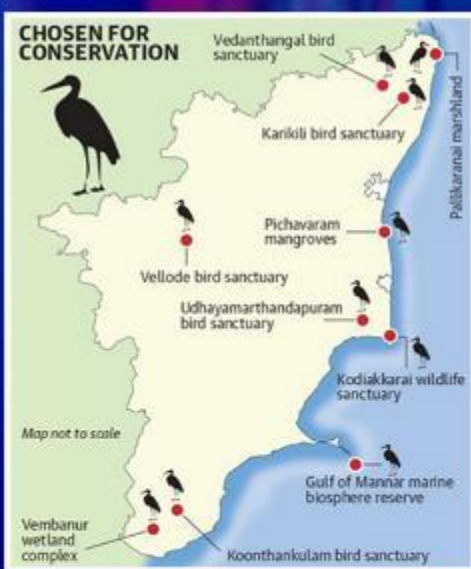
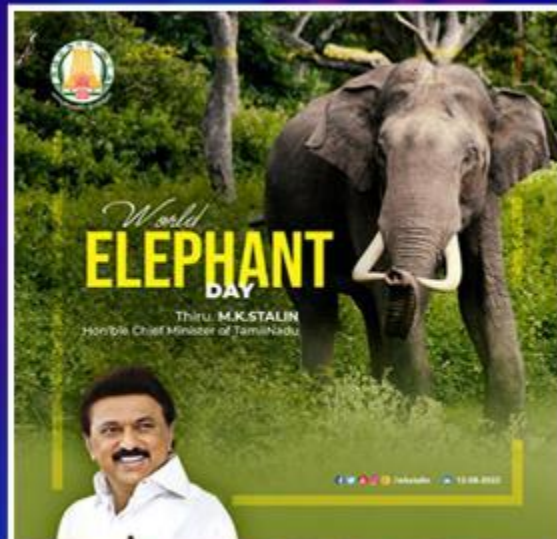
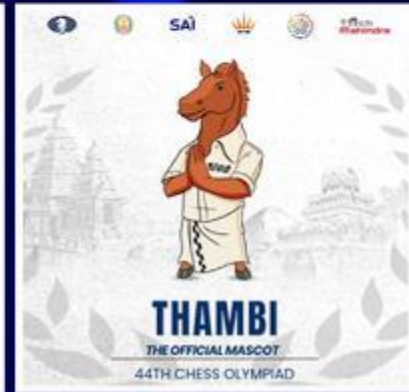


TNPSC THERVUPETTAGAM CURRENT AFFAIRS AUGUST 2022

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TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Suraj Vashisht became the first Indian in 32 years to win a Greco-Roman U17 World Championship gold medal in Rome, Italy.
- ❖ The Union Information and Broadcasting Ministry has released three books showcasing some of the rarest photographs of outgoing President Ram Nath Kovind and his predecessors.
- ❖ Mastercard will replace Paytm as the title sponsor for all international and domestic cricket matches organised by the Board of Control for Cricket in India.
- ❖ RBI has allowed Piramal Enterprises to commence the business of a non-banking finance company (NBFC) without accepting public deposits.
- ❖ Federal Reserve of USA raised interest rates by 75 basis points for the second straight in a month.
 - It will take this rate to a range of 2.25%-2.5% from zero.
- ❖ National Legal Services Authority has launched a campaign 'Release UTRC@75' for identifying eligible prisoners and recommending the release of fit cases to the Under Trial Review Committee.
- ❖ The first-ever national level meet of District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs) was organised by National Legal Services Authority (NALSA).
- ❖ Reliance Industries has partnered with Indian Olympic Association to set up first-ever India House at Paris Olympics 2024.
- ❖ The World Day Against Trafficking in Persons observed on July 30 to make people aware of who is being trafficked.
 - This year's theme was "Use and abuse of technology"
- ❖ International Friendship Day is observed on July 30 annually.
 - In India, this day is observed on the first Sunday of August (August 7).
- ❖ The World Ranger Day is observed on 31st July every year.
 - The theme for this year is "Rangers are no strangers to diversity".
- ❖ Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has released a book titled 'Lockdown Lyrics'; a collection of poems written by Sanjukta Dash.
- ❖ England beat Germany in the European Soccer Championship and win its first women's soccer title.
- ❖ The Indian lawn bowls team won the gold medal in the women's four event of the 2022 Commonwealth Games.
 - This is the first time in history that India has won a medal in this sport.



- ❖ Marine biologist Ellen Prager wrote a book titled “Dangerous Earth: What we wish we knew about volcanoes, hurricanes, climate change, earthquakes and more”.
- ❖ A book titled “Lion of The Skies: Hardit Singh Malik” was authored by Stephen Barker.
- ❖ Indian Oil is the first corporate which has come forward to support the “Project Cheetah” under the Corporate Social Responsibility.
- ❖ The Government of India has set a target of increasing Natural Gas in the primary energy mix by 15 per cent by 2030.
- ❖ Amazon India has signed agreement with Indian Railway to boost its delivery services in the country.
- ❖ Ravinder Takkar, MD& CEO of Vodafone Idea Limited appointed as a chairman of the firm.
- ❖ The fourth edition of the ONGC Para Games was officially launched in New Delhi.
- ❖ The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet extended the tenure of Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba for a period of one year.
- ❖ The US Senate decisively approved the NATO membership of Sweden and Finland.
- ❖ India has once again stressed the need for early completion of the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway - and its extension to Cambodia - to boost connectivity in the region.
- ❖ Uttar Pradesh Government inked a MoU with Deloitte India, to appoint it as a consultant in a bid to achieving the target of bringing UP’s economy to USD 1 trillion.
- ❖ Shyam Saran, former diplomat, authored a book titled ‘How China Sees India’.
- ❖ Indian badminton team claimed a silver medal in the mixed group match of the Commonwealth Games 2022.
- ❖ Indian Sharath Kamal won the gold medal in the men's singles table tennis at the Commonwealth Games 2022.
- ❖ India's doubles pair of Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy won the country's third gold from the badminton at the Commonwealth Games 2022.
- ❖ The 12th edition of the Defence Expo, India’s flagship exhibition on Land, Naval and Homeland Security systems, will be held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
 - The theme for this edition is ‘Path to Pride’.
- ❖ Kannada actor Puneeth Rajkumar, who died last year, will be conferred with the 'Karnataka Ratna' award posthumously.
 - He will be the 10th recipient of the state's highest civilian honour.



- ❖ Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister debuted “Radio Jaighosh” to commemorate the 97th anniversary of the Kakori Train Action.
- ❖ Microsoft and the Indian government collaborated for a programme to train nearly 2.5 million civil servants in using the company's suite of digital tools.
- ❖ Latvia and Estonia have withdrawn from a cooperation group between China and over 12 Central and Eastern European countries.
 - The move comes amid Western criticism of China over escalating military pressure on Taiwan.
- ❖ Argentinean navy officer, Rear Admiral Guillermo Pablo Rios has been named Head of Mission and Chief Military Observer for the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP).
- ❖ The first Khelo India Women’s Hockey League under-16 is scheduled to be held in New Delhi.
- ❖ The 1st Edition of Women Indian Premier League will be starting from March 2023.
- ❖ The State Bank of India will manage the Indian Visa Application Centre (IVAC) in Bangladesh for two more years.
- ❖ IAS officer of the Nagaland cadre, Piyush Goyal has been appointed by the Central Government as the new CEO of NATGRID (National Intelligence Grid).
- ❖ The UN Secretary-General António Guterres has appointed Simon Stiell as the new Executive Secretary of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
- ❖ Satish Kashinath Marathe, Swaminathan Gurumurthy, Revathy Iyer, and Sachin Chaturvedi have all been renominated as non-official directors on the RBI’s central board.
- ❖ Zomato-backed logistics technology platform Shiprocket became India's 106th unicorn after raising \$33.5 million.
- ❖ Meghalaya is all set to host the upcoming 2nd edition of the North East Olympics.
 - The first edition of the Games was held in Manipur in 2018.
- ❖ China will take part in the Vostok-2022 strategic command and staff exercise in Russia.
 - This exercise also includes the armies of India, Belarus, Tajikistan, and Mongolia.
- ❖ India’s Eldhose Paul scripted history by winning the first-ever gold medal in Men’s Triple Jump at the Commonwealth Games 2022.
- ❖ Goa become the first state to be 'Har Ghar Jal-certified'.
 - It means that every household in the state had a piped water connection.



- ❖ Kerala inaugurated 'Kerala Savari', the country's first online taxi service owned by a state government.
- ❖ Bengaluru will host the FIBA U-18 women's Asian Basketball Championship.
- ❖ The 17th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas 2023 will be held at Indore in 9th January next year.
- ❖ An Indian Parliamentary delegation led by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla will be attending the 65th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference at Halifax in Canada.
- ❖ Manisha Kalyan, a 20-year-old from Hoshiarpur, Punjab, became the first Indian footballer to play in the UEFA Champions League.
- ❖ Israel's former Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu wrote a biography in the name, "Bibi: My Story".
- ❖ HDFC Bank opened the first all-women branch in north Kerala.
- ❖ The governments of Punjab and Haryana took a decision to name the Chandigarh International Airport after Shaheed Bhagat Singh.
- ❖ The External Affairs Minister Jaishankar Subramanian unveiled a statue of Gandhi in Paraguay during his first official visit to South America.
- ❖ Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot inaugurated the 'Rajiv Gandhi Centre of Advanced Technology' (R-CAT) in Jaipur.
- ❖ India has nominated the Indian dance form Garba to be inscribed on UNESCO's intangible cultural heritage list.
 - Last year, Durga Puja was included in UNESCO's intangible cultural heritage list and for 2022.
- ❖ The 23rd Central Zonal Council Meeting held in Bhopal.
 - It comprises the states of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, and Uttarakhand.
- ❖ Asia's biggest hospital with state-of-the-art technology, including a centrally located, fully automated laboratory, was officially inaugurated by Prime Minister.
 - Amrita hospital, built in Faridabad of Haryana, was sponsored by the Mata Amritanandmayi Math.
- ❖ The Uttar Pradesh government is planning to build an education township in the state for the first in the country.
 - The education township will be developed on the idea of 'Single Entry, Multiple Exit'.
- ❖ The Union Cabinet has approved the categorization of the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) as an 'International Organization'.
- ❖ National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd (NMDC), and FICCI organized an international conference on the Indian minerals and metals industry.



- Theme of the event was 'Transition Towards 2030 & Vision 2047'.
- ❖ VVS Laxman has been named the interim cricket head coach for the upcoming Asia Cup 2022.
- ❖ A first-of-its-kind, Composite Indoor Shooting Range (CISR) was inaugurated by Vice Admiral Biswajit Dasgupta at INS Karna.
 - INS Karna is the first in the Navy & the only military unit in the country use a facility of this kind.
- ❖ Prime Minister inaugurated the Homi Bhabha Cancer Hospital and Research Centre at Mullanpur, Mohali in Chandigarh.
- ❖ August 26 is International Dog Day founded by animal welfare advocate Colleen Paige of USA.
 - The day recognises the unbreakable link between a human and his dog, and the importance of adopting dogs.
- ❖ The NITI Aayog has planned to establish 1000 Atal Tinkering Labs in Jammu and Kashmir.
 - It is a sub-mission under the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) of the Central Government in India.
- ❖ A RailTel and Cloud Extel, have partnered together to launch India's first Shared Radio Access Network (RAN) solution for congested locations with the objective of enhancing telecom users' experience.
- ❖ The national conference of labour ministers of all states and union territories held at Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ The Supreme Court's proceedings were live-streamed on 26th August 2022.
 - This is the first time in the 71-year-long history the proceedings of the Supreme Court were live streamed.
- ❖ The former Chief Economic Adviser Dr. Krishnamurthy Subramanian was appointed as the new Executive Director for India at the IMF.
- ❖ The Corporate Affairs Ministry approved the merger of Bharat Gas Resources Ltd (BGRL) and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL).
- ❖ Virat Kohli has become the first Indian and just the second player overall in international cricket history to have played 100 matches each in all three formats of the game.
 - The first man to do so was New Zealand batter Ross Taylor.
- ❖ India Cricket captain Rohit Sharma overtook New Zealand's Martin Guptill to become the top run-scorer in the T20I format.
 - Virat Kohli is the third highest scorer in men's T20 Internationals.

TAMIL NADU

President's Colors Award

- ❖ The Vice-President presented the prestigious President's Colours to the Tamil Nadu police.
- ❖ It is a recognition of the State police's commendable service and many achievements.
- ❖ Tamilnadu will be the first in Southern India to receive this award.
- ❖ Only ten police forces in India have won the prestigious President's Colour Award.
- ❖ The Tamilnadu state Police force celebrated its 150th year of existence in 2009.

Urban animal rescue center

- ❖ Urban animal rescue centre set up in Guindy National Park
- ❖ The first of its kind by the Tamil Nadu Forest Department has been helping injured and rescued wildlife.
- ❖ The centre is a transit facility.
- ❖ There we take rescued animals, treat their injuries and release them when they are sufficiently stable.

i-Tamil Nadu Technology hub

- ❖ The state will launch the i-Tamil Nadu Technology (iTNT) hub.
- ❖ It is a centre that will coordinate efforts to use technologies such as artificial intelligence, machine learning and blockchain to solve complex challenges.
- ❖ The move is aimed at giving a major push for the growth of the sector in Tamil Nadu.



Chevalier award

- ❖ The French government has announced that it would confer the Chevalier de l'Ordre National du Mérite, on Kannan Sundaram.
- ❖ He was the publisher of Kalachuvadu.
- ❖ This is recognition for his contribution to the publishing collaboration between India and France.

Original status of temple Restoration

- ❖ The Thalaivetti Muniyappan temple, near Salem, hereafter will be treated as a Buddhist temple.
- ❖ Till now, a local deity is worshiped as per Hindu rituals.
- ❖ This Temple located at Kottai Road, Periyeri Village near Salem.
- ❖ The High court conducted inspection and determined the “identity and antiquity” and take appropriate action to restore the status to a Buddha Trust.

Sculptures in the temple

- ❖ The figure was in a seated position known as ardha-padmasana on a lotus pedestal.
- ❖ The hands are posed in ‘dhyana mudra’.
- ❖ The figure is Sagati.
- ❖ The head shows lakshanas of the Buddha such as curly hair, ushnisha and elongated earlobe.





Closing ceremony of Chess Olympiad

- ❖ The Grand Closing ceremony of the 44th Chess Olympiad held at the Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium, Chennai.
- ❖ The international chess event was held at Sheraton Mamallapuram Resort and Convention Centre near Chennai.
- ❖ The event witnessed players from across the globe representing 187 countries competing on 700 boards.
- ❖ The next edition of the FIDE Chess Olympiad will be held at Budapest, Hungary in September 2024.
- ❖ Manuel Aaron, the 86-year-old Grandmaster from Chennai who was India's first International Master, is felicitated by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister.
- ❖ A total of 17 Indians has won medals in the 44th Chess Olympiad.
- ❖ This includes 2 individual gold, 1 silver, 4 bronze each and 10 bronze for teams.
- ❖ In the open category, Uzbekistan, Armenia and India B teams won gold, silver and bronze respectively.
- ❖ India B team, consists of Praggnanandhaa, Gukesh, Nihal, Raunak and Adhiban.
- ❖ In the women's category, Ukraine, Georgia and India A team won gold, silver and bronze respectively.
- ❖ In the Indian Women's A team, Harika Dronavalli, Koneru Hampi, R. Vaishali, Bhakti Kulkarni and Tanya Sachdev were included.
- ❖ In the individual medals, awarded based on the success and rating of the players, the Indian young players Gukesh and Nihal Sareen won gold.
- ❖ A team player Arjun Erikaisi won silver and B team player Praggnanandhaa won bronze.
- ❖ Tanya Sachdev, Divya Deshmukh and R. Vaishali won bronze in women's category.

Chennai's second airport

- ❖ Parandur near Sriperumbudur has been chosen as the site to construct the greenfield facility.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu government authorities had identified four locations for the development of a greenfield airport near Chennai.
- ❖ Four sites – Pannur, Parandur, Tiruporur and Padalam were identified and made inspection by Airports Authority of India.



Gold Nettri Pattayam

- ❖ The Archaeological Survey of India have recovered a gold 'netri pattayam' at Adichanallur
- ❖ This 'netri pattayam' is 3.50-cm-long.
- ❖ British archaeologist Alexander recovered a similar ornament in 1902.
- ❖ Moreover, a bronze filter, an ornamental bowl, an iron spear and nine iron arrows were also unearthed
- ❖ Earlier they have recovered a gold earring on June.



Carnelian beads discovery

- ❖ A cluster of 74 carnelian beads was unearthed at Konthagai in Sivaganga district.
- ❖ It is part of the Keeladi cluster.
- ❖ The beads were found inside an urn.
- ❖ Carnelian beads had earlier been unearthed in the Kodumanal and Thandikudi sites.
- ❖ This was the first time they were unearthed in the Konthagai site.



Thagaisal Thamizhar Award

- ❖ Veteran Communist leader R Nallakannu (96) has been chosen for the Thagaisal Thamizhar Award of the Tamil Nadu government for 2022.
- ❖ This will be awarded during the Independence Day celebrations on August 15.
- ❖ Nallakannu began his fight against British rule at the age of 11 (1936).
- ❖ He was 12 when he works for the Congress in the 1937 elections.
- ❖ He joined the Communist party in 1944 and started working for the Jana Sakthi in Chennai.
- ❖ CPM leader N Sankaraiah was the first recipient of this award.

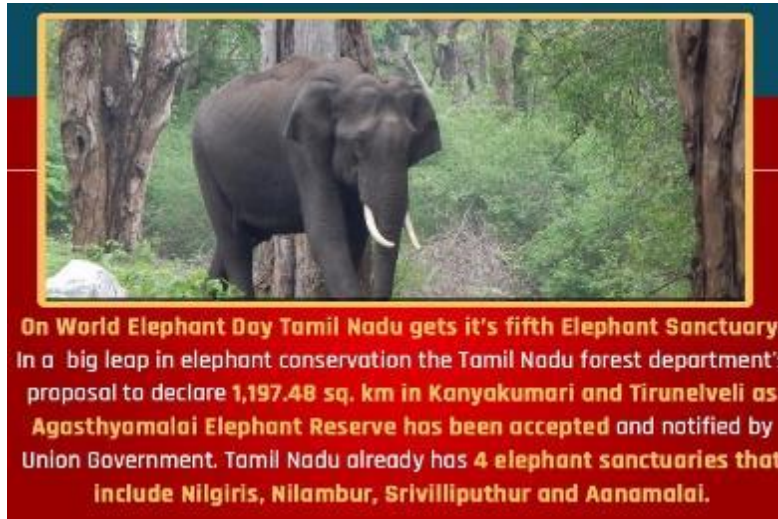
AIADMK's first MP

- ❖ The first MP of the AIADMK, Mr. Maya Thevar passed away recently.
- ❖ He registered the party's first victory by contesting on the 'two-leaves' symbol during the 1973 by-election to Dindigul Lok Sabha constituency.
- ❖ Later, he left AIADMK and joined the DMK.
- ❖ He contested for DMK and was elected again as MP from Dindigul constituency in 1980.

5th elephant reserve

- ❖ The Tamilnadu State government notified a new elephant reserve – Agastya Malai Elephant Reserve.
- ❖ Agastya Malai is the fifth elephant reserve and located in Tirunelveli district.
- ❖ India has 31 elephant reserves.

- ❖ In the last three years,
 - Dandeli Elephant Reserve has been notified by Karnataka.
 - Singphan Elephant Reserve by Nagaland.
 - Lemru Elephant Reserve in Chhattisgarh.



New Ramsar sites



- ❖ Four sites in Tamil Nadu have been added to the Ramsar list.



- ❖ It is taking the state's total number to 14.
- ❖ The Union Environment Ministry added 11 Indian sites to the Ramsar list.
- ❖ Thus, the number of wetlands of international importance in the country is 75.
- ❖ The new Indian wetlands of international importance in Tamil Nadu are:
 - Chitrangudi Bird Sanctuary - Ramanathapuram district
 - Kanjirankulam Bird Sanctuary - Ramanathapuram district.
 - Vaduvur Bird Sanctuary - Tiruvarur district
 - Suchindram Theroor Wetland Complex - Kanyakumari district
- ❖ The other sites include, three in Odisha, two in Jammu and Kashmir and one each in Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra.
- ❖ Now, Tamil Nadu has the maximum number of Ramsar sites in the country (14), followed by Uttar Pradesh (10).
- ❖ A total of 26 sites were added to the Ramsar list from 1982 to 2013.
- ❖ Since 2014, 49 sites have bagged the coveted tag.

Siddha University Bill

- ❖ The Governor's office has sent back the Bill passed by the Assembly in April for setting up a Siddha Medical University.
- ❖ According to the Bill, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister would be the Chancellor of the proposed university and not the Governor.
- ❖ The State government has kept around 20 acres of land in Madhavaram near Chennai for setting up the university.

Neidhal salt

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister launched 'Neidhal' salt.
- ❖ It is a brand of salt manufactured and marketed by the Tamil Nadu Salt Corporation.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu produces about 8% (24 lakh MT) of the 300 lakh MT of salt produced in the country.
- ❖ This state is the second-largest salt-producer in the country after Gujarat.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu Salt Corporation was established in 1974.
- ❖ It is the only State government-owned establishment that manufactures salt and salt-based products in the country.



Awareness day against drug abuse

- ❖ August 11 was observed as an awareness day against drug abuse in Tamilnadu.
- ❖ Several programmes would be organised in schools and colleges across the State.
- ❖ Drugs were a threat to the society and had to be completely eradicated.

Integrated Land Record

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government will soon roll out the Integrated Land Record (ILR).
- ❖ It is a single document containing details of 'chitta', field measurement book (FMB) and 'adangal' for land parcels.
- ❖ As of now, the textual data in the 'chitta' and the spatial data in the FMB have been integrated.
- ❖ The e-adangal details are being revised to reflect the latest data.
- ❖ Once e-adangal 2.0 is launched and auto-populated with the other two documents, the Integrated Land Record would be available to land-owners.
- ❖ 'Chitta' has details of the name of the owner or owners of the land, its survey number and the sub-divisions of a revenue district where it is located, along with the extent of the land. The
- ❖ FMB is the cadastral map of the land and 'adangal' consists of the details of crops grown on the land

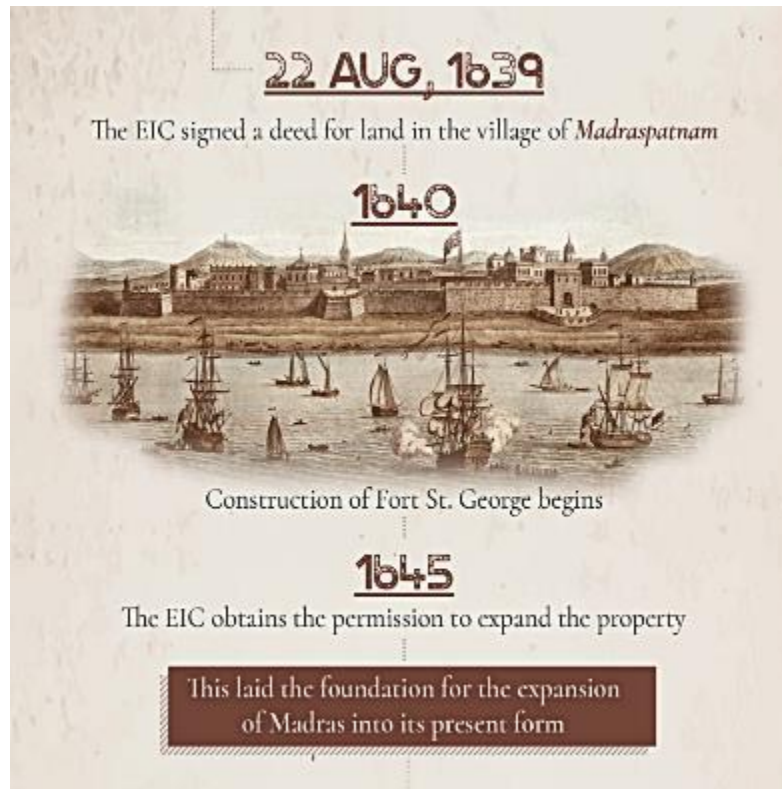
Best performance in intrauterine contraceptive device usage

- ❖ Tamil Nadu stood first in the country for having the greatest number of postpartum intrauterine contraceptive device (PPIUCD) insertions.
- ❖ PPIUCD is a temporary contraception method for women.
- ❖ The State has been registering high performance in PPIUCD insertions for the last three years.
- ❖ In 2019-2020, a total of 2,53,648 women were covered, followed by 3,19,936 women in 2020-2021 and 3,61,028 women in 2021-2022.

No Caste, No Religion certificate

- ❖ Madras High Court ordered issuance of a no-caste, no-religion certificate to a three-year-old child from Chennai within two weeks.
- ❖ The petitioner had stated that he wanted the certificate as per two government orders issued by the State government.

Madras Day - 22 August



- ❖ It is believed that on this day, Madras city was founded in 1639.
- ❖ On this day, the foundation for the modern city was laid by the East India Company by buying land for building Fort St George from local rulers.
- ❖ Andrew Cogan and Francis Day from the East India company bought the land from Damarla Venkatadri Nayaka, the viceroy of the Vijayanagar Empire.
- ❖ This year marks the 383rd anniversary of the foundation of the city.
- ❖ The Madras Day celebrations began in the year 2004.

Footwear and leather products policy 2022

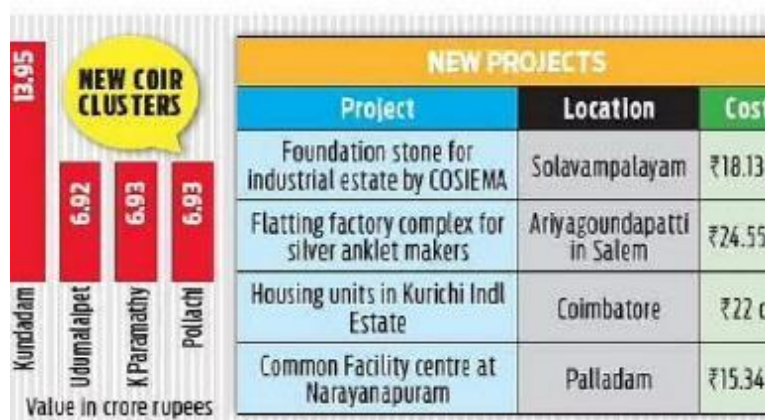
- ❖ The Tamilnadu Chief minister unveiled the 'Tamil Nadu Footwear and Leather Products Policy 2022'.
- ❖ The policy is aimed at attracting Rs 20,000 crore investment in the leather sector by 2025 and in creating employment opportunities to 2 lakh people.
- ❖ He laid the foundation stone for a mega footwear manufacturing park at Panapakkam, Ranipet.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu is contributing 26 per cent to the national manufacturing output and 48 per cent of the national exports in the footwear segment.

Chola Era Idols from USA



- ❖ Six exquisite Chola-era bronze idols were spotted at the Cleveland Museum and Christie's auction house in the U.S.
- ❖ These Panchaloha idols were Tripuranthakam, Thirupurasundari, Nataraja, Dakshinamurthy Veenadhara, and Saint Sundarar with his wife Paravai Natchiyaar.
- ❖ They went missing from the Veeracholapuram temple in Kallakurichi district in the 1960's.
- ❖ The temple was constructed 900 years ago by Chola king Rajendra Chola.
- ❖ The idols of Tripuranthaka and Thiripurasundari were found on the official website of Cleveland Museum of Art, Ohio.

New schemes for MSME



- ❖ CM of Tamil Nadu introduced several initiatives for Micro, Small, and Medium-sized Enterprises at the Regional MSME Meet in Tirupur.

Tamil Nadu Credit Guarantee Scheme (TNCGS)

- ❖ The TNCGS will collaborate with the Credit Guarantee Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises of the Government of India to provide a 90% guarantee on qualified loans up to Rs. 40 lakhs.

- ❖ The TN government has allocated aside Rs. 100 crores for this scheme.
- ❖ Under this policy, at least three Nationalized Banks will give loans to MSMEs within a fortnight.

Tamil Nadu Trade Receivables Discounting System (TN TReDS)

- ❖ TN TReDS is an Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) platform that will tackle issues with late payments for supplies made to larger enterprises.
- ❖ This platform will be accessible to all state-owned enterprises, statutory boards, corporations, and apex cooperatives.
- ❖ If the state entity does not pay the MSMEs that are on the TReDS platform by the end of the 179th day, TAICO Bank will settle the dues for the bills that were uploaded to TN TReDS on the 180th day.

Other initiatives

- ❖ Government renamed the MSME Trade and Investment Promotion Bureau (M-TIPB) as "FaMeTN" during the event.
- ❖ CM virtually inaugurated the Tamil Nadu Coir Business Development Corporation in Coimbatore.
- ❖ It focuses on establishing new coir clusters, connecting with international customers, establishing research and development centres, and fostering industry-academia collaboration.

Sahitya Akademi's Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2022

- ❖ The Sahitya Akademi announced that Bal Sahitya Puraskar would be given to writers of 23 languages.
- ❖ The Akademi has also announced that writers in 24 languages will be given the Yuva Sahitya Puraskar.
- ❖ In the category of Bal Sahitya Puraskar, the award in Punjabi language is not being given this year.
- ❖ While the award in the Bal Sahitya Puraskar, Santhali language will be announced later.
- ❖ In the category of Youth Award, the winner will be announced later in Marathi.
- ❖ In Tamil, Bal Sahitya Puraskar will be given to G. Meenakshi for Mallikavin Veedu.
- ❖ In Tamil, Yuva Puraskar will be given to Paa. Kalimuthu for Thaniththirukkum aralikalin mathiyam.

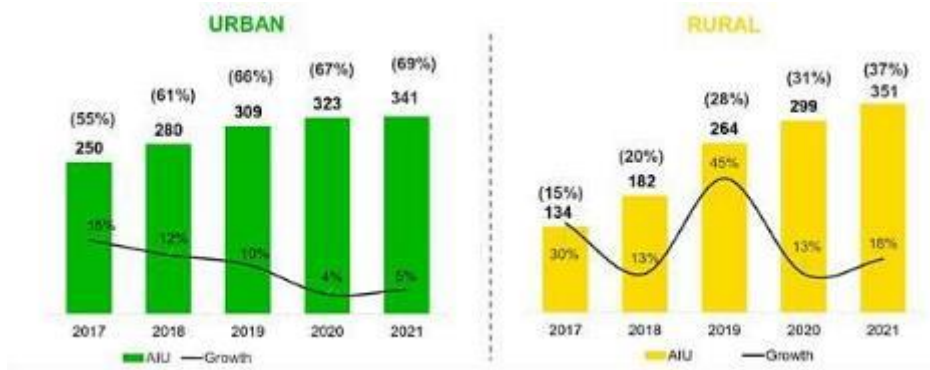
NATIONAL

11th Agriculture Census

- ❖ 11th Agriculture Census 2021-22 was launched recently.
- ❖ Main focus of the census is on increasing income of the farmers and empowering them by organizing small farmers.
- ❖ This year, data will be collected via smartphones and tablets for the first time.
- ❖ Agriculture Census is conducted after every 5 years.
- ❖ Agriculture Census Scheme is being undertaken by Agriculture Ministry since 1970-71.
- ❖ For this, 1970-71 was taken as reference year.
- ❖ Last edition of Agriculture census was conducted in 2015-16.

Internet in India report 2022

- ❖ The Internet and Mobile Association of India released a report titled “Internet in India”.
- ❖ Around 346 million Indians practices online transactions including digital payments and e-commerce.
- ❖ India has outstripped United States, where the population practicing digital transactions is at 331 million.
- ❖ Global covid-19 pandemic has resulted an increase of 51% in digital transactions.
- ❖ In 2019, 230 million people were involved in digital transaction.
- ❖ Currently, there are 692 million active internet users in country.
- ❖ 351 million are from rural areas and 341 are from urban areas.

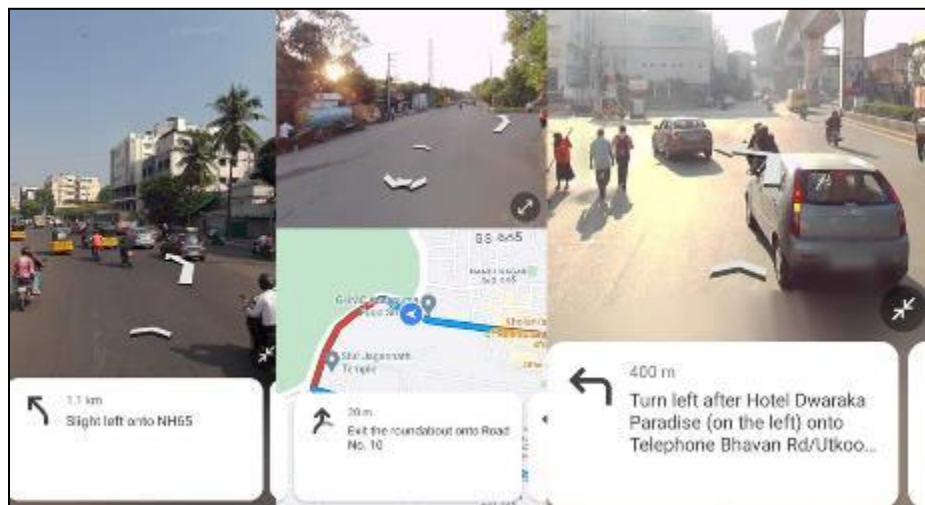


Adventure Tourism

- ❖ The Ministry of Tourism recognised the Adventure Tourism as a “Niche Tourism Product” recently.
- ❖ Adventure Tourism includes Water Sports activities.
- ❖ The Ministry has prepared a “National Strategy for Adventure Tourism”.
- ❖ It aims to making India as a preferred destination for adventure tourism world-wide.
- ❖ A National Board for Adventure Tourism has also been set up, with Secretary of Tourism as its Chairperson.
- ❖ Niche Tourism is a specific tourism product, which is tailored to meet the requirements of particular audience or market segment.



