilish

- ❖ She becomes First Oscar Winner Born in 21st Century.
- ❖ She was awarded for her song ‘No Time to Die’.
- ❖ She is an American singer-songwriter.
- ❖ Billie Eilish and brother Finneas won an Oscar for No Time to Die at the 94th Academy Awards.

Guru Nabha Dass

- ❖ Punjab government has announced gazetted holiday on the birth anniversary of Guru Nabha Dass taking it out from the list of restricted holidays.
- ❖ He is a 16th-century saint.
- ❖ Guru Nabha Dass was born on April 8, 1537, at village Bhadrachalam on the bank of Godavari river in Khammam district, in the present-day Telangana.
- ❖ Guru Nabha Dass wrote ‘Bhagatmal’ in 1585.

World Press Photo of the Year

- ❖ A photograph by Canadian photographer Amber Bracken titled “Kamloops Residential School” has won the 2022 World Press Photo of the Year award.
- ❖ It organized by the Dutch foundation World Press Photo.
- ❖ The photo shows children’s clothing hung on crosses.
- ❖ It commemorates more than two hundred children who died of maltreatment, neglect, and disease at the Kamloops Indian Residential School in British Columbia.
- ❖ Ms. Bracken’s photo also won the Singles award in the regional North and Central America category.



Saraswati Samman 2021

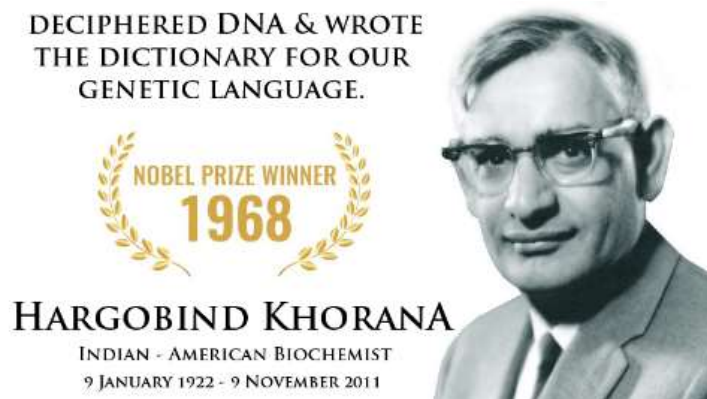
- ❖ Noted poet and litterateur Prof Ramdarash Mishra will be awarded the prestigious Saraswati Samman 2021.
- ❖ This is for his collection of poems ‘Mein to Yahan Hun’.
- ❖ This was announced by KK Birla Foundation announced.
- ❖ The recipient is chosen by a selection committee, whose current head is Dr. Subhash C Kashyap.

Book by Vinod Rai

- ❖ Vinod Rai has penned a book titled, “Not Just A Nightwatchman: My Innings with BCCI”.
- ❖ He encapsulates his 33-month stint at the BCCI in this book.
- ❖ He is the former Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG).
- ❖ He is the chief of the Supreme court-appointed Committee of Administrators (CoA) in 2017.

Har Gobind Khorana

- ❖ The year 2022 marks the 100th birthday of Nobel Prize-winning chemist Har Gobind Khorana.
- ❖ He was born on January 9, 1922, in Raipur, India [now Raipur, Pakistan].
- ❖ He began research on nucleic acids during a fellowship at the University of Cambridge (1951) under Sir Alexander Todd.
- ❖ He shared the 1968 Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine with Marshall W. Nirenberg and Robert W. Holley.
- ❖ The Indian government awarded Khorana the Padma Vibhushan in 1969.



Author Amar Mitra

- ❖ Veteran Bengali author Amar Mitra was awarded this year's O.Henry prize for a short story he wrote 45 years back.
- ❖ He bagged the award for his short story titled 'Gaonburo'- a Bengali short fiction.
- ❖ It was translated into English (The Old Man Of Kusumpur) earlier.
- ❖ The translated work was published in an American magazine in 2020.
- ❖ Mitra was awarded the Sahitya Academy award in 2006.

Lata Mangeshkar Award

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be honored with the inaugural Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Puraskar.
- ❖ This was announced by the late singer's family.
- ❖ He will receive the award at the Master Deenanath Mangeshkar Awards ceremony.

Jnanpith Award



- ❖ The 56th Jnanpith for the year 2021 was awarded to Nilamani Phookan of Assam.
- ❖ Nilmani Phookan is the third person to win the Jnanpith Award from Assam after Mamoni Roisom Goswami and Birendra Kumar Bhattacharya.
- ❖ The octogenarian was awarded the Padma Shri in 1990 and received the Sahitya Akademi Fellowship in 2002.
- ❖ Novelist Damodar Mauzo was chosen for the 57th Jnanpith Award 2022 for his contribution to Indian literature.

2021 Tree City of the World



A programme of:



- ❖ The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation and Arbor Day Foundation have jointly recognized Mumbai and Hyderabad as the '2021 Tree City of the World'.
- ❖ The two Indian cities have won the recognition for their "commitment to growing and maintaining urban trees and greenery in building healthy, resilient and happy cities".
- ❖ It must be noted that Hyderabad has been recognized for a second consecutive year.
- ❖ In 2021, Hyderabad was the only city in India to be recognized as a '2020 Tree City of the World'.

