

# TNPSC THERVUPETTAGAM

## CURRENT AFFAIRS OCTOBER 2022

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## **TNPSC BITS**

- ❖ The Jammu and Kashmir administration has decided to declare Maharaja Hari Singh's birth anniversary (23 September) a public holiday.
- ❖ The international airport in Mohali has been named Shaheed Bhagat Singh International Airport, Chandigarh.
- ❖ Former India captain Dilip Tirkey was elected as a president of Hockey India.
- ❖ The West zone has defeated the South zone by 294 runs to win their 19th title in the final day of the 2022 Duleep Cricket Trophy.
- ❖ The 10<sup>th</sup> Trilateral Ministerial Commission conference of the India-Brazil-South Africa Dialogue Forum was held in New York.
- ❖ October 1 is observed as International Coffee Day to celebrate and promote coffee across the and bring to light the difficulties that farmers go through while growing coffee beans.
- ❖ International Music Day celebrated on October 1 every year.
- ❖ The 13<sup>th</sup> FICCI Global Skills Summit 2022 held in New Delhi.
  - The theme of the summit is "Education to Employability – Making It Happen."
- ❖ The Maharashtra government decided to name the Chipi greenfield airport in Sindhudurg district after the late freedom fighter and socialist, barrister Nath Pai.
- ❖ India's Shubi Gupta and A Charvi emerged winners in the girl's under-12 and under-8 sections respectively in the FIDE World Cadets Chess Championship, held at Batumi, Georgia.
- ❖ Prime Minister's Scheme for Mentoring Young Authors - YUVA 2.0 was launched recently to promote reading, writing, and book culture in the country.
- ❖ Vivek Lal, an Indian-origin General Atomic Global Corporation Chief Executive, is honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award by US President Joe Biden.
- ❖ India Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida was conferred "National Tourism Award 2018-19 for best standalone convention centre".
- ❖ The government has approved ₹26,000 crore for installation of 25,000 mobile towers in 500 days.
- ❖ Actor Pankaj Tripathi has been declared as the 'National Icon' of Election Commission of India.
- ❖ Airtel has rolled out 5G services in a phased manner in Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Siliguri, Nagpur and Varanasi.
- ❖ Dr. A K Anil Kumar, Senior Scientist in ISRO, is elected as the Vice President of the International Astronautical Federation.



- ❖ Sujoy Lal Thaosen, Anish Dayal Singh are appointed new director generals of Central Reserve Police Force and Indo Tibet Border Police respectively.
- ❖ Alphabet Inc's Google will set up its first cloud region in Greece.
  - It is giving a boost to the country's efforts to become a world cloud computing hub.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu's first Liquified Compressed Natural Gas (LCNG) station established near Manthangal village in Ranipet district.
- ❖ The three day "Digital India Conference of State IT Ministers" held in New Delhi.
- ❖ Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh launched the Special Swachhta Campaign 2.0, with a focus on Swachhata including disposal of scrap and reducing Pendency.
- ❖ The United Nations declared that 2022 is the International Year of Glass.
- ❖ India's Pankaj Advani claimed his 25th world title in billiards final at the World Championships held at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- ❖ JSW Steel has joined the United Nations Global Impact (UNGI) initiative.
- ❖ At the 36th National Games, Pooja Patel of Gujarat has become the first athlete to win gold in Yogasana.
- ❖ Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the 81<sup>st</sup> annual session of the Indian roads Congress in Lucknow.
- ❖ PM inaugurated the two-day event "PM Kisan Samman Sammelan 2022" at Indian Agricultural Research Institute in New Delhi.
- ❖ United Arab Emirates' Aayan Afzal Khan created history as he became the youngest player to feature in an ICC T20 World Cup match at 16 years and 335 days.
- ❖ Roger Binny was elected as the 36th president of the BCCI
  - He was taking over from Sourav Ganguly to run the world's richest cricket board.
- ❖ Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has launched 'Football for All' in the state to take the culture of football to the grassroots.
- ❖ Senior ICAS officer Bharati Das takes over as new Controller General of Accounts.
  - She is the 27th CGA, the principal advisor on accounting matters to the Union government.
- ❖ Aman Sehrawat made history as he became the first Indian wrestler to win a gold medal at the U-23 World Wrestling Championships in Pontevedra, Spain.
- ❖ Cyclone Sitrang made its landfall in the southwestern Bangladesh coast.
- ❖ The 2023 Asian Cup football tournament will be held in Qatar.
  - The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) has announced this after China withdrew earlier this year.

- ❖ Asia's largest Compressed Bio Gas (CBG) plant was inaugurated in Lehragaga, in Punjab's Sangrur.
- ❖ 22<sup>nd</sup> World Blockchain Summit took place in Dubai in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).
- ❖ Reliance Jio surpasses BSNL to become largest landline service provider.
- ❖ World Sustainability Day is celebrated on the fourth Wednesday of October every year.
- ❖ Guinness World Records has officially declared “Monday” the worst day of the week.
- ❖ HDFC Securities, announced the opening of the first-ever Women-Only Digital Centre (DC) in Bengaluru.
- ❖ The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) granted Jeypore Airport of Odisha the license to carry out commercial flight operations under the regional connectivity scheme.
- ❖ Economist Dr Bimal Jalan authored the book “From dependence to Self-Reliance: Mapping India’s Rise as a Global Superpower”.

## **TAMIL NADU**

### **Nilgiri Sholakili**

- ❖ The Nilgiri Sholakili is found in high altitudes of the Shola forests.
- ❖ This is listed as endangered by the IUCN Red list.
- ❖ This species prefers to live only in highly threatened habitats and near streams.
- ❖ It seems to be highly restricted to only Shola Forest habitats, making it more susceptible to changes in its environment.



### **New catfish species**

- ❖ A new catfish species has been discovered by ICAR-National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources.
- ❖ The new species of catfish belongs to the genus *Pangasius*.
- ❖ It was found in Mettur Dam in Salem.
- ❖ The newly species is edible and the locals call it Aie Keluthi in Tamil.
- ❖ The holotype of this species is registered at the National Fish Museum and Repository of ICAR-NBFGR in Lucknow.
- ❖ The name of this species is registered in Zoo Bank – the online registration system of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.



### **Iron sword at Konthagai**

- ❖ An iron sword measuring 40 cm, the longest sword so far, was unearthed at Konthagai.
- ❖ It is a part of the Keeladi cluster near Madurai.
- ❖ It was found along with the grave goods, skeletal remains and black and red ware vessels in the urn.
- ❖ It was the first sword unearthed during the eighth phase of the excavation being carried out at Konthagai.





## Number of foreign visitors



- ❖ Mamallapuram, has beaten the Taj Mahal in the number of foreign visitors.
- ❖ As per the report, 1,44,984 foreign visitors came to Mamallapuram in 2021-22.
- ❖ The Taj Mahal, in Agra, occupied the second spot with 38,922 foreign visitors.
- ❖ Six of the top 10 monuments on the central list are in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ Taj Mahal, Red Fort and Qutub Minar are the top 3 most visited sites in India in 2021-22.
- ❖ The report also said the top five states for domestic tourist visits in 2021.
- ❖ They were Tamil Nadu (115.33 million), Uttar Pradesh (109.70 million), Andhra Pradesh (93.27 million), Karnataka (81.33 million) and Maharashtra (43.56 million).
- ❖ These five states accounted for about 65.41 per cent of the total domestic tourist visits in the country.

## Pegatron in Tamilnadu

- ❖ TN CM inaugurated the manufacturing unit of Pegatron that will make iPhones at the Mahindra World City, Chengalpattu.
- ❖ This is the State's second iPhone manufacturing facility.
- ❖ Pegatron is the third Apple vendor to set up its manufacturing unit in India after Foxconn (in Tamil Nadu) and Wistron (Bengaluru).
- ❖ The plant has been set up under the centre's Production Linked Incentive scheme (PLI).
- ❖ This plant was the fifth biggest electronics investment in Tamil Nadu.



### **Awards for Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2022**

- ❖ Tamil Nadu secured top positions in various category of awards for Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2022 and Jal Jeevan Mission Functionality Assessment.
- ❖ President Murmu handed over the first prize in the Functionality Assessment 2021-22 under the 'less than 60% coverage category.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu won the third prize for Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2022 in the big States category.

### **Swachh Survekshan national rankings**

- ❖ Chennai slipped a rank to 44 in this year's Swachh Survekshan national rankings among urban local bodies.
- ❖ It is ranked just behind Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike.
- ❖ Three Tamil Nadu cities managed to find a place on the list.
- ❖ Coimbatore was ranked 42 followed by Chennai at 44 and Madurai at 45.
- ❖ Last year, Chennai was at 43 and was ranked 45 in 2020.
- ❖ Indore has been ranked the cleanest city for the sixth consecutive year.
- ❖ The State was ranked fifth in implementing SUJALAM 1.0 scheme for water management.