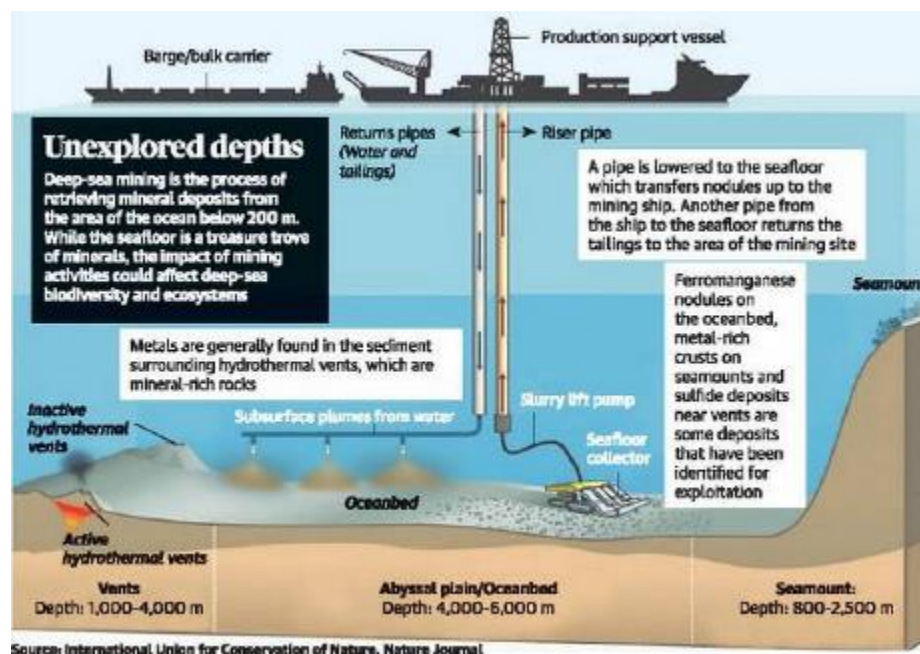
Google Maps Street View



- ❖ Google Maps launched Street View service in Hyderabad along with 10 cities in India.
- ❖ Google Maps has introduced the service in association with two Hyderabad-based companies.
- ❖ It made available of latest images of 10 cities including Bangalore, Chennai, Delhi, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Pune, Nasik, Vadodara and Ahmed Nagar.
- ❖ It covers an area of 1,50,000 km in the above said cities in partnership with local companies.

Deep Sea Mining – National Science Award

- ❖ The Minister of State of Science & Technology Jitendra Singh presented a national science award to Indian scientists who conducted the world's first locomotive trials of a deep-sea mining system in the central Indian ocean.
- ❖ He also inaugurated a first-of-its-kind and state-of-art fully automated buoy-based coastal observation and water quality now casting system for the Indian Ocean.
- ❖ It was developed by Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services.
- ❖ It is the part of India's Deep Ocean Mission.
- ❖ The part of the ocean that lies below a depth of 200 meters is defined as the deep sea.
- ❖ The process of extracting minerals from this area is known as deep-sea mining.

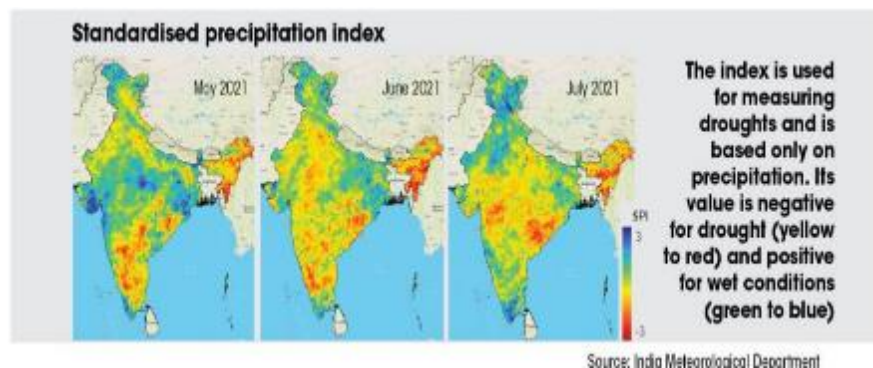


Karikiyoor rock paintings

- ❖ The Karikiyoor rock paintings, a series of over 300 images, carved on the side of the cliff-face.
- ❖ They are believed to be more than 5,000-years old.
- ❖ They are just one of a series of cave and rock paintings that have been rediscovered across the Nilgiris in recent decades.
- ❖ Karikiyoor is probably one of the biggest rock art sites in India.
- ❖ The images depict a gradual shift from a hunter-gatherer lifestyle in the initial drawings to a pastoral.
- ❖ Eventually, a settled agrarian lifestyle depicted in the later drawings.



Aridity Anomaly Outlook Index



- ❖ Recently Indian Meteorological Department released the Index for the month of July, 2021.
- ❖ Nearly 69% of India is dry land.
- ❖ Nearly 660 of 756 districts (85%) were facing different degrees of aridity, while only 63 are non-arid.

- ❖ At least 196 districts are in the grip of a 'severe' degree of dryness and 65 of these are in Uttar Pradesh
- ❖ Impacts of drought in agriculture, especially in the tropics where defined wet and dry seasons are part of the climate regime.
- ❖ Both winter and summer cropping seasons can be assessed using this method.
- ❖ Large Arid regions are found in the desert of Rajasthan, Rann of Kutch and semi-arid regions of Punjab and Gujarat, rain shadow areas of Western Ghats.

Aid for Trade

- ❖ India became highest recipient of aid from developed countries in 2020 and WTO's Aid for Trade Initiative.
- ❖ Aid for Trade is aimed at promoting trade for poverty reduction, by helping developing countries.
- ❖ Developed countries provide grants and concessional loans which targeted at trade-related programmes and projects.

ON TOP

Five biggest recipients of trade and related disbursements, 2018-20

Recipient	2020		2019		2018	
	Rank	Disbursement (in \$ bn)	Rank	Disbursement (in \$ bn)	Rank	Disbursement (in \$ bn)
India	①	2.74	①	3.86	①	3.57
Bangladesh	②	2.49	②	1.99	②	2.16
Egypt	③	1.79	③	1.75	③	1.94
Ethiopia	④	1.59	⑥	1.36	④	1.71
Kenya	⑤	1.31	⑤	1.49	⑧	0.94

Transparency Report on India

- ❖ Recently Twitter released a Transparency Report.
- ❖ India accounts for highest number of legal demands worldwide to remove content posted by journalists and news outlets on the platform.
- ❖ India made 114 such requests.
- ❖ India is only behind United States of America in asking for Twitter account information.
- ❖ India accounts for 19% of total information requests worldwide.

- ❖ India is among top five countries to give content-blocking orders to Twitter, for all kinds of users, in July-December 2021.
- ❖ After India, other countries accounting for high legal demands include Turkey, Russia, and Pakistan.
- ❖ Turkey made 78 such demands, Russia made 55, and Pakistan made 48 demands.

Report	Legal demands			Compliance rate			Accounts specified	
	Court orders	Other legal demands	Combined	Court orders	Other legal demands	Combined	Court orders	Other
Total	88	21,231	21,320	73.4 %	13.6 %	13.7 %	2,493	6
July - December 2021	23	3,999	3,992	69.6 %	19.2 %	19.6 %	420	1
January - June 2021	9	4,594	4,903	88.9 %	11.7 %	11.8 %	614	1
July - December 2020	13	5,595	5,671	73.3 %	9 %	9.1 %	590	1
January - June 2020	4	2,788	2,772	25 %	13.8 %	13.9 %	9	1
July - December 2019	7	775	782	95.7 %	38.8 %	38.7 %	1,230	1
January - June 2019	8	456	504	-	-	0 %	-	-
July - December 2018	10	857	857	-	-	0 %	-	-

Agriculture Infrastructure Fund Awards 2022

PM Modi Launches Agriculture Infrastructure Fund

- To provide debt financing facility for post-harvest management infrastructure & community farming assets
- Corpus of ₹1 lakh crore for FPOs, SHGs, PACS*, Startups, Agri-entrepreneurs, for other farm processing-based activities
- Interest subvention of 3% per annum up to ₹2 crore for a max. period of 7 years
- Moratorium for repayment from 6 months up to 2 yrs
- Scheme to be implemented from August 2020

#AatmaNirbharKrishi *Primary Agri Credit Societies Date: 8 August, 2020

- ❖ Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar is set to present Agriculture Infrastructure Fund Awards.
- ❖ These Awards are presented as a part of Agriculture Infrastructure Fund.
- ❖ The fund was launched in the year 2020, under Atma nirbhar Bharat Initiative.
- ❖ It is a central government scheme.

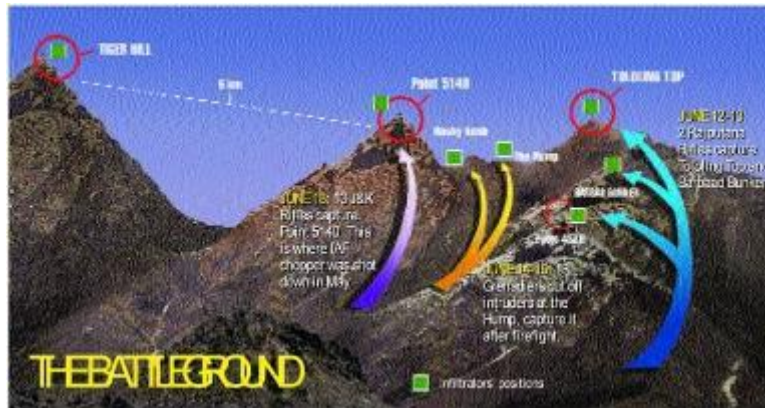
Weapons of Mass Destruction Bill



- ❖ The Parliament passed a bill which seeks to ban funding of weapons of mass destruction.
- ❖ The bill known as “The Weapons of Mass Destruction and their Delivery Systems (Prohibition of Unlawful Activities) Amendment Bill, 2022”.
- ❖ It also empowers the Centre to freeze, seize or attach financial assets and economic resources of people engaged in such activities.
- ❖ This Act passed in 2005 and it only banned manufacture of weapons of mass destruction.
- ❖ The amendment bill seeks to insert a new Section 12A in the existing law.

Point 5140

- ❖ Point 5140 at Drass in Kargil in Jammu Kashmir has been named as ‘Gun Hill’.
- ❖ It aims to commemorate the victory of Indian armed forces and pay tribute to the supreme sacrifice of the gunners in 'Operation Vijay'.
- ❖ The capture of Point 5140 was the key factor in the early completion of operations in the 1999 Kargil war.
- ❖ Point 5140 is the highest point on the Tololing ridgeline.
- ❖ It is the most formidable feature in the Drass sub-sector.



PMLA provisions verdict

On ED's power under PMLA

An upshot of the judgment by the Supreme Court on the validity of certain provisions under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act

- The offence of money laundering is as heinous an offence as terrorism
- Section 3 (definition of money laundering), Section 24 (reverse burden of proof), and Section 5 (attachment of property) to stay
- Stringency in granting bail under the Act is legal and not arbitrary

- It is not mandatory to give an Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR) in every case as it was not an FIR
- The statements made to ED are considered admissible
- Provision of attachment of property of accused as proceeds of crime 'balances' the interests of the accused and the State
- The question of enactment of PMLA amendments through the Money Bill route is to be decided by a larger Bench



- ❖ The Supreme Court upheld the validity of the stringent Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) and the vast powers enjoyed by the Enforcement Directorate (ED).
- ❖ The verdict came on an extensive challenge raised against the amendments introduced to the 2002 Act.
- ❖ Many petitions were filed against the amendments which claimed it violates personal liberty, procedures of law and the constitutional mandate.
- ❖ As per the provision, ED could arrest a person even without informing him of the charges.
- ❖ This power was violative of the right to 'due process' enshrined in Article 21 of the Constitution.
- ❖ Besides, Article 22 mandated that no person can be arrested without informing him or her of the grounds of the arrest.

FMCG Company in India

- ❖ Biscuit brand 'Parle' continued to be the most popular brand among fast-moving consumer goods in India in 2021.
- ❖ It sustains in the top rankings for the eleventh year in a row.
- ❖ The other top brands on the list are Amul, Britannia, Clinic Plus, and Tata Consumer Products.
- ❖ This is released by Kantar India's annual Brand Footprint study.
- ❖ Based on Consumer Reach Points, the report assessed the FMCG brands that consumers will choose in 2021.

Conference on Drug Trafficking and National Security

- ❖ The home minister inaugurated a "conference on drug trafficking and national security".
- ❖ During the conference, the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) will burn and dispose of more than 30,000 kg of drugs across Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai and Guwahati.
- ❖ NCB started the drug disposal campaign on June 1, 2022.

Revamped Distribution Sector Program

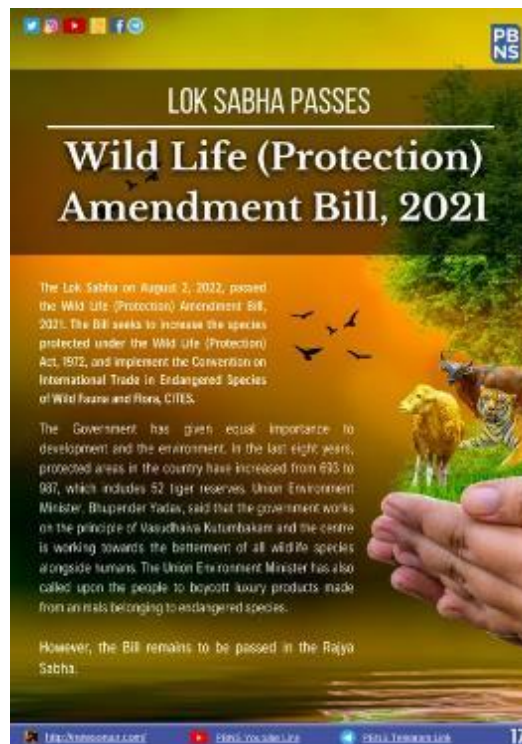
- ❖ The Prime Minister launched the Ministry of Power's flagship Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme.
- ❖ It is aimed at improving the operational efficiencies and financial sustainability of Distribution Companies.
- ❖ He also launched the national portal for Rooftop solar.
- ❖ It will enable online tracking of the process of installation of rooftop solar plants, starting from registering the applications to release of subsidy in residential consumers.



Three labor indicators

- ❖ As per the National Statistical Office, the proportion of employed persons working part-time in the 46-59 years age group at all India level was more than 10% between 2017-20.
- ❖ While in the age group of above 60 years, the proportion of employed persons working part-time was more than 15%.
- ❖ The NSO developed three labour indicators such as
 - “Proportion of Employed working Part-time, by sex”
 - “Proportion of Employed who are Employer, by sex” and
 - “Employment Rate of persons age 25-49 living in a household with at least one child under age 3 years and with no children under age 3 years living in the household, by sex” from the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) data available in “Person level data of first visit schedule”.
- ❖ The International Labour Organization is custodian agency for these indicators.

Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Bill, 2021



- ❖ The Lok Sabha passed the Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Bill 2021.
- ❖ It seeks to provide for the implementation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

- ❖ The bill also provides powers to the central government to regulate and stop the import, trade, possession, or proliferation of invasive alien species.
- ❖ The new bill will ensure that the government designates a management authority to provide export, and import permits for species, and a scientific authority to advise the government on it.
- ❖ The amendment bill was first introduced in Parliament on December 17, 2021.
- ❖ It was sent to a standing committee on December 25 of the same year.

School Innovation Council

- ❖ The Minister of State for Education Annapurna Devi has shared information on the School Innovation Council.
- ❖ It was launched by the Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell.
- ❖ It is a council of teachers, students, and experts from industry and academia.
- ❖ It aims to conduct round the year activities for students and teachers on Innovation and Entrepreneurship.
- ❖ It will promote out-of-the-box ideas in school education as envisioned in National Innovation and National Education Policy 2020.
- ❖ It will enable the ranking system for schools on the level of innovation-oriented activities.

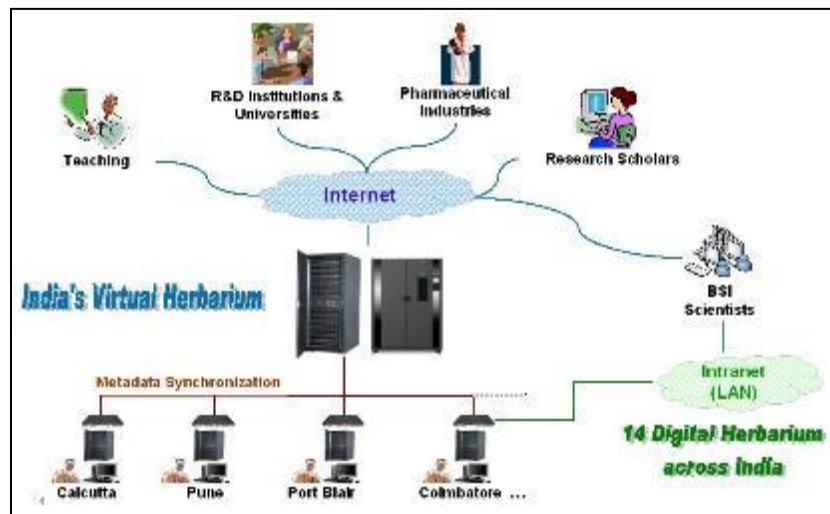
Tiranga Utsav



- ❖ The Ministry of Culture organized “Tiranga Utsav” in New Delhi on the occasion 146th Birth Anniversary of Pingali Venkayya.
- ❖ It aims to celebrate the contributions of Pingali Venkayya to the country.
- ❖ ‘Amar Chitra Katha’ was released in his memory.
- ❖ The Tiranga Anthem was also released.

Indian virtual herbarium

- ❖ The Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav inaugurated India’s largest online herbarium database, the ‘Indian Virtual Herbarium’ web portal.
- ❖ The portal has been developed by the Botanical Survey of India.
- ❖ Botanical Survey of India is a subordinate office under the Environment Ministry.



Repurposed for Universal Immunization program



- ❖ The Co-WIN is set to be repurposed for Universal Immunisation program as well as blood donation.
- ❖ This platform will later be used for organ donation.
- ❖ CoWIN stands for “Covid Vaccine Intelligence Network”.
- ❖ It is a web portal for COVID-19 vaccination registration in India.

Next Chief Justice of India

- ❖ Justice Uday Umesh Lalit is set to be the next Chief Justice of India.
- ❖ Justice Ramana is due to retire on August 26, after which Justice UU Lalit will take over, becoming the 49th CJI.
- ❖ He'll have only 74 days in the chair before he retires on November 8 at the age of 65.
- ❖ After Justice UU Lalit, Justice DY Chandrachud is next in line to head the country's judiciary.
- ❖ The shortest tenure so far has been 17 days, served by Justice Kamal Narain Singh in 1991.

Guidelines for Saksham Anganwadi & Poshan 2.0



- ❖ The Ministry of Women and Child Development released operational guidelines to implement ‘Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0’ scheme.

- ❖ The Central government has approved the scheme for implementation during 2021-22 to 2025-26.
- ❖ Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 is an Integrated Nutrition Support Programme.

Central Universities (Amendment) Bill 2022

- ❖ The Central Universities (Amendment) Bill 2022 was passed in Lok Sabha.
- ❖ It aims to convert the 'National Rail and Transportation Institute (NRTI)' into Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya (GSV).
- ❖ NRTI is the first transport institute of India.
- ❖ It is located in Vadodara, Gujarat.



Highest ever FRP for sugarcane

- ❖ The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved the Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) of sugarcane.
- ❖ 305 rupees per quintal was fixed for sugar season 2022-23.
- ❖ The FRP for sugar season 2022-23 is 2.6 per cent higher than current sugar season 2021-22.
- ❖ FRP of sugarcane is fixed to ensure a guaranteed price to sugarcane growers
- ❖ The Government has increased FRP by more than 34% in past 8 years.

- ❖ FRP are determined on the recommendation of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) and announced by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA).
- ❖ The FRP is based on the Rangarajan Committee report on reorganizing the sugarcane industry.
- ❖ India has surpassed Brazil in the sugar production in the current sugar season.



FRP of Sugarcane for 2022-23

- CCEA approves Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) of sugarcane for sugar season 2022-23
- FRP of Rs. 305/qtt for a basic recovery rate of 10.25%
- Premium of Rs. 3.05/qtt for each 0.1% increase in recovery over and above 10.25%
- No deduction in case of sugar mills where recovery is below 9.5%
- FRP higher by 88.3% over production cost of Rs. 162/qtt

CABINET DECISIONS 03-10-2022

Data Protection Bill 2021

Decoding the data protection bill



WHAT IT MEANS FOR CONSUMERS

- **DATA** can be processed or shared by any entity only after consent.
- **SAFEGUARDS**, including penalties, introduced to prevent misuse of personal data.
- **ALL** data to be categorized under three heads—general, sensitive and critical.



THE GOVERNMENT & REGULATORY ROLE

- **GOVT** will have the power to obtain any user's non-personal data from companies.
- **THE** bill mandates that all financial and critical data has to be stored in India.
- **SENSITIVE** data has to be stored in India but can be processed outside with consent.



WHAT COMPANIES HAVE TO DO

- **SOCIAL** media firms to formulate a voluntary verification process for users.
- **SHARING** data without consent will entail a fine of ₹15 crore or 4% of global turnover.
- **DATA** breach or inaction will entail a fine of ₹5 crore or 2% of global turnover.

Source: Mint research

- ❖ The government has withdrawn the Personal Data Protection Bill from the Parliament.
- ❖ The Bill has been in the works since 2018 when a panel, led by retired Supreme Court judge Justice B N Sri Krishna prepared a draft version.
- ❖ The central government introduced a draft of the Bill in 2019 in the Lok Sabha.
- ❖ This bill went through multiple iterations including a review by a Joint Committee of Parliament in 2021.

All-women Navy crew



- ❖ Five women officers of the Indian Naval Air Squadron 314 (INAS 314) created history by completing the first all-women independent maritime reconnaissance and surveillance mission.
- ❖ This is held over the north Arabian Sea onboard a Dornier 228 aircraft.
- ❖ This first-of-its-kind military flying mission.
- ❖ The aircraft was captained by the Mission Commander Lt Commander Aanchal Sharma.

Indian Companies in 2022 Fortune 500 list

- ❖ 9 Indian public and private companies have been featured in the Fortune Global 500 list of year 2022.
- ❖ Life Insurance Corporation of India has been ranked at 98th position in the list.
- ❖ LIC has been added to the list for the first time.
- ❖ Reliance Industries Limited (104th) listed for the 19th year in a row.
- ❖ The other Indian firms are: Indian Oil Corporation (142), ONGC (190), SBI (236), Bharat Petroleum (295) Tata Motors (370), Tata Steel (435) and Rajesh Exports (437).

- ❖ USA's Walmart topped the list for the ninth consecutive year.
- ❖ It has maintained the first position for 17th time since 1995.

RIL TOP-RANKED INDIAN PVT SECTOR COMPANY IN 2022 FORTUNE GLOBAL 500 LIST IANS

Buoyed by IPO, LIC opens its account in the list at No. 98, even as RIL goes up by 51 notches to No. 104


Rank	Company	Revenues (\$mn)	Revenue Growth (%)	Profits (\$mn)	Profit Growth (%)	Staff (Nos.)	Change in Rank	Years on Global 500 List
98	 LIC of India	\$97,266.70	2.60%	\$553.80	38.20%	105,738	-	01
104	 Reliance Industries	\$93,982.00	49.40%	\$8,150.70	23.10%	342,982	51	19
142	 Indian Oil	\$79,542.40	57.70%	\$3,370.40	15.60%	32,938	70	28
190	 Oil & Natural Gas Corporation	\$65,961.50	41.60%	\$6,112.10	179.20%	38,252	53	16
236	 State Bank of India	\$54,643.20	5.20%	\$4,749.60	57.30%	244,250	-31	17
295	 Bharat Petroleum	\$46,867.30	49.70%	\$1,568.40	-28%	9,193	99	19
370	 Tata Motors	\$37,797.20	11.10%	(\$1,536.20)	-	73,608	-13	13
435	 Tata Steel	\$32,861.10	55.20%	\$5,391.40	434.20%	72,551	-	08
437	 Rajesh Exports	\$32,649.50	-6.20%	\$135.40	18.90%	181	-89	07

Fortune Global 500 list ranks companies by total revenues for their respective fiscal years ended on or before March 31, 2022

Source: <https://fortune.com/global500/2022/search/>

Target to eliminate Kala-azar by 2023

- ❖ India has set the target to eliminate Kala-azar from country by 2023.
- ❖ Out of 633 Kala-azar endemic blocks, 625 blocks have successfully eliminated the kala-azar in 2021.
- ❖ India's target is way ahead than WHO's target of eliminating the disease by 2030.
- ❖ Kala Azar is also called as Leishmaniasis.
- ❖ It is a neglected tropical disease, by which over 100 countries are affected, including India.
- ❖ The disease is caused due to parasite called Leishmania.
- ❖ This parasite is transmitted via bite of sand flies.

WHAT IS KALA-AZAR	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A slow progressing indigenous disease Caused by protozoan parasite of genus <i>Leishmania</i> In India, <i>Leishmania donovani</i> is the only parasite causing the disease The parasite primarily infects reticuloendothelial system 	Signs & Symptoms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recurrent fever Loss of appetite Weakness Spleen enlargement Anaemia
Transmission	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sandfly of genus <i>Phlebotomus argentipes</i> only known vector of kala-azar in India 	
 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indian kala-azar has a unique epidemiological feature of being anthroponotic Development and multiplication in the gut of sandflies and move to mouthparts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Female sandflies pick up parasite while feeding on infected human host
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parasite undergoes morphological change to become flagellate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Healthy human hosts get infection when an infective sandfly vector bites them

Craft Village Initiative

- ❖ Craft Village will promote handicrafts as workable and moneymaking livelihood option for artisans in clusters.
- ❖ Infrastructure and atmosphere in crafts village are designed in village style so as to give a sense of rural life of India.
- ❖ In this regard, 8 Craft Villages has been established in Raghurajpur (Odisha), Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh), Vadaj (Gujarat), Naini (Uttar Pradesh), Anegundi (Karnataka), Mahabalipuram (Tamil Nadu), Taj Ganj (Uttar Pradesh), and Amer (Rajasthan).

Sanskrit-speaking village in each district

- ❖ Uttarakhand government has decided to develop one Sanskrit-speaking village in each of the 13 districts in the state.
- ❖ Citizens of these villages will be trained by experts to use the ancient Indian language as a medium of daily communication.
- ❖ They will also be taught the Vedas and the Puranas to help them acquire proficiency in Sanskrit.
- ❖ These villages to be called “Sanskrit Gram”, each of these villages will be a centre of ancient Indian culture.

Vice Presidential Election 2022

- ❖ The 14th Vice-Presidential Election was held on August 6, 2022.
- ❖ Utpal Kumar Singh, the Secretary-General, Lok Sabha was appointed as the Returning Officer for the election.
- ❖ NDA's candidate Jagdeep Dhankar was elected as the 14th Vice President of India.
- ❖ The Electoral College consists of 245 Rajya Sabha members and 543 elected members of the Lok Sabha.
- ❖ NDA candidate Jagdeep Dhankar won by 346 votes as he bagged 528 of the total 725 votes that were cast.
- ❖ 15 votes were termed invalid.
- ❖ Opposition candidate Margret Alva received 182 votes in the election.
- ❖ The 80-year-old Alva is a Congress veteran
- ❖ She also has served as governor of Rajasthan.
- ❖ Out of 780 electors comprising elected and nominated members of the RS and elected members of LS, 725 electors cast their votes.
- ❖ Total voter turnout was 92.94%.

‘Badhe Chalo’ campaign



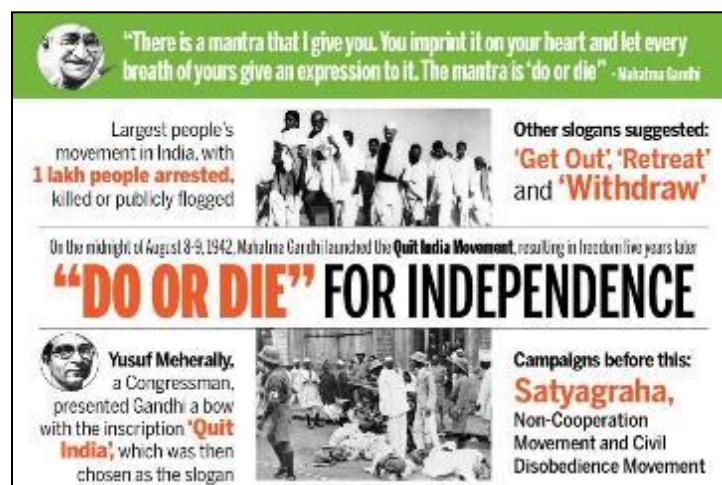
- ❖ The Ministry of Culture has launched the ‘Badhe Chalo Campaign’.
- ❖ It aims to connecting with youth of India and infuse a deep sense of patriotism among them.
- ❖ It seeks to ‘create youth centric activation’ for sizeable outreach of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav.

14th Vice-President of India

- ❖ Jagdeep Dhankar has been elected as the 14th Vice President of India.
- ❖ He got 528 votes (72.8%) against Opposition Candidate Margaret Alva's 182.
- ❖ He bettered his predecessor Naidu's 2017 performance by 2%, who had secured 346 votes was the highest in the last six vice-presidential polls since 1997.
- ❖ The record for Vice Presidential win with highest margin remains with KR Narayanan, who won in 1992.
- ❖ He had secured 700 of the 701 votes cast against independent candidate Kaka Joginder Singh.
- ❖ He will take oath as India's Vice President by the President of India on 11th August 2022.
- ❖ He had earlier served as the Governor of West Bengal.

80th anniversary of Quit India movement

- ❖ India has completed 80 years on 'Quit India Movement' on August 8, 2022.
- ❖ This movement is also known as August Kranti.
- ❖ It is an important milestone in India's history of freedom struggle.
- ❖ The call for Quit India Movement was given on August 8, 1942 by Gandhi in a bid to end the British rule in India.
- ❖ The movement was launched at Mumbai session of the All-India Congress Committee.
- ❖ In the speech at August Kranti Maidan (Gowalia Tank maidan) in Mumbai, Gandhi made a called for "Do or Die for Independence".
- ❖ Failure of Cripps Mission was the immediate cause for Quit India.





New Central Administrative Tribunal Chairman

- ❖ The President appointed Justice Ranjit Vasantrya More to the post of Chairman, Central Administrative Tribunal.
- ❖ He had served as former Chief Justice of the Meghalaya High Court.
- ❖ It had been established under Article 323 - A of the Constitution.
- ❖ It provides for adjudication of disputes and complaints with respect to recruitment and conditions of service of persons appointed to public services.
- ❖ In pursuance of Article 323-A, Parliament passed the Administrative Tribunals Act in 1985.
- ❖ The Act authorizes the Central government to establish one CAT and the state administrative tribunals.
- ❖ There are 19 Benches in the CAT all over India.

7th NITI Aayog Governing Council Meet

- ❖ Prime Minister presided the seventh NITI Aayog governing council meeting.
- ❖ The council held discussions over several issues such as crop diversification, urban development and implementation of the National Education Policy.
- ❖ The Governing Council of NITI Aayog is comprising Chief Ministers of all the States and Union Territories with legislatures and Lt Governors of other Union Territories.

Skylight Mega Exercise

- ❖ The Indian Army recently conducted "Skylight Mega-Exercise" to enhance its space domain capabilities.
- ❖ It was first of its kind large-scale exercise.
- ❖ It was aimed at testing operational readiness of satellite communication assets and giving training to personnel manning these assets.
- ❖ It was pan-India exercise, covering Lakshadweep and Andaman Islands.
- ❖ Indian Army is also working to have its own communication satellite called GSAT-7B.
- ❖ This satellite is an indigenous multiband satellite.
- ❖ It has been designed with advanced security features.

Akasa Air's first flight

- ❖ Akasa Air launched its operations between Mumbai and Ahmedabad starting August 7, 2022.
- ❖ Akasa Air is backed by investor Rakesh Jhunjhunwala and aviation veterans Aditya Ghosh and Vinay Dube.



ITU Regional Standardization Forum

- ❖ International Telecommunication Union's Regional Standardization Forum for Asia and Oceania region was inaugurated in New Delhi.
- ❖ It is being hosted by Ministry of Communications.
- ❖ Theme of the Forum is "Regulatory and Policy aspects of Telecommunications".
- ❖ ITU is a specialized agency of United Nations, set up on May 17, 1865.
- ❖ It is responsible for matters related to information and communication technologies.
- ❖ It was established as "International Telegraph Union".
- ❖ Its current name was adopted in 1934.

India ki Udaan Initiative

- ❖ The Ministry of Culture has launched "India ki Udaan" initiative in association with Google.
- ❖ This initiative seeks to celebrate unwavering & undying spirit of India and its achievements in last 75 years.
- ❖ It aims to take citizens to the rich culture & heritage of India, by means of its rich archives and featuring artistic illustrations.
- ❖ Theme of the project is "Unwavering and undying spirit of India over the past 75 years".
- ❖ It is being implemented by Google Arts and Culture.

Experiential Learning for 21st Century Program

- ❖ Experiential Learning for 21st Century Programme was recently launched for Eklavya Model Residential School Principals and Teachers.
- ❖ It was launched by CBSE, Ministry of Tribal Affairs and ESTS in association with TATA trusts, TISS and MGIS.
- ❖ It is as an online programme for teachers and principals
- ❖ In which they are trained adapt classroom learning to real life experiences.

My Ration - My Right

- ❖ Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and public distribution launched a web portal named 'Common Registration Facility' (My Ration-My Right).
- ❖ The registration facility in 11 states and UTs.
- ❖ It aims to enable homeless people, destitutes, migrants and other eligible beneficiaries to apply for ration cards.
- ❖ All 36 states/UTs have been onboarded under the One Nation One Ration Card plan.

Energy Conservation (Amendment) Bill 2022

Key objectives of Energy Conservation (Amendment) Bill 2022
Enhance the scope of Energy Conservation Building Code
Bring large residential buildings within the fold of Energy Conservation regime
Establish Carbon Markets
Increase members in the governing council of Bureau of Energy Efficiency
Empower the State Electricity Regulatory Commissions to make regulations for smooth

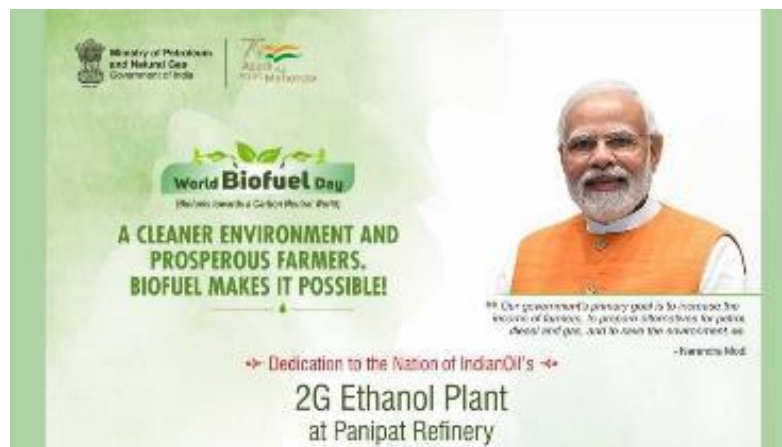
- ❖ Lok Sabha passed the Energy Conservation Amendment Bill 2022.
- ❖ The bill is aimed at reducing the use of fossil fuel-based energy and promoting the use of non-fossil sources of energy.
- ❖ The Bill will allow the central government to use non-fossil energy sources as sources of fuel to meet the energy needs of the country.

- ❖ It including Green Hydrogen and Biomass Ethanol.
- ❖ The key objective of the Bill is reducing the country's fossil fuel power consumption.
- ❖ The secondary objective is to develop India's Carbon market to enable trade and boost the adoption of clean technology and improvement in power efficiency.