Iqbal Singh Lalpura

- ❖ The central government has re-appointed retired Punjab-cadre IPS officer Iqbal Singh Lalpura as the chairperson of the National Commission for Minorities.
- ❖ Lalpura was first appointed as chairman in September last year.
- ❖ He had to resign from the post in December to contest as the BJP candidate from the Ropar assembly constituency, which he lost.

International Gandhi Award for Leprosy, 2021

- ❖ M. Venkaiah Naidu has conferred the International Gandhi Award for Leprosy, 2021 to Sahyog Kushtha Yagna Trust, Gujarat, and Dr. Bhushan Kumar of Chandigarh in New Delhi.
- ❖ It is an annual award that is instituted by the Gandhi Memorial Leprosy Foundation.

80th SKOCH Summit 2022 – NMDC



- ❖ National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC), under the Ministry of Steel, received one gold and one silver medal in the 80th SKOCH Summit and SKOCH Awards.
- ❖ The event was held recently in New Delhi.
- ❖ The SKOCH Summit's subject was 'State of BFSI & PSUs.'
- ❖ The project 'Promotion of Technical Education and Skill Development in Dantewada District of Chhattisgarh through NMDC ITI Bhansi' got the Gold Award in the category social responsibility.
- ❖ The project 'Project Kalpataru' for ERP implementation earned the Silver Award in the category digital inclusion.



Book by Prem Rawat

- ❖ Indian author Prem Rawat has launched his book 'Hear Yourself' for the Indian subcontinent in Mumbai.
- ❖ This New York Times bestseller book is already available in 58 countries and five languages.
- ❖ This book is to help people understand their own potential.
- ❖ This book is to help them develop better self-understanding.

Tolkappiyam

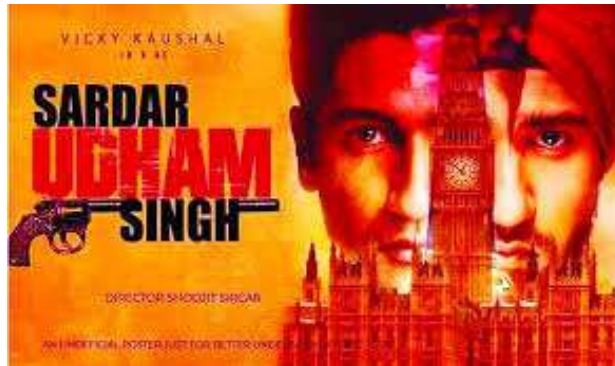
- ❖ The Hindi translation of Tolkappiyam and the Kannada translations of 9 works of Classical Tamil literature were recently issued by the Minister of State for Education.
- ❖ Tamil literature goes back to the Sangam Era, named after the assembly (Sangam) of poets.
- ❖ Tolkappiyam was authored by Tolkappiyar and is considered the earliest Tamil literary work.
- ❖ Though it is a work on Tamil grammar, it also provides insights into the political and socio-economic conditions of the time.

Malcolm Adiseshiah Award 2022

- ❖ Well-known Indian economist and political commentator, Prabhat Patnaik has been selected for the Malcolm Adiseshiah Award 2022.
- ❖ The award is annually given by the Malcolm and Elizabeth Adiseshiah Trust.
- ❖ It is given to an outstanding social scientist.
- ❖ The award includes a citation and prize money of Rs 2 lakh.

Director of the Year award

- ❖ Nitin Gadkari, Minister for Road Transport and Highways, presented the 2021 AIMA Managing India Awards (AIMA) in multiple categories in Delhi.
- ❖ In the films category, Shoojit Sircar was honored with the Director Of The Year award for Sardar Udham.
- ❖ This year, the 12th edition of the AIMA Managing India Awards is being organized physically, coinciding with the 7th National Leadership Conclave.



Chief of the Indian Army



- ❖ Lieutenant General Manoj Pande has become the 29th Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) succeeding General Manoj Mukund Naravane.
- ❖ Lt Gen Manoj Pande has also become the first engineer to become the Chief of the Indian Army
- ❖ The Chief of the Army Staff is also known as the Army Chief.
- ❖ He is the head of the Indian Army Headquarters and is also the highest-ranking officer in the Indian Army.

Book by Rajesh Talwar

- ❖ A new book titled “The Boy Who Wrote a Constitution: A play for Children on Human Rights” authored by Rajesh Talwar has been released.
- ❖ It is a fact-based drama on Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar’s own recollections of his childhood.
- ❖ It was released on the occasion of Dr. BR Ambedkar’s 131st birth anniversary.
- ❖ It is published by Ponytale Books.
- ❖ Talwar’s also authored books include “The Vanishing of Subhash Bose”, “Gandhi, Ambedkar, and the Four-Legged Scorpion”, and “Aurangzeb”.



National Metallurgist Award 2021

- ❖ Ram Chandra Prasad Singh, the Union Minister of Steel, will host the event.
- ❖ The programme aims to recognise the outstanding contribution of metallurgists/engineers working in the field of iron and steel in the areas of manufacturing, research and development, design, education, waste management, and energy conservation, as well as their specific contribution to achieving Atmnirbhar Bharat's objectives.