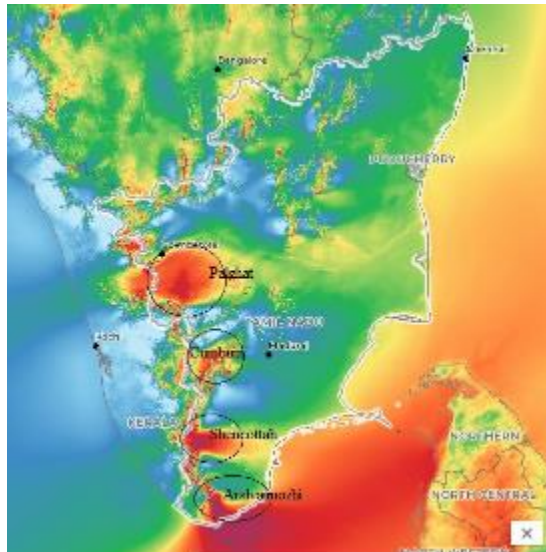
### **Chief Justice of High Court**

- ❖ The Supreme Court Collegium recommended transfer of Orissa High Court Chief Justice S Muralidhar as Chief Justice of Madras High Court.
- ❖ He practiced in the Madras High Courts before shifting to Delhi HC and Supreme Court.

### **Wind turbine generator**

- ❖ India's first 4.20-MW wind turbine generator has been installed at Vadalivilai near Valliyoor in Tirunelveli district.
- ❖ It has a single unit with the largest generation capacity.
- ❖ Vadalivilai is close to the advantageous Aralvaimozhi Pass in the Kanyakumari District.
- ❖ So far, the 3,000-odd windmills installed in the Aralvaimozhi Pass have the capacity to generate power up to 2 MW.

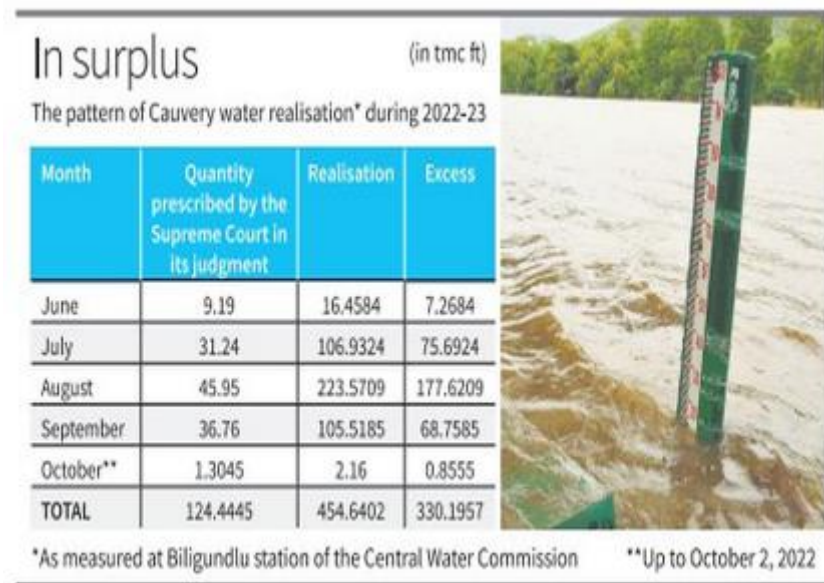
- ❖ The Centre had set the target of producing 500 GW of power through renewable energy sources by 2030.
- ❖ It had planned to generate 35 GW of solar and wind power each.
- ❖ Gujarat and Tamil Nadu would be the major players in the mission.
- ❖ Of the 500 GW, solar energy would account for 300 GW.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu has the potential to generate 35 GW of wind power, including 30 GW in Dhanushkodi alone.



## 450 tmc ft of Cauvery

- ❖ This year's southwest monsoon has smashed all previous records in the realisation of Cauvery water by Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ The total realisation is likely to cross the 500 tmc ft mark by May 2023.
- ❖ It was declared by the Central Water Commission (CWC).
- ❖ Only the CWC's calculations are considered because the reference point for measurement is the Biligundulu station, which is being maintained by the agency.
- ❖ Since 1974-75, the highest annual realisation was 455.4 tmc ft in 1975-76.
- ❖ It is the period of which was taken into account by the Supreme Court-constituted high-level technical team in 2016.
- ❖ The total approximate amount of realisation for 1978-79 was 400.6 tmc ft; 1980-81-442.9 tmc ft; 1981-82-417 tmc ft; and 2018-19-405.4 tmc ft.
- ❖ In the present year, the aggregate realisation crossed the 450-tmc ft mark in just four months.

- ❖ In those four years, southwest monsoon yielded approximately 291 tmc ft, 342 tmc ft, 299 tmc ft and 345 tmc ft respectively.




### India's first Slender Loris Sanctuary

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Government has notified India's first sanctuary for the endangered Slender Loris.
- ❖ The sanctuary, 'Kadavur Slender Loris Sanctuary' will come up in Karur and Dindigul districts under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
- ❖ The sanctuary will cover Vedasandur, Dindigul East and Natham taluks in these districts.
- ❖ Slender Loris is a small, nocturnal primate
- ❖ It is commonly found in the tropical scrub and deciduous forests of Southern India and Sri Lanka.
- ❖ These are tree animals, spending most of their life on trees.
- ❖ IUCN has listed them as 'Endangered'.
- ❖ Meanwhile, Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act of India, 1972, accords them the highest level of legal protection.
- ❖ Earlier, the Tamil Nadu government had notified India's first Dugong Conservation Reserve in Palk Bay, Kazhuvelli bird sanctuary in Villupuram and Nanjarayan Tank birds' sanctuary in Tirupur and the State's fifth elephant reserve at Agasthyamalai in Tirunelveli.



**11,806 ha in Kadavur**



- > Sanctuary in Karur & Dindigul districts
- > 1,176 Mysore grey slender loris & Malabar slender loris recorded in Karur & Dindigul districts, according to a SACON study
- > Highest in reserve forests of Pannamalai, Thanneerkaradu, Palaviduthi, Thopaswamimalai, Mudimalai, D Edayapatti, Mullipadi, Sembianatham

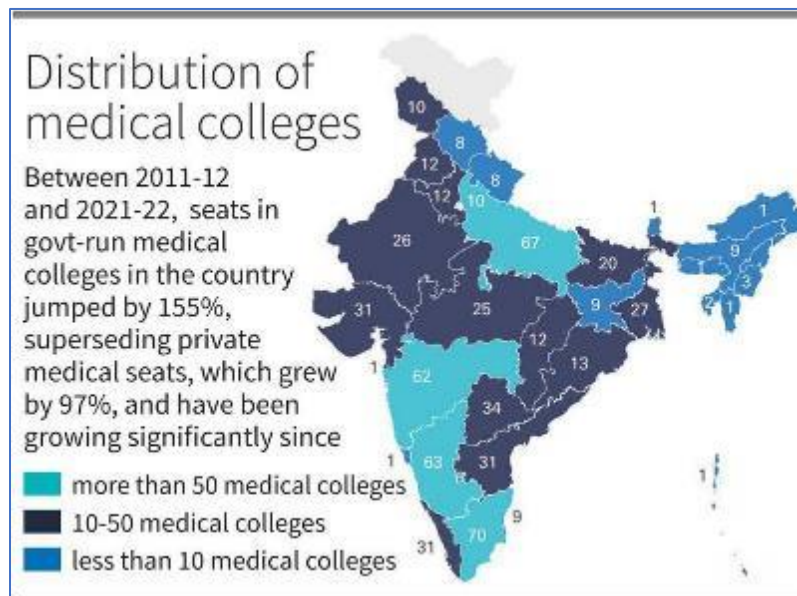
### **Jal Jeevan Target**

- ❖ Tamil Nadu has emerged as the only State which has achieved the target for 2022 Q1 and Q2 for Jal Jeevan Mission.
- ❖ Jal Jeevan Mission aims for assured potable tap water supply to every rural household by 2024.
- ❖ The percentage of households (55.63%) with tap connections in Tamil Nadu is higher than the national average of 53.96%.
- ❖ Of the 12,525 villages in Tamil Nadu, the State has reported 2,663 villages as 'Har Ghar Jal' villages.
- ❖ These are villages with tap water connections in 100% households.
- ❖ Over 85% of the schools in the State had drinking water facility.
- ❖ More than 83% of the Anganwadis had drinking water facility.

### **Highest number of UG medical colleges**

- ❖ India saw the average annual growth of medical colleges from 2011-12 to 2021-22 stands at 5.9%.
- ❖ It is the highest in the last five decades
- ❖ In 2021-22, Tamil Nadu (11.4%) and Uttar Pradesh (10.9%) had the highest share of both public and private UG medical colleges.
- ❖ They are followed by Karnataka (10.3%) and Maharashtra (10.1%).
- ❖ According to Health Ministry data between 2011-12 and 2021-22, the government MBBS seats jumped by 155% superseding private medical seats which grew by 97%.

- ❖ Data also indicates that the US, UK, Australia, Canada and Germany remained the top five countries with the highest number of Indian origin doctors.
- ❖ In terms of addition of private MBBS seats between 2017-22, the maximum increase was in Tamil Nadu (4,110 seats), Karnataka (3,004 seats), Maharashtra (2,775 seats), Gujarat (2,170 seats), Telangana (1,900 seats) and Bihar (1,525 seats).
- ❖ While the rural population was about 66% of India's total health workforce, only 33% was available in rural areas.
- ❖ Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Telangana, Kerala and Tamil Nadu accounted for about 20% of India's population.
- ❖ But they had 37% of India's total PG seats (17,038 out of 46,118 seats in 2021-22).



### CAA and Sri Lankan Hindu Tamils

- ❖ Madras High Court observed that the principles of the recent amendment to the Citizenship Act (CAA) of 2019 was equally applicable to Sri Lankan Hindu Tamils.
- ❖ The persecuted minorities from the immediate neighbouring countries, such as Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh, now have an opportunity to get Indian citizenship.
- ❖ Though Sri Lanka does not fall within the said amendment, the very same principle is equally applicable.