Ex Vajra Prahar 2022

- ❖ The 13th Edition of the Indo-US Joint Special Forces exercise "Ex Vajra Prahar 2022" commenced at Himachal Pradesh.
- ❖ It aims to share best practices and experiences in areas such as joint mission planning and operational tactics.
- ❖ Also, it improves inter-operability between the Special Forces of both the Nations.
- ❖ This annual exercise is hosted alternatively between India and the United States.

2G Ethanol Plant



- ❖ Prime Minister inaugurated second generation (2G) ethanol plant in Haryana's Panipat.
- ❖ Based on indigenous technology, the project will utilise about two lakh tonnes of rice straw annually to generate around three crore litres of ethanol annually.
- ❖ The project will contribute to a reduction of greenhouse gases equivalent to about 3 lakh tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions per annum

Shoonya-Zero pollution Mobility Campaign

- ❖ It aims to improving air quality and promote zero-pollution mobility across the nation.

- ❖ The campaign promotes the use of electric vehicles (EVs) for deliveries and rides through a corporate branding program and EV awareness drive.



False promise of marriage

- ❖ The Supreme Court has held that it is not rape if consensual physical relationship was based on a genuine promise of marriage which could not be fulfilled.
- ❖ The court quashed an FIR registered in 2016.
- ❖ It also said the registration of FIR in the case amounted to abuse of the criminal process.

Him Drone-e-thon Programme



- ❖ Him Drone-e-thon Programme was recently unveiled by the Indian Army, in association with the Drone Federation of India.
- ❖ It aims to catalyse and provide focused opportunities for Indian drone ecosystem.
- ❖ The 'Him Drone-a-thon' is pan India programme.
- ❖ It seeks to connect all the stakeholders including industry, software developers, academia, and drone product manufacturers.

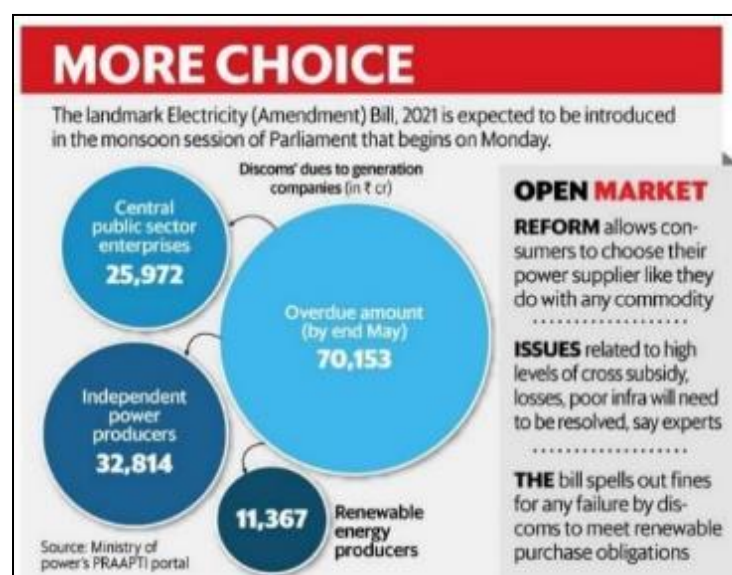
SMILE-75 Initiative

- ❖ Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has marked 75 Municipal Corporations Under the Smile-75 initiative.
- ❖ It aims to comprehensive rehabilitation of person practicing the act of bagging.
- ❖ SMILE stands for "Support for Marginalised Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise".

Bharat Rang Mahotsav

- ❖ Maharashtra Governor inaugurated the 22nd 'Bharat Rang Mahotsav'.
- ❖ It is a festival of theatre as part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.
- ❖ The five-day festival has been jointly organised by the National School of Drama and the P.L. Deshpande Maharashtra Kala Akademi.

Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2022





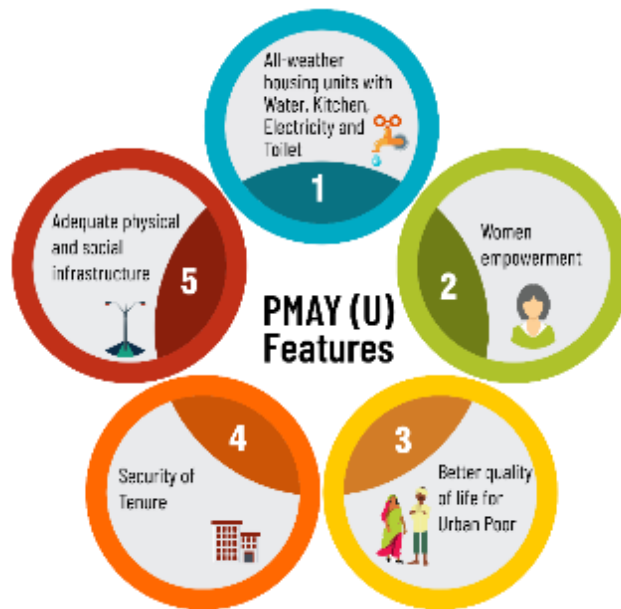
- ❖ The contentious Electricity Amendment Bill, 2022 was introduced in the Lok Sabha.
- ❖ It aimed at giving multiple players open access to distribution networks of power suppliers and also allowing consumers to choose any service provider.
- ❖ It also pushes state electricity regulatory commissions to take up timely revision of tariffs and catalyse competition in the retail power distribution sector, among other provisions.
- ❖ This comes amid a renewed debate on the freebie culture and the focus on the mounting dues of power distribution companies.
- ❖ The bill amends the Electricity Act, 2003.
- ❖ Discoms of three states- Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Telangana owed about 57 per cent of total dues to power generating companies.
- ❖ They followed by Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh and the UTs of Jammu & Kashmir.

Recognition of Minorities at the District level

- ❖ The Supreme Court observed that it is "contrary to law" to identify religious and linguistic minority communities district-wise.
- ❖ It remarked that minority status of linguistic and religious communities have to be considered State wise.
- ❖ The judge was referring to the majority verdict given by the 11-judge Bench in the T. M. A Pai vs State of Karnataka case in 2002.
- ❖ Currently, only those communities notified under section 2(c) of the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992, by the central government are regarded as a minority.

Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Urban

- ❖ The Union Cabinet has approved the continuation of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana -Urban (PMAY-U) up to 31st December 2024.
- ❖ Housing for All is one of the major flagship programmes being implemented by Government of India.
- ❖ It aims to provide all weather pucca houses to all eligible beneficiaries in the urban areas of the country through States/UTs/Central Nodal Agencies.
- ❖ The scheme covers the entire urban area of the country.



Lumpi-ProVacInd vaccine

- ❖ Lumpi-ProVacInd, an indigenous vaccine for lumpy skin disease (LSD), has been launched recently.
- ❖ It has spread across states, causing deaths of hundreds of cattle since 2019.
- ❖ Lumpi-ProVacInd, the vaccine, has been developed by two institutes under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).
- ❖ The disease was endemic in Africa.
- ❖ In the last 2-3 years, after entrapping the southern states of India, an outbreak /epidemic of LSD has spread to Punjab and other states of northern India.
- ❖ The disease occurs mostly in cows and somewhat less in buffaloes.



Trans-Himalayan network

- ❖ China and Nepal recently gave their consent to construct “Trans-Himalayan Multi-Dimensional Connectivity Network”.
- ❖ Under the agreement, China will finance the feasibility study of a China-Nepal cross-border railway.
- ❖ Trans-Himalayan Multi-Dimensional Connectivity network will be constructed under Belt & Road Initiative of China.
- ❖ Under it, railways and communication networks will be constructed.
- ❖ It is an economic corridor between Nepal and China, under the Belt and Road Initiative.



New Virtual Space Museum

- ❖ The digital platform known as the ‘SPARK’ space museum was launched by the Chairman of ISRO, S Somnath.
- ❖ It is showcasing several ISRO missions with an interactive interface.
- ❖ It has an interactive interface through which users can interact with the site easily.
- ❖ The platform hosts several documents, images, and videos related to ISRO’s launch of vehicles, satellites, and scientific missions.

Golden joint of world’s highest Chenab railway bridge

- ❖ The golden joint of the world's highest railway bridge over River Chenab was inaugurated recently.
- ❖ The Golden Join is connecting two ends of the deck of the world's highest railway bridge.
- ❖ The Chenab bridge is 1,315 metre long.

- ❖ The Chenab Bridge is now being built, and when it is finished, it will be 35 meters higher than the Eiffel Tower of Paris.
- ❖ The bridge will prove direct connectivity to the Kashmir valley.



75th anniversary of independence

- ❖ India is celebrating the 75th anniversary of its independence or the 76th Independence Day.
- ❖ PM urged people to follow Sri Aurobindo's mantra of 'Swadeshi se Swaraj, Swaraj se Suraj'.
- ❖ President Droupadi Murmu hosted an 'At Home' reception at the Rashtrapati Bhavan here on her first Independence Day after elected.
- ❖ More than five crore selfies with the Indian flag have been uploaded on the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign website.
- ❖ To celebrate this day, the Government of India has started an initiative called "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav".
- ❖ On March 12, 2021, Prime Minister has launched the "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav".
- ❖ It aims to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of independence that started a 75-week countdown to our anniversary of independence.
- ❖ Sixteen parks in Delhi bearing the names of several unsung heroes of the freedom struggle were dedicated by Lt Governor V K Saxena.

India's climate pledges

- ❖ India has ratified pledges made by India in Glasgow to accelerate India's reliance on renewable energy to power the economy and be effectively fossil fuel-free by 2070.
- ❖ However, the approved pledges were fewer than those India committed to.

Five commitments

- ❖ That India would increase its non-fossil energy capacity to 500 GW (gigawatt) by 2030.
- ❖ India would meet 50% of its energy requirements from “renewable energy” by 2030.
- ❖ It would reduce the total projected carbon emissions by one billion tonnes from now till 2030.
- ❖ India will reduce the carbon intensity of its economy by more than 45% by 2030 from 2005 level.
- ❖ India will achieve the target of “Net Zero,” by the year 2070, namely, that there would be no net carbon dioxide emitted from energy sources.



Ayush Grid Project

- ❖ Ministry of Ayush and Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for Ayush Grid Project.
- ❖ As per MoU, MeitY will provide technical support to Ministry of Ayush to digitise Ayush Sector, for a period of 3 years.
- ❖ This MoU is continuation of a MoU that was inked in 2019.
- ❖ The Ayush Grid Project was launched by Ministry of Ayush in 2018 to create a backbone for IT sector.

Phase-II of fortified rice scheme

- ❖ Government had set aim in 2021 to distribute fortified rice through government schemes by 2024.
- ❖ First phase of the distribution started in October 2021.
- ❖ In Phase II, 52% of the districts received the fortified rice.
- ❖ Under PDS, 151 districts from 24 states have received fortified rice.
- ❖ Fortified Rice Scheme is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme.

- ❖ It was launched in 2019 with the aim of eliminating anaemia and micro-nutrient deficiency in India.
- ❖ This scheme was approved for 3 years (2021-22).



Independence Day Speech: 7 Highlights



- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the nation on India's 76th Independence Day from Red Fort, Delhi,
- ❖ He began his address by remembering the freedom fighters, revolutionaries, and nation builders.
- ❖ He asked the people of India to discard the mindset of 'Ghulami' that makes us seek certificates from foreign powers.

- ❖ He asked remove any vestiges of colonialism, retain our roots, ensure unity in diversity, and carry out a citizen's duties.
- ❖ He highlighted that corruption and dynastic politics were the two biggest challenges in India.
- ❖ He urged the citizens of country to weed out Corruption and Nepotism from the country.
- ❖ He called upon the collective spirit of 130 crores, the "Team India", to take the country forward and ensure that it is a developed nation in the next 25 years.
- ❖ PM laid down five resolves, or the "panch pran" for the 'amrit kaal': To work towards a 'viksit Bharat' (developed India).

President's Police Medals

- ❖ In the Independence Day 2022, 1082 police personnel received the "Police Medals".
- ❖ Among them, 347 personnel received the Police Medal for Gallantry, 87 received Police Medal for Distinguished Service while, 648 personnel received Police Medal for Meritorious Service.
- ❖ This year, 109 CRPF personnel and 108 Police personnel from Jammu and Kashmir have received Police Medal for Gallantry.
- ❖ Apart from them, 7 personnel received President's Correctional Service Medal for Distinguished Service.
- ❖ 38 personnel received the Correctional Service Medal for Meritorious Service.
- ❖ The President's Police Medal is presented to members of law enforcement in India.
- ❖ The award was established on March 1, 1951.
- ❖ It was initially called as "President's Police and Fire Service Medal".
- ❖ It is given for either gallantry or distinguished service.



Medal for Distinguished Service



Medal for Meritorious Service

President's Tatrakshak Medal

- ❖ President Droupadi Murmu approved around 107 gallantry awards for the armed forces and Central Armed Police Forces.
- ❖ It comprises of 3 Kirti Chakras and 13 Shaurya Chakras.
- ❖ Other than that, 81 Sena Medals, 1 Nao Sena Medal and 2 Bar to Sena medals were also announced.
- ❖ The President also approved 3 Tatrakshak Medals to Coast Guard personnel.
- ❖ It aims honour their acts of conspicuous gallantry, meritorious service and exceptional devotion to duty.



23rd Edition of India International Seafood Show

- ❖ The 23rd edition of India International Seafood Show (IISS) will be held in Kolkata.
- ❖ It will be hosted by Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) in association with the Seafood Exporters' Association of India (SEAI).
- ❖ It is the biennial showpiece event in the seafood sector.

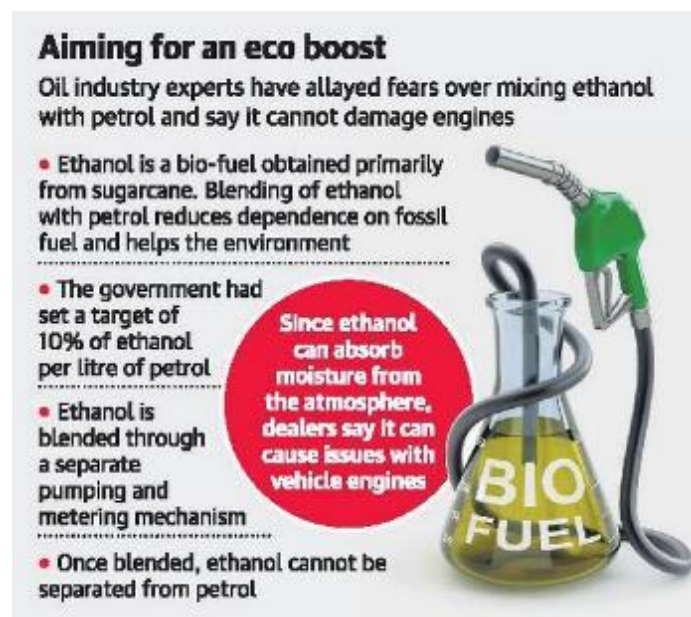
Most trusted institutions

- ❖ Defence forces, RBI and Prime Minister of India are the three most trusted institutions in the country.
- ❖ This survey was conducted by Ipsos India.
- ❖ The Supreme Court of India came fourth place.
- ❖ It was followed by the Central Bureau of Investigation.



10 percent ethanol blending

- ❖ India achieved the target to blend 10 per cent sugarcane-extracted ethanol in petrol ahead of schedule.
- ❖ The target of supplying petrol mixed with 10 per cent ethanol (10 per cent ethanol, 90 per cent petrol) was achieved in June.
- ❖ This is achieved ahead of the original schedule of November 2022.
- ❖ The government advanced the target of making petrol with 20 per cent ethanol by five years to 2025.



Operation Yatri Suraksha

- ❖ The Indian Railway Protection Force (RPF) have launched a pan-India operation known as Operation Yatri Suraksha.
- ❖ Under this initiative, several steps are taken to provide round-the-clock security to passengers.
- ❖ To kickstart this Operation, the RPF launched a month-long pan-India drive against criminals who loot passengers in July 2022.



Indian flag on sky



- ❖ Space Kidz India unfurled the Indian flag about 30 kilometres above the planet on Independence Day.
- ❖ The flag was sent to an altitude of 1 lakh 6 thousand feet above the planet on a balloon that unfurled it.
- ❖ Space Kidz India is an organization creating 'young scientists for the country and spreading awareness among children for a borderless world.

- ❖ The organization recently launched a satellite into Low Earth Orbit.
- ❖ AzadiSAT was developed by 750 girl students from across India to mark the 75 years of Independence.

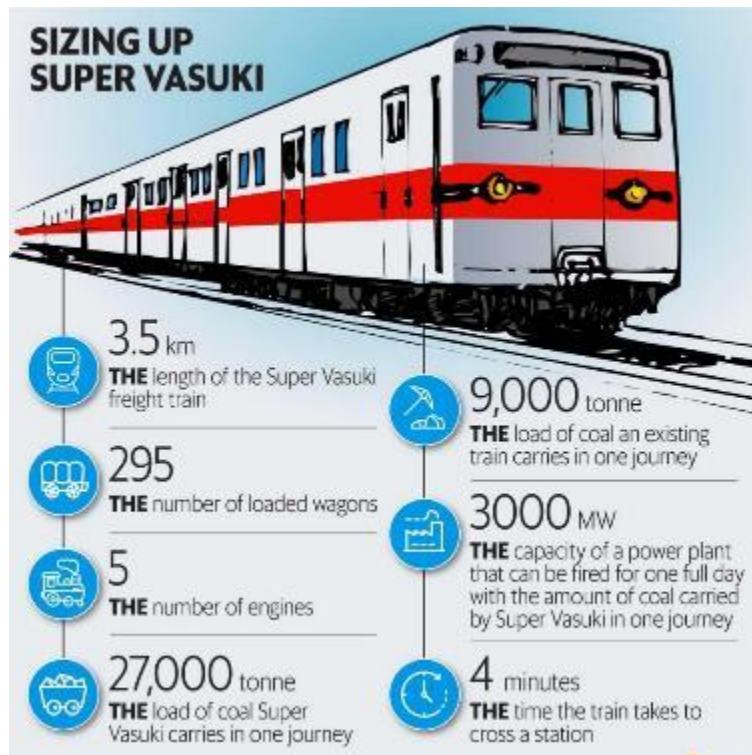
INS Satpura to 75 Lap

- ❖ Indian Naval Ship (INS) Satpura reached the North American Continent to celebrate the 75 years of Independence of India.
- ❖ The INS Satpura conducted a 75 Lap Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav Run at the San Diego US Navy Base on the Independence Day of India.
- ❖ The arrival of INS Satpura to the San Diego US Navy Base is a historic event.
- ❖ It is the first time an Indian Naval Warship has reached the western coast of North America.



Super Vasuki freight train


- ❖ The Indian Railways conducted a test run of the Super Vasuki freight train.
- ❖ It is touted to be India's longest and heaviest freight train, with 295 loaded wagons and 6 engines.
- ❖ The test run of the 3.5-km-long freight train was carrying more than 27,000 tonnes of coal.
- ❖ This test run was conducted by South East Central Railway between Korba in Chhattisgarh and Rajnandgaon near Nagpur.
- ❖ It was the longest and heaviest freight train ever run by the Indian Railways.



India's Child mortality rate (CMR)

INFANT MORTALITY RATE FROM 2009-2019

Year	Total	Male	Female
2009	59	58	61
2010	55	52	57
2011	52	50	53
2012	49	47	51
2013	47	45	49
2014	NA	NA	NA
2015	43	40	47
2016	41	39	44
2017	38	37	40
2018	37	37	38
2019	35	36	35



- ❖ India has taken rapid strides in reducing child mortality.
- ❖ The CMR in 2014 was 45 per 1,000 live births.
- ❖ But in 2019, this was reduced to 35 per 1,000 live births.
- ❖ The 'Paalan 1000' National Campaign and Parenting App is launched at the Early Childhood Development Conclave in Mumbai.
- ❖ 'Paalan 1000' focuses on the cognitive development of children in the first two years of their life.

- ❖ The app will provide practical advice to caregivers on what they can do in their everyday routine and will help clear doubts.
- ❖ The programme is aligned with the mission of the Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK).
- ❖ RBSK emphasising responsive care and focused interventions during the first 1,000 days.

New Weapons and Weapon System



- ❖ Defence Ministry handed over two new weapons – the Nipun mines, the Landing Craft Assault (LCA) and the F-INSAS system to the Army.

F-INSAS System

- ❖ F-INSAS stands for Future Infantry Soldier As A System.
- ❖ It is an indigenously developed system that will help modernise the Indian Army units.
- ❖ The development of this system is aimed at improving the operational capabilities of the infantry units of the Indian Army.
- ❖ The F-INSAS system comprises firepower in the form of the AK-203 Assault Rifle.
- ❖ India will be producing the AK-203 as a part of the India-Russia joint venture.

Nipun Anti-Personnel Mines

- ❖ These 'Nipun' mines will enhance the protection provided to the troops on the borders as it is more potent and effective than the existing ones.

Landing Craft Assault (LCA)

- ❖ The new boats, Landing Craft Assault (LCA), equipped with advanced surveillance gadgets and other equipment.

- ❖ They are being deployed to keep a strict vigil over the Pangong Tso lake in eastern Ladakh
- ❖ This will be the replacement for boats for carrying personnel in battle operations.
- ❖ These lightweight assault carriers can carry up to 35 troops.

‘Panch Pran’ target for next 25 years



- ❖ Prime Minister set a “Panch Pran Targets” (Five Resolves) to turn India into a developed nation in next 25 years.
- ❖ The Five Targets
 - Move forward with bigger resolves and resolve of a developed India
 - Erase all traces of servitude
 - Be proud of India’s legacy
 - Strength of unity
 - Duties of citizens including PM and CMs.
- ❖ The five resolves will be significant for a developed country when country will mark 100 years of independence in 2047

India’s first Saline Water Lamp

- ❖ India's first saline water lantern, ‘Roshini’ was launched recently.
- ❖ It uses seawater to power LED lamps.
- ❖ It is the first-of-its-kind lantern.
- ❖ It was launched in Sagar Anveshika, a coastal research vessel operated by the National Institute of Ocean Technology Chennai for marine research.
- ❖ Saline water lanterns use seawater as an electrolyte between specially designed electrodes to power LED lamps.

Petrol With 20% Ethanol



- ❖ India will start supplying petrol with 20 per cent ethanol at select petrol pumps from April 2023.
- ❖ It aims to cut oil import dependence and address environmental issues.
- ❖ India, achieved the target of supplying petrol mixed with 10 per cent ethanol blended petrol in June this year.

Asia's Largest Compressed Biogas Plant

- ❖ Asia's largest Compressed Biogas plant has begun its commercial operations in Sangrur, Punjab.
- ❖ The plant which has been setup at village Bhuttal Kalan (Sangrur) has a total operational capacity of 33.23-tonne CBG per day.

Statue of Veer Durgadas Rathore

- ❖ The Statue of "Veer Durgadas Rathore" was unveiled on his 385th birth anniversary in Rajasthan's Jodhpur.
- ❖ He was the Rathore Rajput General of the Kingdom of Marwar.
- ❖ Durgadas single-handedly preserved the rule of the Rathore dynasty over Marwar (Jodhpur) after the death of Maharaja Jaswant Singh in the 17th century.
- ❖ He commanded the Rathore forces during the Rajput War (1679–1707).
- ❖ He played a major role in the Rajput Rebellion (1708–1710) which became one of the main reasons for the decline of the Mughal Empire.
- ❖ He was elected as the leader of the revolt along with Raja Jai Singh II of Jaipur.

National Security Strategies Conference 2022

- ❖ “National Security Strategies Conference 2022” was inaugurated recently at New Delhi.
- ❖ It brings together the top leadership to address the national security challenges.
- ❖ Police officers, Security practitioners and experts from specialized fields also take part in the conference.

Safai Mitra Surakshit Shehar

- ❖ 500 cities across India have declared themselves as ‘Safai Mitra Surakshit Shehar’.
- ❖ All these cities have achieved sufficiency in terms of institutional capacity, equipment norms and manpower as provided by Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs.
- ❖ All the cities are now providing safe working conditions for Safai Mitras.
- ❖ The “Safai Mitra Surakshit Shehar” declaration is in line with goal of promoting sustainable sanitation practices under Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban.

Manthan Platform



- ❖ The Indian Government launched the “Manthan Platform”
- ❖ It aims to steer the collaboration between industry and research institutes in implementing technology-based social impact innovations and solutions in India.
- ❖ It is powered by NSEIT and is led by office of Principal Scientific Advisor.

National Automated Fingerprint Identification System

Automated Fingerprint Identification System

- The Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) is a biometric identification (ID) methodology that uses digital imaging technology to
- obtain,
- Store
- analyze fingerprint data.



- ❖ The National Automated Fingerprint Identification System (NAFIS) was also inaugurated recently.
- ❖ It has been developed by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB).
- ❖ This System will help in disposal of cases in easy and quick manner by using centralized fingerprint database.

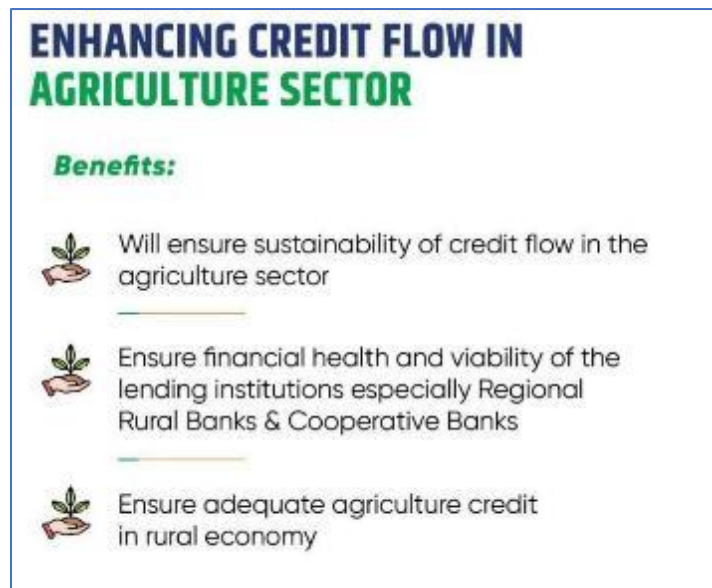
NIDAAN database



- ❖ The Narcotics Control Bureau has developed India's first database of arrested narcotics offenders.
- ❖ NIDAAN stands for National Integrated Database on Arrested Narco-offenders.
- ❖ It is now operational for use by various central and state prosecution agencies tasked to enforce anti-drug laws in the country.
- ❖ It is a part of the narcotics coordination mechanism (NCORD) portal.
- ❖ This platform sources its data from the ICJS (inter-operable criminal justice system) and the e-Prisons (a cloud-based application) repository.

Interest subvention on Agriculture Loan

- ❖ The Union Cabinet approved to restore the interest subvention on short-term agricultural loans.
- ❖ An interest subvention of 1.5% was approved on short-term farm loans up to Rs 3 lakh.
- ❖ This amount will be given to lending institutions for FY 2022-23 to 2024-25.
- ❖ It aims to ensure adequate agriculture credit in rural economy.
- ❖ Interest Subvention Scheme was launched by government to ensure that farmers pay a minimum interest rate to the bank.
- ❖ This scheme has been rechristened as Modified Interest Subvention Scheme.



Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) database

- ❖ Union Cabinet approved the “Widening access of Traditional Knowledge Digital Library database to users, apart from the patent offices”.
- ❖ This approval is focused towards integrating and co-opting traditional knowledge with current practices, in a bid to enhancing innovation and trade.
- ❖ This database will act as an important source of traditional knowledge information to advance knowledge and technology frontiers.
- ❖ This database can be accessed through a paid subscription model.
- ❖ It will be opened for national and international users in a phase-wise manner.
- ❖ Traditional Knowledge Digital Library was established in 2001.



India's Indigenous Monkeypox Test Kit

- ❖ The Andhra Pradesh Medtech Zone recently launched the first indigenously manufactured RT-PCR kit for testing monkeypox.
- ❖ With the help of this kit, the infection can be detected quickly.
- ❖ This kit was developed by Transasia-Erba Biomedicals.
- ❖ TransAsia-Erba Monkeypox RT-PCR Kit is highly sensitive.
- ❖ On July 14, the Kollam district of Kerala announced the country's first case of monkeypox.



Grameen Udyami Project phase 2



- ❖ The National Skill Development Corporation in partnership with Seva Bharti and Yuva Vikas Society recently launched Phase II of Grameen Udyami project.
- ❖ It aims to promote skill development and entrepreneurship among tribal youth and to promote Skill India Mission.
- ❖ In the first phase of this training, participants from rural and tribal areas of Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat were included.
- ❖ Currently, this project is being implemented in six states - Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand and Gujarat.

Coal Ministers award 2021-2022

- ❖ These awards were first introduced last year.
- ❖ They were given in three categories - safety, production & productivity and sustainability.
- ❖ Two new additional categories of quality and ERP implementation have been added this year.
- ❖ Mahanadi Coal Fields Limited (MCL) bagged the first prize in three categories, namely 'Safety', 'Production & Productivity' and 'Quality'.
- ❖ Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) bagged the second prize in safety category and third in sustainability category.

- ❖ Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) got the first prize in the category 'Sustainability'.
- ❖ Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL) got the first prize in 'Implementation of ERP'.
- ❖ Central Coalfields Limited is a Category 1 Miniratna Company since the year 2007.
- ❖ It is the first coal controlling company in the country.
- ❖ Initially it had five subsidiaries.
- ❖ Whereas Coal India Limited currently has eight subsidiaries.

Rashtriya Puraskar Portal



- ❖ The central government launched the Rashtriya Puraskar Portal.
- ❖ It aims to bring together all the awards of various ministries, departments, agencies of the Government of India under one platform to ensure transparency and public partnership.
- ❖ This portal facilitates every citizen or organisation to nominate individuals/organizations for various Awards instituted by the Government of India.
- ❖ The three Padma awards - Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri Instituted in 1954.

Tricolour across the globe

- ❖ As part of the celebrations on 75 years of Independence, the Indian Navy have deployed warships to every continent except Antarctica.
- ❖ The Indian Navy warships hoisted the Tricolour across six continents, three oceans and six different time zones.
- ❖ The warships were deployed in Perth, Singapore, Muscat, Mombasa, London, Rio de Janeiro and San Diego.



National Conference of Women Police

- ❖ A two-day 'National Conference of Women Police' held in Shimla in collaboration with the Himachal Police.
- ❖ It was organised by Ministry of Home Affairs and Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPRD).
- ❖ The conference will showcase the achievements of women police officers and discuss challenges faced by them.
- ❖ It will also discuss the new roles and responsibilities of women in terms of emerging technologies and crimes.

Geothermal energy – Ladakh

- ❖ ONGC would making a project to tap the geothermal power at 14,000 feet in Ladakh.
- ❖ This will be India's first geothermal energy project and also the world's highest.
- ❖ It will boost Ladakh's potential to emerge as one of the country's clean energy bowls.
- ❖ The geothermal foray is part of a strategy adopted by India's largest oil and gas producer to offset its carbon footprint.



- ❖ The US, Indonesia, Philippines, Turkey and New Zealand have gigawatt-size geo thermal capacities.
- ❖ Mexico and Italy have 900 megawatt-plus capacity, while Kenya has over 800 mw, followed by Iceland, Japan and others.

Vedh Project

- ❖ As part of a pilot project, the Ashramshalas, residential schools covered under the Tribal Development Project Office, in Nandurbar taluka in Maharashtra, have been experimenting with a unique way to learn.
- ❖ The pilot project is called 'Vedh Project'.
- ❖ It is based on the novel concept of heutagogy, a student-centred instructional strategy.
- ❖ Here, teachers are facilitators, who, instead of following the fixed pattern of facing the class and conducting lessons, set challenges for students and encourage them to learn their curricula by developing innovative methods on their own, in the form of group activities.

Legal Aid Defense Counsel System

- ❖ NALSA has launched Legal Aid Défense Counsel System (LADCS) in 365 district legal services authorities across India.
- ❖ It has full-time legal aid lawyers.
- ❖ LADC is a NALSA-funded project to provide free legal aid to accused persons to defend themselves in criminal trials.
- ❖ NALSA has been constituted under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.
- ❖ It aims to provide free legal services to weaker sections of society.

India's First EV Ecosystem

- ❖ HDFC has launched India's first one-stop solution portal for Electric Vehicles Ecosystem, "All things EV".
- ❖ The "All things EV" will create awareness among the people and increase potential customer awareness.
- ❖ The initiative spreads awareness about using green technology over the conventional technology being used for decades.

India's sex ratio at birth

INDIA'S SEX RATIO AT BIRTH APPEARS TO BE NARROWING	
Male births per 100 female births	
2001	110
2011	111
2015-16	109
2020-21	108

- ❖ The latest study by Pew Research Center has pointed out that “son bias” is on a decline in India.
- ❖ Sex ratio at birth fell from 111 boys per 100 girls in 2011 to 108 boys per 100 girls in 2019-21.
- ❖ Average annual number of baby girls “missing” in India fell from about 480,000 (4.8 lakh) in 2010 to 410,000 (4.1 lakh) in 2019.
- ❖ World over, boys modestly outnumber girls at birth, at a ratio of approximately 105 male babies for every 100 female babies.
- ❖ In the 1970s, India’s sex ratio was at par with the global average of 105-100.
- ❖ This was widened to 108 boys per 100 girls in the early 1980s, and reached 110 boys per 100 girls in the 1990s.
- ❖ The report points out that between 2000-2019, nine crore female births went “missing” because of female-selective abortions.
- ❖ The report has also analysed religion-wise sex selection, pointing out that the gap was the highest for Sikhs.
- ❖ The share of “missing” girls among Hindus is also above their respective population share.
- ❖ Hindus make up 80% of India’s population but accounted for an estimated 87% or eight crores of the females “missing” due to sex-elective abortions.
- ❖ Muslims, accounted for 7%, or approximately 5.9 lakh, of the country’s “missing” girls.
- ❖ Christians, who make up 2.3% of the population, have had an estimated 0.6%, or about 53,000, of the total number of sex-selective abortions.

Healthcare services to Transgender Persons



- ❖ The National Health Authority (NHA) and the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment recently signed a MoU.
- ❖ It aims to providing the holistic health services to transgender persons under Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana.
- ❖ The holder of the Transgender Certificate, issued by the National Portal for Transgender Persons across the country, will get the benefit of all health facilities.
- ❖ All the empanelled hospitals of AB-PMAJY will provide free treatment to transgenders where special packages will be available.
- ❖ Under AB-PMAJY, every eligible person gets a health insurance cover of up to Rs 5 lakh every year.

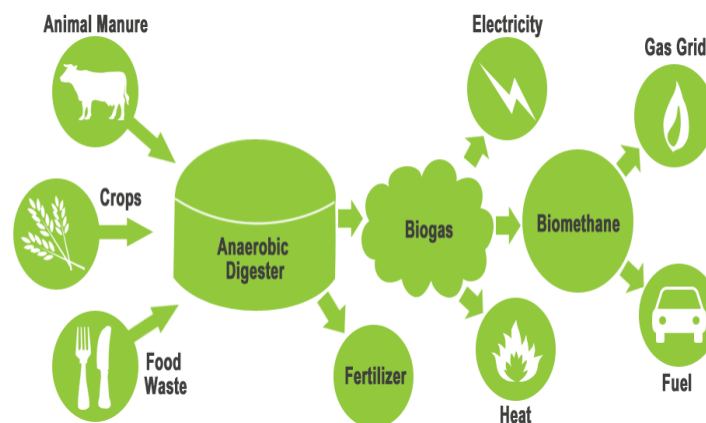
Benami Transaction (Prohibition) Amendment Act 2016

- ❖ The Supreme Court ruled that the Benami Transaction (Prohibition) Amendment Act of 2016 will apply prospectively.
- ❖ The Authorities concerned cannot initiate or continue criminal prosecution or confiscation proceedings for transactions entered into prior to the coming into force of the 2016 Act, that is October 25, 2016."
- ❖ As a consequence of the above declaration, all such prosecutions or confiscation proceedings (for transactions between 1988 and 2016) shall stand quashed.