Hurun Global Healthcare Rich List 2022

TOP INDIAN HEALTHCARE BILLIONAIRES		
Name	Company	Net worth (\$ billion)
Cyrus Poonawalla	Serum	26
Dilip Shanghvi & family	Sun Pharmaceutical	18
Murali Divi & family	Divi's Laboratories	9.5
Pankaj Patel & family	Cadilla Healthcare	5.4
Kiran Mazumdar & John Shaw	Biocon	3.8
Samir Mehta & family	Torrent Pharma	3.7
Sudhir Mehta & family	Torrent Pharma	3.7
B Parthasaradhi Reddy & family	Hetero Drugs	3.6
Manju D Gupta & family	Lupin	3

Source: Hurun Global Healthcare Rich List 2022

- ❖ Chairman and Managing Director of Serum Institute of India (SII), Dr. Cyrus S. Poonawalla has topped the Hurun Global Healthcare Rich List 2022.
- ❖ He became the richest billionaire in the healthcare sector in 2022.
- ❖ He has topped the list with a new value of USD 26 billion (up 41%).
- ❖ China (34) has the most healthcare industry billionaires, followed by the United States of America (16), Switzerland (15), Germany (11), and India (9).

T Rama Rao

- ❖ Veteran director-producer Tatineni Rama Rao of Andhra Pradesh has passed away.
- ❖ He passed away in Chennai at the age of 84.
- ❖ He was popularly known as T Rama Rao.



John F. Kennedy award

- ❖ The Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky is among five people named as recipients of the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award for acting to protect democracy.
- ❖ Zelensky was chosen because of the way he has marshaled the spirit, patriotism, and untiring sacrifice of the Ukrainian people in a life-or-death fight for their country.

Entrepreneur Leadership Awards

- ❖ The Indo-American Chamber of Commerce has picked the Indian-American chief executive of General Atomics Global Corporation Vivek Lall for the prestigious Entrepreneur Leadership Awards.
- ❖ This is being given in appreciation of his contribution to the defense sector.
- ❖ The Indo-American Chamber of Commerce was founded in 1968.
- ❖ It is the premier bi-lateral chamber for India-US commercial cooperation.

Lifetime Achievement Award

- ❖ The Biologist, natural historian, and broadcaster Sir David Attenborough has been awarded a "Champions of the Earth" Lifetime Achievement Award.
- ❖ The award is provided by the UN's Environment Programme.
- ❖ The award is the UN's highest environmental honor given to individuals, groups, and institutions that have made their mark on environmentalism.

Class of Young Global Leaders

- ❖ Radhika Gupta CEO of Edelweiss Mutual Fund, Raghav Chadha Aam Aadmi Party leader, and Mykhailo Fedorov Ukrainian Vice Prime Minister and Minister of Digital Transformation were named by the World Economic Forum in its list of Young Global Leaders 2022.
- ❖ This list is described by the WEF as the planet's most promising 109 Young Global Leaders who are under the age of 40.
- ❖ The personalities chosen are involved in various activities like health equity, green energy, education reforms, refugee rights, etc.
- ❖ The recently released list also includes Indians - athlete Manasi Joshi, Ritesh Malik founder of Innov8 Coworking, Suhail Sameer CEO of Bharat Pe, Vineeta Singh CEO of Sugar Cosmetics, and Jaideep Bansal CEO of Global Himalayan Expedition.



UK's Commonwealth Points of Light Award

- ❖ The founder of the educational charity 'Bidyanando' Kishore Kumar Das from Bangladesh has been chosen for the United Kingdom's Commonwealth Points of Light Award.
- ❖ This is for his exceptional work in improving access to education for children from marginalized backgrounds.
- ❖ UK's Commonwealth Point of Light Awards recognizes outstanding individual volunteers who are making a change in their community.

M. Vijayan

- ❖ Eminent structural biologist M. Vijayan passed away in Bengaluru.
- ❖ Vijayan was instrumental in the development of macromolecular crystallography in India.
- ❖ Professor Vijayan was a recipient of the Padma Shri and Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize.

PRSI Awards

- ❖ The National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd. (NMDC) swept the Public Relations Society of India's (PRSI) Public Relations Awards 2022, taking first place in four categories.
- ❖ NMDC's resolve to expand and contribute to nation-building has been bolstered by its efforts to build a robust network in-house, with the media, and with the general public.

Nasscom Chairperson

- ❖ The National Association of Software and Services Companies (Nasscom) announced that Krishnan Ramanujam has been appointed as its Chairperson for 2022-23.
- ❖ He is the President, Enterprise Growth Group at Tata Consultancy Services.
- ❖ Ramanujam succeeds Rekha M. Menon, Chairperson and Senior Managing Director of Accenture in India, in this role.
- ❖ Nasscom also announced the appointment of Anant Maheshwari, President, Microsoft India, as its Vice-Chairperson for 2022-23.
- ❖ Maheshwari will succeed Ramanujam in this role.

SPORTS

Jiya Rai



- ❖ A 13-year-old girl from Mumbai, Jiya Rai, became the youngest person to cross the Palk Strait in just 13 hours and 10 minutes.
- ❖ Jiya successfully covered a distance of 29 kilometers.
- ❖ Previously, the record was held by Bula Chowdhury for 13 hours and 52 minutes.