## Mission vultures



- ❖ Tamil Nadu recently launched mission to save critically endangered vultures.
- ❖ State level committee, which has a two-year tenure, will take steps for monitoring the conservation and recovery of existing vulture sites and mapping of vulture populations across the State for creating safe zones.
- ❖ It will work to eliminate the use of toxic veterinary drugs (Diclofenac), the main reason for vulture fatalities.
- ❖ Prevention of poisoning of cattle carcasses, the principal food of vultures, is also one of the responsibilities of the newly formed committee.
- ❖ 9 species of vultures are found in India.

- ❖ Of these nine species, 4 are listed as Critically Endangered species of Vultures and one as endangered species in IUCN red list.
- ❖ Four species of vultures are found in Tamil Nadu.
  - The Oriental white-backed vulture,
  - The long-billed vulture,
  - The red-headed vulture, and
  - The Egyptian vulture.
- ❖ The first three are residents and can be found in the landscapes of the Nilgiris and Sathyamangalam.
- ❖ There is evidence of Egyptian vulture breeding only at one site in Dharmapuri.

### **Kashi Tamil Sangamam**



- ❖ 'Kashi Tamil Sangamam' will be organized by the Ministry of Education.
- ❖ The 'Kashi Tamil Sangamam' is a month-long program that will be held from the 16th of the next month.
- ❖ It aims to rediscover the centuries-old bond of knowledge and ancient civilizational linkage between Varanasi and Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ The hosting partners of this event will be IIT-Madras and Banaras Hindu University.





## **NATIONAL**

### **Innovation Roadmap of the Mission Integrated Biorefineries**

- ❖ India has announced the launch of the “Innovation Roadmap of the Mission Integrated Biorefineries”.
- ❖ This announcement was made at the Global Clean Energy Action Forum in Pittsburgh in the United States.
- ❖ It aims to fill the void by identifying gaps and challenges in current biorefining value chains, prioritizing Eight key actions to support the Mission and guiding the Mission’s overall path in achieving its goal.
- ❖ By 2030, India agreed to reach 500-gigawatt non-fossil energy capacity, shift 50% of energy requirements to renewable energy.
- ❖ Reduce overall anticipated carbon emissions by one billion tons, reduce the carbon intensity of the economy by 45% over 2005 levels, and achieve net zero emissions by 2070.

### **Amazon's first solar project**

- ❖ Amazon is establishing its first solar project in India.
- ❖ Three solar power plants with a combined capacity of 420 megawatts (MW) will be built in Rajasthan.
- ❖ Along with Amp Energy, Amazon has also contracted to 210 MW and 110 MW projects with ReNew Power and Brookfield Renewables, respectively.

### **Arogya Manthan 2022**

- ❖ Arogya Manthan 2022 event was officially launched by the Union Health Ministry.
- ❖ It commemorates four years since the launch of the Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY) and one year of the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM).

### **Operation Megh Chakra**

- ❖ The operation code-named “Megh Chakra” is being carried out by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).
- ❖ It is following the inputs received from Interpol’s Singapore special unit based on the information received from the authorities in New Zealand.



- ❖ It is a pan-India drive against the circulation and sharing of Child Sexual Abuse Material.
- ❖ Searches at 59 locations across 20 States and one Union Territory were conducted.
- ❖ The probe had led to the identification of over 50 groups with more than 5,000 offenders, including the nationals of about 100 countries.
- ❖ A similar exercise code named “Operation Carbon” was conducted by CBI in November 2021.
- ❖ The rate of conviction under the POCSO act is only about 32% if one takes the average of the past 5 years and the percentage of cases pending is 90%.

### **Jaldoot app**

- ❖ The Ministry of Rural Development has launched the “JALDOOT App and JALDOOT App e-brochure” to capture the Ground water level in a better way.
- ❖ This app has been jointly developed by the Ministry of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj.
- ❖ This app will be used across the country to capture the water level of selected 2-3 wells in a village.
- ❖ This app will facilitate observing water tables across the country.
- ❖ And the resulting data can be utilized for Gram Panchayat Development Plan and Mahatma Gandhi NREGA Plans.
- ❖ The total estimated groundwater depletion in India is in the range of 122–199-billion-meter cubes.
- ❖ 89% of groundwater extracted is used in the irrigation sector.
- ❖ It is making it the highest category user in the country.

### **Popular Front of India**

- ❖ The Union Ministry of Home Affairs has banned the Popular Front of India (PFI) and its associations.
- ❖ This is made under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act for their links with terrorist groups and subversive activities.
- ❖ The ban was imposed based on the recommendations from the state governments of Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka and Gujarat.
- ❖ Now, the PFI has joined the LeT, JeM, al Qaida, SIMI and other extremist groups on the “banned” list.

- ❖ 8 organizations that are operating as affiliates to the PFI have also been banned.
- ❖ The PFI was founded in 2007 as a result of the merger of the three Muslim organizations from Kerala, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.

### Wall of Delhi

- ❖ The Minister of State for Culture Meenakshi Lekhi unveils the 'Wall of Delhi' mural depicting 75 historical sites.
- ❖ From the Mughal-era Red Fort to the British-era India Gate, and from Parliament House to the National War Memorial, a whole range of subjects have been displayed in the mural.



### Swachh Toycathon

- ❖ Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) launched the Swachh Toycathon competition.
- ❖ The competition will be hosted on the Innovate India portal of MyGov.
- ❖ Swachh Toycathon is a convergence between the National Action Plan for Toys (NAPT) 2020 and Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) 2.0.
- ❖ It seeks to explore solutions for use of waste in the manufacturing of toys.
- ❖ The competition is open to individuals and groups to bring forth innovation in toy designs using dry waste.
- ❖ For the initiative, the Center for Creative Learning (IIT Gandhinagar) is the knowledge partner.

## Real-Time Train Information System

- ❖ Indian Railways is installing Real-Time Train Information System to automatically track train movements in real-time.
- ❖ The RTIS was jointly developed by the Indian Railways and Indian Space Research Organisation.
- ❖ It is currently being executed by the Centre for Railway Information Systems.
- ❖ The train speed information is continuously delivered every 30 seconds.



## Indian Sign Language Dictionary app




#ShikshakParv

**INDIAN SIGN LANGUAGE  
DICTIONARY OF 10,000 WORDS**

(NEP policy on languages and Inclusion and Budget announcement of 2021)



**10,000 words Indian Sign Languages (ISL) dictionary** developed by Indian Sign Languages Research and Training Centre of DPwD.



**DOSEL has followed universal design of learning** and embedded text and audio in alphabetically arranged dictionary.



**Target Group:** Children and persons with Hearing Impairments (HI).



**Students and persons with (HI)** will have a ready reckoner for enhancing their language skills.



The signs in ISL popularly used across India would be available at one place, this will **facilitate standardization of ISL**.

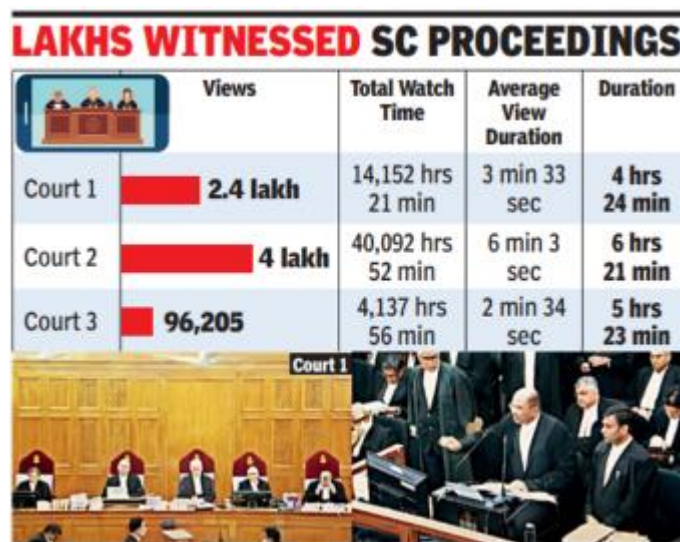


Will also help in teaching ISL as a subject.

- ❖ Government has launched the Sign Learn app to make Indian Sign Language usage more widespread.
- ❖ It was launched on the occasion of Sign Language Day (23<sup>rd</sup> September).
- ❖ It is a mobile application-based Indian Sign Language Dictionary having 10,000 words.
- ❖ It was developed based on the Indian Sign Language Dictionary of the Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre.
- ❖ In the application, all the words can be searched either in Hindi or English.

### Supreme Court proceeding live-stream

- ❖ The Supreme Court began live streaming its proceedings that people can watch on their mobiles and computers.
- ❖ Only three Constitution bench proceedings were webcast on YouTube by the National Informatics Centre.



### National Service Scheme Awards 2020-21

- ❖ President Droupadi Murmu presented the National Service Scheme NSS Awards for the 2020–21.
- ❖ 42 prizes in total were given out.
- ❖ The recipients of the honours were two institutions, ten NSS units, their programme officers, and thirty NSS volunteers.



## Committee to review pharma marketing practices

- ❖ The central government forms a five-member committee.
- ❖ It is aimed at considering a “legally enforceable” mechanism for regulating the marketing practices of pharmaceutical firms.
- ❖ V K Paul, member (health) of NITI Aayog has been chosen as the head of the committee.
- ❖ The committee is assumed to submit its report in 90 days.