Penalty Benami Transactions (Prohibition) Amendment Act, 2016		
Penalty: offences are non-cognisable non- bailable.		
Offence	Fine	Imprisonment
For guilty of offence of a benami transaction	Upto 25% of the Fair Market Value	Minimum 1 year upto 7 years
For providing false information	Upto 10% of the Fair Market Value	Minimum 6 months upto 5 years

Cow dung compressed biogas project

- ❖ Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) started its Cow dung to Compressed Biogas project in Sanchore, Rajasthan.
- ❖ This will be HPCL's first project under the Waste to Energy portfolio.
- ❖ The plant proposes to use 100 tonnes of cow dung per day for the production of biogas.
- ❖ It can be used as automotive fuel.
- ❖ The project is being developed under the GOBAR-DHAN scheme and is expected to be commissioned in a year.
- ❖ The GOBAR (Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources)-Dhan scheme has been implemented as part of the Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin).



SC Verdict on Poll Promises

- ❖ The Supreme Court (SC) has decided to reconsider a 2013 judgment on Poll Promises.

- ❖ It was S. Subramaniam Balaji versus Government of Tamil Nadu judgment in 2013.
- ❖ Previously the SC held that pre-poll promises made by political parties to entice voters do not fall within the ambit of Section 123 (corrupt practices) under the Representation of the People (RP) Act.
- ❖ It announced that only an individual candidate, not their party, can commit a 'corrupt practice'.
- ❖ The judgment was delivered by a two-judge Bench.
- ❖ Now, a three-judge Bench to be set up to review the court's earlier position.

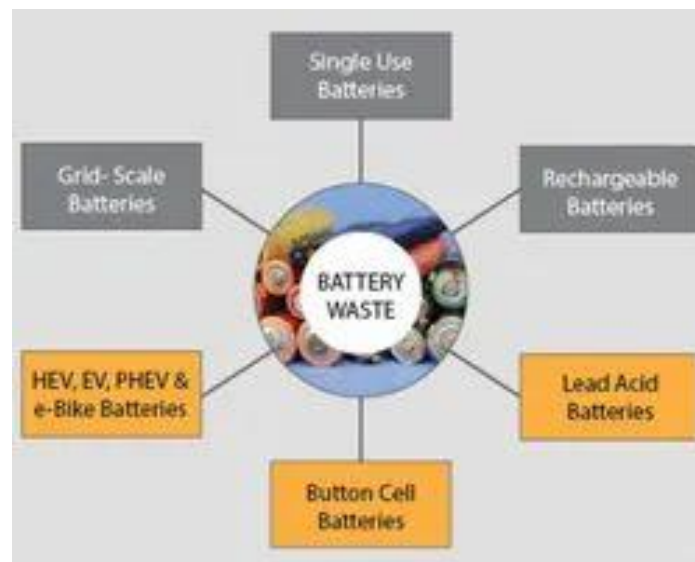


Wind project addition to peak by 2024

- ❖ The annual installation of new wind power projects in India will peak by 2024 and likely decline thereafter.
- ❖ After 2024, fresh projects are likely to be wind-solar hybrids.
- ❖ This is reported by the Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC) and MEC Intelligence (MEC+).
- ❖ India currently has 13.4 GW of prospective projects in wind energy.
- ❖ It is expected to drive installations until 2024 in the market.
- ❖ India is expected to add 3.2 GW in 2022.
- ❖ 4.1 GW in 2023 is peaking to 4.6 GW in 2024.
- ❖ Thereafter there will be a declining to 4 GW and 3.5 GW in the next two years.
- ❖ Wind industry installations have been slowing down in India since 2017.
- ❖ Only 1.45 GW of wind projects were installed in 2021.

Battery waste management rules 2022

- ❖ The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change published the Battery Waste Management Rules, 2022.
- ❖ It aims to ensure environmentally sound management of waste batteries and replace the Batteries (Management and Handling) Rules, 2001.
- ❖ The rules cover all types of batteries, viz. Electric Vehicle batteries, portable batteries, automotive batteries and industrial batterie.
- ❖ The rules will enable setting up a mechanism and centralized online portal.
- ❖ This portal is used for exchange of EPR certificates between producers and recyclers/refurbishers to fulfil the obligations of producers.
- ❖ This rule is Mandating the minimum percentage of recovery of materials from waste batteries.
- ❖ This recovery will bring new technologies and investment in recycling and refurbishment industry and create new business opportunities.
- ❖ This rules also, Prescribing the use of certain number of recycled materials in making of new batteries.
- ❖ It will reduce the dependency on new raw materials and save natural resources.



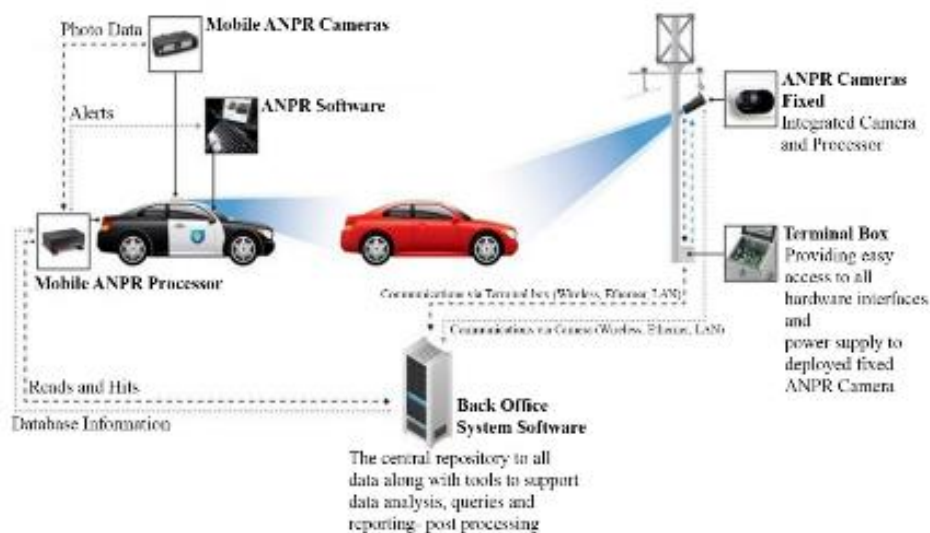
One Nation One Fertilizer

- ❖ The Central Government has ordered the implementation of ‘One Nation, One Fertiliser’ scheme.
- ❖ The new scheme is aimed at bringing about uniformity in fertiliser brands across the country under the single brand name of ‘Bharat’.

- ❖ The fertiliser subsidy scheme has also been officially renamed the Pradhan mantri Bharitya Janurvarak Pari yojna (PMBJP).
- ❖ All fertiliser should carry a single brand name 'Bharat', irrespective of if it is produced by the public or private sector.
- ❖ Different types of fertiliser products will carry Bharat brand name i.e., 'Bharat Urea', 'Bharat DAP', 'Bharat MOP' and 'Bharat NPK'.
- ❖ The new provisions of PMBJP will come into effect from 2nd October 2022 onwards.



Automatic Number Plate Reading Camera





- ❖ The government of India plans to remove all toll plazas across the country.
- ❖ It replaces them with automatic number plate reading cameras.
- ❖ These cameras will read vehicle number plates and automatically deduct toll.
- ❖ The ANPR camera is comfortable to reading nine numbers of the number plate.
- ❖ If there is anything beyond that - like something written on the number plates - then the camera will not read it.

Nepal - Gorkha recruitment

- ❖ Nepal has urged India to suspend the recruitment of Gorkhas to the Indian Army under the newly introduced Agnipath scheme.
- ❖ Nepal has stalled the recruitment process indefinitely.
- ❖ Army recruitment was suspended for two years due to the coronavirus pandemic.
- ❖ Nepal stated that the scheme does not adhere to the provision of the agreement signed by Nepal, India, and Britain in 1947.
- ❖ This 1947 agreement governs the recruitment of Nepali soldiers into the Indian Army.

India's Best Aspirational District

- ❖ Haridwar has been declared as India's Best Aspirational District by NITI Aayog among 117 aspirational districts.
- ❖ NITI Aayog's Aspirational Districts Programme was launched in 2018.
- ❖ It is aimed at identifying potential districts that can develop into model blocks through socio-economic development.
- ❖ Under the programme, the central government takes steps to improve the socio-economic condition of identified districts and ensure inclusive and holistic development.
- ❖ Parameters measure the socio-economic development
 - Health & Nutrition (30%)
 - Education (30%)
 - Agriculture & Water Resources (20%)
 - Financial Inclusion & Skill Development (10%)
 - Infrastructure (10%)

Renaming of AIIMS

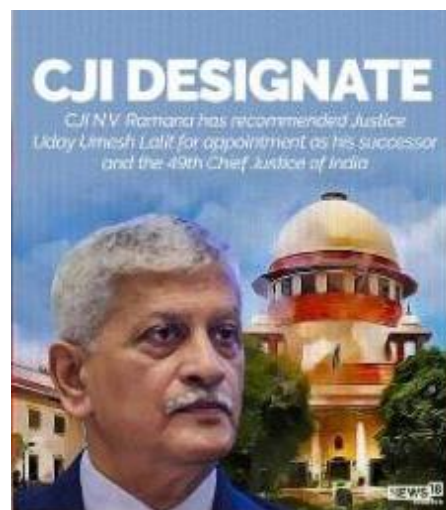
- ❖ The government of India has approved a proposal to give specific names to all the AIIMS.
- ❖ The new names based on regional heroes, freedom fighters, historical events or monuments of the area, or their distinct geographical identity.
- ❖ Currently, All the AIIMS are known by its generic name and distinguished only by their location.

India's first earthquake memorial

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has dedicated India's first earthquake memorial, named Smruti Van at Bhuj in Gujarat.
- ❖ Smruti Van is a unique memorial carrying the names of more than 12 thousand people.
- ❖ They lost their lives in the devastating earthquake that struck here in January 2001.

New CJI of India

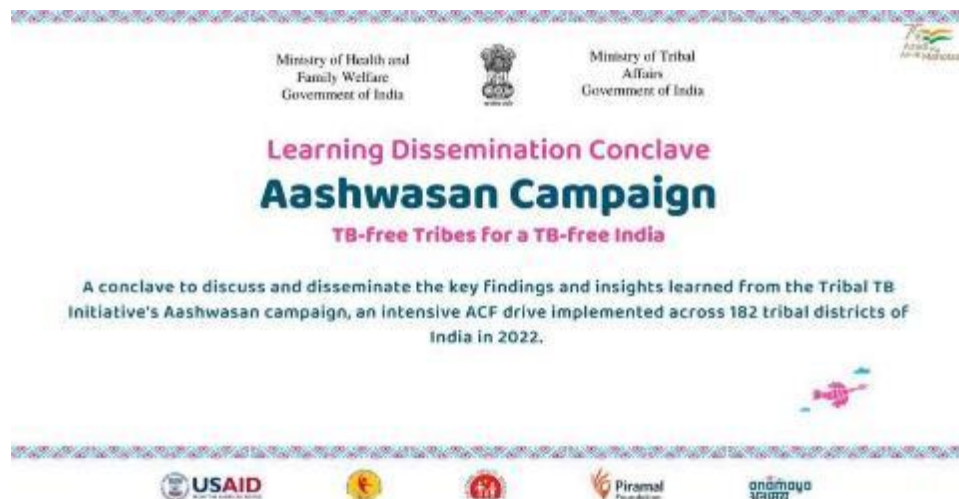
- ❖ Justice Uday Umesh Lalit took oath as the 49th Chief Justice of India on August 27th 2022.
- ❖ The President of India Droupadi Murmu administered the oath of office in Rashtrapati Bhavan, Delhi.
- ❖ Prior to his elevation as a judge, he practised as a senior counsel at the Supreme Court.
- ❖ He is the second one to be appointed directly by the Bar as the Chief Justice of India



- ❖ He will retire on 8 November 2022 (for a period of seventy-four days).
- ❖ He ensured that at least one constitution bench is functioning in the Supreme Court throughout the year, listing cases for hearing in the apex court, and mentioning urgent matters.
- ❖ Justice Lalit's initiative comes at a time when the Supreme Court's pendency has crossed over 71,000 from a little over 55,000 in 2017.
- ❖ Justice S M Sikri became the 13th CJI in January 1971.
- ❖ He was the first lawyer to be elevated directly to the top court bench in March 1964.

75 tribal districts – TB interventions

- ❖ To mark 75 years' of India's Independence, 75 high burden tribal districts have been selected for focused interventions.
- ❖ It aims to make India TB-free by 2025.
- ❖ The Ministry of Tribal Affairs and TB division of Ministry of Health and Family welfare organized a national conclave recently to disseminate the learnings of the 100-day Aashwasan Campaign under 'Tribal TB Initiative'.
- ❖ Tribal TB Initiative is a joint initiative of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Central TB Division, Ministry of Health.
- ❖ It is supported by United States Agency for International Development (USAID) as technical partner and Piramal Swasthya as implementing partner.
- ❖ The Aashwasan Campaign started in January, 2022 for active case finding for TB in 174 tribal districts of India, under the ambit of the Tribal TB Initiative.



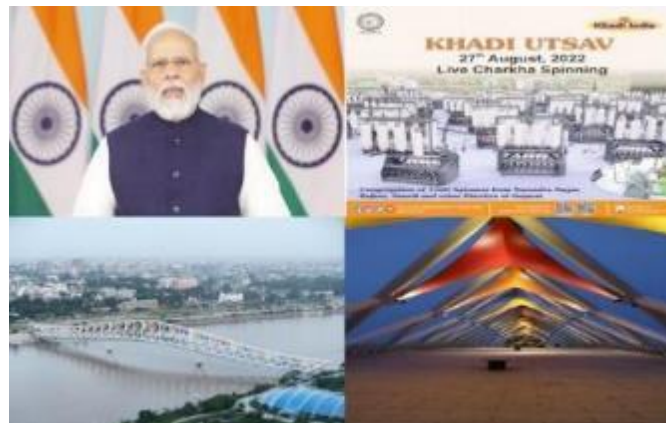
2nd railway station at Nagaland

- ❖ Nagaland got its second railway station after a gap of more than 119 years with the commissioning of a new facility at Shokhuvi.
- ❖ The Donyi Polo Express ran daily between Guwahati in Assam and Naharlagun in Arunachal Pradesh.
- ❖ Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh will be directly connected by train service with the extension of Donyi Polo Express till Shokhuvi Railway Station.
- ❖ Dimapur Railway Station, the first railway station in the state, was inaugurated in 1903.



Atal Bridge

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi opened the pedestrian-only "Atal Bridge" over the Sabarmati River in Gujarat.
- ❖ The Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation developed the pedestrian overpass (Atal Bridge).



INTERNATIONAL

UNAIDS Report 2022

- ❖ India has seen reductions in HIV infections compared to the rising trend in Asia and the Pacific.
- ❖ India is among 30 tuberculosis-HIV high-burden nations.
- ❖ India also one among the eight countries which saw a decline in tuberculosis-related deaths among people living with HIV.
- ❖ India is also figured among the two countries which saw some of the most significant reductions in HIV infections.
- ❖ However, India saw an 8 percent decline in providing TB preventive therapy to people living with HIV in 2019 and 2020.
- ❖ South Africa and the Tanzania, saw treatment fall by 30 per cent.
- ❖ Globally the number of new infections dropped only 3.6 per cent between 2020 and 2021.
- ❖ This is the smallest annual decline in new HIV infections since 2016.

Zimbabwe's Gold Coin

- ❖ Zimbabwe launched gold coins to control the inflation in country.
- ❖ The Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe announced the launch and distributed 2,000 coins to commercial banks.
- ❖ In July, the annual inflation rate increased to 190%.
- ❖ Thus interest rate of central bank increased by two times to 200%.
- ❖ They are also easily tradable in locally and internationally.
- ❖ The gold coin is called as "Mosi-oa-Tunya".
- ❖ It means "The Smoke Which Thunders".
- ❖ It also refers to Victoria Falls in native Tonga language.



VINBAX 2022

- ❖ The 3rd edition of Vietnam-India Bilateral Army Exercise “Ex VINBAX 2022” is conducted in Haryana.
- ❖ The theme of Ex VINBAX 2022 is the “Employment and deployment of an Engineer Company and a Medical Team as part of United Nations Contingent for Peace Keeping Operations”.
- ❖ The exercise will further strengthen the bilateral relations between India and Vietnam.



Chabahar Day Conference

- ❖ Chabahar Day Conference was launched in Mumbai.
- ❖ The Inauguration event was attended by dignitaries from Kazakhstan, Iran, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, and Afghanistan.
- ❖ India and Iran had inked the bilateral agreement in May 2016.
- ❖ India agreed to refurbish one of the berths at Shahid Beheshti port.
- ❖ India also agreed to reconstruct a 600-meter-long container handling facility at this port.
- ❖ In October 2017, India sent first shipment of wheat to Afghanistan via the Chabahar Port.
- ❖ India, Iran and Afghanistan had inked a tripartite agreement for developing Chabahar port in 2016.
- ❖ They also agreed to set up a trilateral transport and transit corridor.

Extended Fund Facility to Pakistan

- ❖ IMF signed an Extended Fund Facility (EFF) With Pakistan government for the revival of its economy.
- ❖ According to the Economic Survey of Pakistan 2022, the fiscal deficit in FY 22 was \$18.6 billion.
- ❖ The net public debt at \$252 billion, which is 66.3% of the GDP.

Extended Fund Facility (EFF)

- ❖ It provides support for comprehensive programs including the policies needed to correct structural imbalances over an extended period.
- ❖ The EFF engagement and repayment cover longer periods than most Fund arrangements.
- ❖ The funds are provided for up to 3 to 4 years.
- ❖ Amounts drawn under an EFF are to be repaid over 5 -10 years.



Missile defense drill

- ❖ A joint ballistic missile defence exercise will be held between South Korea, the US, and Japan.
- ❖ It is the biannual Pacific Dragon drill
- ❖ Australia and Canada will also take part in the exercise in the edition of 2022, in addition to the three other nations.

Assassination of Al-Qaeda leader

- ❖ The US has killed the leader of al-Qaeda, Ayman al-Zawahiri, in a drone strike in Afghanistan.
- ❖ He was killed in a counter-terrorism operation carried out by the CIA in the Afghan capital Kabul.

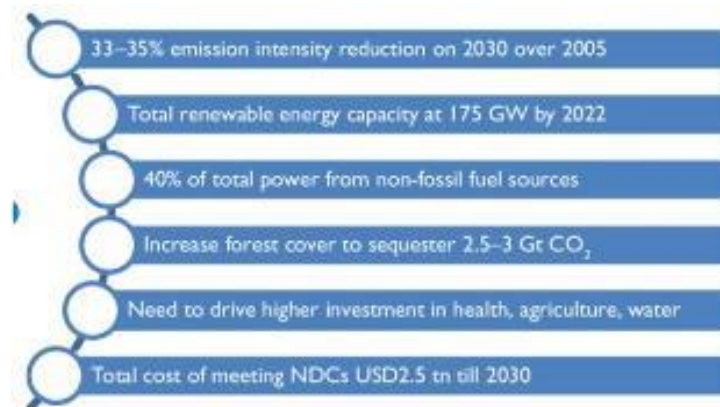
- ❖ He and Osama Bin Laden plotted the 9/11 attacks together.
- ❖ And he was one of America's most wanted terrorists.



Pitch Black 2022

- ❖ India will be part of the mega air combat exercise “Pitch Black 2022” to be held in Australia.
- ❖ Over 100 aircraft and 2,500 military personnel from 17 nations will be part of the drill.
- ❖ Exercise Pitch Black is a biennial multi-national large force employment warfare exercise, hosted by Royal Australian Air Force.

India's updated NDC



- ❖ The Union Cabinet recently gave approval to India's updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC).
- ❖ It aims to increase India's contributions in strengthening global response towards climate change, in accordance with the Paris Agreement.
- ❖ It will help India to escort in low emissions growth pathways.



- ❖ The updated NDC will be transferred to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.
- ❖ This update is also a step towards achieving long term goal of country to reach net-zero by 2070.
- ❖ According to updated NDC, India is committed to reduce Emissions Intensity of its GDP by 45% by 2030 as compared to 2005 level.

IOCL MoU with Bangladesh

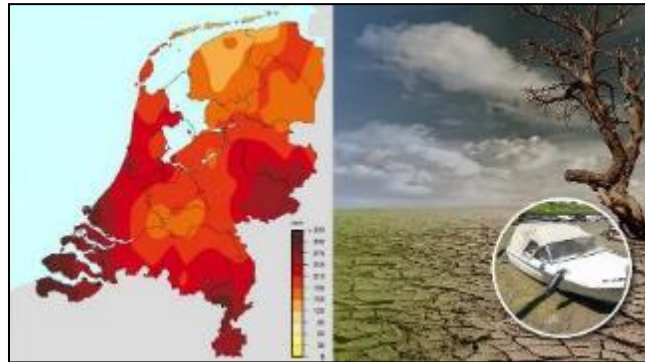
- ❖ The Indian Oil Corporation Limited and the Bangladesh Roads and Highways department has inked a new MOU.
- ❖ This will allow the emergency delivery of petroleum products via Bangladeshi territory to India.
- ❖ The Petroleum products tankers will enter from Meghalaya and travel into Bangladeshi territory on their way to Tripura.

Yudh Abhyas exercise

- ❖ India and the US will hold an over two-week-long military exercise in Uttarakhand.
- ❖ This is the 18th edition of this exercise.
- ❖ The last edition of the exercise took place in October 2021 in Alaska in the US.
- ❖ In June 2016, the US designated India a "Major Defence Partner".
- ❖ The Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (LEMOA) was signed in 2016.
- ❖ The Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement (COMCASA) was finalised in 2018.
- ❖ India and the US sealed the Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement (BECA) in 2020.

Water shortage in the Netherlands

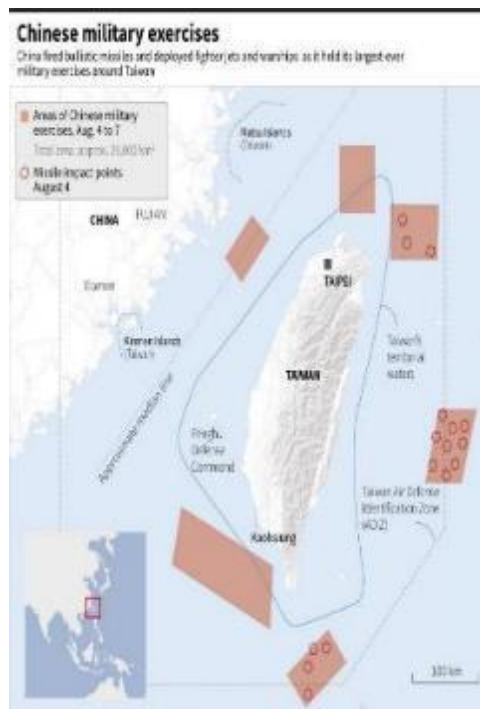
- ❖ The National Water levels in the Netherlands has declined to all-time low.
- ❖ As a result, country has been suffering from a water shortage.
- ❖ Rhine River Water is supplying 50% less water than normal.
- ❖ Netherlands is known for its abundance of water.
- ❖ But water shortage was declared for the fifth time in last 22 years.



Meeting of UNSC Counterterrorism Committee

- ❖ India will host UN Security Council's 15 member countries special counterterrorism meeting.
- ❖ The meeting in India will be the seventh occasion of that meeting convened outside of the UN headquarters.
- ❖ India got a 2-year term as an elected non-permanent member of the UNSC last year.
- ❖ India will serve as the committee's chair until December 2022.

China's largest-ever military exercises



- ❖ China has started its largest-ever military exercises around Taiwan.
- ❖ Chinese media is tagging the exercise as rehearsal for 'reunification process'.
- ❖ The drill is underway across six zones across Taiwan.
- ❖ China's navy, air force and other departments are taking part in the drill.
- ❖ In response, Taiwan has also alerted its military and has staged multiple civil defence drills.

Chile's New Constitution



- ❖ The first time in Chile's history a constitution was drafted democratically.
- ❖ The proposed new text was written by a 154-member body elected through a popular vote.
- ❖ The president remains the head of the government.
- ❖ The president could be re-elected consecutively once.
- ❖ Chile's president can currently only be re-elected non-consecutively.
- ❖ Its Congress is a bicameral body with equal powers.

First Repair of a US Navy Ship

- ❖ US Navy Ship arrived to Katupalli Shipyard of L&T at Ennore, Chennai to undertake repairs and maintenance.
- ❖ This adds a new strategic dimension to India-US military partnership.
- ❖ A US Navy Ship is being repaired for the first time in an Indian shipyard.
- ❖ India had proposed during India-US 2+2 dialogue in April 2022 for US Navy to avail services and expertise of Indian Shipyards.
- ❖ Repair of US Navy vessels in Indian shipyards was enabled as a part of Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (LEMOA).
- ❖ The LEMOA was signed to ease the exchange of goods and warlike stores between Indian and US navies.



ASEAN 55th Anniversary

- ❖ August 2022 marks an important occasion of the 55th anniversary of ASEAN.
- ❖ ASEAN stands for Association of Southeast Asian Nations.
- ❖ The theme of this year's ASEAN Day is "Stronger Together".
- ❖ The year 2022 also marks the 30th Anniversary of ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations.
- ❖ 2022 is the 10th anniversary of India's Strategic Partnership with ASEAN.
- ❖ ASEAN was established on 8 August 1967 in Bangkok, Thailand.
- ❖ It was the result of the signing of the ASEAN Declaration (Bangkok Declaration).
- ❖ The motto of ASEAN is "One Vision, One Identity, One Community".
- ❖ The founding members are - Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.
- ❖ Currently it has 10 member countries.
- ❖ ASEAN Plus Three includes - China, South Korea, and Japan.
- ❖ ASEAN Plus Six includes - ASEAN Plus Three as well as India, Australia, and New Zealand.

West Seti Hydropower project

- ❖ Nepal approved India's hydropower board to study and develop 1,200MW hydropower projects in western Nepal.
- ❖ The projects include 750MW West Seti Hydropower Project and 450 MW Seti River (SR-6), a joint storage project.
- ❖ West Seti project is a proposed Hydropower Project, to be built on the Seti River in far-western Nepal.

- ❖ India will be taking over this Project nearly four years after China withdrew from it.
- ❖ The West Seti project was first envisioned some six decades ago.



Butterfly Mines

- ❖ UK warned about the possible use of PFM-1 series 'Butterfly Mines' by Russian military.
- ❖ Butterfly mines are capable of causing widespread casualties among military as well as local civilian population.
- ❖ Earlier, PFM-1s were used in Soviet-Afghan War.
- ❖ The PFM-1 and PFM-1S anti-personnel landmines are commonly called as 'Butterfly mines' or 'Green Parrots'.
- ❖ They got the name because of their shape and colour.
- ❖ Butterfly mine attracts children because it is similar to coloured toy.
- ❖ They are sensitive to touch and just picking it up can turn them on.
- ❖ They are difficult to detect as they are made of plastic.
- ❖ Moreover, they can evade metal detectors.





A “sacrifice zone”

- ❖ There is a place in Myanmar that has become: A “sacrifice zone”.
- ❖ It is a place that destroys itself for the good of the world.
- ❖ The sacrifice is visible from the air, in toxic turquoise pools that dot the landscape covered by mountain jungles just a few years ago.
- ❖ Since rare earth clays in Myanmar are soft and near the surface, they can easily be scooped into these pools of chemicals.
- ❖ Satellite imagery commissioned by Global Witness showed more than 2,700 of these pools at almost 300 separate locations.

Commission for world peace

- ❖ The Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador has proposed a 3-men commission for global peace.
- ❖ It comprises of Narendra Modi, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, and Pope Francis.
- ❖ The Mexican President is planning to submit a written proposal to the UN to create the commission.

IMD-UNDP and Japan collaborate for climate action

- ❖ India Meteorological Department (IMD) has partnered with Government of Japan, and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on Climate Change.
- ❖ They have launched an initiative to hasten climate action across 10 states and Union Territories in India.
- ❖ This initiative will extend support to Nationally Determined Contribution (NDCs), in a bid to achieve net-zero emissions.
- ❖ It will also ensure climate-resilient development.

Udarashakti Exercise

- ❖ Udarashakti is a bilateral exercise between Indian Air Force and Royal Malaysian Air Force.
- ❖ The four-day bilateral exercises recently started in Malaysia.
- ❖ The first bilateral Air Force exercise that staged frontline Sukhoi-30 combat aircraft was conducted in 2018.

Exercise 'Al Najah'



- ❖ The 4th Edition of India-Oman Joint Military Exercise 'AL NAJAH-IV' begins in Rajasthan.
- ❖ The 3rd edition of Ex AL NAJAH IV was held at Muscat in March 2019.
- ❖ The exercise would focus on Counter Terrorism Operations, Regional Security Operations and Peace Keeping Operations.

Super Garuda Shield exercise

- ❖ The "Super Garuda Shield" exercises, were first held in 2007 with only Indonesian and US troops involved.
- ❖ Now it has expanded to include 12 other countries this year.
- ❖ Défense forces from Australia, Japan and Singapore are taking part in the drills.
- ❖ India, France and the UK are sending its observers.
- ❖ It aims to strengthen unity in the Indo-Pacific region.

Clade I and Clade II





- ❖ The World Health Organisation has announced new names for the variants of the monkeypox virus.
- ❖ This step is taken in a bid to avoid causing any “cultural or social offence.”
- ❖ The names of Monkeypox variants are Clades I, IIa and IIb.
- ❖ The monkeypox virus was named upon its first discovery in 1958.

Moscow Conference on International Security 2022

- ❖ The Moscow Conference on International Security-2022 was held recently.
- ❖ India stressed on bringing comprehensive reform in structure of United Nations.
- ❖ These conferences on international security are organised with the objective of sharing practical ideas and exploring solutions on issues of global security.
- ❖ Conferences also give opportunity to defence ministers to engage with their counterparts on security issues.

Free sanitary napkin to all

- ❖ Scotland has become the first country in the world to make period products free for all.
- ❖ There is now a legal duty on local authorities to provide free items such as tampons and sanitary pads to "anyone who needs them".
- ❖ Period products will be distributed through councils and education providers as the Period Products Act comes into force.
- ❖ In 2018, Scottish government made history by becoming the first in the world to make period products free to students.

TEXCON

- ❖ The Union Minister of Commerce & Industry Piyush Goyal inaugurated the 10th edition of the Asian Textile Conference.
- ❖ The conference was organised by Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI).
- ❖ Theme of the event is 'Reimagining the Textile and Apparel Industry for the next Decade'.

Water Levels in Rhine River

- ❖ The water levels in the Rhine River have lowered down.
- ❖ Low water level is making it difficult for vessels to navigate through critical European shipping route when fully loaded.

- ❖ It is a major route from products like grains to chemicals and coals.
- ❖ The river flows from Swiss Alps to North Sea through the German industrial heartlands.
- ❖ It acts as a significant link between industrial producers and global export terminals in North Sea ports including Rotterdam and Amsterdam.



UN internet panel

- ❖ India's Electronics and Information Technology Secretary, Alkesh Kumar Sharma has been added to a UN panel of eminent experts on internet governance.
- ❖ Internet pioneer Vint Cerf and Nobel Prize-winning journalist Maria Reesa were also appointed to the 10-member Internet Governance Forum (IGF) Leadership Panel.
- ❖ They will serve for a two-year term during the 2022–23 IGF cycles.



UN Report on Contemporary forms of slavery



- ❖ U.N. report highlighted contemporary forms of slavery, pointed out that Child labour, caste-based discrimination and poverty data.
- ❖ Contemporary forms of slavery are widely practiced around the world, including forced labour for China's Uyghur minority, bonded labour for the lowest caste Dalits in South Asia, and domestic servitude in Gulf countries, Brazil and Colombia.
- ❖ Child labour (5-17 age), including its worst forms, exists in all regions of the world.
- ❖ In Asia and the Pacific, the Middle East, the Americas and Europe, between 4% and 6% of children are said to be in child labour.
- ❖ This percentage is much higher in Africa (21.6%), with the highest rate in sub-Saharan Africa (23.9%).
- ❖ Forced marriage of women and girls is a concern in Asia, including Cambodia, India, Kazakhstan, Sri Lanka, and Vietnam.
- ❖ In parts of the Balkans, half of all Roma women ages 20 to 24 are married before age 18.
- ❖ It is compared to around 10% nationally.

International Transport Forum

- ❖ The Union Cabinet approved India-France contract to support ITF activities in the Indian transport sector.
- ❖ The International Transport Forum at the OECD is an intergovernmental organisation with 64 member countries.
- ❖ It acts as a think tank for transport policy and organises the Annual Summit of transport ministers.
- ❖ ITF is the only global body that covers all transport modes.
- ❖ The ITF is administratively integrated with the OECD, yet politically autonomous.

HAL first marketing abroad office

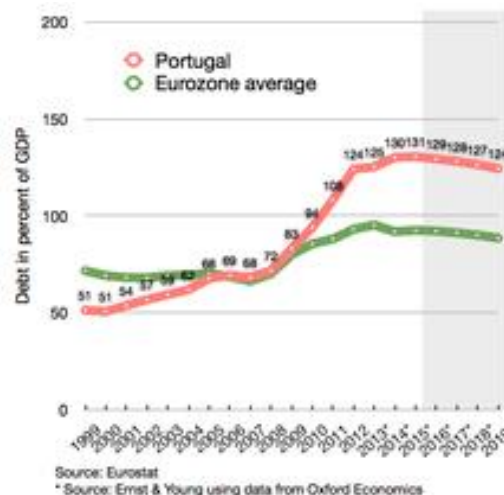
- ❖ The Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) inked a MoU to establish its first international marketing and sales office in Kuala Lumpur.
- ❖ It anticipates a potential agreement for the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas in Malaysia.
- ❖ Tejas is being considered by Malaysia as a Fighter Lead-in Trainer (FLIT) aircraft for the Royal Malaysian Air Force.

Singapore to end ban on Gay Sex

- ❖ Singapore announced that it would decriminalize same-sex/gay sex between men by scrapping a colonial-era law protecting the definition of marriage.
- ❖ Prior to this under Singapore's Section 377A of the Penal Code, men who have sex with men could be jailed for up to two years.
- ❖ Section 377 of the Indian penal code defines unnatural offences.
- ❖ In 2018, the Supreme Court ruled unanimously in Navtej Singh Johar v. Union of India that Section 377 was unconstitutional.