Al Rihla

- ❖ It is the Official Match Ball for the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 that has been revealed by Adidas.
- ❖ It is Adidas' 14th World Cup ball.
- ❖ It is designed to accommodate the fastest game speeds possible since it flies quicker in flight than any other World Cup ball.
- ❖ Al Rihla is the first World Cup ball to be constructed entirely of water-based inks and glues.

Khelo India University Games

- ❖ Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Singh Thakur and Governor of Karnataka, TC Gehlot launched the logo, jersey, mascot, and anthem of the Khelo India University Games 2021.
- ❖ The theme song has been composed by Kannada rapper Chandan Shetty.
- ❖ This will be the second edition of KIUG.
- ❖ The first edition was hosted by Odisha in 2020.

ICC Women's World Cup

- ❖ Australia beat England by 71 runs to lift the ICC Women's World Cup 2022 trophy.
- ❖ This is the seventh World Cup title for Australian women.
- ❖ ICC Women's World Cup 2022 Player of the Tournament and Player of the Match went to Australia's Alyssa Healy.

Miami Open 2022



- ❖ The 2022 Miami Open tennis tournament was the 37th edition of the men's and women's events.
- ❖ It was held in Miami Gardens, Florida, USA.
- ❖ Miami Open is classified as an ATP Masters 1000 event on the 2022 ATP Tour and a WTA 1000 event on the 2022 WTA Tour.

Orleans Masters 2022

- ❖ Indian shuttler Mithun Manjunath won the silver medal in the final of the men's singles event at Orleans Masters 2022.
- ❖ It was held in France.
- ❖ He lost to Toma Junior Popov of France.

Thailand Open International Boxing Tournament 2022

- ❖ The 15-member Indian boxing contingents ended their campaign at the Thailand Open International Boxing Tournament 2022 in Phuket with 10 medals.
- ❖ It includes three golds, four silvers, and three bronze.

Gold

1. Govind Sahani (48kg),
2. Ananta Pralhad Chopde (54kg)
3. Sumit (75kg)

Silver

1. Amit Panghal (52kg)
2. Monika (48kg),
3. Varinder Singh (60kg)
4. Ashish Kumar (81kg)

Bronze

1. Manisha (57kg),
2. Pooja (69kg)
3. Bhagyabati Kachari (75kg)

Reykjavik Open chess tournament

- ❖ R Praggnanandhaa has won the prestigious Reykjavik Open chess tournament in Reykjavik, Iceland.
- ❖ The final was played between two Indian players.
- ❖ R Praggnanandhaa won the contest beating compatriot GM D Gukesh in the final round.



FIH Junior Women's Hockey World Cup 2022

- ❖ The Netherlands has lifted its fourth title of FIH Junior Women's Hockey World Cup 2022.
- ❖ The Netherlands achieved this feat after beating Germany at Potchefstroom, South Africa.
- ❖ England claimed the bronze medal in the third-place match after defeating India.
- ❖ The FIH has banned Russia from the 2022 Women's FIH Hockey Junior World Cup due to the 2022 Russian invasion of Ukraine.



- ❖ The 2023 Women's FIH Hockey Junior World Cup will be the tenth edition.
- ❖ It will be held in Santiago, Chile.

Logo of 2023 Men's Hockey World Cup

- ❖ Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has unveiled the logo of the 2023 FIH Men's Hockey World Cup at the Kalinga stadium in the capital Bhubaneswar.
- ❖ The 15th edition will be staged in Bhubaneswar and Rourkela, where the country's largest hockey stadium is being constructed.

150 wickets in IPL

- ❖ Sunrisers Hyderabad star Indian pacer Bhuvneshwar Kumar in a match against Punjab Kings achieved the milestone of dismissing 150 wickets in the Indian Premier League history.
- ❖ He became the first Indian pacer to ever do so.
- ❖ Bhuvneshwar scalped his 150th wicket at the Dr. DY Patil Stadium by dismissing Shikhar Dhawan, Liam Livingstone, and Shahrukh Khan.
- ❖ After the West Indian all-rounder Dwayne Bravo (174) and legendary Sri Lankan Lasith Malinga (170), SRH star is overall just the third pacer to bag 150 wickets in IPL.

Senior Men's National Hockey Championship

- ❖ Haryana has emerged as the champion of the 12th Senior Men's National Hockey Championship.
- ❖ Haryana achieved this feat by defeating Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ The tournament was held in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ Haryana has won the trophy for the first time since 2011.

Wisden's 'Cricketers of the Year'

- ❖ India captain Rohit Sharma and Indian pacer Jasprit Bumrah have been named as the five players in Wisden's 'Cricketers of the Year' in the 2022 edition of the Almanack.
- ❖ They have been named along with New Zealand batter Devon Conway, England pacer Ollie Robinson and South African women star Dane van Niekerk.
- ❖ Wisden Cricketers' Almanack 2022 is a cricket reference book published in the United Kingdom.

- ❖ It is the 159th edition of the most famous sportsbook in the world.
- ❖ It is published every year since 1864.