## Tiger reintroduction



- ❖ National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) has given permission of shifting tigers to Madhav National Park in Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ In the first attempt, three tigers will be brought to Madhav National Park and thereafter two will be shifted.
- ❖ Tigers will be shifted from Panna, Bandhavgarh and Satpura National Parks to the MNP of Shivpuri.
- ❖ There were no tigers in MNP since the late 1960s.

## Mahakaleshwar temple

- ❖ Prime Minister inaugurated the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of Mahakaleshwar Corridor, constructed in Madhya Pradesh's Ujjain.
- ❖ The Mahakal corridor was renamed as Mahakal Lok.
- ❖ In the second phase, Buildings in Maharajwada will be redeveloped and connected to the Mahakal temple campus.
- ❖ A heritage Dharamshala and Kumbh museum will also be built.

- ❖ The temple in its present form was built by the Maratha general Ranoji Shinde in 1734 CE.



### **Buddhist Sites in Bandhavgarh**

- ❖ The Archaeological Survey of India discovered Buddhist caves and stupas at Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve in Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ 26 Buddhist Caves were discovered dating back to the 2nd and 5th centuries.
- ❖ They were pertaining to the Mahayana sect of Buddhism.
- ❖ The caves and some of their remains had 'Chaitya' (rounded) doors and stone beds typical of Mahayana Buddhism sites.
- ❖ 24 inscriptions in Brahmi text were, all dating back to the 2nd-5th centuries.
- ❖ The inscriptions mention sites such as Mathura and Kaushambi, and Pavata, Vejabharada and Sapatanaairikaa.
- ❖ The kings they mention include Bhimsena, Pothasiri and Bhattadeva.
- ❖ The remains of 26 temples dating to the Kalachuri period between 9th-11th centuries.
- ❖ Possibly world's largest Varaha sculpture also dating to the same period were found.
- ❖ The Kalachuri dynasty was spread over parts of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ It is also associated with the earliest Ellora and Elephanta cave monuments.
- ❖ Two Saiva mutts have also been found.

- ❖ Some remains of the Gupta period, such as door jambs and carvings in caves, have been found.



### Rollout of 5G

- ❖ 5G networks in India were officially inaugurated at India Mobile Congress 2022.
- ❖ Reliance Jio has also announced that other cities in the country will also get access to 5G services in a phased-out manner by December 2023.
- ❖ Airtel has announced that the telecom operator will rollout 5G services in eight Indian cities.



### Swachh Survekshan 2022 awards

- ❖ Indore was adjudged India's cleanest city for the sixth time in a row.
- ❖ Surat and Navi Mumbai followed it on the next two spots.
- ❖ In the category of best performing states Madhya Pradesh has secured the first position.

- ❖ It is followed by Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra.
- ❖ Among the states having fewer than 100 urban local bodies, Tripura has bagged the top rank.
- ❖ In the category of cities having population fewer than one lakh, Maharashtra's Panchgani was ranked number one.
- ❖ It is followed by Chhattisgarh's Patan (NP) and Maharashtra's Karhad.
- ❖ Haridwar was adjudged the cleanest Ganga town in the category of more than 1 lakh population.
- ❖ It is followed by Varanasi and Rishikesh.
- ❖ Bijnor was ranked the first among Ganga towns with fewer than one lakh population.
- ❖ It is followed by Kannauj and Garhmukhteshwar respectively.
- ❖ Maharashtra's Deolali was adjudged the country's cleanest Cantonment Board.

## Ranking cleanliness

The tables list the top six urban local bodies (ULBs) and the best performing States according to Swachh Survekshan, 2022. Indore retained the tag of India's cleanest city for the sixth consecutive time, while Madhya Pradesh is ranked first among States

Ranking of urban local bodies (with more than 1 lakh population)

City	State	Rank
Indore	Madhya Pradesh	1
Surat	Gujarat	2
Navi Mumbai	Maharashtra	3
Visakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh	4
Vijayawada	Andhra Pradesh	5
Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh	6

Source: Swachh Survekshan 2022

Best performing States (>100 ULBs)

Rank	State
1	Madhya Pradesh
2	Chhattisgarh
3	Maharashtra

(< 100 ULBs)

1	Tripura
2	Jharkhand
3	Uttarakhand



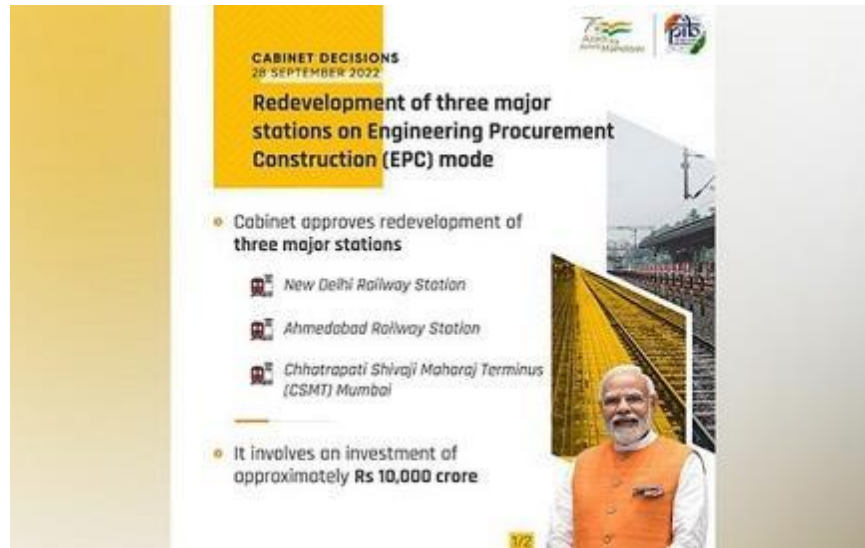
## Registration of IMEI Number

- ❖ The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has made it mandatory for mobile phone manufacturers to register the IMEI of all handsets made in India with the government.
- ❖ The International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI) is the 15-digit numbers that uniquely identify each mobile device.
- ❖ Importers too will have to register with the government the IMEI number of each phone before importing it.
- ❖ The Communications Ministry had earlier rolled out a Central Equipment Identity Register.



- ❖ The identity register categorises mobile phones based on their IMEI status in three lists – white, grey and black.

## Redevelopment of railway stations



- ❖ The Union Cabinet approved the redevelopment of three major railway stations.
- ❖ The 3 stations are – New Delhi, Ahmedabad and Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (CSMT) Mumbai.
- ❖ Under this, these stations will be equipped with modern infrastructure and have improved facilities.

## Clean India 2.0 Programme



- ❖ The Department of Youth Affairs of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports launched a month-long nationwide Clean India 2.0.
- ❖ This programme will be launched to collect waste material mainly single-use plastic and create awareness among people.



- ❖ One crore kilogram of waste material including plastic and e-waste will be collected and disposed off with the support and voluntary participation of citizens.

### Extension of PMGKAY Scheme



- ❖ Union Cabinet has approved the extension for the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY-Phase VII) for a further period of 3 months.
- ❖ Under this welfare scheme, 5 kg of food grain per person per month is provided free of cost.
- ❖ So far, PMGKAY has been in operation for 25 months since April 2020.

### Equal abortion rights

- ❖ The Supreme Court has allowed all women in the country, regardless of marital status, can undergo an abortion up to 24 weeks into pregnancy to access safe and legal abortion care.
- ❖ It has ruled over a 51-year-old abortion law (Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act of 1971).
- ❖ This act bars unmarried women from terminating pregnancies which are up to 24-weeks old.
- ❖ The latest amendment to the MTP Act was made in 2021.
- ❖ Until the 1960s, abortion was illegal in India and a woman could face three years of imprisonment and/or a fine under Section 312 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).
- ❖ Based on the report of the Shanti Lal Shah Committee, a medical termination bill was passed in August 1971.

- ❖ The Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) Act, 1971 came into force on 1st of April 1972.
- ❖ It is applied to whole of India except the state of Jammu and Kashmir.



### Revival of Sukapaika River

- ❖ The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has directed the state government of Odisha to revive Sukapaika River within 6 months.
- ❖ It is a tributary of Mahanadi River.
- ❖ The NGT alleged that the Sukapaika river in Cuttack district became dead because of the closure of its mouth in the 1950s.

### Telecom Technology Development Fund scheme



- ❖ Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) recently launched Telecom Technology Development Fund scheme.

- ❖ It aims to fund R&D in rural-specific communication technology applications and form synergies among academia, start-ups, research institutes, and the industry to build and develop the telecom ecosystem.
- ❖ The scheme entails grants to Indian entities to encourage and induct indigenous technologies tailor-made to meet domestic needs.

### **World's first CNG terminal**

- ❖ Prime Minister laid foundation stone for the world's first CNG terminal in Gujarat.
- ❖ This large terminal can handle 1.5 million metric tonnes each year.
- ❖ It is being implemented using a public-private-partnership approach.



### **Operation GARUDA**

- ❖ The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) carried out a widespread operation - Operation Garuda.
- ❖ It aims to “disrupt, degrade and dismantle” drug networks with international links.
- ❖ It works along with the Interpol and state police to bust drug cartels.