EU's fastest aging country

- ❖ The elderly population in Portugal has tripled in the past three decades.
- ❖ It currently registers 182 elderly people for every 100 young people, making it the European Union (EU) has the largest population.
- ❖ In 1990s-time Portugal registered 66 elderly people per 100 youths.
- ❖ Between 2015 and 2020, Portugal recorded an annual aging rate of 3.6 percent, which is higher than all EU countries.



Longest ever drought in China

- ❖ China is facing its biggest drought ever.
- ❖ Drought has dried up rivers and affected power generation at hydroelectric power plants.
- ❖ There is darkness in small and big cities due to no electricity.
- ❖ After 64 years, the longest river in Asia - Yangtze, which is the largest river in China, has dried up.



India - Egypt 75th Anniversary of diplomatic ties

- ❖ Egypt released a postage stamp to commemorate the 75th anniversary of diplomatic relations with India.
- ❖ Diplomatic relations between India and Egypt began when Egypt recognized India's independence on 18 August 1947.
- ❖ The two countries became even closer in the 1950s, which resulted in a historic friendship treaty in 1955.
- ❖ Egypt is one of the largest investment destinations for India in the region with the current Indian investment of USD 3.15 billion.



- ❖ The defence cooperation between India and Egypt flourished in 1960s.
- ❖ India and Egypt manufactured the Helan-300 jet fighter jointly.
- ❖ The Indo-Egypt Joint Defence Committee was established in 2006.
- ❖ Since then, the committee has met six times.
- ❖ India and Egypt also organize bilateral military exercise 'Exercise Desert Warrior',

SCO defense minister meeting

- ❖ Meeting of defence ministers of the countries of Shanghai Cooperation Organization held in Uzbekistan.
- ❖ The SCO summit is going to be held in Samarkand Uzbekistan on 15-16 September.
- ❖ The heads of government of 8 member countries including India, Russia, China, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan are participating in it.
- ❖ SCO, also dubbed as Shanghai Pact, is a Eurasian political, economic & security alliance.

PEN-PLUS Strategy

CALL FOR SUPPORT
PEN-Plus Strategy at the WHO AFRO Resolution



Re: Support the WHO/AFRO Resolution to Adopt a Regional PEN-Plus Strategy to Address Severe NCDs

- ❖ The African health ministers had adopted the PEN-PLUS strategy against non-communicable diseases.
- ❖ In Africa, the NCDs are mostly treated in the major cities.
- ❖ This worsens health inequities, as it puts care out of reach for most rural, peri-urban and low-income patients.
- ❖ To overcome this Africa has adopted a new strategy called PEN-PLUS.



- ❖ The PEN-PLUS strategy is a Regional Strategy to address Severe NCDs at the First-Level Referral Health Facilities by increasing the access to the essential medicines, technologies, diagnostics and treatment.
- ❖ This will bridge the access gap in treatment, as NCDs account for most of the out-of-pocket spending of patients in Africa.
- ❖ The PEN-PLUS strategy has been successfully implemented and scaled up in Liberia, Malawi and Rwanda.

The Worst Europe's Drought

- ❖ It is being said that never has a European summer been so dry since 1540.
- ❖ In 1540, a year-long drought killed tens of thousands of people.
- ❖ As per the recent report by the Global Drought Observatory, 47% of Europe now lies in “warning” conditions.
- ❖ Moreover, 17% of Europe’s areas show “signs of stress” in vegetation.
- ❖ Preliminary data says that the ongoing drought is apparently the worst in at least 500 years.
- ❖ The Global Drought Observatory is a part of the European Commission’s Research wing.

UNSC procedural vote on Ukraine

- ❖ India, for the first time, voted against Russia at UNSC during a procedural vote against Ukraine.
- ❖ The UN body was voting on inviting Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to address a meeting through video conference.
- ❖ Russian Ambassador requested a procedural vote on the issue of Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky addressing the council.
- ❖ India currently is a non-permanent member of the UNSC for a two-year term, which ends in December.
- ❖ In response to Russia’s request, a procedural vote was held.
- ❖ In that, out of 15 members of UNSC, 13 voted in favour of allowing Zelensky to address the council.
- ❖ Russia voted against it and China decided to abstain.
- ❖ Decisions of the Security Council on procedural matters shall be made by an affirmative vote of nine members.

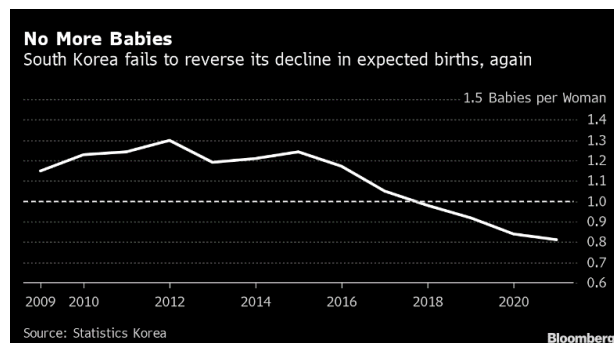
3rd Richest Person in the World

- ❖ Adani Group chairperson Gautam Adani has become the 3rd Richest Person in the World
- ❖ He has surpassed Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates and LVMH co-founder Bernard Arnault.
- ❖ He is the 1st Indian and 1st Asian to achieve this distinction.
- ❖ His overall net worth grew to USD 137.4 billion.
- ❖ The Adani group is also the country's largest coal trader.
- ❖ Adani now trails behind Elon Musk and Jeff Bezos in the Bloomberg Billionaires Index ranking.
- ❖ Earlier, India's Mukesh Ambani and China's Jack Ma tried make it to the top three on the list.



World's lowest fertility rate

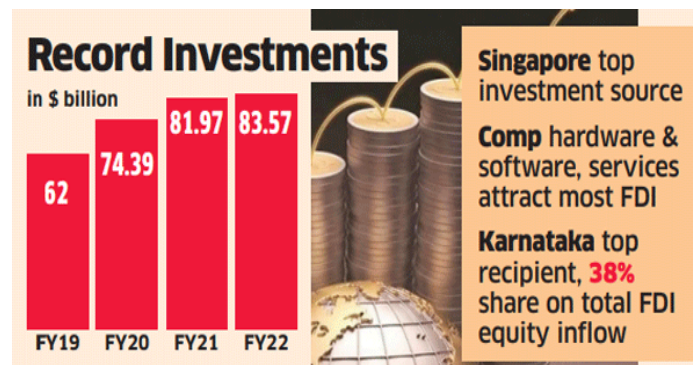
- ❖ South Korea has once again shattered its own record for the world's lowest fertility rate.
- ❖ Based on 2021 data, South Korean women were estimated to have an average of just 0.81 children over their lifetimes, down from 0.84 a year earlier.
- ❖ According to the United Nations' global population projections and World Bank's data, South Korea is the world's fastest-ageing nation among economies with a per capita GDP of at least \$30,000.



ECONOMY

Annual FDI Inflows

- ❖ India received the highest annual Foreign direct investment inflows of almost \$85 billion in FY 21-22.
- ❖ The highest FDI in India was from two countries Singapore and USA in FY 2021-22.
- ❖ They are followed by Mauritius, Netherland and Switzerland.
- ❖ Karnataka, Maharashtra, Delhi, Tamil Nadu and Haryana are the Top 5 States receiving the highest FDI Equity Inflow.



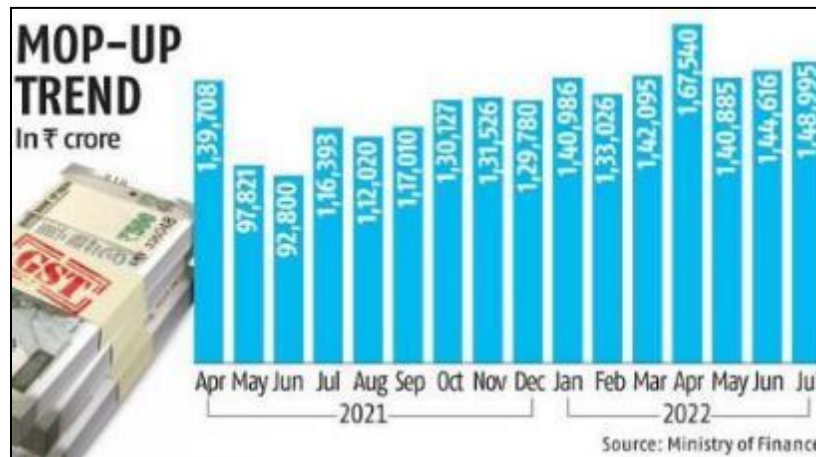
HDFC Bank merger

- ❖ HDFC Bank will be among the world's top 10 most valuable banks after its merger with the parent, Housing Development Finance Corporation (HDFC).
- ❖ It will also be the first Indian bank to make it to the Top 10 club.
- ❖ The combined market cap of HDFC Bank and HDFC would be around USD 160 billion.



GST revenue collection

- ❖ GST collections in July 2022 jumped 28 per cent year-on-year Rs 1,48,995 crore.
- ❖ This is the second-highest GST revenue collection ever.
- ❖ The collection of June had stood at Rs 1,44,616 crore.
- ❖ The highest collection was in April 2022 - Rs 1,67,540 crore.
- ❖ It is the sixth time that the monthly GST collections have crossed the Rs 1.40-lakh-crore mark since the inception.



5G Spectrum Auction 2022

- ❖ Reliance Jio emerged as the top spectrum buyer in the 5G auctions.
- ❖ This is the first time that 700 MHz spectrum was acquired by an operator.
- ❖ Bharti Airtel was next to Jio and it is followed by Vodafone Idea.
- ❖ Adani Data Networks, the Adani Group firm was a new entrant in the auctions.
- ❖ The government mopped up a little over Rs 1.50 trillion in the auctions.
- ❖ 29% spectrums are unsold.

Auction Numbers		
	Spends (₹ Cr)	Purchases (MHz)
Jio	88,078	24,740.0
Airtel	43,084	19,867.8
Vi	18,799	6,228.4
Adani	212	400.0

75,000 recognized Start-ups

- ❖ Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade recognised over 75,000 start-ups.
- ❖ Start-up ecosystem in India is picking up through innovation, enthusiasm, and entrepreneurial spirit.
- ❖ Start-up India Program was launched in 2016 to provide an enabling environment for the start-ups.



6 billion transactions



- ❖ UPI crossed more than 6 billion transactions in July 2022.
- ❖ It is the highest since UPI platform was launched in 2016.
- ❖ In July 2022, UPI recorded 6.28 billion transactions, accounting for Rs 10.62 trillion.
- ❖ Volume of transactions increased by 7.16 per cent.
- ❖ While value increased by 4.76 per cent, month-on-month.

Payment Gateway on New Tax Platform

- ❖ Federal Bank has become India's first bank to list its Payment Gateway platform on the income tax department's TIN 2.0 platform.
- ❖ Taxpayers can make their payments with ease, using modes such as credit/ debit card, UPI, NEFT/RTGS and internet banking.

4th RBI Monetary Policy review

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India has retained its retail inflation forecast for the current fiscal year at 6.7 per cent.
- ❖ It has increased the policy repo rate under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) by 50 basis points to 5.40 per cent with immediate effect.



India's Trade Deficit

- ❖ India's trade deficit widened to a record \$31.02 billion in July.
- ❖ This is due to over 70 per cent rise in crude oil imports.
- ❖ It was \$10 billion in the same period last year.
- ❖ For the first four months of the current financial year, the deficit stood at \$100 billion.
- ❖ This was \$42 billion in the same period last year.

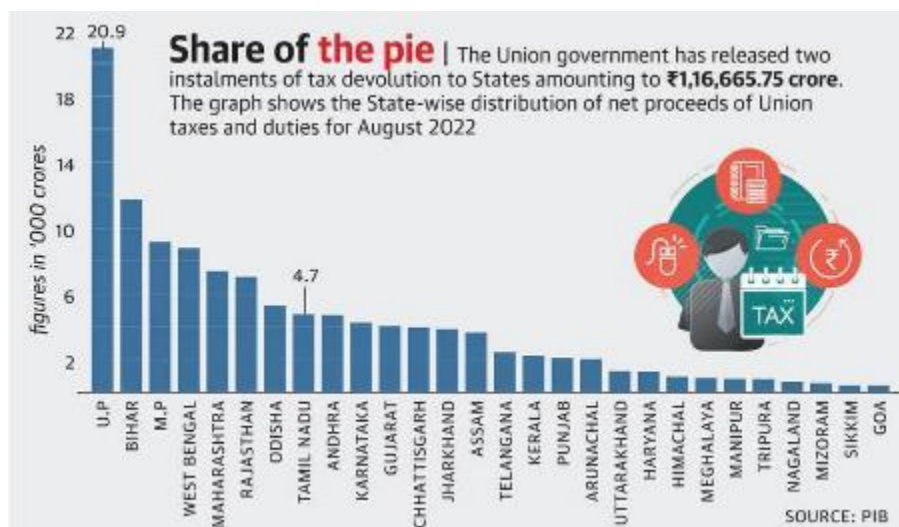


Committee to Attract Foreign Investment

- ❖ The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has constituted a 15-member committee to increase foreign investment.
- ❖ The advisory committee constituted by SEBI is called the 'FPI Advisory Committee'.
- ❖ The former Chief Economic Advisor KV Subramanian is the chairman of this committee.
- ❖ It aims to ease ways for foreign investors to invest in the Indian markets by reviewing the existing processes.
- ❖ This committee will help in increasing participation in the domestic bond markets.
- ❖ It will suggest new ways to bring changes in the existing rules to attract investment and enhance transparency.
- ❖ The committee will also give recommendations on the issues related to custodians.

Tax devolution

- ❖ The Centre released over ₹1.16 lakh crore to States, equivalent to two monthly instalments of tax devolution.
- ❖ It helps front-load State governments' capital spending abilities in this financial year.
- ❖ The assured Goods and Services Tax (GST) compensation to States was expired this July.
- ❖ A 'normal monthly tax devolution' is around ₹58,332.86 crores.



Digital lending norms

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued guidelines for entities engaged in digital lending.
- ❖ This follows the recommendation of a Working Group on Digital Lending (WGDL).
- ❖ The norms stating that all digital loans must be disbursed and repaid through bank accounts of regulated entities only.
- ❖ The Pass-through of lending service providers (LSPs) or other third parties are prohibited.

WORKING GROUP'S KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

- Set up nodal agency and self-regulatory organisation; bring in law to prevent illegal lending activities
- Nodal agency will have public register of verified digital lending apps
- Develop baseline technology standards; ensure compliance with them as pre-condition for offering digital lending solutions
- Data collection only with prior consent of borrowers with verifiable audit trails
- Upfront disclosure of annualised cost of a loan



Income-tax payers in Atal Pension Yojana

- ❖ Income tax payers will not be allowed to enrol in the government's social security scheme Atal Pension Yojana (APY) from October 1.
- ❖ The government introduced APY on June 1, 2015.
- ❖ It aims to provide social security to workers mainly in the unorganised sector.
- ❖ The Subscribers of the scheme get a minimum guaranteed pension of ₹1,000 to ₹5,000 per month after attaining 60 years of age depending on their contributions.
- ❖ This norm will not apply to subscribers who have joined or joins the scheme before October 1, 2022.

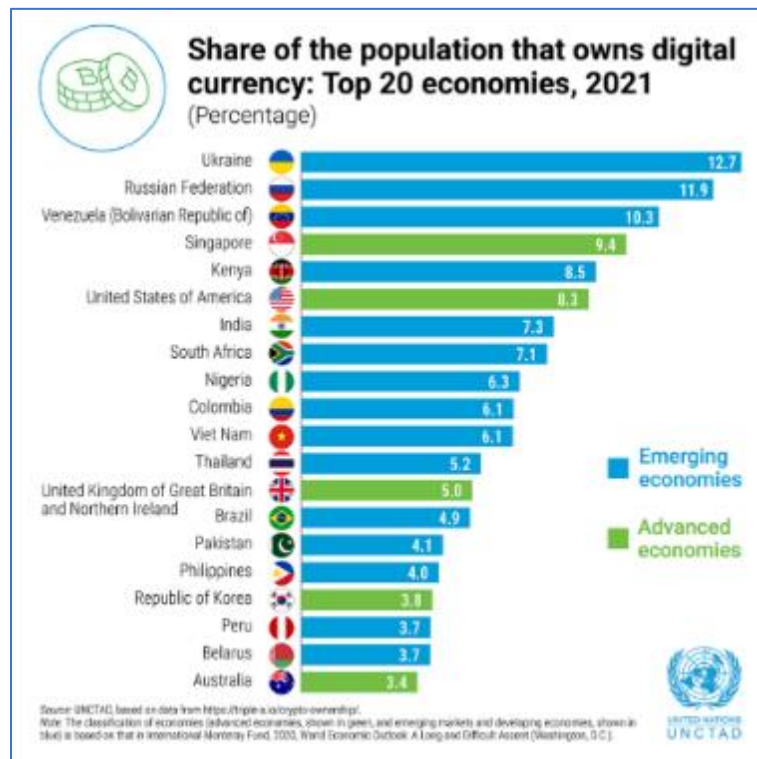
National Conference of Rural Cooperative Banks

- ❖ The National Conference of Rural Co-operative Banks held in New Delhi.
- ❖ The awards were presented to outstanding State Co-operative Banks, District Central Co-operative Banks and Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS).
- ❖ In the field of agricultural credit, there are 34 state cooperative banks with more than 2,000 branches, 351 district cooperative banks with 14,000 branches and about 95,000 PACS.

Microsoft in ONDC platform

- ❖ Microsoft joined the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) of the Indian government.
- ❖ It aims to introducing social e-commerce in Indian market.
- ❖ Microsoft is the first big technology company to tie up with government for ONDC platform.
- ❖ As a part of social e-commerce, Microsoft has also planned to launch shopping app in India.
- ❖ As a part of social e-commerce, Microsoft has also planned to launch shopping app in India.

Digital Currency in 2021



- ❖ It was as per the UN trade and development body, UNCTAD in 2021.
- ❖ The developing countries accounted for 15 of the top 20 economies when it comes to the share of the population that owns cryptocurrencies.
- ❖ Ukraine topped the list with 12.7 per cent.
- ❖ It is followed by Russia (11.9 per cent), Venezuela (10.3 per cent), Singapore (9.4 per cent), Kenya (8.5 per cent), and the US (8.3 per cent).
- ❖ In India, 7.3 per cent of the population owned digital currency in 2021.
- ❖ India is ranking seventh in the list of top 20 global economies for digital currency ownership as share of population.

First manufacturing Index fund

- ❖ Navi Mutual Fund has announced the launch of Navi Nifty India Manufacturing Index Fund.
- ❖ It is India's first index fund focusing on the manufacturing sector.
- ❖ Navi Nifty India Manufacturing Index Fund is an open-ended index fund that will seek to replicate the Nifty India Manufacturing Index.
- ❖ It will track the performance of manufacturers among the top 300 companies in India.



Cross-border inward payments through BBPS

- ❖ Reserve Bank of India proposed to allow Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS) to process cross-border inbound bill payments.
- ❖ This will help the Non-resident Indians (NRIs) who face challenges in paying utility bills in India.
- ❖ If proposal is accepted, it will benefit the NRIs.

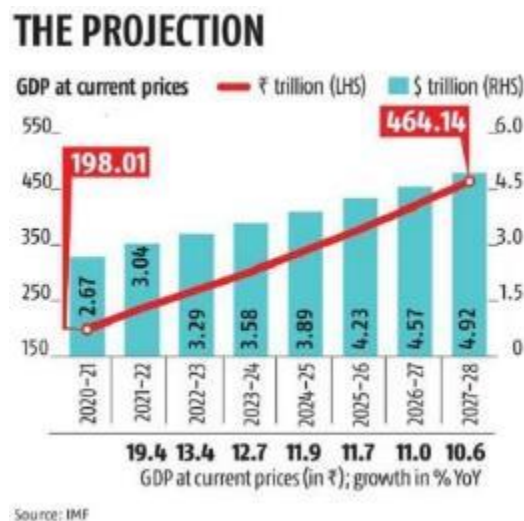
- ❖ BBPS system was conceptualised by the central bank.
- ❖ It is owned and operated by National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) Bharat BillPay Ltd (NBBL).

Dedicated branch to support start-ups

- ❖ State Bank of India has launched its first branch dedicated to start-ups in Koramangala, Bengaluru.
- ❖ The branch will provide services ranging from the stage of formation of start-ups to Initial Public Offerings and Follow-on Public Offerings

5 dollar Trillion Economy in 2029

- ❖ There are eight key challenges for India to overcome to achieve the dream of 5 trillion economy.
- ❖ The challenges are increasing investment, improving productivity and education and health outcomes, creating jobs, raising agriculture productivity, maintaining macroeconomic stability, managing global mega trends and improving governance.
- ❖ So, India may become a \$5 trillion economy by 2028-29 only if the GDP grows at nine per cent per annum consistently for the next five years.



Emergency Credit Guarantee Scheme

- ❖ Union Cabinet gave its nod to increase the “Emergency Credit Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS)”.
- ❖ With this, the limit will increase to Rs. 5 trillion.

- ❖ Additional amount is being reserved for entities in hospitality and other related sectors.
- ❖ The Emergency Credit Guarantee Scheme was launched in 2020 as a part of Atmanirbhar Bharat Package.
- ❖ Scheme was launched to help businesses in meeting their operational liabilities and resume after covid-19 pandemic.
- ❖ Under the scheme, 100% guarantee is provided to banks against any losses incurred to them due to non-repayment of loans by borrowers.
- ❖ As of August 5 in 2022, loans of around Rs 3.67 trillion have been sanctioned under it.
- ❖ This Scheme has been extended till March 2023.

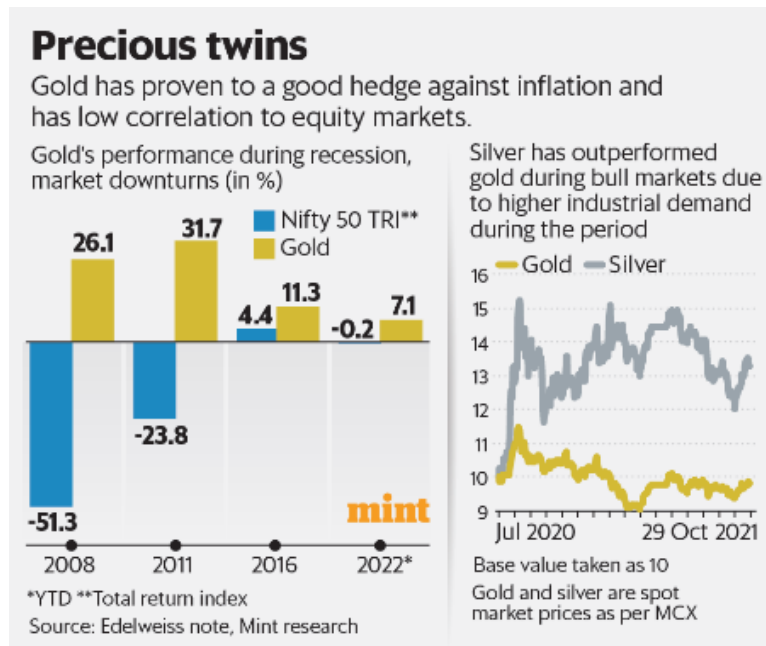
Loan for Compostable Plastic

- ❖ The Start-up loan of Rs 1.15 crores was approved recently to commercialise “compostable” plastic.
- ❖ This move also seeks to eliminate the usage of Single Use Plastics.
- ❖ Start-Up has brought alternative solution to Single Use Plastic in form of “prototype of a compostable plastic material”.
- ❖ This material breaks into a compost in soil and does not affect the environment.
- ❖ This composite is a unique mix of Thermoplastic-Starch-glycerine and some chemical modifications.



- ❖ It provides high strength to the material.
- ❖ Manufacturing, importing, stocking, sale, distribution, and use of listed single use plastic items was banned from July 1, 2022 in India.

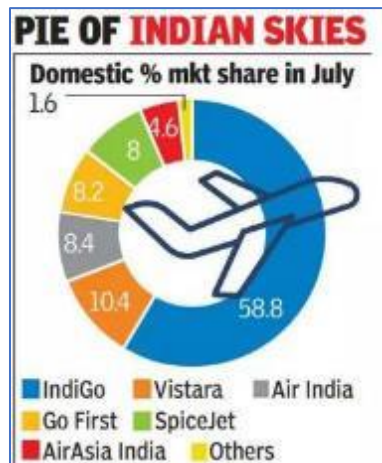
India's first gold and silver fund



- ❖ The asset management firm Edelweiss Mutual Fund (Edelweiss MF) introduced gold and silver through a single fund.
- ❖ This is the India's first such programme.
- ❖ Silver-based mutual funds were initially introduced in January of this year.
- ❖ India's first gold fund, Nippon India ETF Gold BeES, was released in March 2007.

2nd largest domestic airline

- ❖ Vistara emerged as the second biggest airline of India by domestic market share last month with a 10.4%.
- ❖ IndiGo stood first with 58.8% share.
- ❖ The Vistara airline is Tata Sons' joint venture with Singapore Airlines.
- ❖ The number three, four and five positions saw airlines separated by just decimal points — Air India (8.4%), GoFirst (8.2%) and SpiceJet (8%).



NDTV and Adani Group

- ❖ Adani Group announced the indirect acquisition of a 29.2% in the NDTV.
- ❖ Also, it offered to buy another 26% from the open market.
- ❖ Now Adani Group will need approval from India's markets regulator SEBI.



Restrictions on export of wheat flour

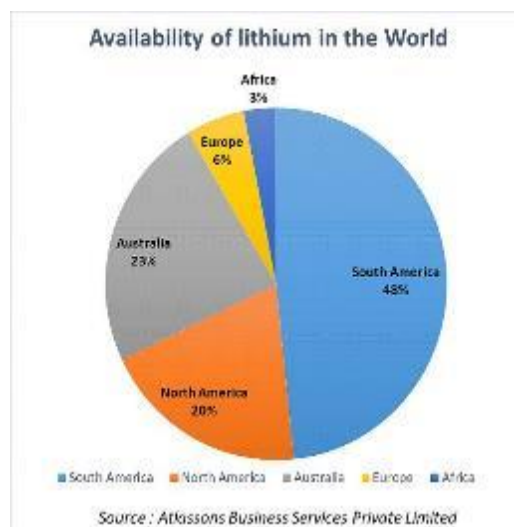
- ❖ The government decided to put restrictions on the export of wheat or meslin flour to curb rising prices of the commodity.
- ❖ In order to ensure food security of the country, the government put a prohibition on export of wheat in May.
- ❖ However, this caused a jump in overseas demand for wheat flour.
- ❖ Wheat flour exports from India have registered a growth of 200 per cent during April-July 2022 compared to the corresponding period in 2021.
- ❖ In 2021-22, India exported wheat flour worth USD 246 million.

- ❖ The exports stood at about USD 128 million during April-June this fiscal.



Lithium offers to India

- ❖ India has been approached by several African countries with offers to service part of their development loans by giving access to Indian companies in their mining operations and allowing exports of highly prized lithium and cobalt.
- ❖ India extends development assistance through concessional LoC under the Indian Development and Economic Assistance Scheme (IDEAS).
- ❖ Africa has rich deposits of oil, gas and lithium.
- ❖ Now it become the most sought-after mineral by countries building their electric mobility infrastructure using lithium-ion batteries.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Nilekani Centre at AI4Bharat

- ❖ “Nilekani Centre at AI4Bharat’ was launched to build Open-Source AI for Indian Languages.
- ❖ It was launched by the Indian Institute of Technology Madras.
- ❖ Rohini and Nandan Nilekani are supporting the centre, with a grant of Rs 36 crore via Nilekani Philanthropies.

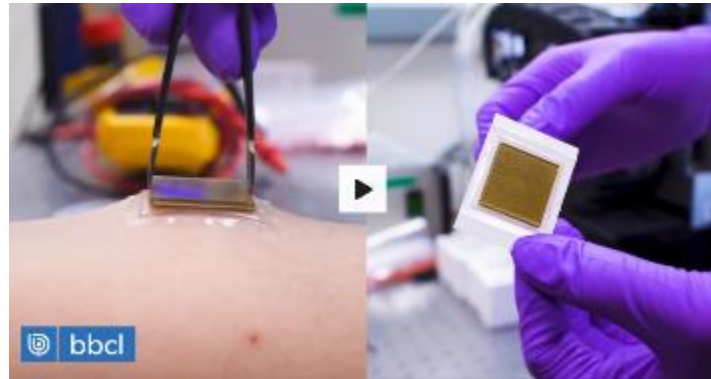
India’s first teaching robot



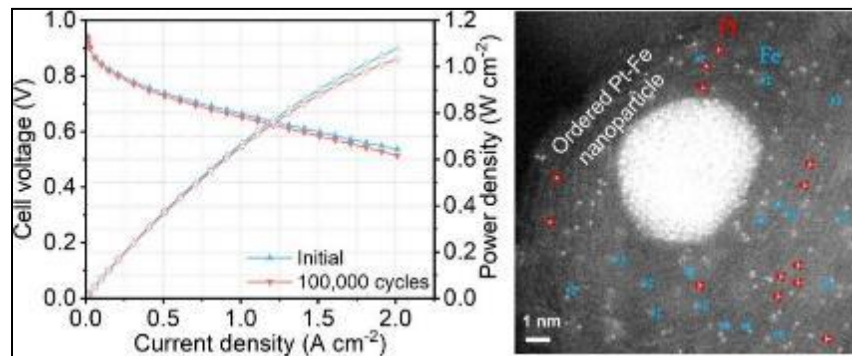
- ❖ Indus International School has launched the innovative and first Teaching Robot in India, the Eagle Robot.
- ❖ Three of the Indus Schools have 21 Eagle Robots deployed, with seven in each of Hyderabad, Bangalore, and Pune.
- ❖ Eagle Robot is very interactive, personalises the experience, and emulates emotions through the digital face.

Ultrasound Adhesives for Imaging Organs

- ❖ The Massachusetts Institute of Technology has developed a postage stamp-sized device.
- ❖ This device can create live, high-resolution images.
- ❖ This device can be affixed to the skin and is capable of transmitting images continuously for 48 hours.
- ❖ For now, the stickers are needed to be connected to instruments.
- ❖ Researchers are working to find a way to operate them wirelessly.



Most durable Hydrogen Fuel Cell



- ❖ World's most durable Hydrogen Fuel Cell developed recently.
- ❖ This hydrogen fuel is also more cost-effective.
- ❖ It makes ways for wider application of green energy in chasing carbon-neutral world.
- ❖ They generate power efficiently by converting hydrogen and oxygen into electricity.
- ❖ Zero carbon dioxide, particulate matter and other air pollutants are emitted in the process.

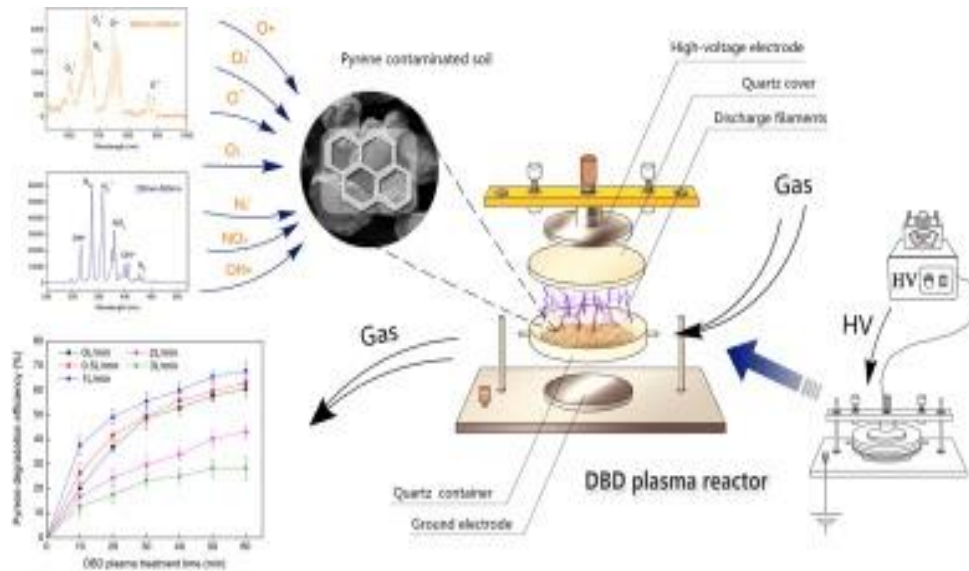
Pyrene Remediation

- ❖ The CSIR-IIP, Dehradun, have identified a fungus capable of removing toxic, recalcitrant, and carcinogenic polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) from the environment.
- ❖ They have identified a white-rot fungus called T.maxima which has the potential to cause microbial degradation of pyrene.
- ❖ It Growing on dead plants, the fungus causes pyrene degradation using special enzymes.

- ❖ The fungus can cause microbial degradation, thereby improving the soil quality.

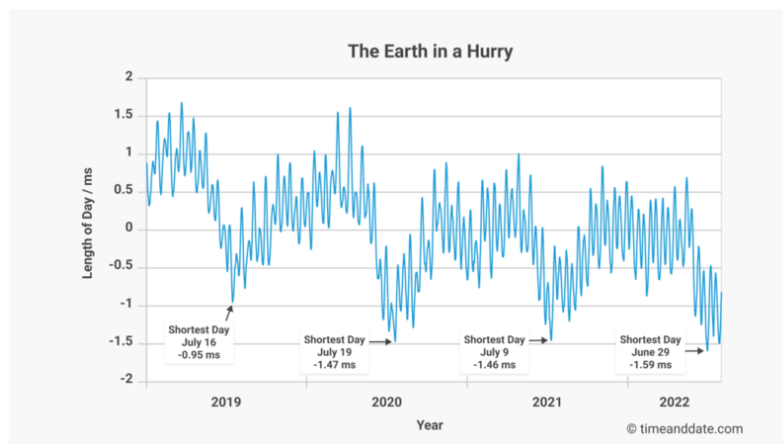
Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons

- ❖ Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) are a class of chemicals that occur naturally in coal, crude oil, and gasoline.
- ❖ They result from burning coal, oil, gas, wood, garbage, and tobacco.
- ❖ PAHs can bind to or form small particles in the air.
- ❖ High heat when cooking meat and other foods will form PAHs.



Negative leap second

- ❖ Planet Earth made rotation on its axis in less than 24 hours.
- ❖ On July 29, it broke its own record for shortest day, by completing the rotation in less than 1.59 milliseconds.
- ❖ So, this day on earth was shorter by 1.59 milliseconds, than usual 24-hour day.



- ❖ Earlier, the shortest day on Earth was recorded on July 19, 2020 since the 1960s.
- ❖ In 2020, Earth's rotation was shorter by 1.47 milliseconds, than the usual 24-hour day.
- ❖ Earth continued to rotate faster in 2021 as well.
- ❖ However, it did not create any new records.

South Korea's moon mission

- ❖ South Korea launched its maiden spacecraft to the moon.
- ❖ The South Korean lunar orbiter (Danuri) will inspect the future landing spots.
- ❖ It was launched on SpaceX's Falcon 9 launch vehicle.
- ❖ If this mission is successful, it will join spacecraft from India US and China which are already operation across the moon.
- ❖ India, Russia and Japan will also launch new moon missions in 2022-2023.
- ❖ NASA is also scheduled to launch its mega moon rocket, under Artemis program, in August 2022.