Invictus Games



- ❖ The 2022 edition of the Invictus Games opened in The Hague, Netherlands.
- ❖ The Invictus Games' first edition was held in London in the year 2014.
- ❖ The games have been held in Orlando, the US in 2016, Toronto, Canada in 2017, and Sydney, Australia in 2018.
- ❖ Dusseldorf, Germany will be hosting the 2023 edition of the games.
- ❖ It is an international sporting competition that is similar to the Paralympics but is meant for the injured, wounded, and sick military war veterans and service personnel.
- ❖ The Games has drawn inspiration from poet William Ernest Henley's poem 'Invictus'.

Asian Wrestling Championships

- ❖ Sarita Mor (59kg) and Sushma Shokeen (55kg) won bronze medals for India in their respective women's freestyle weight categories at the Asian Wrestling Championships 2022.



- ❖ It took place in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

Khelo India University Games - app

- ❖ In a first-of-its-kind initiative, the second edition of the Khelo India University Games will have its own mobile application.
- ❖ It is being held in Bengaluru.
- ❖ 'Khelo India Uni Games 2021' mobile app promises to be a one-stop-shop for all information regarding the prestigious event.

Asian Wrestling Championship

- ❖ Anshu Malik clinched a silver in the 57kg category at the Asian Wrestling Championships held at Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.
- ❖ Radhika won silver in the 65kg category.
- ❖ Also, Manisha bagged a bronze in the 62kg division.

Kieron Pollard - retirement

- ❖ West Indies all-rounder Kieron Pollard announced retirement from international cricket.
- ❖ The 34-year-old brought curtains down on his 15-year international career.
- ❖ Kieron Pollard had become the first player to represent West Indies in over 100 T20I matches and 123 ODI matches.
- ❖ He was a key member of the West Indies squad that had recorded a victory in the ICC T20 Cricket World Cup in 2012.

Asian Wrestling Championships 2022

- ❖ The Indian wrestler Ravi Kumar Dahiya clinched the gold medal at the Asian Wrestling Championships 2022 in Ulaanbaatar, Mangolia.
- ❖ This is Ravi Kumar Dahiya's third straight Asian Championships title.
- ❖ Ravi Dahiya is the only Indian gold medallist in the 2022 Asian Wrestling Championships.
- ❖ Other Indian wrestlers Bajrang Punia and Gourav Baliyan settled for silver after losing their respective finals at the championship.
- ❖ Two other Indian wrestlers Naveen and Satywart Kadian clinched a bronze each at the continental championship.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Odisha Day - April 01

- ❖ It is called as Utkal Divas or Utakala Dibasha.
- ❖ It is celebrated on April 1st every year to remember the formation of the Odisha state after a struggle to be recognized as an independent state.
- ❖ The new province came into existence on the 1st of April 1936.
- ❖ The state was originally called Orissa.
- ❖ But the Parliament passed the Orissa Bill in March 2011 to rename it Odisha.
- ❖ The earlier capital city of Odisha was Cuttack.
- ❖ Whereas the current capital city is Bhubaneswar.

International Children's Book Day - April 02

- ❖ It is organized annually since 1967.
- ❖ It is organized by the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY).
- ❖ IBBY is an international non-profit organization, to inspire a love of reading and to call attention to children's books.
- ❖ In 2022, Canada is hosting this day with this chosen theme: "Stories are wings that help you soar every day."



World Autism Awareness - April 02

- ❖ It is observed annually by the member states of the United Nations.
- ❖ The day is observed to raise awareness among its citizens about people with Autism Spectrum Disorder throughout the world.
- ❖ World Autism Awareness Day is organized by the UN Department of Global Communications and the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs.
- ❖ The theme for the year 2022 is "Inclusive Quality Education for All".

Army Medical Corps Establishment Day - April 03

- ❖ It is observed every year to commemorate the foundation day of the Army Medical Corps.
- ❖ The Bengal Presidency Medical Service was established on January 1, 1764.
- ❖ It was the first military service of the three Presidencies in India
- ❖ The Indian Army Medical Corps came into existence on April 3, 1943, by the amalgamation of the Indian Medical Service, Indian Medical Department, and Indian Hospital Corps.
- ❖ After independence, IAMS was rechristened as Army Medical Corps.
- ❖ The motto of the AMC is Sarve Santu Niramaya (may all be free from disease and disability).

International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action - April 04

- ❖ The day aims to raise awareness about landmines and progress toward their eradication.
- ❖ “Mine action” refers to a range of efforts to clear landmines and explosive remnants of war and to mark and fence off dangerous areas.
- ❖ In 2022 the United Nations Mine Action Service marks the Day under the theme “Safe Ground, Safe Steps, Safe Home.”



International Day of Conscience - April 05

- ❖ This day serves to remind people to self-reflect, follow their conscience, and do the right things.
- ❖ The first International Conscience Day was observed in 2020.

National Maritime Day - April 05

- ❖ This year is the 59th edition of the National Maritime Day.
- ❖ The National Maritime Day is celebrated every year day to illustrate the awareness of supporting intercontinental commerce and the global economy as the most well-organized, safe, and sound, environmentally responsive approach to transporting goods from one corner to another corner of the world.
- ❖ The theme of the National Maritime Day is “Sustainable Shipping beyond Covid-19”.

International Day of Sport for Development and Peace - April 06

- ❖ The day was declared by the UN General Assembly.
- ❖ The adoption of this Day signifies the increasing recognition by the UN of the positive influence that sport can have on the advancement of human rights, and social and economic development.
- ❖ The global theme of IDSDP 2022 is, “Securing a Sustainable and Peaceful Future for All: The Contribution of Sport”.