## 6 Airbags in cars

- ❖ The Centre has made a minimum of six airbags in passenger vehicles mandatory from October 2023.
- ❖ This is applicable to all motor vehicles, irrespective of their cost and variants, is the foremost priority.
- ❖ The Transport Ministry had earlier mandated six airbags in vehicles that can carry up to eight passengers from October 1, 2022.
- ❖ The Ministry also had issued a draft notification seeking to amend the Central Motor Vehicles Rules (CMVR), 1989, to include the airbag mandate for car-makers.

## Vande Bharat 2.0

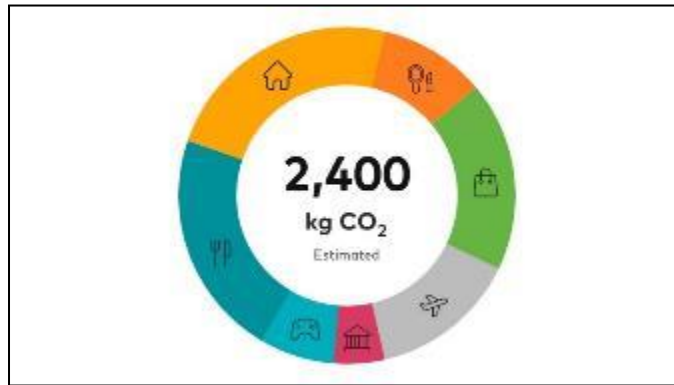


- ❖ Prime Minister flagged off Gandhinagar - Mumbai Vande Bharat Express at Gujarat's Gandhinagar station.
- ❖ This new Vande Bharat Express, which connects the capital cities of Maharashtra and Gujarat, is the third Vande Bharat Express in India.
- ❖ It was first introduced on the New Delhi-Varanasi route.
- ❖ The second one was on New Delhi-Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra route.
- ❖ Vande Bharat Express 2.0 will provide passengers aircraft-like services and safety features including Kavach technology.
- ❖ It is an indigenously developed Train Collision Avoidance System.

## Carbon calculator

- ❖ Mastercard, a global payment and technology company is set to launch Carbon Calculator features.
- ❖ Carbon Calculator is a service that will be provided to banks.
- ❖ It is a personalized carbon footprint tracker.

- ❖ That can tell consumers the cumulative effect of carbon footprint across various spending categories in a month.
- ❖ It has already been launched in several countries.
- ❖ Now it will be launched in India too.



### **Extension of AFSPA**

- ❖ The Central government has extended the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) in three districts of Arunachal Pradesh and nine districts of Nagaland for six months.
- ❖ The AFSPA gives armed forces the power to prohibit a gathering of five or more people in a "disturbed area".
- ❖ It also allows security personnel to use force and even open fire after due warning in the case of a breach of law and order.

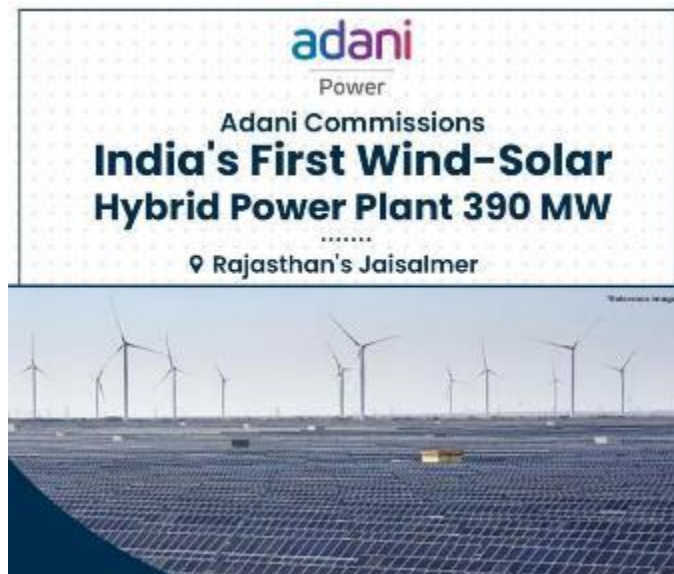




### **6th Edition of India Mobile congress**

- ❖ 6th edition of Asia's largest telecom festival India Mobile Congress held in Delhi.
- ❖ It discussed the latest industry technology trends around major themes such as SG, Artificial Intelligence (AI), Internet of things (IoT) etc.
- ❖ It was Organised by Department of Telecommunications and Cellular Operators Association of India

### **World's largest hybrid power plant**



- ❖ Adani Green Energy has commissioned 600 MW World's largest Wind-Solar Hybrid power plant "Hybrid Power Plant" at Jaisalmer, Rajasthan.
- ❖ It is consisting of 600 MW Solar and ~150 MW Wind plants.
- ❖ The company operates the Kamuthi Solar Power Project which is one of the largest solar photovoltaic plants in the world.

### **India's first micro category drone**

- ❖ India's first micro category drone type certification was received by Asteria Aerospace Limited.
- ❖ This is certified for its indigenously designed A200 drone.
- ❖ Asteria's A200 drone has been developed for surveying and mapping applications in GIS, agriculture, construction, mining and other industries.
- ❖ Drones with an all-up-weight of 250 gm to two kg fall under the micro category of drones



## SC status for Dalit converts

**'COMPLEX, CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTION'**

<p>&gt; The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950, states <b>SC status can only be accorded to Hindus, Sikhs and Buddhists</b></p> <p>&gt; While BJP has been opposed to giving SC status to Dalit converts to Islam and Christianity, forming a panel suggests the <b>party is exercising caution against any legal pitfall</b></p> <p>&gt; Calling it 'a seminal &amp; historically complex sociological and</p>	<p>Constitutional question given its sensitivity and potential impact', govt's gazette notification says change in definition of SCs can only be done on the basis of a detailed study</p> <p>&gt; <b>Panel to also study changes Dalits go through on converting to other religions</b> in terms of their customs, traditions, social and other status, as well as discrimination and deprivation</p>
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Ex-CJI KG Balakrishnan will head the 3-member panel

- ❖ The centre has appointed a three-member commission, headed by former Chief Justice of India K G Balakrishnan.
- ❖ It aims to consider the possibility of granting SC status to “new persons who have historically belonged to the Scheduled Castes” but have converted to religions other than Hinduism, Buddhism and Sikhism.
- ❖ The commission will examine the matter in line with the Presidential Orders issued from time to time under article 341 of the Constitution.
- ❖ The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950, stipulates that no person professing a religion different from Hinduism, Sikhism or Buddhism can be deemed to be a member of a Scheduled Caste.
- ❖ The original order under which only Hindus were classified was later amended to include Sikhs and Buddhists.

## First solar-powered village

- ❖ Modhera in Gujarat's Mehsana district declared as India's first 24×7 solar-powered village.
- ❖ Modhera is the country's first round-the-clock solar-powered village
- ❖ It involved developing a ground-mounted solar power plant and more than 1,300 rooftop solar systems on residential and government buildings.



### **“Matdata Junction” awareness program**

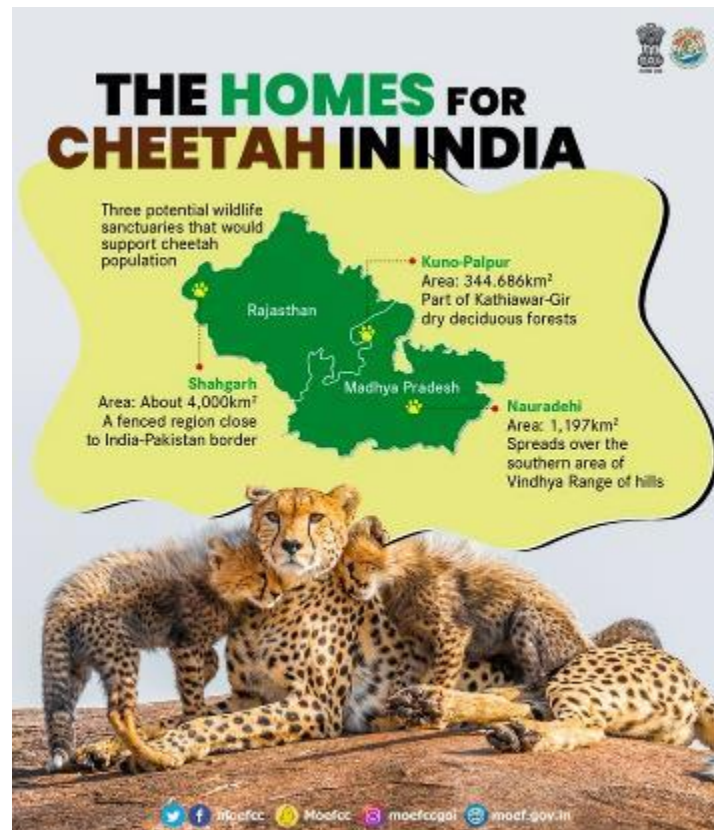
- ❖ The Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar launched a yearlong Voter Awareness Program ‘Matdata Junction’.
- ❖ The Matdata Junction is a 52-episode radio series produced by the election commission of India, in collaboration with All India Radio.
- ❖ The Matdata Junction aims to connect with the voters across the country with the help of radio.

### **Green Technology incubation facility**

- ❖ India’s first Green Technology incubation facility was opened at the National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar.
- ❖ The Department of Science and Technology is supporting a three-year initiative known as Inclusive TBI (i-TBI).
- ❖ Saad Parvez is the CEO of this first Green Technology incubation facility.