ISRO's Smallest Rocket in Space

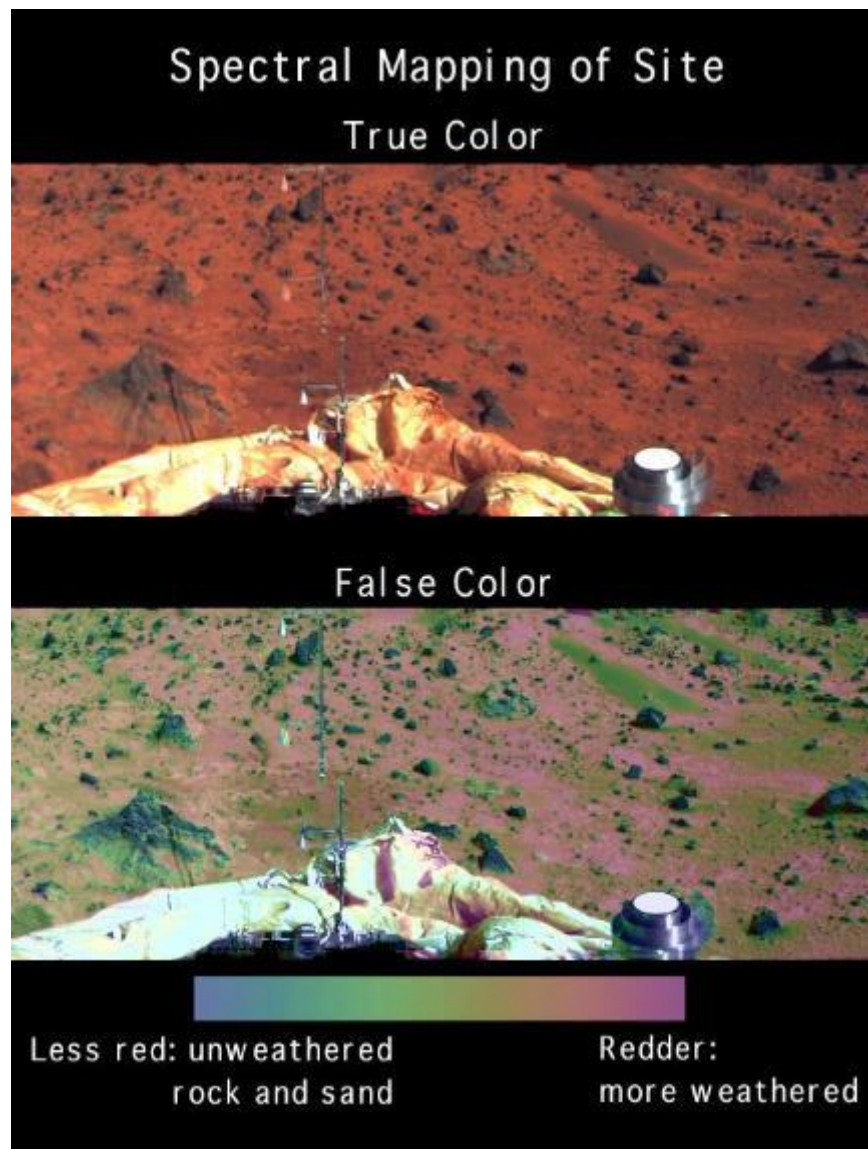
- ❖ ISRO launched its smallest commercial rocket 'Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV).
- ❖ SSLV is the rocket can put a payload of 500 kg up to 500 km in planar orbit.
- ❖ But unlike bigger rockets, the SSLV can also carry mini, micro, or nanosatellites (10 to 500 kg mass).
- ❖ The SSLV can be assembled within a fortnight.
- ❖ This carried two payloads on its maiden flight.
- ❖ The first is the EOS-02, an indigenously developed earth observation satellite.

- ❖ It will offer advanced optical remote sensing operations within the infrared wavelength with high spatial resolution.
- ❖ The second is 'AzaadiSAT', which aims to unfurl the Tricolour in space.
- ❖ It was specifically conceptualised for celebration of 75th Independence Day.
- ❖ AzaadiSAT comprises of 75 payloads.
- ❖ These payloads have been built by 750 young girl students from 75 rural government schools of India.
- ❖ It is an 8-kilogram CubeSat.
- ❖ The mission failed due to a failure in receiving communications.



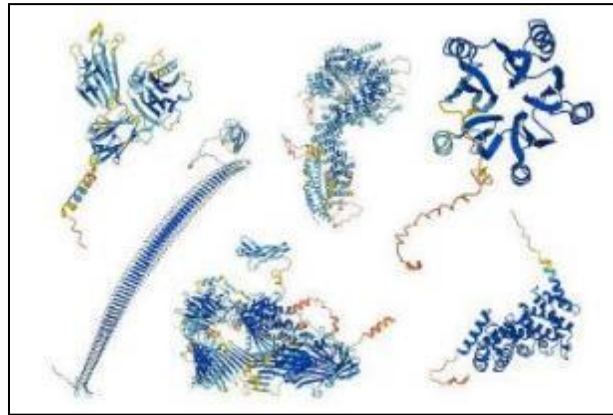
Multispectral maps of Mars

- ❖ NASA made the first multispectral maps of Mars' surface public.
- ❖ The 5.6 GB multicoloured map covers 86% of the area of the Red Planet.
- ❖ It will gradually distribute the whole map over the next six months.
- ❖ The data for the maps was captured by NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter.
- ❖ It is the longest orbiting satellite around the planet.



Shape of Proteins

- ❖ In 2020, an artificial intelligence lab called DeepMind unveiled technology that could predict the shape of proteins.
- ❖ Now, the lab shared the tool called AlphaFold.
- ❖ Using this tool, the lab released predicted shapes for more than 350,000 proteins.
- ❖ It includes all proteins expressed by the human genome.
- ❖ The technology is not perfect.
- ❖ But it can predict the shape of a protein with an accuracy that rivals physical experiments about 63% of the time



Indigenous laser-guided ATGM

DRDO SUCCESSFULLY TEST
FIRES INDIGENOUS LASER-GUIDED ANTI TANK MISSILES **DETAILS INSIDE**

Following the firepower of the Indian defence ecosystem, Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Indian Army have successfully test-fired laser-guided Anti-Tank Guided Missiles (ATGM) from Main Battle Tank (MBT) Arjun at KK Ranges with support of Armoured Corps Centre & School (ACCTS) Ahmednagar in Maharashtra.

The indigenously developed missiles hit with precision and successfully destroyed the targets at two different ranges. Further, telemetry systems recorded the satisfactory flight performance of the missiles.

Appreciating the efforts of DRDO and Indian Army for the successful trial of the Laser Guided ATGM, Defence Minister Rajendra Singh said the development of this system is an important step towards realising Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of 'Aamritmahar Bharat'.

Notably, India conducted the successful test of the Anti-Tank Guided Missiles in June this year from Main Battle Tank (MBT) Arjun at KK Ranges with support of Armoured Corps Centre & School (ACCTS).

It is noteworthy that the made-in-India Laser Guided missile hit the bull's eye with textbook precision. The trial has established the ATGMs capability to engage targets from minimum to maximum ranges.

UNDERSTANDING ATGM

Indigenously-developed Laser-Guided Anti-Tank Guided Missile (ATGM) employs a tandem High Explosive Anti-Tank (HEAT) warhead to defeat Explosive Reactive Armour (ERA) protected armoured vehicles.

Importantly, the laser-guided missile has been designed & developed with multi-platform launch capability and is presently undergoing technical evaluation trials from the 120 mm rifled gun of MBT Arjun.

- ❖ DRDO and Indian Army successfully test-fired the Indigenously developed Laser-Guided Anti-Tank Guided Missiles.
- ❖ The Missiles were test-fired from Main Battle Tank- Arjun.
- ❖ ATGMs precisely and successfully hit the target and destroyed them at two different ranges.
- ❖ The developed ATGM has the capability of multi-platform launch.

Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System



- ❖ The Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System (ATAGS), will be used for the 21-gun salute during the Independence Day.
- ❖ Till now, only British guns (Ordnance QF 25-pounder) were used during the annual celebrations of nationhood.
- ❖ The ATAGS is a 155 mm, 52 calibre heavy artillery gun
- ❖ It is jointly developed by the Armament Research and Development Establishment.
- ❖ The firing range of the new heavy artillery gun is 45 km, the first in the world.

Novel Langya Henipavirus

- ❖ The novel Langya Henipavirus (LayV) was officially detected in China.
- ❖ It was first detected in the north eastern provinces of Shandong and Henan in 2018.
- ❖ The virus is suspected to have jumped from animals to humans in a process called zoonosis
- ❖ Langya is part of the genus Henipavirus, which has a single-stranded RNA genome with a negative orientation.
- ❖ The virus can cause severe disease in animals and humans and holds a biosafety Level 4 virus classification.
- ❖ It has 40-75 per cent fatality rate.

- Langya belongs to a family of viruses that is known to kill up to 75% of cases.
 - 35 people are known to have been infected by Langya henipavirus in the Shandong and Henan provinces of China between December 2018 and May 2021.
 - Most of the 35 cases were in farmers, and other infected individuals included factory workers.
 - Researchers are monitoring the spread of the novel Langya henipavirus (LayV) in China.
 - There is no treatment or vaccine for henipavirus infections yet.
- Source: NewsScientist.com

Approval of Omicron vaccine

- ❖ Britain has become the first country to authorise a Covid-19 vaccine that targets the Omicron variant.
- ❖ The UK medicine regulator approved the 'bivalent' vaccine made by Moderna as a booster for adults.
- ❖ This vaccine triggered "a strong immune response" against both Omicron (BA.1) and the original 2020 virus.
- ❖ It also generates a good immune response against the currently dominant Omicron sub-variants BA.4 and BA.5.



3D printed Human Cornea

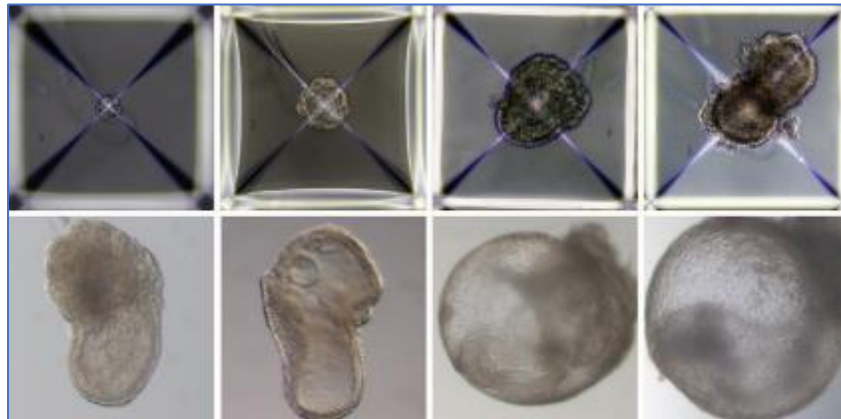
- ❖ Researchers in Hyderabad have successfully 3D-printed an artificial cornea (3D-printed Human Cornea).
- ❖ It placed in a rabbit eye for the first time ever in India.

- ❖ The 3D-printed Human Cornea is biocompatible, natural, and free of animal by-products.
- ❖ It is made of components derived from human corneal tissue.



First synthetic embryo without sperm

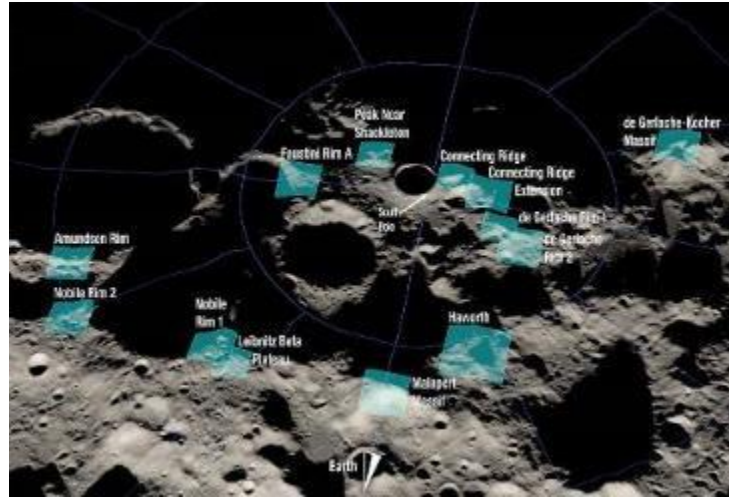
- ❖ The Israeli scientists have developed the world's first synthetic embryo outside the womb using stem cells cultured in a petri dish.
- ❖ These cells were cultured without the use of fertilized eggs, bypassing the need for sperm.



Landing sites for Artemis III mission

- ❖ The US space agency is currently focusing on the launch of its Artemis I rocket.
- ❖ The main objective of the programme is to launch a manned mission to the south pole region of the moon by 2024.
- ❖ The programme is to be implemented in three parts.

- ❖ They are Artemis I, Artemis II and Artemis III.
- ❖ NASA has now identified multiple potential landing sites for Artemis III.
- ❖ It will be the first mission to bring crew to the lunar surface, including the first woman to set foot on the Moon.



India's first Hydrogen fuel cell bus

- ❖ India's first hydrogen fuel cell bus developed by KPIT-CSIR in Pune.
- ❖ The hydrogen fuel cell uses hydrogen and air to generate electricity.
- ❖ Moreover, it is producing only heat and water in the process.
- ❖ Hydrogen fuel cells like the one present in the bus produce electricity by combining hydrogen and oxygen atoms.
- ❖ The two gases react across an electrochemical cell similar to a conventional battery cell to produce electricity, water and small amounts of heat.
- ❖ This electricity is then used by electric motors to propel the vehicle forward.

Commercial space situational awareness observatory

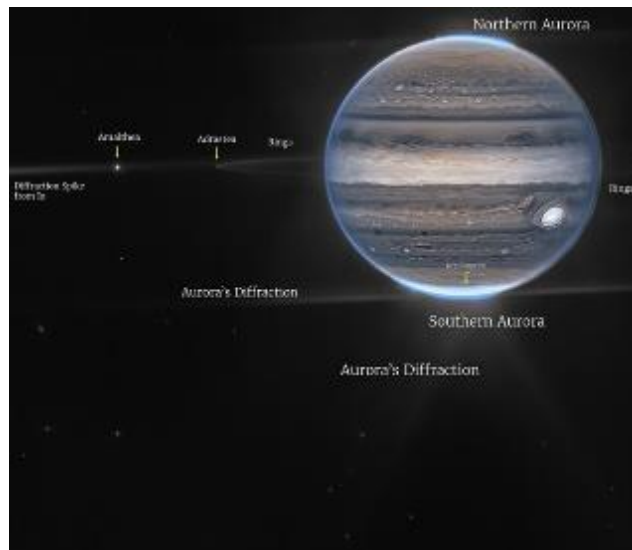
- ❖ India's first commercial space situational awareness observatory will be set up in the Garhwal region of Uttarakhand.
- ❖ It has the potential to track objects as small as 10 cm in size orbiting the earth.
- ❖ It will set up by a space sector start-up-Digantara.
- ❖ Currently, the United States is a dominant player in monitoring space debris with observatories in multiple locations and commercial companies providing additional inputs from across the world.

VL-SRSAM

- ❖ The DRDO and Indian Navy successfully flight-tested Vertical Launch Short Range Surface-to-Air Missile (VL-SRSAM).
- ❖ VL-SRSAM was indigenously developed and designed by DRDO.
- ❖ These Missiles have been launched for the Indian Navy.
- ❖ They will neutralize the various aerial threats including the sea-skimming targets.
- ❖ It will replace the older Barak-1 surface to air missile system.
- ❖ The missile has a 360° interception capability.

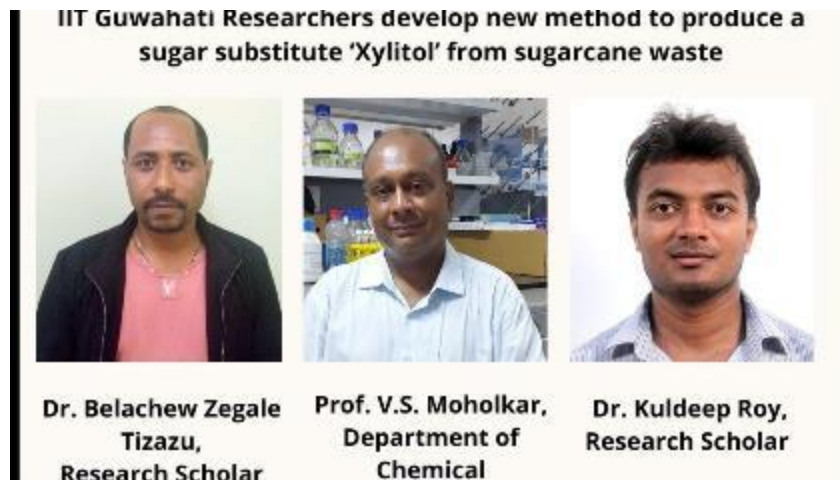
Jupiter's images

- ❖ The James Webb Space Telescope has captured such a spectacular picture of the planet Jupiter for the first time.
- ❖ This picture was taken by James Webb on 27th July 2022.
- ❖ All the parts of this planet are visible in a single line in a wide field picture.
- ❖ Its dim rings, its two satellites (Moons Amalthea and Adrastea) and the bright stars are visible in the Milky Way behind them.
- ❖ The James Webb Space Telescope is a large infrared telescope.
- ❖ It will study every phase in the history of universe.
- ❖ The telescope is to travel at a distance of 1.5 million kilometres from the earth.



Sugar substitute “Xylitol”

- ❖ IIT Guwahati have created a fermentation process that uses ultrasound to safely generate Xylitol from sugarcane bagasse.
- ❖ It is the by-product of crushing sugar cane.
- ❖ This approach gets over the operational constraints of chemical synthesis and the time lags of traditional fermentation.
- ❖ The use of ultrasound during the fermentation process reduced the time of fermentation to 15 hours.
- ❖ It also increased the yield of the product by almost 20%.



Hydrogen-powered passenger trains

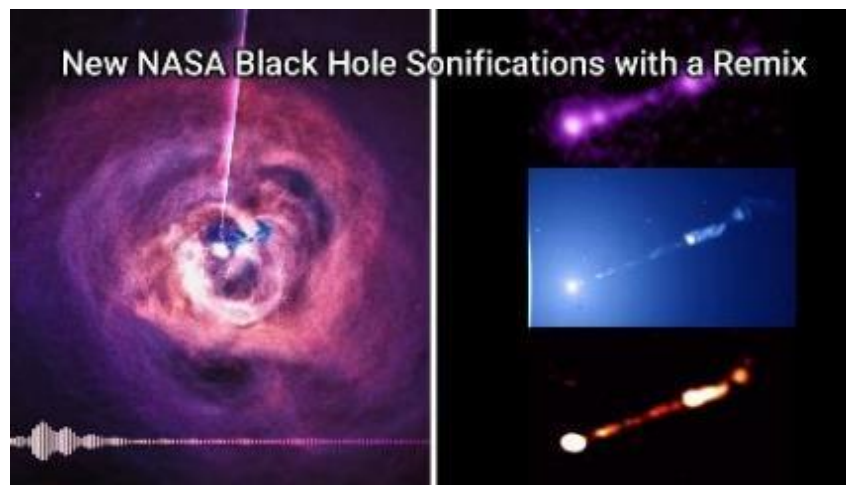
- ❖ Germany unveiled a new hydrogen-powered train named Coradia iLint.
- ❖ These trains produce zero-emission as they emit only steam and condensed water.



- ❖ The hydrogen fuel cells installed on the roof of the train combine with oxygen atoms present in the air to generate electricity.
- ❖ It will cut down 4,400 tonnes of CO₂ released every year in Germany.

Data Sonification

- ❖ NASA has created a 'sonification' of the sound emerging from the black hole at the centre of the Perseus galaxy cluster.
- ❖ In 2003, astronomers discovered that the pressure waves sent out by this black hole cause ripples in the cluster's gas.
- ❖ That can be translated into a note, albeit, one that humans cannot hear.
- ❖ But NASA has created a sonification of this sound.
- ❖ Data sonification is the process of converting data into sound.



3D Printed Post Office

- ❖ India's first 3D-printed post office is slated to come up in Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- ❖ It will cost around one-fourth of the amount spent on a traditional building.
- ❖ The new post office building in Cambridge Layout in Halasuru, Bengaluru.
- ❖ The Post Office building is being constructed by Larsen & Toubro.
- ❖ L&T is the only company currently in India utilising 3D printing technology for construction.

ENVIRONMENT

Right to a healthy environment

- ❖ The United Nations General Assembly on July 28, 2022, adopted a resolution recognising the right to a healthy environment for all.
- ❖ India has voted in favour of the resolution but dissociated itself from an operative paragraph of the text.
- ❖ It voiced its concerns over the procedure and substance of the resolution.
- ❖ The 1972 United Nations Conference on the environment in Stockholm was the first world conference to make the environment a major issue.

TERI roadmap

- ❖ The Energy and Resources Institute, TERI, has released a roadmap for feasible pathways to achieve India's decarbonization targets.



Recommendations

- ❖ Increase in share of decentralized solar power by introducing feed-in-tariff is attractive enough for private investment.
- ❖ India has the right policy regime in place.

- ❖ It just needs to adopt new energy storage solutions and technologies which bring stability and flexibility to the grid.
- ❖ Introducing requisite flexibility into the power system to integrate wind and solar power generation
- ❖ Emphasis on India growing into a cost-effective and competitive manufacturing hub for renewable energy.
- ❖ DISCOMs need to give Commercial and Industrial consumers the choice to buy carbon-free electricity.
- ❖ Extension of Production Linked Incentive scheme to cover the full spectrum of renewable energy equipment.

10 new Ramsar sites

- ❖ India adds 10 more wetlands designated as Ramsar sites
- ❖ It makes a total of 64 sites in the country.
- ❖ The 10 new sites include Six (6) sites in Tamil Nadu and One (1) each in Goa, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Odisha.
- ❖ The new sites are

S.No	Name of wetland	State
1	Koonthankulam Bird Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu
2	Satkosia Gorge	Odisha
3	Nanda Lake	Goa
4	Gulf of Mannar Marine Biosphere Reserve	Tamil Nadu
5	Ranganathittu BS	Karnataka
6	Vembannur Wetland Complex	Tamil Nadu
7	Vellode Bird Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu
8	Sirpur wetland	Madhya Pradesh
9	Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu
10	Udhayamarthandapuram Bird Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu

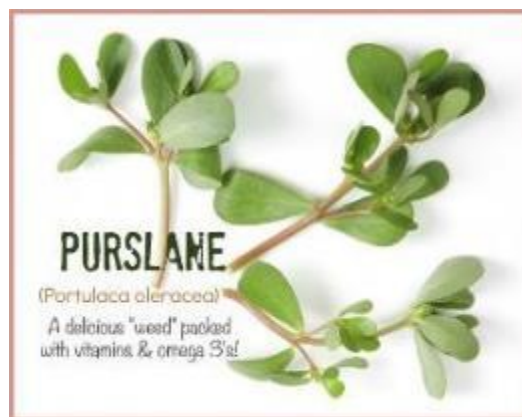
Rare white elephant

- ❖ A rare white elephant has been born in western Myanmar.
- ❖ Buddhist-majority country believe this to be an auspicious creature.
- ❖ Historically, white elephants were considered extremely auspicious in Southeast Asian culture.
- ❖ There are currently six white elephants in captivity in the military-built capital Naypyidaw.



Portulaca oleracea

- ❖ A common weed, *Portulaca oleracea*, is commonly known as purslane.
- ❖ It offers important clues about creating drought-tolerant crops in a world beset by climate change.
- ❖ This plant integrates two distinct metabolic pathways in order to create a novel type of photosynthesis.
- ❖ This photosynthesis enables it to endure droughts, while also remaining highly productive.
- ❖ This is a very rare combination of traits and has created a kind of 'super plant'.



Zoological Survey of India new book

- ❖ The Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) has published a field guide dealing with 1,331 avian species found in the country.
- ❖ It highlights quality photographs of birds unlike other books that mainly used drawings.
- ❖ This book will be a ready reckoner about all 1331 species of birds found within the country, their present status, and distribution details.

- ❖ To promote the book, 'Field Guide, Birds of India', the ZSI arranged two events in Kolkata and Mumbai.

National Inventory Report on Wastes Generation and its Management

- ❖ Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has prepared National Inventory Report on Wastes Generation and its Management on annual basis.
- ❖ It is prepared based on the annual inventory received from the concerned State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) / Pollution Control Committees (PCCs).
- ❖ India generated 3.47 million tonnes of plastic waste during financial year 2019-20.
- ❖ India recycled around half of the plastic waste generated across the country.

Peninsular Rock Agama



- ❖ Several environmental factors (including urbanisation) that could affect the presence of the Peninsular Rock Agama/ South Indian Rock Agama.
- ❖ The Peninsular Rock Agama is a type of garden lizard has a strong presence in southern India.
- ❖ Indian states of Tamil Nadu, Chhattisgarh, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Bihar hosts the population of the lizard.
- ❖ Rock Agama can indicate which parts of the city are warming, and their numbers show how the food web is changing.

Italy's Lake Garda

- ❖ Italy's worst drought in decades has reduced Lake Garda water level to lowest ever recorded
- ❖ Garda is the country's largest lake.
- ❖ Parts of northern Italy are experiencing their worst drought in 70 years.



Resurrect of the extinct Tiger

- ❖ Scientists in the US and Australia have embarked on a \$15-million project to resurrect the thylacine or Tasmanian Tiger using gene-editing technology.
- ❖ It was a marsupial that went extinct in the 1930's.
- ❖ The ambitious project aims to reintroduce the animal to its native place Tasmania to revive the region's lost ecological balance.
- ❖ This is not the first attempt to revive thylacines.
- ❖ In 1999, an Australian scientist, Dr Michael Archer, made an unsuccessful journey.



Megalodon

- ❖ Researchers have found new evidence about the life of one of the biggest predatory animals of all time, The Megalodon.
- ❖ The Megalodon could “completely ingest, and in as few as five bites,” a prey as big as the killer whale.
- ❖ It was bigger than a school bus at around 50 feet from nose to tail.
- ❖ It had the ability to migrate across multiple oceans.



Aravind's ground gecko

- ❖ A new species of bent-toed gecko discovered recently from the Agasthyamalai hills in the Western Ghats.
- ❖ The name of this new gecko has been given in the name of well-known malacologist N.A. Arvind as Aravind's ground gecko.
- ❖ The new species has been described based on its distinctness in the morphological and molecular DNA data.
- ❖ Its scientific name is *Cyrtodactylus aravindi*.
- ❖ Currently, Aravind's ground gecko has so far been found only at two locations, Muppanddal and Thuckalay in Kanyakumari district.
- ❖ It is falling within the Agasthyamalai biosphere reserve in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ Geckos are reptiles, that are found on all continents except Antarctica.
- ❖ Indian Golden Gecko, belonging to family Gekkonidae, is native to India states of Tamil Nadu, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ Tokay Gecko, belonging to family Gekkonidae, is widespread in Indo-Malayan region.



Miniopterus Phillipsi

- ❖ An international team of researchers has found a new species of long-fingered bats in India and Sri Lanka.
- ❖ The species of bat discovered by the team has distinct physical characteristics including long fingers as compared to other species.
- ❖ It was named after W W A Philips (1892-1981) in recognition of his contributions to studies on the mammals of Sri Lanka and South Asia.
- ❖ A team of scientists had recently discovered a new species of thick-thumbed bat from a bamboo forest in Meghalaya and named it after the state.



Anang Tal lake

- ❖ The Anang Tal Lake in South Delhi has been declared a monument of national importance by the Ministry of Culture.
- ❖ It is located near Qutub Minar in Mehrauli in the National Capital Territory of Delhi.
- ❖ It was created in 1060 AD by the founder of Delhi-Raja Anang Pal Tomar.
- ❖ The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 defines the Ancient Monument which has been in existence for not less than 100 years.
- ❖ The Archaeological Survey of India declares a site as Monument of National importance.



STATES

“Kerala Savari” online cab service

- ❖ The Kerala government will launch its own e-taxi service.
- ❖ It is considered to be the first such initiative in the country.
- ❖ The online taxi hiring service named as ‘Kerala Savari’.
- ❖ This is for the first time that a state government is launching an online taxi service in the country.

Gujarat semiconductor policy

- ❖ Gujarat Government recently unveiled a dedicated ‘Gujarat Semiconductor Policy 2022-27’.
- ❖ The policy aims created at least 2,00,000 new employment opportunities over the five years.
- ❖ It is the first state in India to release a dedicated semiconductor policy.
- ❖ It has also proposed to develop a special ‘Semicon City’ as a part of Dholera Special Investment region.
- ❖ Ministry of Electronics and IT launched ‘India Semiconductor Mission’ in 2021.

Under2 Coalition

- ❖ Punjab has recently joined the Under2 Coalition.
- ❖ It is becoming the sixth Indian state to be a part of this international network of states and regions.



- ❖ The other states are Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Jammu & Kashmir, Telangana and West Bengal.



- ❖ It committed to aligning their climate action plan with the Paris Agreement.
- ❖ Punjab is popularly referred to as the 'food bowl of India'.
- ❖ It provides around 40% of India's surplus food stocks.
- ❖ 1°C rise could reduce crop production by around 3% to 7%.

Nation's longest House session

- ❖ Kerala had the nation's longest House session at 61 days in 2021.
- ❖ In 2020, it dropped to eighth place in terms of convening Assembly sessions during the initial COVID-19 pandemic.
- ❖ Karnataka came in second with 40 sitting days.
- ❖ It is followed by Tamil Nadu with 34, Odisha.
- ❖ 17 of the 28 State Assemblies and the assembly of one Union Territory convened for fewer than 20 days.
- ❖ Andhra Pradesh, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura, and Delhi convened for fewer than 10 days.

100% Quota to Locals

- ❖ The Supreme Court quashed the Jharkhand government's 2016 decision to grant 100% reservation to locals of 13 Scheduled Areas in public jobs.
- ❖ It upheld a High Court decision that had termed the government decision discriminatory and impermissible.
- ❖ The move is unconstitutional and ultra vires Articles 14, 16(2), 16(3) and 35 of the Constitution of India.
- ❖ For reservation outer limit is 50% as specified in the Indra Sawhney case, 1992.
- ❖ In 2016, the Jharkhand government had invited applications for appointment to the posts of Trained Graduate Teacher (TGT) in government secondary schools, with 100% reservation for local candidates/residents of 13 Scheduled Areas in the State.

Receiving data from Google's EIE

- ❖ The Environmental Insights Explorer (EIE) data from Google was officially released in Aurangabad.
- ❖ This makes Aurangabad the first city in the nation to experience this.
- ❖ The data would aid research groups in formulating sustainable solutions for the city.



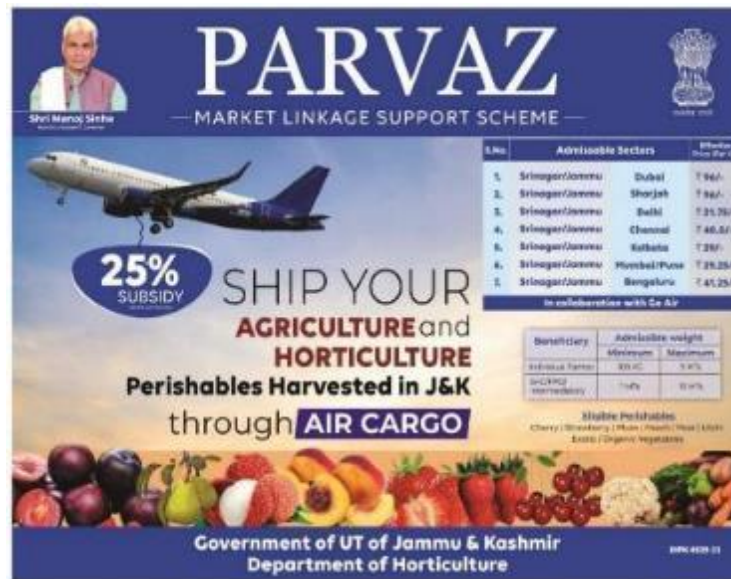
Winner in Utilization of Agri-Infra funds

- ❖ Andhra Pradesh ranks first in utilisation of agricultural infrastructure funds (Agri Infra Fund).
- ❖ It has emerged as the best state by laying great emphasis on infrastructure development at the farm gate.



PARVAZ Market Linkage scheme

- ❖ Jammu & Kashmir launched the “PARVAZ Market Linkage Scheme” recently.
- ❖ This is an innovative Market Linkage scheme.
- ❖ It is having tremendous potential to uplift the economic conditions of farmers across Jammu and Kashmir.
- ❖ Under the scheme, government will provide a subsidy of 25% on freight charges, in a bid to carry perishable fruits through Air Cargo.



PARVAZ
— MARKET LINKAGE SUPPORT SCHEME —

Shri Manoj Sinha
Minister, J&K

25% SUBSIDY

SHIP YOUR
**AGRICULTURE and
HORTICULTURE**
Perishables Harvested in J&K
through **AIR CARGO**

S.No.	Admissible Sectors	Subsidy (Per Kg)	
1.	Srinagar/Jammu	Dubai	₹ 96/-
2.	Srinagar/Jammu	Sharjah	₹ 96/-
3.	Srinagar/Jammu	Bahai	₹ 35.75/-
4.	Srinagar/Jammu	Chennai	₹ 48.5/-
5.	Srinagar/Jammu	Kolkata	₹ 28/-
6.	Srinagar/Jammu	Mumbai/Pune	₹ 28.25/-
7.	Srinagar/Jammu	Bangalore	₹ 45.25/-

In collaboration with Co Air

Destination	Admissible weight	
	Minimum	Maximum
Individual Farmer	500 KG	5 MT
Cooperative/Intermediary	Traffic	10 MT

Admissible Perishables
Cherry / Strawberry / Plum / Peach / Pear / Apple / Kiwi / Organic Vegetables

Government of UT of Jammu & Kashmir
Department of Horticulture

Chief Minister of Bihar

- ❖ Nitish Kumar has submitted his resignation as the NDA chief minister in Bihar to the state governor Phagu Chauhan.
- ❖ He also submitted a support letter of 160 MLAs to stake claims to form a new government.
- ❖ JD(U) leader Nitish Kumar on 10th august took oath as Bihar's chief minister again.
- ❖ This is the eighth time since he was first sworn-in as the CM of the state in 2000.
- ❖ RJD's Tejashwi Yadav was administered the oath as deputy chief minister.

Assam-Mizoram Border Dispute

- ❖ A high-level delegation from Assam and Mizoram agreed to promote and maintain peace along the borders during talks held at the Aizawl Club.



- ❖ In a joint statement signed by officials from the two North-eastern neighbours.
- ❖ Both sides agreed to peacefully resolve the decades-old boundary dispute.
- ❖ The decades-old boundary dispute between Mizoram and Assam mainly stemmed from two colonial demarcations in 1875 and 1933.
- ❖ Mizoram accepts the demarcation in the 1875 notification under the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation.
- ❖ But the Assam government said that the demarcations made under the 1933 notification were its constitutional boundary.