World Health Day – April 07

- ❖ It is celebrated with the aim of discussing health-related issues.
- ❖ In 1950, the first World Health Day was observed in commemoration of the creation of the World Health Organization founded in 1948.
- ❖ “Our Planet, Our Health” is the theme for this year.

International Day of Reflection on the 1994 Genocide in Rwanda – April 07

- ❖ The genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda is commemorated by UNESCO
- ❖ It was carried out by the Hutu extremist-led government in Rwanda.





International Romani Day - April 08

- ❖ It is observed every year after first being declared in 1990.
- ❖ International Roma Day draws attention to discrimination directed at Roma communities globally.
- ❖ It calls for the human rights of all to be respected and observed.

57th CRPF Valour Day - April 9

- ❖ The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) Valour Day (Shaurya Diwas) is observed as a tribute to the brave men of the Force.
- ❖ The year 2022 marks the 57th CRPF Valour Day.
- ❖ It was on this day in 1965, a small contingent of CRPF created history by defeating an invading Pakistani army, several times larger, at the Sardar Post located in the Rann of Kutch, Gujarat.

World Homoeopathy Day - April 10

- ❖ It is observed to commemorate the birth anniversary of the founder of homoeopathy, Dr Christian Fredrich Samuel Hahnemann, to mark his 267th birthday.
- ❖ A two-day scientific convention is also being organised by three apex bodies under the Ministry of AYUSH on April 9th and 10th.
- ❖ The bodies are the Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy, the National Commission for Homoeopathy, and the National Institute of Homoeopathy.

National Safe Motherhood Day - April 11

- ❖ The day is marked annually in India.
- ❖ It aims to raise awareness about the care that a pregnant woman needs before, during, and after childbirth.
- ❖ National Safe Motherhood Day is an initiative undertaken by the White Ribbon Alliance.
- ❖ 2022 marks the 19th anniversary of the day.

World Parkinson's Day - April 11

- ❖ This day is observed to raise awareness of Parkinson's disease, which is a progressive nervous system disorder.
- ❖ This year, the theme is "Integrated healthcare".



- ❖ The day marks the birthday of Dr. James Parkinson from London.
- ❖ He was the first person to systematically described the six individuals with the symptoms of Parkinson's Disease.
- ❖ Additionally, the month of April is observed as Parkinson's Awareness Month.

The International Day of Human Space Flight - April 12

- ❖ It is celebrated annually to mark the anniversary of the first human space flight by Yuri Gagarin on April 12, 1961.
- ❖ This day aims to help us recognize how much humanity has achieved thanks to the advancements in technology.

Equal Pay Day - April 12

- ❖ Equal Pay Day is dedicated to raising awareness of the gender pay gap.
- ❖ It highlights how many extra months into 2022 the average woman must work to earn what the average man earned in 2021.

International Day of Street Children - April 12

- ❖ International Day of Street Children (IDSC) is annually observed across the globe to acknowledge the strength and resilience of millions of street children across the world.
- ❖ The day also recognise the humanity, dignity and defiance of street children in the face of unimaginable hardships.

Siachen Day - April 13

- ❖ The day is observed to commemorate the courage of the Indian Army under "Operation Meghdoot".
- ❖ The day also honors Siachen Warriors serving their motherland successfully from the enemy.
- ❖ Every year this day is observed to pay solemn tributes to the soldiers who laid down their lives to capture the icy heights of Siachen 38 years ago.

International Turban Day - April 13

- ❖ The day is celebrated since 2004.
- ❖ This is to bring awareness of the strict requirement on Sikhs to put the turban as a mandatory part of their religion.

- ❖ The 2022 Turban Day marks the 553rd birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev and the festival of Baisakhi.
- ❖ The turban, also known as “dastar” or “pagri” or “pag” refers to the garment worn by both men and some women to cover their heads.

Jallianwala Bagh massacre - April 13

- ❖ It is also known as the Amritsar massacre.
- ❖ It took place on 13 April 1919.
- ❖ On Dyer’s orders, there was ruthless firing done on the uninformed crowd.
- ❖ This year we commemorate the 103rd anniversary of this massacre.

Ambedkar Jayanti - April 14

- ❖ The day is also known as Bhim Jayanti.
- ❖ The day is celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of Babasaheb Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar.
- ❖ The Day has been observed as an official public holiday throughout India since 2015.
- ❖ In 2022, we are marking the 131st birth anniversary of Babasaheb.
- ❖ Dr. Ambedkar is known as the Father (chief architect) of the Indian Constitution.
- ❖ He was the first Law and Justice Minister of the country after the independence.
- ❖ Dr. Bhim has been bestowed with the country’s highest civilian honor, Bharat Ratna in 1990 posthumously.

World Chagas Disease Day - April 14





- ❖ It is observed to raise public awareness and visibility among people about Chagas Disease and the resources needed for the prevention, control, or elimination of the disease.
- ❖ It is also called American trypanosomiasis or silent or silenced disease.
- ❖ The theme for 2022 is 'Finding and reporting every case to defeat Chagas disease'.