### **Cheetah Introduction Project Monitoring**

- ❖ The Center has established a 9-member Task Force to oversee the introduction of cheetahs in Madhya Pradesh’s Kuno National Park and other suitably specified places.
- ❖ The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) would support the Cheetah Task Force’s operations.
- ❖ The Task Force will be active for two years.
- ❖ The task force members will be interacting with Cheetah Mitras and local communities to raise awareness about their conservation in particular and an area in general.



### Sarthak initiative

- ❖ ‘Sarthak’ is a community-based initiative for the mental well-being of the elderly.
- ❖ Through this initiative, training will be imparted to nurses, healthcare workers and volunteers on geriatric mental health.
- ❖ The National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro-Sciences (NIMHANS) has collaborated with HelpAge India to train 10,000 mental health workers.

### Education 4.0 Report

- ❖ The Education 4.0 India report was jointly released by the WEF, UNICEF and YuWaah (Generation Unlimited India).
- ❖ It focuses on the use of Industrial Revolution 4.0 technologies in improving the learning outcomes and reducing inequalities in India’s education sector.
- ❖ As per the report, the school-to-work transition is the process of making students employable in a rapidly changing job market.
- ❖ Due to the lack of coordination, school-to-work transitions in India face significant challenges.



## Global Hunger Index 2022

- ❖ India ranks 107 out of 121 countries on the Global Hunger Index.
- ❖ India's score of 29.1 places it in the 'serious' category.
- ❖ India also ranks below Sri Lanka (64), Nepal (81), Bangladesh (84), and Pakistan (99).
- ❖ Afghanistan (109) is the only country in South Asia that performs worse than India on the index.
- ❖ It is annual report jointly published by Concern Worldwide and Welthungerhilfe.
- ❖ It is based on the values of four component indicators – undernourishment, child stunting, child wasting, and child mortality.
- ❖ The GHI score is calculated on a 100-point scale reflecting the severity of hunger.
- ❖ Where zero is the best score (no hunger) and 100 is the worst.

### Food for thought

India's score of 29.1 in the 2022 Global Hunger Index falls under the "serious" category in the hunger meter. It ranked 107 out of the 121 countries analysed below Rwanda and Ethiopia

		29.1			
≤ 9.9 low		10-19.9 moderate	20-34.9 serious	35-49.9 alarming	≥ 50 extremely alarming
Rankings	Country				
102	Rwanda	106	Sudan		
103	Nigeria	107	India		
104	Ethiopia	108	Zambia		
105	Republic of Congo	109	Afghanistan		
		110	Timor-Leste		

## LEADS 2022

- ❖ LEADS (Logistics Ease Across Different States) 2022 was released recently by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- ❖ States and union territories classified under four broad categories – coastal states, hinterland/landlocked states, north eastern states and union territories.
- ❖ It provides three performance categories
  - Achievers - states and UTs achieving 90 per cent or more
  - Fast Movers - states and UTs scoring between 80 and 90 per cent and
  - Aspirers - states and UTs with percentage scoring below 80 per cent.



- ❖ The 15 states and UTs that have been categorized as achievers.
- ❖ Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Chandigarh, Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Odisha, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand are placed in above groups.
- ❖ The fast movers in the latest report are Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Puducherry, Sikkim and Tripura.
- ❖ 15 states and UTs are categorized as aspirers.



## 50th Chief Justice of India

- ❖ Justice DY Chandrachud was appointed the 50th Chief Justice of India.
- ❖ He is the son of the longest serving CJI Y V Chandrachud who was the head of the judiciary from February 22, 1978 to July 11, 1985.
- ❖ He delivered path-breaking judgments on decriminalising same-sex relations after it partially struck down Section 377 of the IPC, validity of the Aadhaar scheme and Sabarimala issue.
- ❖ He is succeeding Justice UU Lalit, who is serving a short tenure of just 74 days.



### **PM-DevINE**

- ❖ Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North East Region (PM-DevINE) was approved recently.
- ❖ It was announced to address the shortfalls in Basic Minimum Services (BMS) in the North Eastern Region.
- ❖ It aims to remove the developmental gaps in the North Eastern Region.
- ❖ The scheme provides funding for infrastructure projects and social development projects that will help remove developmental gaps in various sectors in North-eastern region.
- ❖ The ultimate aim of this initiative is to boost livelihood opportunities in North-eastern region, especially for women and youth.



### **Fourth Vande Bharat Express**

- ❖ Prime Minister recently flagged off the fourth Vande Bharat Express train from Una.
- ❖ It will run between Una (in Himachal Pradesh) and New Delhi.
- ❖ The fourth Vande Bharat train is considered as an advanced version compared to the earlier ones.
- ❖ The Vande Bharat Express is also known as Train 18.

- ❖ It is a semi-high-speed, intercity, electric multiple-unit train operated by the Indian Railways.
- ❖ Other 3 routes are
  - New Delhi to Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra
  - New Delhi to Varanasi and
  - Gandhinagar to Mumbai Central



### **Official Language Committee's Recommendations**

- ❖ The 11<sup>th</sup> volume of the Official Language Committee was submitted to President.
- ❖ The committee recommended using Hindi as a medium of instruction in IITs, IIMs and central universities in Hindi-speaking states.
- ❖ High Courts in non-Hindi speaking states, where proceedings are recorded in English or a regional language.
- ❖ The same must make translations available in Hindi since they are often cited in judgements.
- ❖ Government officials and other employees in the central government not using Hindi in Hindi-speaking states will face consequences in the Annual Performance Assessment Report (APAR).
- ❖ According to the rules, Hindi is official language in A category states.
- ❖ Category B states is the states where Hindi is used less than 65 per cent.
- ❖ Category C states are those where the use of Hindi is less than 65 per cent.
- ❖ The Committee suggests fully using Hindi as a medium of communication in A category states, while other states can use regional languages.

- ❖ Its ultimate aim is to minimize the usage of the English language in official communication and increase the usage of Hindi.
- ❖ The Official Language Committee, headed by the union home minister, was set up to review and promote the use of Hindi language in official communication.
- ❖ It is mandated by Article 351 of the Indian Constitution.
- ❖ It was constituted in 1976 under Section 4 of The Official Languages Act, 1963.
- ❖ The first report of the Committee was submitted in 1987.

### **One Nation One Fertilizer**

- ❖ Prime Minister launched the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Urvarak Pariyojana - One Nation One Fertilizer scheme.
- ❖ Under this scheme, the all type of fertilisers, whether it is DAP, NPK or urea, will be sold under the brand name of 'Bharat'.
- ❖ This scheme has been started to provide cheaper and good quality fertilizers to the farmers under the Bharat brand.
- ❖ With One Nation One Fertilizer, farmers are going to get rid of all kinds of confusion and will get better fertilizer."
- ❖ He also inaugurated 600 Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samriddhi Kendras (PMKSK) under the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers.
- ❖ Under the scheme, the fertilizer retail shops in the country will be converted into PMKSK in a phased manner.



### **India's First Aluminum Freight**

- ❖ The Union Minister for Railways Ashwini Vaishnaw inaugurated India's First Aluminium Freight Rake – 61 BOBRNALHSM1 at Bhubaneswar Railway Station.
- ❖ It has been fully designed and developed indigenously in collaboration with HINDALCO, RDSO, and Bescowagon.
- ❖ Single Aluminium rake in its lifetime saves over 14,500 tonnes of CO2, 85% recyclable, 180 ton extra carrying capacity, lighter weight, lower maintenance, and longer life."



### **Hindi MBBS text books**

- ❖ The Union home minister launched the Hindi version of MBBS course books in Bhopal.
- ❖ Madhya Pradesh has thus become the first state to start MBBS course in Hindi.
- ❖ Initially, three subjects have been selected to be studied in Hindi- Anatomy, Physiology and Biochemistry.

### **Suspension bridge across Krishna**

- ❖ The central government has approved the construction of an iconic cable stayed-cum-suspension bridge across the Krishna River.
- ❖ This will be connecting Telangana and Andhra Pradesh and passing through the Nallamala forest range.
- ❖ This will have several unique features like the longest glass pedestrian walkway across a river, gopuram-like pylons, signature lighting and a large navigational span.

### **3rd top Fish Producer**

- ❖ India stands third in the world in terms of fish production.
- ❖ India is the 3rd largest fish producing and 2nd largest aquaculture nation in the world after China.



- ❖ Indian fisheries have witnessed a shift from marine dominated fisheries to inland fisheries.
- ❖ It is emerging as a major contributor of fish production from 36% in the mid-1980 to 70% in the recent past.
- ❖ Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) aims to bring about Blue Revolution through sustainable and responsible development of fisheries sector.
- ❖ The main motto of PMMSY is 'Reform, Perform and Transform' in the fisheries sector.