Nethanna Bima Scheme

- ❖ Nethanna Bima Scheme was recently launched by Telangana on the occasion of National Handloom Day.
- ❖ This scheme has been launched for the welfare of weavers.
- ❖ Nathanna Bima Scheme is one-of-its-kind insurance cover scheme.
- ❖ It will benefit around 80,000 weavers' families.
- ❖ Under the scheme, government will provide Rs 5 lakh insurance cover to the families of weaver, in case of unfortunate death of eligible beneficiary.
- ❖ It will be implemented by government in association with the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India.

Bill against forced mass conversion

- ❖ The Himachal Pradesh Assembly passed a bill on August 13, 2022 forbidding "mass conversion".
- ❖ The Himachal Pradesh Freedom of Religion (Amendment) Bill, 2022, was passed unanimously.
- ❖ It is enhancing the maximum punishment to 10 years imprisonment in its 2019 law against any change of religion through force or allurement.
- ❖ The Bill inserts the reference to "mass conversion", which is described as two or more people converting at the same time, in the 2019 Act.
- ❖ It proposes to increase the punishment for forced conversions to a maximum of 10 years from seven years.

MAX PENALTY UP TO 10 YRS' JAIL

- The maximum punishment under the bill is 10 years' jail, up from seven in the 2019 Act and three in the old Himachal Pradesh Freedom of Religion Act, 2006.
- The current law says no person or organisation violating its provisions will be allowed to accept a donation or contribution of any kind from within or outside the country.

Donyi Polo Airport

- ❖ The third airport of Arunachal Pradesh is now under construction in Itanagar.
- ❖ It has been given the name “Donyi Polo Airport” by the Arunachal Pradesh administration.
- ❖ It reflects the long-standing indigenous respect for the Sun (Donyi) and the Moon (Polo) among the populace.
- ❖ It is the state's third airport after Pasighat and Tezu airports.
- ❖ This is also northeast India's 16th airport.

Steel Slag Road in Arunachal Pradesh

- ❖ Border Roads Organization will build Steel Slag Road in Arunachal Pradesh on a pilot project basis.
- ❖ The Steel Slag Road will be a first-of-its-kind project.
- ❖ They will have the ability to withstand heavy rains and adverse climatic conditions.
- ❖ This construction is being done to explore possible solutions for building durable roads along strategic locations in treacherous areas.

Medicine from the sky

- ❖ Arunachal Pradesh has adopted drone-based medical facilities named 'Medicine from the sky'.
- ❖ The first successful flight was conducted from Seppa to Chaoyang Tajo in the East Kameng district.



- ❖ This drone service or the first pilot project aims to provide medicine and essential services to people in need with the help of drones.
- ❖ This will also help to reach difficult terrains and areas.

First fully functional literate district

- ❖ Mandla district of Madhya Pradesh has become the first completely “functionally literate” district of India.
- ❖ During 2011 survey, literacy rate in Mandla district was 68%.



- ❖ Another report of 2020 highlights that, more than 2.25 lakh people in this district were not literate, most of them were tribals from forest areas.
- ❖ The district collector claiming that all the people were able to write their names, count and read.

- ❖ A person can be called functionally literate when he or she is able to write his or her own name, to count and read and write in a language.

Make India No 1 mission

- ❖ Delhi Chief Minister, Arvind Kejriwal has unveiled his Aam Aadmi Party's national ambition with the launch of the 'Make India No 1' campaign.
- ❖ He proposed a five-point vision for good governance.
 - Free and quality education to every child of this country.
 - Free and best medical treatment along with free medicines and test facilities to every citizen of the country.
 - Employment to every youth which is possible with the right intention and management.
 - Every woman should get respect, equal rights and security.
 - Ensure farmers get fair prices for their produce and get respect so that children can say with pride that they also want to become farmers.



Electric double-decker bus

- ❖ India's first electric double-decker bus was launched at YB Centre in south Mumbai.
- ❖ The name of the bus is "Switch EiV 22".
- ❖ It has App-based seat booking, live tracking and payment on the BEST Chalo App

Official sport in Maharashtra

- ❖ 'Dahi-Handi' will be recognized as an official sport in Maharashtra.
- ❖ The state is set to organize a 'Pro- Dahi Handi' competition.
- ❖ The Maharashtra Government also announces that the Govindas will get a job under the sports category.

Block chain-based Seed distribution

- ❖ Jharkhand and global blockchain technology company, SettleMint jointly launched the seed distribution to farmers based on blockchain technology.
- ❖ It aims to reducing pilferage and getting rid of spurious seeds that the farmers receive under various government schemes including the seed exchange scheme.



GI Tag - Mithila Makhana

- ❖ Geographical Indication (GI) tag was awarded to Bihar's Mithila Makhana.
- ❖ Its botanical name is 'Euryale Ferox Salisb'.
- ❖ And it is a special variety of aquatic fox nut.
- ❖ The move is expected to help growers get the maximum price for their premium produce.
- ❖ It is cultivated in the Mithila region of Bihar and some parts of Nepal.
- ❖ It is the fifth product from Bihar which has received the GI tag.
- ❖ Prior to this, Bhagalpur's Jardalu Mango, Katarni Dhaan (rice), Nawada's Maghai Paan and Muzaffarpur's Shahi Litchi have been recognised.



Online medicine monitoring system

- ❖ Kerala government will soon launch an online medicine monitoring facility.



- ❖ It aims to track the availability and distribution of medicines in government medical institutions in the state.
- ❖ The facility comes after reports of shortage of medicines, even basic medicines, emerged in some government hospitals.

75 lakh cases in digital Lok Adalat

- ❖ The Digital Lok Adalat in Rajasthan constituted a total of 568 benches.
- ❖ They got registration of total of 5,62,295 cases.
- ❖ 2,28,863 were cases at the pre-litigation stage and 3,33,432 were pending cases before various courts of the state.
- ❖ In Maharashtra, a total of 63,99,983 traffic challan cases were registered with the Digital Lok Adalat.
- ❖ This was the first time ever that the Lok Adalats were made end-to-end digital mode.

Night Safari in Lucknow

- ❖ Uttar Pradesh Tourism Department to start the country's first night time safari of wildlife in the capital Lucknow.
- ❖ This night safari in Lucknow will be developed on 350 acres in Kukrail forest area.
- ❖ It is spread over an area of 2027.46 hectare.
- ❖ And a zoological park will be built in 150 acres.
- ❖ Here separate safaris will be made for Tiger, Leopard and Bear.
- ❖ Lucknow's historic Nawab Wajid Ali Shah Zoological Garden will be shifted from the present place to Night Safari.
- ❖ Kukrail river will be developed as a beautiful riverfront.
- ❖ Toy train will also be run in Night Safari.

20th edition of Bio Asia 2023

- ❖ The 20th edition of BioAsia 2023 will be hosted by the Government of Telangana.
- ❖ It discusses the interdisciplinary topics of One Health, disruptive technologies in healthcare, and accessibility and affordability in healthcare for all.
- ❖ Theme of the BioAsia 2023 is “Advancing for ONE: Shaping the next generation of humanised healthcare”.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

Asia's Richest Woman

- ❖ Savitri Jindal, the Chairperson of OP Jindal Group, become Asia's richest woman, as per the real-time Bloomberg Billionaires Index.
- ❖ She has surpassed China's Yang Huiyan.
- ❖ She is the richest woman and the 10th-richest person in the country of about 1.4 billion.



Distinguished Indologist for 2021

- ❖ Canadian scholar, Jeffrey Armstrong has been awarded the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) Distinguished Indologist for 2021 award.
- ❖ "In recognition of his outstanding contribution to the study/teaching/research in India's philosophy, thought, history, art, culture, Indian languages, literature, civilisation, society, etc" this is awarded.
- ❖ He becomes the seventh recipient of this award and joins the earlier recipients from Germany, China, Japan, the UK, South Korea and the USA.
- ❖ The annual award was instituted in 2015 during the First World Indology Conference, held at Delhi.
- ❖ The first recipient of the award in 2015 was Professor Heinrich Freiherr Von Stietencron from Germany.

Central Vigilance Commissioner

- ❖ Vigilance Commissioner, Suresh N. Patel was appointed as the Central Vigilance Commissioner.
- ❖ He is replaced Sanjay Kothari.



- ❖ The Central Vigilance Commission have a Central Vigilance Commissioner and two other vigilance commissioners.
- ❖ At present, there is no vigilance commissioner working in the Commission.
- ❖ A three-member selection panel headed by the Prime Minister.
- ❖ The other two members on the panel are Union Home Minister and the Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha.

dPal rNgam Duston Award

- ❖ Tibetan spiritual leader Dalai Lama was honoured with the 'dPal rNgam Duston' award.
- ❖ It is the highest civilian honour of Ladakh.
- ❖ This is awarded for his immense contribution to humanity, especially towards the union territory.
- ❖ The sixth award was conferred by Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council.

First woman director general of CSIR

- ❖ Senior electrochemical scientist Nallathamby Kalaiselvi has become the first woman director general of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research.
- ❖ It is a consortium of 38 state-run research institutes across the country.
- ❖ She was appointed for a period of two years.
- ❖ She is known for her work in the field of lithium-ion batteries.
- ❖ Kalaiselvi is at present director of the CSIR-Central Electrochemical Research Institute at Karaikudi in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ She is becoming the first woman scientist to head the Central Electrochemical Research Institute (CSIR-CECRI) in February 2019.

FIDE deputy president

- ❖ Indian chess legend Viswanathan Anand has been elected the deputy president of FIDE.
- ❖ Incumbent president Arkady Dvorkovich was re-elected for a second term.
- ❖ The International Chess Federation or World Chess Federation, is commonly referred to by its French acronym FIDE.
- ❖ It is an international organization based in Switzerland.
- ❖ It connects the various national chess federations and acts as the governing body of international chess competition.

Miss India USA 2022

- ❖ Indian American from Virginia, Aarya Walvekar has crowned Miss India USA in 2022 in New Jersey.
- ❖ Saumya Sharma was declared first runner up and Sanjana Chekuri of New Jersey was the second runner-up.
- ❖ Akshi Jain from Washington has crowned Mrs India USA.
- ❖ Tanvi Grover from New York was crowned Miss Teen India USA.
- ❖ This year marks the 40th anniversary of the pageant.
- ❖ It is the longest-running Indian pageant outside of India.



US Heritage Wall of Fame

- ❖ Ramadhar Singh becomes the first Indian Social Psychologist on the US Heritage Wall of Fame of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology in the US.
- ❖ He is currently a professor at the Amrut Mody School of Management, Ahmedabad University.

International entrepreneurs' award

- ❖ A Kerala-based entrepreneur, Sangeetha Abhayan, has won the World Women Entrepreneurs' Award.
- ❖ It is instituted by the Junior Chamber International Hong Kong (JCIHK).
- ❖ This is awarded for her handloom and handicrafts start-up's performance in tune with the United Nations sustainable development goals.



Saroj Narayanaswamy

- ❖ All India Radio's Tamil newsreader Saroj Narayanaswamy passes away recently.
- ❖ She joined the radio service in 1962.
- ❖ She has about 35 years of experience as a Tamil newsreader.
- ❖ She also holds the distinction of being the first Tamil newsreader of All India Radio.
- ❖ In 2008, the Tamil Nadu government honoured him with the Kalaimamani Award.

Investor Rakesh Jhunjhunwala

- ❖ Investor Rakesh Jhunjhunwala, known as the 'Big Bull' of Dalal Street, passed away recently.
- ❖ He publicly owned 32 stocks.
- ❖ Now, he also got into the aviation business by the name of Akasa Air.

Shashi Tharoor - Highest French Civilian Honor

- ❖ The French government is honouring Congress leader Shashi Tharoor with its highest civilian honour, 'Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur' Emmanuel Lenain.
- ❖ The award is being conferred upon Tharoor in recognition of his writings and speeches.
- ❖ The two-term Lok Sabha MP is also a celebrated author with several fiction and non-fiction books under his belt.

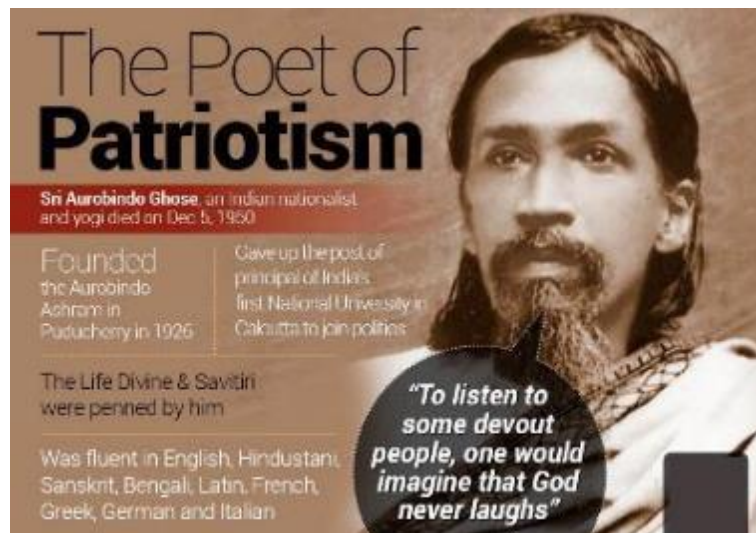
Monument Status of Subash Chandra Bose

- ❖ The National Heritage Board stated that Padang will now receive the Monument Status of Subash Chandra Bose.
- ❖ This was the location where Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose made the Call "Chalo Dilli".
- ❖ It will have greatest level of protection possible under Singapore's Preservation of Monuments Act.
- ❖ Padang is a sizable open field venue in Singapore.
- ❖ In July 1943, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose delivered the phrase "Delhi Chalo" here.



150th Birth Anniversary of Shri Aurobindo

- ❖ Sri Aurobindo was an Indian philosopher, maharishi, yoga guru, poet, and Indian nationalist.
- ❖ He was also the editor of newspapers like Vande Mataram.
- ❖ He took part in Indian movement for independence from British.
- ❖ Until 1910, he was among influential leaders of independence movement.
- ❖ Later, he became spiritual reformer and put forward his visions on human progress and spiritual evolution.
- ❖ He was born on August 15, 1872 in Calcutta (Kolkata) and died in Pondicherry on 5th December, 1950.
- ❖ In Puducherry, Sri Aurobindo Ashram was established in 1926.



Lisbon Triennale Lifetime Achievement Award

- ❖ Bangladeshi architect, researcher and educator Marina Tabassum has been chosen for prestigious Lisbon Triennale Millennium BCP Lifetime Achievement Award.
- ❖ She became the first person from the global south and first south Asian to win the award.
- ❖ She is known for her architectural designs that break away from commercialism and deeply embed environmental concerns.

International Awards in Groundbreaking Policing

- ❖ SP Santosh Kumar Singh and SP Amit Kumar, IPS officers from India have won the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)'s 2021 40 Under 40 awards.
- ❖ They've been chosen amongst the top 40 police officers from six countries around the world.
- ❖ They are awarded for "exemplifying leadership, dedication, and service to their communities and the law enforcement profession".

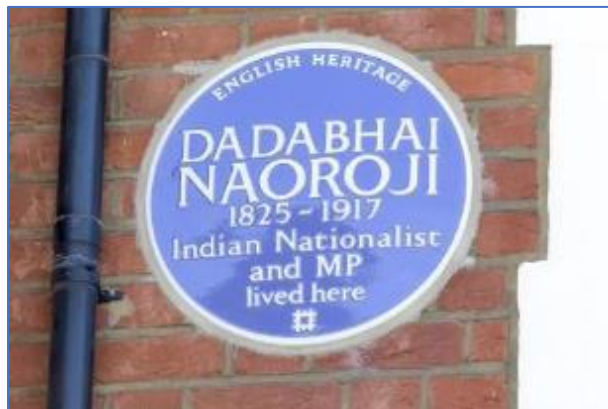


Navroz festival

- ❖ Paris New Year is celebrated every year on August 16 by the Parsi Community.
- ❖ Parsi New Year is also called Navroz.
- ❖ It marks the first day of the Zoroastrian Calendar.
- ❖ It is celebrated by the Parsi families across India visiting the holy temples to offer prayers.
- ❖ The beginning of the Parsi New Year or Navroz is believed to date back around 35,000 years.
- ❖ This was the time when Prophet Zarathustra founded Zoroastrianism in Persia, Iran nowadays.

Blue Plaque Honour

- ❖ London home of Dadabhai Nauroji will get a 'Blue Plaque'.
- ❖ It is an honour that is reserved for notable personalities who have lived and worked in London.
- ❖ Nauroji was the first Asian who was elected as a Member of Parliament in Britain in 1892.
- ❖ The Blue Plaque scheme is run by the English Heritage charity.
- ❖ It honours the historic significance of particular buildings across London.
- ❖ Nauroji often referred to as the "grand old man of India".
- ❖ Nauroji made seven trips to England and spent over three decades of his long life in London.
- ❖ The Blue Plaque was erected at the homes of Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Gandhi, Sri Aurobindo, Jawaharlal Nehru, and BR Ambedkar among others.





Pandurang Khankhoje statue

- ❖ Speaker Om Birla will unveil a statue of the freedom fighter and agricultural scientist Pandurang Khankhoje during his visit to Mexico.
- ❖ He was a Maharashtra-born freedom fighter and agriculturalist.
- ❖ Khankhoje was one of the founding members of the Ghadar Party.
- ❖ The Mexican Revolution of 1910 had led to the overthrow of the dictatorial regime, and this inspired Khankhoje.
- ❖ He also reached out to Indians working on farms in the US with the aim of discussing the idea of Indian independence with them.
- ❖ He reached out to Bhikaji Cama in Paris, and met with Vladimir Lenin in Russia among other leaders, seeking support for the Indian cause.
- ❖ However, as he was facing possible deportation from Europe and could not go to India, he sought shelter in Mexico.
- ❖ He was appointed a professor at the National School of Agriculture in Chapingo, near Mexico City.
- ❖ He researched corn, wheat, pulses and rubber, developing frost and drought-resistant varieties.
- ❖ He was revered as an agricultural scientist in Mexico and was part of efforts to bring in the Green Revolution in Mexico.
- ❖ Pandurang returned to India after 1947.

15th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics

- ❖ India has secured the third position by winning five medals at the 15th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics (IOAA)-2022 held in Kutaisi, Georgia.
- ❖ From India, a total of five students have participated and each of them had won medals.
- ❖ The students were able to secure 3 gold and 2 silver medals at the event.
- ❖ In the medals tally, India was placed jointly in the third position along with Singapore.
- ❖ It is just behind Iran's team (5 golds) and guest team (4 golds, 1 silver).
- ❖ Raghav Goyal won a special prize for the best solution to the most challenging theoretical question.
- ❖ The IOAA is an annual competition.
- ❖ It also is one of the 'International science Olympiads'.

Silk Mark Expo

- ❖ The Silk Mark Expo was inaugurated in New Delhi.
- ❖ The Silk Mark Expo is organized by the Silk Mark Organization of India under the Central Silk Board, Ministry of Textiles.
- ❖ Silk Mark is a quality assurance label launched by the government to determine the quality of the natural and pure silk produced by the weavers.
- ❖ The Silk Mark highlights the qualifying standards of the product, which will eventually build consumers' confidence in both domestic and export markets.



Anna Modayil Mani

- ❖ Google celebrated physicist and meteorologist Anna Modayil Mani's 104th birth anniversary with a special doodle dedicated to her.
- ❖ She was one of India's first female scientists.
- ❖ She served as the Deputy Director General of the India Meteorological Department (IMD).
- ❖ Mani also held important positions in the United Nations World Meteorological Organisation.
- ❖ She won the INSA K R Ramanathan Medal for her remarkable contributions to science in 1987.

Pulitzer Prize 2022

- ❖ Bangladesh-born Fahmida Azim has been selected for the Pulitzer Prize 2022.
- ❖ She will be awarded under the category of Illustrated Reporting and Commentary.
- ❖ She is among the four journalists including Anthony Del Col, Josh Adams and Walt Hickey of Insider being published from New York, selected for their work on the Chinese oppression of the Uyghurs.

- ❖ The work 'I escaped a Chinese internment Camp' has illustrations by Fahmida Azim.

Liberty Medal 2022

- ❖ The Liberty Medal 2022 will be awarded this fall to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy.
- ❖ The National Constitution Center of USA has announced that Zelenskyy will be honoured for "his heroic defence of liberty in the face of Russian tyranny."
- ❖ He has been the recipient of awards such as the Ronald Reagan Freedom Award and the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award.
- ❖ He also got honours from the governments of the Czech Republic, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, and Slovakia.



Solo flight around world

- ❖ Mack Rutherford (17) became the youngest person to fly solo around the world in a small aircraft.
- ❖ Mack landed in Bulgaria's capital of Sofia to complete his task and claim two Guinness World Records.
- ❖ Along with this he is becoming the youngest person to fly around the world by himself.
- ❖ Rutherford is the youngest person to circumnavigate the globe in a microlight plane.

Stockholm Water Prize 2022

- ❖ Professor Emeritus Wilfried Brutsaert has been named as the Stockholm Water Prize Laureate 2022.
- ❖ He has been awarded for his groundbreaking work to quantify environmental evaporation.

- ❖ His innovative works on Evaporation and Hydrology are of lasting theoretical and practical importance, particularly in view of climate change.
- ❖ In addition, he has pioneered novel approaches to understanding changes in groundwater storage.
- ❖ The Stockholm Water Prize is the world's most prestigious water award and is often described as the Nobel Prize of water.
- ❖ The prestigious Prize has been awarded since 1991 to people and organizations for extraordinary water-related achievements.

National Gopal Ratna Awards 2022

- ❖ The National Gopal Ratna awards are to be conferred on the occasion of National Milk Day (26th Nov, 2022).
- ❖ The categories are:
 - Best Dairy farmer rearing indigenous cattle/buffalo breeds.
 - Best Artificial Insemination Technician (AIT)
 - Best Dairy Cooperative Society/ Milk producer Company/ Dairy Farmer Producer Organisation.



National Gopal Ratna Award 2022

Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India invites applications for:-

- Best Dairy farmer rearing indigenous cattle breeds
- Best Artificial Insemination Technician (AIT)
- Best Dairy Cooperative/Milk producer Company/ Dairy Farmer Producer Organisation

Award amount

- 1st: Rs. 5,00,000/-
- 2nd: Rs. 3,00,000/-
- 3rd: Rs. 2,00,000/-

Along with a certificate of merit and a memento

Category	Eligibility
Category I Best Dairy farmer rearing indigenous	Farmer maintaining any of the recognized indigenous breeds out of 68 breeds of cattle and 17 breeds of buffaloes shall be eligible to apply for award
Category II Best Artificial Insemination Technician (AIT)	All technicians of the State/UT Livestock Development Board/State Milk Producers' Unions and other private organisations having undergone AI training for a minimum of 90 days shall be eligible to apply for the award
Category III Best Dairy Cooperative/Milk producer Company/ Dairy Farmer Producer Organisation	A Cooperative society/MSF/PO set up at village level and is registered under Cooperative Act/ Companies Act collecting at least 100 litres of milk per day and having at least 50 farmer members

Application Procedure

For Beneficiaries: Application Filing, visit the Nearest Common Service Centre

Apply online at <https://awards.gov.in>

The application process shall begin on 1st August 2022 and the last date for application shall be 10th September 2022. One applicant can fill up one application only in any one category.



UNESCO Peace Prize 2022

- ❖ Former German chancellor Angela Merkel has been awarded the UNESCO Peace Prize 2022 for “her efforts to welcome refugees”.
- ❖ In the summer of 2015, as refugees were streaming into Europe, Merkel opened her country’s borders and famously declared to Germans “We can do this.”
- ❖ UNESCO Peace Prize is officially called Felix Houphouet-Boigny-UNESCO Peace Prize.
- ❖ It is named after the former president of Ivory Coast.

New DRDO Chief

- ❖ A Distinguished scientist Samir V Kamat was appointed as Secretary of the Department of Defence Research and Development and Chairman of the DRDO.
- ❖ He will succeed G Satheesh Reddy who has been named as scientific adviser to Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.
- ❖ Reddy was appointed as DRDO chief in August 2018 for two years.
- ❖ He was given two years extension in the post in August 2020.

SPORTS

Women’s ODI World Cup 2025

- ❖ The International Cricket Council (ICC) unveiled the host countries for the next major ICC tournaments in the women's category.
- ❖ The next ICC Women's Cricket World Cup in 2025 will be hosted by India.
- ❖ Sri Lanka will host the ICC Women's T20 Champions Trophy in 2027 subject to them qualifying for the event.
- ❖ Bangladesh will be hosting the Women's T20 World Cup - 2024 for the second time around.
- ❖ Women's T20I cricket is making its debut at the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham this year.



Commonwealth games 2022



COMMONWEALTH GAMES MEDAL TALLY					
RANK	COUNTRIES	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE	TOTAL
1	AUSTRALIA	31	20	20	71
2	ENGLAND	21	22	11	54
3	NEW ZEALAND	13	7	4	24
4	CANADA	6	11	18	33
5	SOUTH AFRICA	5	3	4	12
6	INDIA	3	3	3	9
7	SCOTLAND	2	8	13	23
8	MALAYSIA	2	2	2	6
9	NIGERIA	2	0	2	4
10	WALES	1	2	7	10

- ❖ Anahat Singh of Delhi is the youngest (14) badminton player at the Commonwealth Games 2022.
- ❖ Indian weightlifter Achinta Sheuli of West Bengal wins the gold medal in Men's 73kg weightlifting finals.
- ❖ Mirabai Chanu of Manipur wins India's first gold in women's 49kg weightlifting final.

- ❖ Jeremy Lalrinnunga of Mizoram won gold in men's 67 kg category weightlifting.
- ❖ Sanket Mahadev Sargar of Maharashtra wins India's first silver in Weightlifting.
- ❖ Bindyarani Devi of Manipur wins silver in weightlifting.
- ❖ India's Harjinder Kaur of Punjab claimed the bronze medal in the women's 71kg weightlifting.
- ❖ In Judo, Shushila Devi Likmabam of Manipur won the silver medal while Vijay Kumar of Uttar Pradesh bagged the bronze.
- ❖ Weightlifter Gururaja Poojary of Karnataka wins bronze.

‘Games Wide Open’

- ❖ The organizers of the 2024 Paris Olympics unveiled “Games Wide Open” as their official slogan.
- ❖ The 2024 Summer Olympics are scheduled to take place from July 26 to August 11, 2024.
- ❖ The slogan was released alongside a video promising the Olympics and Paralympics would be “faster”, “higher” and “stronger” — as well as “more inclusive, more brotherly, more beautiful.”

SAFF U20 Championship – 2022

- ❖ India beat Bangladesh and clinch the 2022 SAFF U20 Championship title.
- ❖ India was the host of the 4th edition of the SAFF U-20 Championship.
- ❖ SAFF U-20 Championship is an international football competition for men's under-18 national teams organized by the South Asian Football Federation.

75th Grandmaster of India



- ❖ V Pranav became India's 75th Grandmaster by winning a tournament in Romania.
- ❖ The 15-year-old had obtained his maiden GM norm at the Serbia Open in 2021.
- ❖ Pranav is the 27th Grandmaster from Tamil Nadu.

Commonwealth Games – Hockey

- ❖ After a gap of 16 years, India's women's hockey team wins bronze medal against New Zealand.
- ❖ India men's Hockey team also, won Silver medal against Australia in the event.
- ❖ Previously, India won the silver medal at the 2006 Melbourne CWG.



Gold medal - PV Sindhu



- ❖ PV Sindhu won her first-ever singles gold in Badminton in the ongoing Commonwealth Games 2022.
- ❖ Sindhu took on Michelle Li of Canada in her quest for the gold medal.
- ❖ Sindhu's first-ever gold comes after winning bronze in the 2014 Commonwealth Games and a silver in 2018.

Commonwealth Games 2022

- ❖ It was India's 18th appearance at the Commonwealth Games.
- ❖ India finished 4th on the podium at the Commonwealth Games 2022.
- ❖ Its overall medal tally of 61, including 22 Gold, 16 Silver, and 23 Bronze.
- ❖ Saikhom Mirabai Chanu won the first gold medal for the country.
- ❖ India won its first ever medal in Lawn Bowls after Women's Fours team won Gold Medal
- ❖ Men's fours team also won silver medal in this game.
- ❖ Sharath Kamal won 3 Gold and 1 Silver medals in Table Tennis.
- ❖ India Women's cricket team won Silver medal.
- ❖ In judo also, india performed well with Shushila Devi Likmambam (Silver), Tulika Maan (Silver) and Vijay Kumar Yadav (Bronze).
- ❖ Saurav Ghosal in Men's singles and Dipika Pallikal/Saurav Ghosal - Mixed Doubles won Bronze in squash.
- ❖ India's best-ever showing at the Commonwealth Games came at home in 2010.
- ❖ In which, the Asian giants won 101 medals, including 38 Gold.
- ❖ In terms of overall medals won, Birmingham 2022 is 5th best showing after New Delhi 2010 (101), Manchester 2002 (69), Gold Coast 2018 (66), and Glasgow 2014 (64).

CWG 2022 MEDAL TALLY				
COUNTRIES				
1  AUS	67	57	54	178
2  ENG	57	65	53	175
3  CAN	25	32	34	92
4  IND	22	16	23	61
5  NZL	20	12	17	49
6  SCO	13	11	27	51
7  NGR	12	9	14	35
8  WAL	8	6	14	28
9  RSA	7	9	11	27
10  MAS	7	8	8	23



WRESTLING

Athlete	Category	Medal
Bajrang Punia	Men's 65kg	Gold
Sakshi Malik	Women's 62kg	Gold
Deepak Punia	Men's 86kg	Gold
Ravi Kumar Dahiya	Men's 57kg	Gold
Vinesh Phogat	Women's 53kg	Gold
Naveen	Men's 74kg	Gold
Anshu Malik	Women's 57kg	Silver
Divya Kakran	Women's 68kg	Bronze
Mohit Grewal	Men's 125kg	Bronze
Pooja Gehlot	Women's 50kg	Bronze
Pooja Sihag	Women's 76kg	Bronze
Deepak Nehra	Men's 97kg	Bronze

WEIGHTLIFTING

Athlete	Category	Medal
Mirabai Chanu	Women's 49kg	Gold
Jeremy Lalrinnunga	Men's 67kg	Gold
Achinta Sheuli	Men's 73kg	Gold
Sanket Sargar	Men's 55kg	Silver
Bindyarani Devi	Women's 55kg	Silver
Vikas Thakur	Men's 96kg	Silver
Gururaja Poojary	Men's 61kg	Bronze
Harjinder Kaur	Women's 71kg	Bronze
Lovepreet Singh	Men's 100kg	Bronze
Gurdeep Singh	Men's 109+kg	Bronze

ATHLETICS

Athlete	Category	Medal
Eldhose Paul	Men's Triple Jump	Gold
Abdulla Aboobacker	Men's Triple Jump	Silver
Avinash Sable	Men's 3000m Steeplechase	Silver
Priyanka Goswami	Women's 10km Race Walk	Silver
Murali Sreeshankar	Men's Long Jump	Silver
Tejaswin Shankar	Men's High Jump	Bronze
Annu Rani	Women's Javelin	Bronze
Sandeep Kumar	Men's 10km Race Walk	Bronze

BADMINTON

Athlete	Category	Medal
PV Sindhu	Women's Singles	Gold
Lakshya Sen	Men's Singles	Gold
Satwiksairaj Rankireddy/Chirag Shetty	Men's Doubles	Gold
India	Mixed Team	Silver
Gayatri Gopichand/Treesa Jolly	Women's Doubles	Bronze
Kidambi Srikanth	Men's Singles	Bronze

BOXING

Athlete	Category	Medal
Nitu Ghangas	Women's 48kg	Gold
Nikhath Zareen	Women's 50kg	Gold
Amit Panghal	Men's 51kg	Gold
Sagar Ahlawat	Men's +92kg	Silver
Rohit Tokas	Men's 67kg	Bronze
Jaismine Lamboria	Women's 60kg	Bronze

TABLE TENNIS

Athlete	Category	Medal
Achanta Sharath Kamal	Men's Singles	Gold
India	Men's Team	Gold
Achanta Sharath Kamal/Sreeja Akula	Mixed Team	Gold
Achanta Sharath Kamal/G Sathiyan	Men's doubles	Silver
G Sathiyan	Men's singles	Bronze

World Under-20 Championships

- ❖ Selva Prabhu Thirumaran won the men's triple jump silver in the World Athletics Under-20 Championships in Colombia.
- ❖ He completed behind Jamaica's Jayden Hibbert.
- ❖ It was India's third medal on the under-20 Worlds.
- ❖ The 4x400m blended relay workforce (silver) and Rupal Chaudhary (bronze in ladies's 400m).



Serena Williams Retirement

- ❖ USA's Tennis player Serena Williams announced her retirement from Tennis.
- ❖ She will retire from active Tennis after completing US Open.
- ❖ She referred as queen of tennis.

- ❖ She played Tennis around 22 years.
- ❖ She bagged 73 career singles titles and 23 career doubles titles.



Footballer of the Year



- ❖ Sunil Chhetri and Manisha Kalyan have been named as Men's Footballer of the Year and the Women's Footballer of the Year, for 2021-22 respectively.
- ❖ This is announced by All India Football Federation (AIFF)
- ❖ Manisha had won the Women's Emerging Footballer of the Year for last season.
- ❖ This is the 7th time that Sunil won the award.
- ❖ He has won it previously in 2007, 2011, 2013, 2014, 2017 and 2018-19.

600 T20 matches

- ❖ Former West Indies all-rounder, Kieron Pollard became the first cricketer to play 600 T20 matches.
- ❖ He is followed by Dwayne Bravo (543 matches), Shoaib Malik (472), Chris Gayle (463) and Ravi Bopara (426).



Powerlifting Guinness World Record

- ❖ Tamara Walcott from Maryland, USA recently broke the Guinness World Records in a weightlifting competition.
- ❖ He was lifting a total of 1,620.4 pounds or 735 kg at a weightlifting competition held in Virginia, USA.

Tata Steel Chess India Tournament 2022

- ❖ The 4th edition of the Tata Steel Chess India tournament will be held in Kolkata.
- ❖ For the first time, a separate women's section has been added in the tournament, which had only the Open section so far.
- ❖ Tata Steel Chess India (rapid and blitz) is one of the most important chess tournaments in India.
- ❖ Top Indian female players like Koneru Humpy, D Harika, and R Vaishali will compete in the maiden women's edition.

2022 UEFA Super Cup

- ❖ Real Madrid beat Eintracht Frankfurt to win the 2022 UEFA Super Cup in Finland.
- ❖ Real Madrid won this title for a record-equalling fifth time.
- ❖ Prior to this, Team Barcelona, and Team Milan won the trophy five times each.
- ❖ UEFA Super Cup is an annual football match organised by UEFA for the winners of the two main European club competitions.

Suspension of All India Football Federation



RED CARD

WHAT DOES THIS SUSPENSION FROM FIFA MEAN FOR AIFF?