World Art Day - April 15

- ❖ UNESCO's General Conference in 2012 declared this day.
- ❖ It's a celebration to encourage the development, distribution, and enjoyment of art on this day annually.
- ❖ The day honors and marks the birthday of Italian polymath Leonardo da Vinci.

Himachal Day - April 15

- ❖ The state became a full-fledged state on this day.
- ❖ Four districts of Mandi, Chamba, Mahasu, and Sirmour were integrated with over two dozen princely states, leading to the formation of Himachal Pradesh as a Union Territory in 1948.
- ❖ Decades later, in 1971, Himachal Pradesh became the 18th state in India with Shimla as its capital.

World Voice Day - April 16

- ❖ The day is observed to demonstrate the enormous importance of the voice in the daily lives of all people.
- ❖ This year, the theme of the World Voice Day campaign is 'Lift your voice'.

Save the Elephant Day - April 16

- ❖ It is observed to raise awareness about the dangers elephants face and the various difficulties they have to overcome to live.
- ❖ The Day is established by the Thailand-based Elephant Reintroduction Foundation.

World Hemophilia Day - April 17

- ❖ The day aims to raise awareness for hemophilia and marks the birth anniversary of Frank Schnabel.



- ❖ Frank Schnabel is the founder of the World Federation of Hemophilia.
- ❖ The day also creates awareness about other bleeding disorders.
- ❖ The theme of the event this year is “Access for All: Partnership. Policy. Progress. Engaging your government, integrating inherited bleeding disorders into national policy“

World Heritage Day - April 18

- ❖ The Day is observed to preserve the human heritage and recognize the efforts of the organizations working for it.
- ❖ Monuments and ancient buildings are an asset to the world.
- ❖ They make for the rich heritage of the nation.
- ❖ The theme for World Heritage Day 2022 is “Heritage and Climate”.
- ❖ India is home to a total of 3691 monuments and sites.
- ❖ Of these 40 are designated as UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

World Liver Day - April 19

- ❖ It is observed to spread awareness about the causes of liver disease and tips for its prevention so as to take holistic care of the liver.
- ❖ The liver is the second largest and the second most complex organ in the body, after the brain.
- ❖ It performs crucial body functions
- ❖ It is associated with a person’s digestion, immunity, metabolism, and nutrition storage.
- ❖ The liver regulates blood sugar, removes toxic substances from the body, helps blood clot, and controls cholesterol levels.

UN Chinese Language Day - April 20

- ❖ The day has been chosen to pay tribute to Cangjie.
- ❖ Cangjie is a mythical figure who is presumed to have invented Chinese characters about 5,000 years ago.

National Civil Services Day - April 21

- ❖ The day is observed to acknowledge the works of officers engaged in several public service departments in the country.



- ❖ It is to commemorate the day when Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the first Home Minister of Independent India addressed probationers of Administrative Services Officers at Delhi's Metcalf House in 1947.
- ❖ In his address, he called Civil Servants, the 'Steel Frame of India'.

World Creativity and Innovation Day - April 21

- ❖ The day aims to raise awareness about the importance of creativity and innovation in problem-solving and encourage creative multidisciplinary thinking at the individual and group levels.
- ❖ The World Creativity and Innovation Week is also observed from April 15-21.
- ❖ The theme of World Creativity and Innovation Day 2022: Collaboration.

World Earth Day - April 22

- ❖ It is also known as International Mother Earth Day.
- ❖ The Day will be celebrated all over the world to spread awareness for Earth's wellbeing and to encourage people to support environmental protection.
- ❖ World Earth Day 2022 will mark the 52nd Anniversary of the day since it started being observed in 1970.
- ❖ Earth Day was renamed officially by the UN in 2009 as International Mother Earth Day.
- ❖ The theme of Earth Day 2022 is to 'Invest in our planet'.

World Book and Copyright Day - April 23

- ❖ It is observed to promote awareness of the benefits of reading books.
- ❖ It is organized as an annual event by UNESCO since 1995
- ❖ The day is dedicated to pay respect to renowned authors like William Shakespeare, Miguel Cervantes, and Inca Garcilaso de la Vega who died this day.
- ❖ This year, the Mexican city of Guadalajara is taking up the mantle of World Book Capital.
- ❖ The theme for this year is - Read, so you never feel low.

English Language Day - April 23

- ❖ The day aims to celebrate multilingualism and cultural diversity by exploring the language.
- ❖ English Language Day marks both the birthday and date of the death of famed writer William Shakespeare.



National Panchayati Raj Day - April 24

- ❖ The Ministry of Panchayati Raj organizes the National Panchayati Raj day or the National Local Self Government Day.
- ❖ India celebrated the first National Panchayati Raj Day in April 2010.
- ❖ 24th April 1993 marks a defining moment in the history of decentralization of power to the grassroots, with the institutionalization of Panchayati Raj, through the Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992.
- ❖ Rajasthan was the first state that carried the Panchayati Raj System in 1959 during the times of late Prime Minister Jawarharlal Nehru.

The International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace - April 24

- ❖ The 'International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace' was first observed by the United Nations (UN) on April 24, 2019.
- ❖ The day aims to spread knowledge about the advantages of multilateralism and diplomacy for peace, including through educational and public awareness-raising activities.