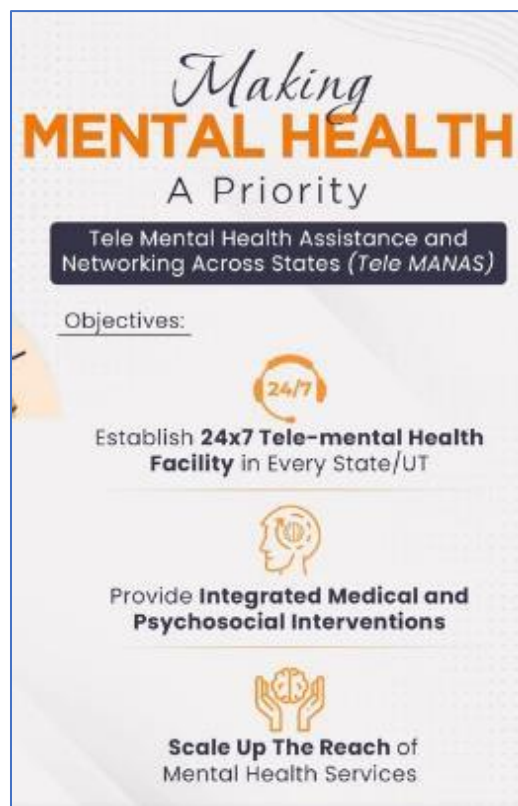


### **Flex-Fuel Car in India**

- ❖ Union Minister for Road, Transport & Highways Nitin Gadkari has unveiled Toyota Corolla Altis Flex-fuel car.
- ❖ It has been touted as first of its kind of pilot project on Flexi-Fuel Strong Hybrid Electric Vehicles (FFV-SHEV) in India.
- ❖ This project intends to examine whether ethanol-powered flex fuel vehicles can be viable in Indian conditions.
- ❖ Flex fuel cars can run on flexible fuels including ethanol, petrol, or blend of petrol and ethanol.
- ❖ These vehicles provide flexibility to switch engine fuel from petrol to ethanol.
- ❖ The vehicles can also power the engine from the battery and help in reducing the carbon emissions from the engine.

### Tele-MANAS initiative

- ❖ Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare launched Tele Mental Health Assistance and Networking Across States (Tele-MANAS).
- ❖ This is launched on the occasion of World Mental Health Day.
- ❖ Tele-MANAS aims to provide free Tele-mental health services all over the country round the clock.
- ❖ It aims to particularly cater to people in remote or under-served areas.
- ❖ A toll-free number has been set up across the country allowing the callers to select the language of choice for availing services.



### Creation of a weapon system branch

- ❖ On the occasion of the 90th anniversary of the Indian Air Force, the Centre has approved the creation of a weapon system branch for IAF officers.
- ❖ This is the first time since independence that a new operational branch has been created.
- ❖ This will essentially be for manning of four specialised streams of Surface-to-Surface missiles, Surface to Air Missiles, Remotely Piloted Aircraft and Weapon System Operators in twin and multi-crew aircraft.



### **90th General Assembly of INTERPOL**

- ❖ The 90th General Assembly of Interpol held in New Delhi.
- ❖ It is the world's largest police body with 195 members.
- ❖ The General Assembly is the international policing organization's top governing body and meets once a year to take important decisions.
- ❖ The General Assembly is taking place in India after 25 years.
- ❖ The last General Assembly held in India was in the year 1997.

### **Mission LiFE**

- ❖ The Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE) campaign was launched by Prime Minister at COP26 in Glasgow in 2021.
- ❖ United Nations Secretary-General (UNSG) Antonio Guterres joins Prime Minister at the launch of the Mission LiFE booklet, logo and tagline.
- ❖ This will be UNSG's first visit to India, since he commenced his second term in office in January 2022.



## National Intellectual Property Conference 2022

- ❖ It was organized by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade.
- ❖ The Theme of the Conference was 'Strengthening IP Ecosystem for Catalysing the growth of Knowledge Economy'.
- ❖ India was jumping from the 81st rank in 2015 to the 40th rank in 2022.
- ❖ The government wants to bring it within the rank 10 countries.
- ❖ Intellectual property refers to creations of the mind, such as inventions; literary and artistic works; designs; and symbols, names and images used in commerce.

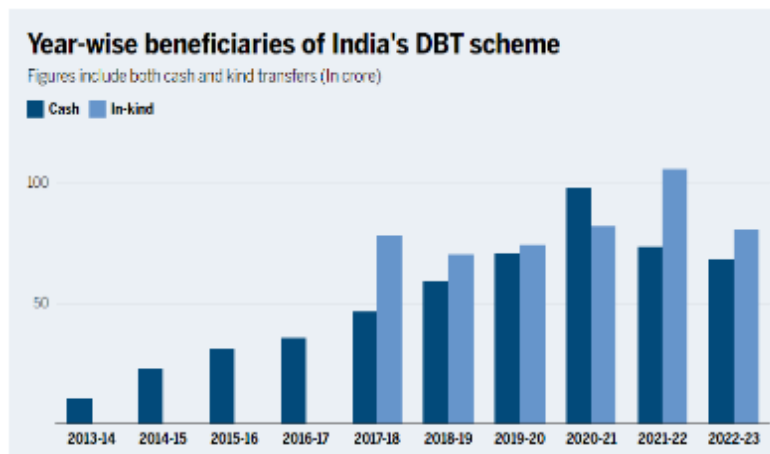
## Statue of Jayaprakash Narayan

- ❖ Union Home Minister Amit Shah unveils 14 feet high statue of Lok Nayak Jayaprakash Narayan at Sitabdiara in Saran district, Bihar.
- ❖ Jayaprakash Narayan is popularly known as JP or Lok Nayak.
- ❖ He was an independent activist, theorist, socialist and political leader.
- ❖ He was awarded Bharat Ratna Award in 1999 (Posthumously).

## Ethanol subsidy scheme

- ❖ The Centre has extended the timeline for disbursement of loans up to March 31 under the ethanol blending programme interest subsidy scheme.
- ❖ It was notified first in 2018.
- ❖ It aims to facilitate entrepreneurs to complete their projects while availing of government support.

## Logistical marvel



- ❖ The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has called the deployment of India's direct benefit transfer (DBT) scheme as a 'logistical marvel'.
- ❖ India has enrolled programmes which specifically target women, elderly and farmers.
- ❖ The backbone of the entire cash-transfer programme, Aadhar, was also hailed, as the director praised India's unique identification system.

### **Mumbai airport switch to green energy**



- ❖ Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport has entirely switched to green sources for its energy consumption needs.
- ❖ This was making it one of India's 100 per cent sustainable airport.
- ❖ This was the first in India to launch hybrid technology that solely runs on green energy since April 2022.
- ❖ It is the part of the airport's efforts that reduces its carbon footprint and further propels its journey towards 'Net Zero' emissions.

### **Offshore Security Exercise - 'Prasthan'**

- ❖ 'Prasthan', an Offshore Security Exercise, was conducted by the Eastern Naval Command in the Offshore Development Area off Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ It aims to integrate the efforts of all maritime stakeholders involved in offshore defence.



## Exercise PowerEX 2022

- ❖ CERT-In and Power-CSIRTs recently organized the cybersecurity exercise called PowerEX.
- ❖ The CERT-In hosted the cybersecurity exercise on its simulation platform.
- ❖ The objective of the recently concluded cybersecurity exercise is to “Recognize, Analyse & Respond to Cyber Incident in IT & OT Systems”.
- ❖ Theme of the exercise is “Defending Cyber induced disruption in IT & OT infrastructure”.
- ❖ It helped officials working in power sector utilities to learn, practice and respond to the cyber threats.



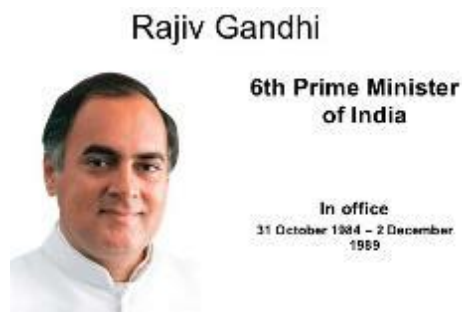
## Conference of Interaction & Confidence Building Measures

- ❖ The 6<sup>th</sup> Summit of Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) held in Astana, Kazakhstan.
- ❖ India is one of the founding members of Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia.
- ❖ The CICA is an intergovernmental forum aimed at strengthening regional cooperation and ensuring peace, security, and stability in Asia.
- ❖ The idea of creating the organization was first voiced by Kazakhstan's First President Nursultan Nazarbayev in 1992
- ❖ The first CICA summit was held in June of 2002.
- ❖ CICA members include 27 Asian countries, nine observer states, and five international organizations.
- ❖ The CICA Secretariat has been located in Almaty (Kazakhstan) since June 2006.

### **New Congress president**

- ❖ Veteran Karnataka leader Mallikarjun Kharge defeated his rival, Shashi Tharoor of Kerala.
- ❖ He has become the first non-Gandhi Congress president in 24 years.
- ❖ He is also the first Scheduled Caste chief of the grand old organization in four decades.
- ❖ This was the first election for the post of Congress president in 22 years and only the sixth major contest in the party's 137-year history.
- ❖ The first election for Congress President was held back in 1939.
- ❖ Mahatma Gandhi's candidate Pattabhi Sitaramayya had lost to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.
- ❖ Around 9,500 party delegates voted in the election.
- ❖ Kharge received 7,897 votes while Tharoor got 1,072 votes.

### **Multi-Disciplinary Monitoring Agency**



- ❖ The Indian Government recently disbanded the Multi-Disciplinary Monitoring Agency.
- ❖ It was set up to investigate the assassination of the former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.
- ❖ Multi-Disciplinary Monitoring Agency was set up in 1998 for two years under the Central Bureau of Investigation.
- ❖ It was setup based on the recommendations of the MC Jain Commission.
- ❖ Over 24 years of its functioning, the NDMA did not record any startling new findings about the conspiracy.

### **Migration Monitoring System**

- ❖ India's first 'Migration Monitoring System' has been inaugurated in Mumbai.
- ❖ The system has been developed by the Department of Women and Child Development.