- India cannot host the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup which is scheduled to commence on Oct. 11
- Indian teams, both representing clubs and country, are not allowed to take part in any international competition
- Neither AIFF nor any of its members or officials can benefit from any development programmes, courses or training from FIFA and/or the AFC

WHAT NEXT?

- Repeal of the CoA mandate in full
- AIFF administration to be fully in charge of the AIFF's daily affairs
- The AIFF constitution to be revised in accordance with the requirements of FIFA-AFC and to be approved by the AIFF general assembly without interference from any third party
- Concurrently, an independent electoral committee to be elected by the AIFF general assembly to run the elections of a new executive committee
- Hold elections based on the pre-existing membership structure of AIFF (i.e. state associations only)

HOW IT ALL STARTED

- Elections were due in December 2022 but the Praful Patel-led AIFF dragged its feet, citing a pending case in the Supreme Court. It was only on May 12, almost 18 months later, that the apex court agreed to look into the illegal continuation of Patel as president
- May 18, 2022:** Supreme Court removed AIFF president Praful Patel and his executive committee, whose tenure ended in Dec 2022, and instead appointed a three-member Committee of Administrators (CoA) to finalise the constitution and hold elections.
- June 21-23:** FIFA-AFC sent a joint team to India for talks with all stakeholders. Roadmaps were agreed, crucially to approve the constitution on July 31 and hold elections before September 15.
- The July 31 deadline was missed and on August 3 Supreme Court ordered elections, without the draft constitution being finalised. The apex court also provided voting rights to 36 former players, a clear violation of FIFA Statutes.

BONE OF CONTENTION

- FIFA is not against inclusion of

individual players in the executive committee as co-opted members but said giving voting rights to 36 players undermines state associations who also have a vote each.

- Other objection includes a clause in the draft constitution that officials cannot hold simultaneous posts in AIFF and state associations.
- FIFA also said a provision stipulating that the term limits have no retroactive effect was missing in Article 26 of the draft constitution

WHO COMPRISES THE CoA?

- Justice (retired) Anil Dave, Former Chief Election Commissioner of India SY Quraishi, Former India captain Bhaskar Ganguly

THE COA IS SURPRISED THAT THE FIFA DECISION HAS COME WHEN EXTENSIVE DISCUSSIONS WERE GOING ON FOR THE PAST FEW DAYS BETWEEN ALL STAKEHOLDERS, INCLUDING FIFA-AFC, AIFF, COA, AND THE SPORTS MINISTRY AS PER THE ORDER OF THE SUPREME COURT.

—CoA STATEMENT

- ❖ FIFA, the governing body for world football, suspended the All-India Football Federation for “undue interference by a third party”.
- ❖ This is a first instance, since the federation was formed in 1937.
- ❖ Since May 18, 2022, the AIFF is being run by a three-member committee of administrators
- ❖ They were appointed by the Supreme Court after removing Praful Patel and his executive committee, whose term ended in December 2020.
- ❖ The appointment of CoA is considered third-party interference and goes against FIFA statutes that asks all countries to “manage its affairs independently.”
- ❖ The suspension means no Indian team, club or country, can play international matches.
- ❖ Also, India will lose hosting rights of the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup-2022.

Durand Cup 2022

- ❖ The 131st edition of the historic Durand Cup begins in Kolkata.
- ❖ It is the Asia's oldest football tournament signifies the beginning of the football season in India.
- ❖ Mortimer Durand, the former Foreign Secretary of British India, founded the Durand Cup in 1888.
- ❖ It was initially played only amongst the armed services but was later opened for professional football clubs as well.
- ❖ The Durand Cup Football Tournament Society organizes the annual event in association with the All-India Football Federation (AIFF).
- ❖ The winner receives three trophies: the Durand Cup, the President's Cup, and the Shimla Trophy.



FTX Crypto Cup

- ❖ Indian chess master Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa has defeated world champion, Magnus Carlsen of Norway, in the FTX Crypto Cup in Miami, USA.
- ❖ He defeated Magnus Carlsen for the third time in a year.
- ❖ But he ended in second place in the final standings of the tournament.

U20 World Championships

- ❖ India's junior wrestler Antim Panghal created history by becoming the U20 World Champion in Sofia, Bulgaria.
- ❖ Panghal became the first-ever Indian woman wrestler to win gold at the U20 World Wrestling Championships.
- ❖ In the final, Antim defeated Atlyn Shagayeva of Kazakhstan in the 53kg category to win the gold medal.

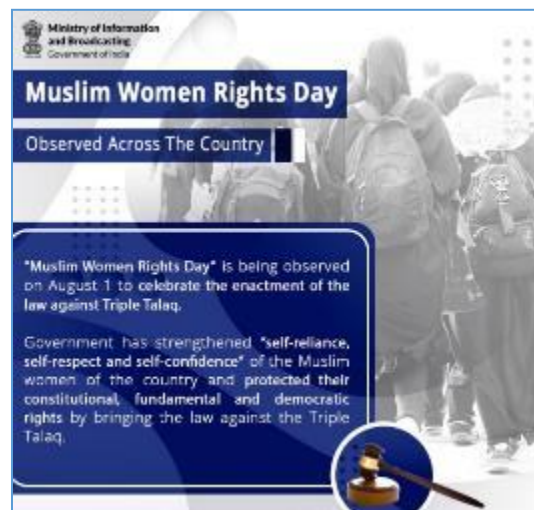
IMPORTANT DAYS

World Breastfeeding Week – August 1-7

- ❖ It is organised by World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA) in association with WHO and UNICEF.
- ❖ It aims to create safeguards for breastfeeding, and increase breastfeeding awareness.
- ❖ The World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA) was established in 1991.
- ❖ This year's theme for World Breastfeeding Week is 'Step Up for Breastfeeding: Educate and Support.'

Muslim Women's Rights Day – August 1

- ❖ The day celebrates the enactment of triple talaq law.
- ❖ It was implemented on August 1, 2019.
- ❖ Practice of triple talaq was made a criminal offence through this law.
- ❖ Triple talaq allowed Indian Muslim husbands to divorce their wives instantly, by pronouncing the word "talaq" three times continuously.
- ❖ This practice does not take the consent of wives into consideration.
- ❖ It prohibited under Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Law.



World Lung Cancer Day - Aug 1

- ❖ It aims to prevent deaths each year by raising awareness about the deadly disease and urging governments across the world to take action against it.



- ❖ It caused around 1.80 million deaths alone in 2020.
- ❖ The day was first observed in 2012.

Hiroshima Day - Aug 6

- ❖ This day commemorate the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, Japan, in 1945, at the end of World War II.
- ❖ The U.S. B-29 Superfortress Enola Gay dropped an atomic bomb code-named "Little Boy" on Hiroshima.
- ❖ Three days later, the United States, exploded a nuclear device over Nagasaki.

National Handloom Day - August 07

- ❖ It aims to highlight the contribution of the handloom industry in the socio-economic development and create awareness about the sector.
- ❖ This day is celebrated across the country under the aegis of the Ministry of Textiles.
- ❖ It was the same day the Swadeshi Movement was birthed in 1905.

2nd Javelin Throw Day - August 07

- ❖ The Athletics Federation of India (AFI) is celebrating the second 'Javelin Throw Day' on August 7, 2022.
- ❖ The day was first observed in 2021 in honour of Javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra.
- ❖ He won India's first Olympic gold medal in athletics at Tokyo.
- ❖ It aims to attract more youth towards the sport and get champions ready for a bright future in athletics ahead.

Nagasaki Day – August 09

- ❖ On August 9, 1945, the United States dropped an atomic bomb on Nagasaki, Japan.
- ❖ It was code-named "Fat Man" due to the design of the bomb as it had a wide, round shape.
- ❖ On August 9, 1945, a US B-29 bomber dropped an atomic bomb on the city, killing nearly 20,000 people.
- ❖ The year 2022 will mark the 77th anniversary of the incident.



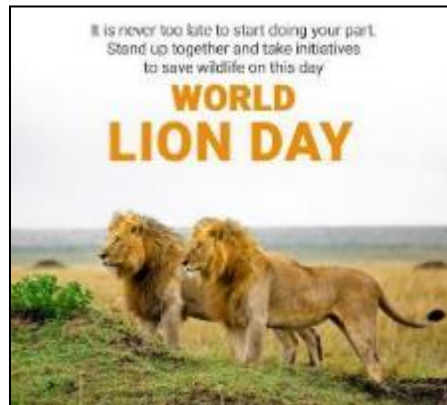
International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples – August 09

- ❖ It aims to recognise the first UN Working Group on Indigenous Populations meeting in Geneva in 1982.
- ❖ Over 476 million indigenous peoples living in 90 countries across the world and accounting for 6.2 percent of the global population.
- ❖ On December 21, 1993, the UNGA had declared December 10, 1994 as the start of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People.
- ❖ 1993 was also announced as the International Year of the World's Indigenous People.
- ❖ The theme of the day is the 'Role of Indigenous Women in the Preservation and Transmission of Traditional Knowledge'.



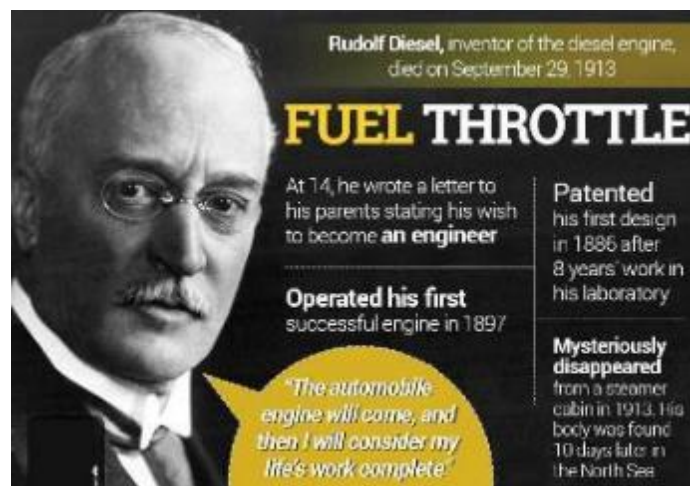
World Lion Day - August 10

- ❖ It aims to spread awareness about conservation of Lions.
- ❖ The first World Lion Day was observed in 2013.
- ❖ Lions are designated as a vulnerable species on the Red List.
- ❖ Gir Forest is home to the only wild population of lions outside of Africa.
- ❖ Between 2015 and 2020, their population increased from 523 to 674.



World Biofuel Day – August 10

- ❖ This Day is celebrated in memory of Sir Rudolf Diesel, the inventor of the diesel engine.
- ❖ The day is celebrated to raise awareness about the importance of non-fossil fuels as an alternative to conventional fossil fuels.
- ❖ On August 9, 1893, Sir Rudolf Diesel for the first time operated a mechanical engine with peanut oil.
- ❖ His experiment could foresee the use of vegetable oil as a practical source of energy in the coming century.





International Youth Day - August 12

- ❖ This day is celebrated to raise awareness regarding issues that are faced by the world's youth.
- ❖ The United Nations General Assembly endorsed the proposal in 1999.
- ❖ The theme for the day is "Intergenerational solidarity: creating a world for all ages."

World Elephant Day - August 12

- ❖ It aims to raise awareness about the difficulty of elephants all over the world.
- ❖ This day was observed for the first time on 12 August 2012.
- ❖ The World Elephant Day was co-founded by Canadian filmmaker Patricia Sims and the Elephant Reintroduction Foundation of Thailand.

World Organ Donation Day - August 13

- ❖ It is celebrated with the aim of raising awareness on organ donations.
- ❖ In 1953, first temporarily successful transplantation of human kidney was done by Jean Hamburger in Paris.
- ❖ This year's theme is "let's pledge to donate organs and save lives".
- ❖ India celebrates "National Organ Donation Day" every year on November 27.

World Sanskrit Diwas - August 12

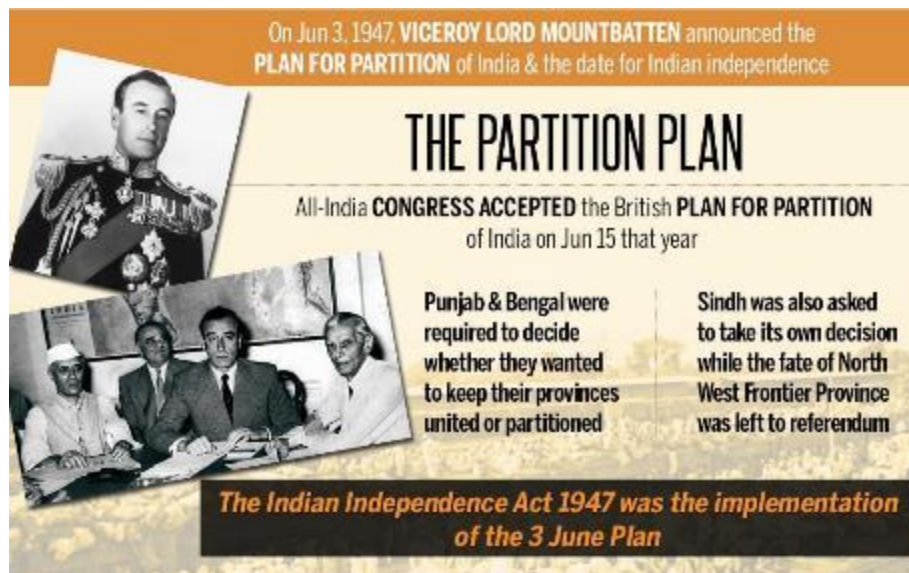
- ❖ It is celebrated on the occasion of Shraavana Poornima.
- ❖ This day also coincides with the festival of Raksha Bandhan.
- ❖ It aims to encourage and make the upcoming generation familiar with the Sanskrit language.

International Lefthanders Day - August 13

- ❖ This day was first celebrated by Dean R Campbell in 1976.
- ❖ He was the founder of Left-Handers International Inc.
- ❖ Since the day is observed annually.
- ❖ It aims to bring light to the everyday struggle a lefty faces.

Partition Horrors Remembrance Day - August 14

- ❖ India is commemorating August 14, as Partition Horrors Remembrance Day.
- ❖ The commemoration was announced this date last year.
- ❖ The partition of India into India and Pakistan led to grave violence and communal riots, loss of property, and extreme upheaval in the weeks and months around August 15, 1947.
- ❖ The Partition is acknowledged as one of the most violent and abrupt displacements in the recent history of the world.



World Photography Day - August 19

- ❖ The day focuses on the art, craft and science of photography.
- ❖ The first permanent photo of an object was captured by French Joseph Nicéphore Niepce in 1826.
- ❖ The theme of the day for this year is "Pandemic Lockdown through the lens."

World humanitarian Day – August 19

- ❖ It recognises all aid and health workers who volunteer to help victims of disasters and crises against all odds.
- ❖ The day aims to spread awareness about the need for humanitarian assistance worldwide.
- ❖ On 19 August 2003, a bomb attack on the Canal Hotel in Baghdad, Iraq, killed 22 humanitarian aid workers, including the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq.

- ❖ Five years later, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution designating 19 August as World Humanitarian Day.
- ❖ The theme for this year's day takes its basis in the saying "It takes a village to raise a child".

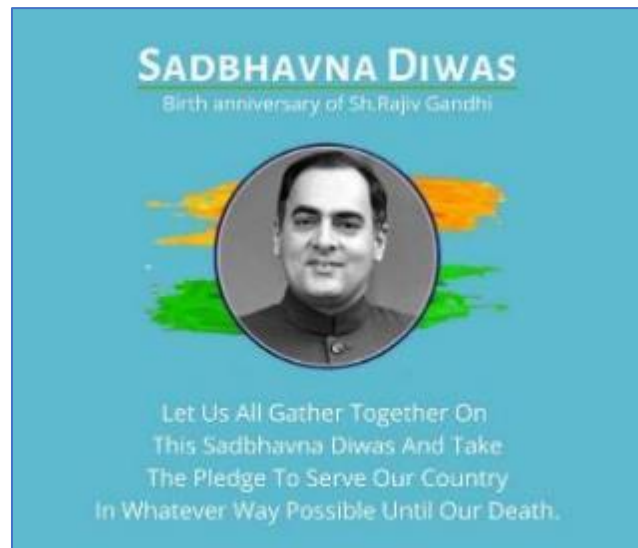
Akshay Urja Diwas - August 20

- ❖ It aims to raise awareness for the development and efficient use of renewable energy in India.
- ❖ The day also commemorates the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.
- ❖ The day was first organised by former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh along with the Indian Ministry for New and Renewable Energy Sources in 2004.



Sadbhavna Diwas - August 20

- ❖ Sadbhavna Diwas promotes peace, harmony, empathy, and unity among all citizens of India.
- ❖ This year commemorates the 78th birth anniversary of Rajiv Gandhi.
- ❖ Sadbhavna Diwas was instituted after the death of Rajiv Gandhi in 1992.



World Mosquito Day - August 20

- ❖ This day honours Sir Ronald Ross who discovered the link between mosquitoes and the transmission of malaria in the year 1897.
- ❖ As per his discovery, it is the female mosquitoes that disseminate malaria among humans.
- ❖ The purpose of this day is to raise awareness about the causes of malaria and how it can be prevented.
- ❖ As per WHO Data, there was an increase of sixty-nine thousand deaths caused by malaria from the year 2019 to 2020.

World Senior Citizen Day - August 21

- ❖ It is also known as National Senior Citizens' Day in the United States (US).
- ❖ Its intent is to highlight the contributions of elderly people in human society and honour them.
- ❖ This day has its roots back in the August 19, 1988 proclamation by the then US President, Ronald Reagan.
- ❖ The elderly population is projected to reach more than 1.5 billion by 2050.
- ❖ This rise will be prominently seen in East Asia and South-East Asia.
- ❖ Less developed nations will host more than two-thirds of the planet's elderly people by 2050.

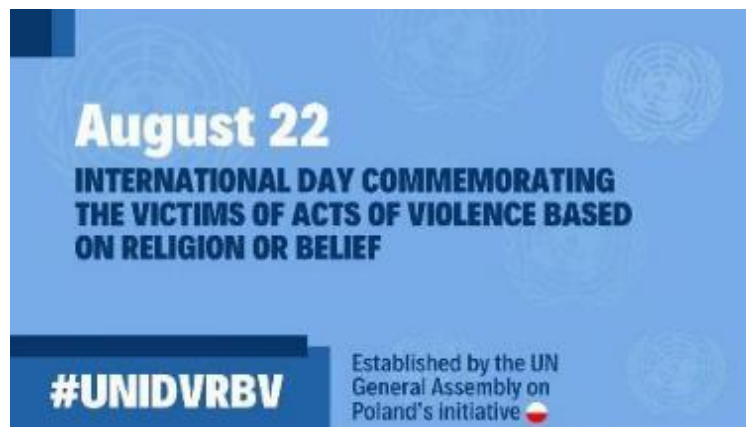
International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism - August 21

- ❖ This day is observed to uphold the dignity of victims and highlight the importance of global solidarity in ensuring that victims are not forgotten.
- ❖ This International Day was established in 2017.
- ❖ The theme for 2022' observation is "Memories."



International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief - August 22

- ❖ The day aims to remember the victims and survivors of evil acts on the basis of or in the name of religion or belief.
- ❖ On this day, the international community honours the survivors and victims of religious-based violence.
- ❖ This day was adopted at the 73rd UN General Assembly on 28 May 2019 as proposed by Poland.





World Water Week 2022 - 23 August to 1 September

- ❖ The World Water Week is an annual event organized by Stockholm International Water Institute since 1991.
- ❖ It aims to address the global water issues and related concerns of international development.
- ❖ The theme of the 2022 World Water Week is: “Seeing the unseen: The value of water”.

International Day for the Remembrance of Slave Trade and Abolition - August 23

- ❖ The day is observed to memorialise the practice against millions of innocent lives who were the victims of the transatlantic slave trade during colonial rule.
- ❖ The day was given its first importance by UNESCO.
- ❖ The international slave trade was first eradicated in the year 1807.
- ❖ The day was first observed in countries like Haiti (August 23, 1998) and Goree Island in Senegal (August 23, 1999).
- ❖ The theme for this year's is 'Stories of Courage: Resistance to Slavery and Unity against Racism'.

Black Ribbon Day - August 23

- ❖ This is the European Day of Remembrance for Victims of Stalinism and Nazism remembers victims of totalitarian regimes.
- ❖ These include Stalinist, communist, Nazi and fascist regimes.
- ❖ The day is also known as Black Ribbon Day.
- ❖ August 23 was chosen as it commemorates the infamous Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact that occurred in 1939.
- ❖ This pact was between the Soviet Union and Germany.

World Gujarati day - August 24

- ❖ This day is celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of the great writer of Gujarat ‘Veer Narmad’.
- ❖ The poet Narmad was considered to be the creator of the Gujarati language.

Internaut Day - Aug 23

- ❖ This was the day when the World Wide Web was opened to the public back in the year 1991.
- ❖ For the first time by WWW inventor Tim Berners Lee as he allowed its access to all.
- ❖ CERN announced that internet would be free to everyone and there would be no fee for its use.
- ❖ Lee, an English computer scientist, invented the World Wide Web in 1989 while working at the CERN, Geneva of Switzerland.



Women's Equality Day - Aug 26

- ❖ The day is celebrated to commemorate the adoption of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution in 1920.
- ❖ It grants women the right to vote.
- ❖ The theme for 2022 observation is "Hard Won... Not Done".

National Sports Day - August 29

- ❖ It aims to commemorate the hockey legend Major Dhyan Chand on his birth anniversary.
- ❖ He is popularly known as Wizard.
- ❖ Dhyan Chand is regarded as one of the greatest field hockey players in history.
- ❖ He earned three consecutive Olympic medals for India in 1928, 1932 and 1936.

Telugu Language Day - August 29

- ❖ Telugu Language Day is celebrated annually in the state of Andhra Pradesh and the State of Telangana.
- ❖ Birth anniversary of Gidugu Ramamurthy Panthulu celebrated as Telugu Language Day.
- ❖ This Dravidian language is one of India's six classical languages.
- ❖ Telugu is fourth most spoken language in India.

International Day against Nuclear Tests – Aug 29

- ❖ In May 2010, all state parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of nuclear weapons committed themselves to "achieve the peace and security of a world without nuclear weapons".
- ❖ The resolution was initiated by Kazakhstan to commemorate the closure of the Semipalatinsk Nuclear Test Site on August 29, 1991.
- ❖ The International Day for the Total Elimination of nuclear weapons was observed for the first time in September 2014.
- ❖ The international instrument to put an end to all forms of nuclear testing is the 1996 Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT).
- ❖ Unfortunately, this has yet to enter into force.

National Small Industry Day – Aug 30

- ❖ It can be traced back to August 2000 when the government formulated a comprehensive policy package for small-scale industries (SSI) in India.
- ❖ It contributes as much as 40 per cent to the gross industrial value of the country's economy.
- ❖ The central government has kickstarted various initiatives such as the CHAMPIONS portal, UDYAM, and National SC-ST Hub.

International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances – Aug 30

- ❖ It was observed for the first time in 2011.
- ❖ In 2010, by its resolution, the UN General Assembly expressed its deep concern about the increase in enforced or involuntary disappearances in various regions of the world.

MISCELLANEOUS

World's Largest Floating Solar Power Plant

- ❖ The world's largest floating solar power plant will be built on Omkareshwar Dam on the Narmada River in Khandwa, Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ The floating power plant is expected to generate about 600 Megawatt of power by 2022-23.
- ❖ The world's largest floating solar power plant will be spread over 100 square kilometres.



Astronomy lab on UNESCO heritage list

- ❖ The astronomical observatory at the Langat Singh College, Bihar is now included in the UNESCO list of Important Endangered Heritage observatories of the world.
- ❖ This observatory was built in 1916 in the 123-year-old college.
- ❖ The observatory and planetarium functioned satisfactorily up to early 1970s.
- ❖ But it started declining gradually with the passage of time.
- ❖ At present, it is lying completely dysfunctional condition.

Center of Excellence for Vegetables

- ❖ The Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar, laid the foundation stone of the Indo-Israel Center of Excellence for Vegetables in Chandauli, Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ Israeli experts are providing the Center's technology as part of the India-Israel Action Plan.



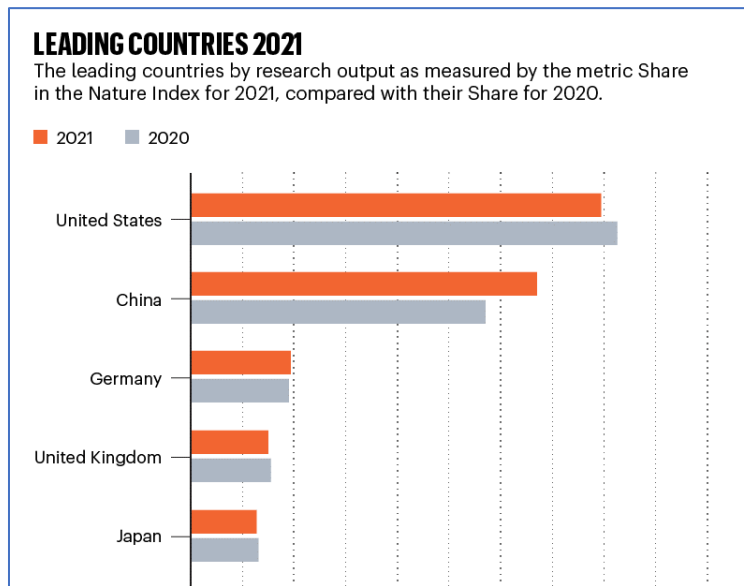
- ❖ Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture is funding the construction of the Center's infrastructure for demonstration purposes.
- ❖ Centres of Excellence are being set up in the States based on Israeli technologies.
- ❖ These Centers of Excellence act as demonstration and training centers for the latest technologies in the field of Horticulture.

Global Employment Trends for Youth 2022

- ❖ Global Employment Trends for Youth 2022 report was released by International Labour Organisation.
- ❖ Pandemic has worsened the numerous labour market challenges facing those aged between 15 and 24 years.
- ❖ Youngsters in this age group experienced a much higher percentage loss in employment than adults since early 2020.
- ❖ The total global number of unemployed youths is estimated to reach 73 million in 2022.
- ❖ In India, the youth employment participation rate declined by 0.9 percentage points over the first nine months of 2021 relative to its value in 2020.
- ❖ But it was increased by 2 percentage points for adults over the same time period.
- ❖ In India, the school closures lasted 18 months and among the 24-crore school-going children.
- ❖ Only 8% of such children in rural areas and 23% in urban areas had adequate access to online education.
- ❖ In India, 92% of children on average lost at least one foundational ability in language and 82% lost at least one foundational ability in mathematics.
- ❖ India has a very low youth female labour market participation.
- ❖ Moreover, Indian young women experienced larger relative employment losses than young men in 2021 and 2022.

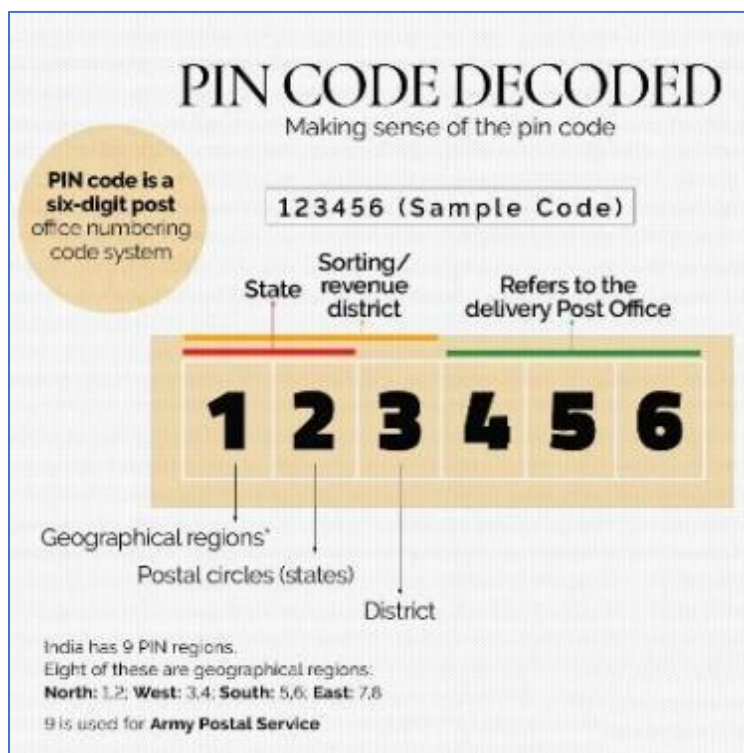
Nature Index 2022

- ❖ The University of Hyderabad ranked first among Indian Universities and 16th among all institutions in the academic sector in the Nature Index Rank of 2022.
- ❖ The Nature Index is an indicator of high-quality research in the Natural and Physical Sciences.
- ❖ It includes Chemistry, Life Sciences, Earth & Environmental Sciences, and Physical Sciences.



History of PIN code 50th year

- ❖ The 76th Independence Day coincides with another milestone in the country's history.
- ❖ It was on August 15, 1972, 50 years ago, the Postal Index Number (PIN) was introduced in India.



- ❖ According to the Department of Posts, there were 23,344 post offices, primarily in urban areas, in India at the time of Independence.
- ❖ The PIN code was meant to ease the process of mail sorting and delivery in a country where different places, often, have the same or similar names, and letters are written in a wide variety of languages.
- ❖ The PIN is made up of six digits.
- ❖ The first number indicates the postal region — Northern, Eastern, Western, Southern; and number 9, which signifies the Army Postal Service.
- ❖ The person behind the initiative was Shriram Bhikaji Velankar, the then additional secretary in the Union Ministry of Communications.
- ❖ Globally, in the US, the Zone Improvement Plan (ZIP) code was introduced July 1, 1963.

Forbes Cloud 100 List

- ❖ India's leading Payments and Banking Platform for Businesses, Razorpay has become the first Indian company to be named in the 2022 Forbes Cloud 100 List.
- ❖ Razorpay has entered the list for the second time.
- ❖ It is being listed at the 49th position for being a Financial Solutions Software.
- ❖ In the last year Razorpay was ranked in 57th place.
- ❖ The Cloud 100 list recognizes the outstanding companies in the technology category from small start-ups to private-equity-backed major companies.

Cloud 100

The List

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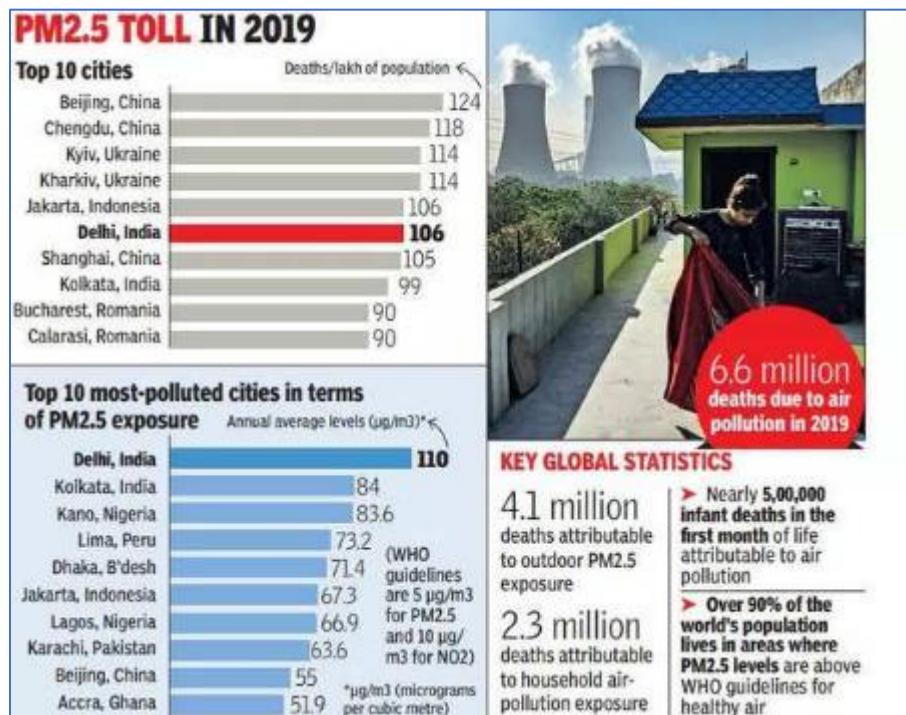
Search by company name

JD

Rank	Company	Category	HQ	Employee #	Funding	CEO
<div>stripe</div> #1	Stripe	E-commerce infrastructure	Dublin, Ireland; San Francisco, California	8,000	\$2.2 B	Patrick Collison
<div>data</div> #2	Databricks	Data and AI platform	San Francisco, California	4,000	\$3.5 B	Ali Ghodsi
<div>Canva</div> #3	Canva	Visual communication platform	Sydney, Australia	3,100	\$760 M	Melanie Perkins
<div>razorpay</div> #49	Razorpay	Financial solutions software	Bangalore, India	2,300	\$742 M	Harshil Mathur

Air Pollution and Health in Cities Report

- ❖ Health Effects Institute of USA released “Air Quality and Health in Cities” on air quality.
- ❖ As per report, biggest cities and urban areas of the world are witnessing worst air quality on the Earth.
- ❖ The report includes a comprehensive and detailed analysis of air pollution and global health effects for over 7,000 cities worldwide.
- ❖ It is focused on two harmful pollutants like fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) and nitrogen dioxide (NO₂).
- ❖ Delhi and Kolkata are ranked first and second in the list of top 10 most polluted cities when PM 2.5 levels were compared.
- ❖ No Indian city appeared in the list of top 10 or even top 20 polluted cities when NO₂ levels were compared.
- ❖ Beijing had the largest disease burden associated with a PM 2.5-related illness, with 124 attributable fatalities per 100,000 persons.
- ❖ Five Chinese cities were in the top 20.
- ❖ Delhi came in 6th, with 106 deaths per 100,000 and Kolkata at 8th with 99 deaths.
- ❖ Greatest health impacts can be seen across cities in Asia, Africa, and Eastern & Central Europe.
- ❖ By 2050, around 68% of the world’s population is likely to live in urban areas.





Report of Bank of America Securities India

- ❖ India is on its journey to surpass all the records of developing rail lines and highways.
- ❖ The report claims that in the year 2025, the country will have constructed more highways and rail lines than it has cumulatively built between 1950 and 2015.
- ❖ Resultantly, it is being calculated that India will have over 1.2 lakh km of railway lines and 1.8 lakh km of highways by 2025.
- ❖ Between 1950 and 2015, the nation built only 4,000 kilometres of national highways.
- ❖ It is taking the total length to 77,000 kilometres in 2015.
- ❖ However, the highway length is on course to cross 1.8 lakh kilometres by 2025 - more than double the existing length in ten years' time.
- ❖ The nation had only 10,000 kilometres of rail lines in 1950.
- ❖ It rose to 63,000 kilometres in 2015.
- ❖ But it is expected to touch 1.2 lakh kilometres in 2025.
- ❖ The port capacity, which was only 777 MTPA in 1995, rose to 1,911 MTPA in 2015.
- ❖ It is on course to more than double to 3,000 MTPA by 2025