The World Day For Animals In Laboratories - April 24

- ❖ It is also known as World Lab Animal Day or World Day for Laboratory Animals.
- ❖ The day was instituted in 1979 by the National Anti-Vivisection Society (NAVS).
- ❖ The day aims to end the suffering of animals in laboratories around the world and promote their replacement with advanced scientific non-animal techniques.

World Immunization Week 2022 - April 24 to 30

- ❖ World Immunization Week is celebrated in the last week of April.
- ❖ It aims to highlight the collective action needed and to promote the use of vaccines to protect people of all ages against disease.
- ❖ This year, WHO is going to celebrate World Immunization Week from April 24 to April 30.
- ❖ The theme of this year's Immunization Week is "Long Life for All".

World Penguin Day - April 25

- ❖ This day recognizes one of the unique birds on the planet.
- ❖ It's the day to celebrate these Charismatic flightless birds.
- ❖ There are 17 species of penguins.



International Delegates Day - April 25

- ❖ This day is commemorated to increase awareness of the function of Member States' representatives and delegates at the United Nations.
- ❖ The first day of the San Francisco Conference, also known as the United Nations Conference on International Organization, is commemorated on International Delegates Day.
- ❖ Delegates from fifty countries met in San Francisco for the first meeting on April 25, 1945.

World Malaria Day - April 25

- ❖ It is commemorated to raise awareness about this life-threatening disease that continues to be a menace to humanity.
- ❖ Malaria affects over half of the world's population.
- ❖ The chances of people living in poor nations catching the disease are substantially higher.
- ❖ Malaria is spread through the female Anopheles mosquito's bite which is infected with the malaria-causing plasmodium parasite.
- ❖ The theme for this year is "Harness innovation to reduce the malaria disease burden and save lives".

National DNA Day - April 25

- ❖ The day commemorates the completion of the Human Genome Project in 2003 and the discovery of DNA's double helix in 1953.
- ❖ On this day in 1953, James Watson and Francis Crick formally announced their discovery of deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) in the science journal, Nature.

World Intellectual Property Day - April 26

- ❖ The day is observed to learn about the role that intellectual property (IP) rights play in encouraging innovation and creativity.
- ❖ The day recognizes the huge potential of young people to find new and better solutions that support the transition to a sustainable future.
- ❖ This year, World Intellectual Property Day 2022's theme focuses on IP and Youth innovating for a Better Future.



- ❖ The event was established by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in 2000 to “raise awareness of how patents, copyright, trademarks and designs impact on daily life.”

International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day - April 26

- ❖ The day is observed every year to raise awareness of the consequences of the 1986 Chernobyl disaster and the risks of nuclear energy in general.
- ❖ The day not only informs us about man-made disasters but also educates human beings about the risks of nuclear energy in general.

World Stationery Day 2022 - April 27

- ❖ World Stationery day is celebrated every year on the last Wednesday of April.
- ❖ This year it falls on 27th April.
- ❖ The day is celebrated to mark the importance of stationery and writing on paper than using computers.
- ❖ It is celebrated around the world by enthusiasts to protect and encourage the use of Stationery.
- ❖ World Stationery Day is celebrated every year since 2012 to honor the 800th anniversary of the creation of the Magna Carta.
- ❖ Magna Carta is one of the most important written documents in British history.

International Girls in ICT Day 2022 - April 28

- ❖ International Girls in ICT Day is marked annually on the fourth Thursday in April.
- ❖ This year the day falls on 28th April 2022.
- ❖ International Girls in ICT Day aims to inspire a global movement to increase the representation of girls and women in technology.
- ❖ This year’s theme is access and safety.

World Day for Safety and Health at Work - April 28

- ❖ The day promotes the prevention of occupational accidents and diseases globally.
- ❖ The World Day for Safety and Health at Work 2022 focuses on enhancing social dialogue towards a culture of safety and health.
- ❖ This year’s theme is ” Participation And Social Dialogue In Creating A Positive Safety And Health Culture”.



International Dance Day - April 29

- ❖ The day celebrates the value and importance of the dance and encourages participation and education in this art form through events and festivals.
- ❖ In 1982 the Dance Committee of ITI founded International Dance Day.
- ❖ The day commemorates the birthday of Jean-Georges Noverre (1727-1810) who is the creator of modern ballet.

World Veterinary Day - April 30

- ❖ The day is celebrated on the last Saturday of April.
- ❖ This year it is observed on the 30th of April.
- ❖ The annual event has been established to highlight and promote the lifesaving work performed by veterinarians all over the world.
- ❖ The theme of World Veterinary Day 2022 is “Strengthening Veterinary Resilience.”

Ayushman Bharat Diwas - April 30

- ❖ PM-Jan Arogya Yojana or PM-JAY is a key part of Ayushman Bharat Yojna.
- ❖ Ayushman Bharat Yojna was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2018.
- ❖ It was launched to provide healthcare benefits to crores of Indians who can't afford proper medical facilities.
- ❖ The flagship scheme of the Narendra Modi government was launched along the lines of universal health coverage to meet one of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations.

International Sculpture Day - April 30

- ❖ The day aims to further the International Sculpture Center's (ISC) mission of advancing the creation and understanding of sculpture and its unique, vital contribution to society.
- ❖ It occurs on the last Saturday of April every year.