- ❖ It is aimed at providing updated information on migrant pregnant women, lactating mothers and children instantly on a single system.
- ❖ The website-based Migration Tracking System (MTS) will track the movements of vulnerable seasonal migrant beneficiaries through unique identification numbers.

### 1<sup>st</sup> SemiconIndia Future Design roadshow

- ❖ The first SemiconIndia FutureDesign roadshow held in Gujarat.
- ❖ It aims to encouraging startups, next-generation innovators, and business titans to invest in semiconductor design.
- ❖ During the event, ISRO-tested and approved NavIC Receiver Chipsets also unveiled.

### Indus Waters Treaty Arbitration



- ❖ The World Bank has appointed a “neutral expert” and a chairman of the Court of Arbitration regarding the Kishenganga and Ratle hydroelectric power plants.
- ❖ India and Pakistan are locked in a dispute over the two projects that come under the 1960 Indus Water Treaty.
- ❖ India and Pakistan signed the treaty in 1960 after nine years of negotiations, with the World Bank being a signatory of the pact.
- ❖ The treaty sets out a mechanism for cooperation and information exchange between the two countries regarding their use of the rivers.

## MSP Hike

- ❖ The Cabinet has approved minimum support price (MSP) hike for all mandated rabi crops for marketing season 2023-24.
- ❖ The MSP for lentil (Masur) has seen the highest increase of Rs 500 per quintal.
- ❖ Rapeseed and Mustard has been increased by Rs 400.
- ❖ The MSP for lentil (Masur) has seen the highest increase of Rs 500 per quintal.

**CABINET DECISIONS | 18 OCTOBER 2022**

Crops	MSP for Rabi Crops (2022-23)	MSP for Rabi Crops (2023-24)	Increase in MSP (Absolute)
Wheat	2015	2125	110
Barley	1635	1735	100
Gram	5230	5335	105
Lentil (Masur)	5500	6000	500
Rapeseed & Mustard	5050	5450	400
Safflower	5441	5650	209

(Rs. Per Quintal)

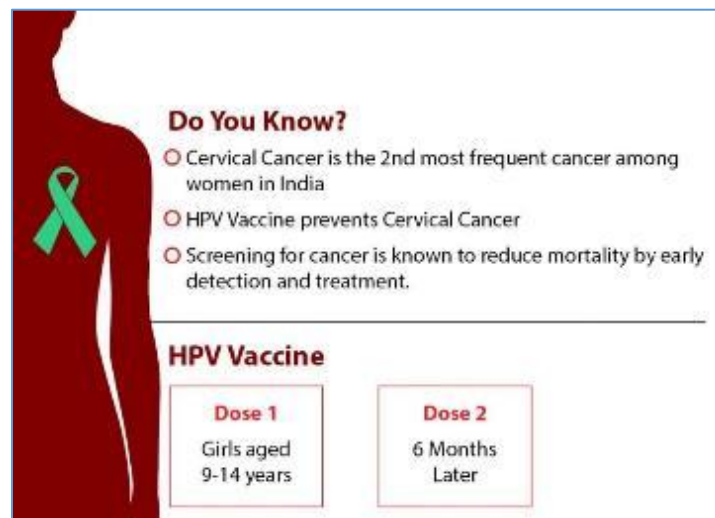
## Swadesh Darshan 2

- ❖ The Union Government is to launch Swadesh Darshan 2 with chosen destinations from 15 States.
- ❖ Fifteen States are part of the first phase which include Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, and Maharashtra.
- ❖ The initiative is being taken as part of the first phase of the 'Swadesh Darshan 2'.



- ❖ Some of the prominent places identified are Jhansi and Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh, Gwalior, Chitrakoot and Khajuraho in Madhya Pradesh and Ajanta and Ellora in Maharashtra.
- ❖ It is promoted as part of India's new domestic tourism policy which moves away from theme-based tourist circuits and focuses on revving up destination tourism.
- ❖ The Swadesh Darshan Scheme was launched by the Centre in 2014-15 for the integrated development of theme-based tourist circuits.
- ❖ The Swadesh Darshan scheme is 100% centrally funded.

### **Cervical Cancer vaccine**



- ❖ The production of India's first indigenously developed for the prevention of cervical cancer, will start in the first quarter of 2023.
- ❖ This is named as quadrivalent Human Papillomavirus (HPV)- "CERVAVAC" vaccine and developed by the Serum Institute of India.
- ❖ This was announced for the prevention of cervical cancer.
- ❖ 'CERVAVAC' is an outcome of a partnership of DBT and BIRAC with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, supported by Serum Institute of India Private Limited.
- ❖ The indigenous development of quadrivalent vaccine done through its partnership programme 'Grand Challenges India'.

### **Employment Outlook of India**

- ❖ The National Statistical Office (NSO) released a press note on Employment Outlook of the country.

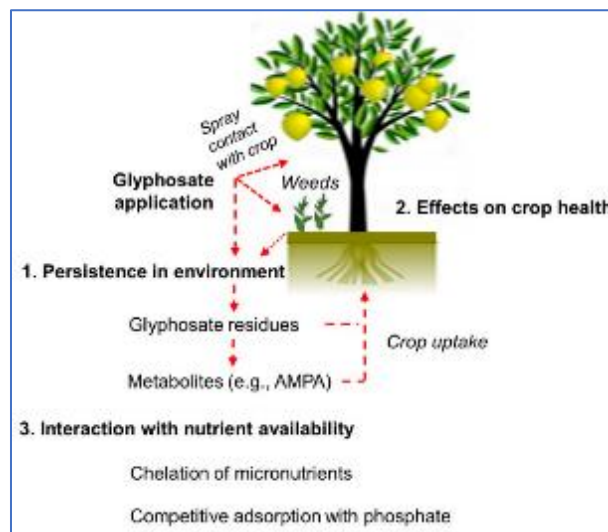


- ❖ This report covers a period between September 2017 to August 2022 to evaluate progress in various dimensions.
- ❖ The formal employment in India has witnessed a decline in August as per the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) and for the National Pension Scheme (NPS).
- ❖ The net new EPFO subscribers decreased 7.1 per cent from 1.82 million in July to 1.69 million in August.
- ❖ Compared to 1.58 million subscribers added in July, the ESIC reported an 8 per cent decrease to 1.46 million subscribers in August.



### **Ban of Glyphosate**

- ❖ The Central Government has finally put restrictions on the use of glyphosate, a weedicide, across the country.
- ❖ It is an herbicide, which is hazardous to human as well as animal health.
- ❖ Glyphosate has been majorly used in tea plantations in India.



## INTERNATIONAL

### Bread for all

- ❖ Dubai has introduced vending machines to distribute bread free among the poor.
- ❖ The vending machines have a computer touch screen and it allowing people to select different types.
- ❖ 'Bread for all,' is the text on the vending machines which would be of some help to hundreds of migrant labourers.
- ❖ Dubai has been impacted by rapidly rising consumer prices.
- ❖ Dubai Statistics Center said the food price index, rose by 8.75 percent year on year in July.
- ❖ UAE is home to nearly 8.7 million migrants, mainly from India, Bangladesh and Pakistan.



### Airport Service Quality Award 2022

- ❖ The Cochin International Airport Limited has been awarded the Airport Service Quality award 2022 by the Airport Council International.
- ❖ The award is considered to be the highest honour in the global aviation sector.
- ❖ The award is for its implementation of the 'Mission Safeguarding' programme, which ensured seamless traffic and reinforced passenger satisfaction in the aftermath of the pandemic.

### Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan

- ❖ Guidelines on 'Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan- Ranking of Cities' were released under National Clean Air Programme.
- ❖ It promotes ranking of 131 cities in the country for implementing City Action Plans prepared as part of National Clean Air Programme for reducing air pollution up to 40% by 2025-26.

- ❖ 131 cities are categorized into three groups based on population.
  - 47 cities are in the first group having population more than 10 lakh.
  - 44 cities are in the second group having population between 3 to 10 lakhs.
  - Third group consists of 40 cities having population less than 3 lakh.



**Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan- Ranking of  
Cities under National Clean Air Programme (NCAP)**

### **PM of Saudi Arabia**

- ❖ Saudi Arabia's powerful Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman has been appointed as the prime minister.
- ❖ The crown prince, known as MbS, is promoted from defence minister and has been the de facto ruler of Saudi Arabia.
- ❖ Saudi Arabia is world's biggest oil exporter and a major U.S. ally in the Middle East.



### **Operation Southern Readiness**

- ❖ India's INS Sunayna participates in the annual training exercise Operation Southern Readiness of Combined Maritime Forces (CMF).
- ❖ CMF is a multi-national naval partnership.

- ❖ India is not a member country of CMF.
- ❖ India will participate as associate partner in these exercises.
- ❖ It is a capacity building exercises conducted by Combined Maritime Forces (CMF).
- ❖ The training exercise is being attended by delegations from USA, Italy, Australia, Canada, New Zealand and ship participation from UK, Spain and India.



### **ICAO Joins International Solar Alliance**

- ❖ The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) signed a MoU with the International Solar Alliance (ISA) during the 42nd session of ICAO Assembly in Montreal, Canada.
- ❖ The event marks a new beginning for solar energy use in the global civil aviation sector.
- ❖ It will enable the solarization of the aviation sector across all Member States of ISA
- ❖ It aims to check the growth of CO2 emissions in the Aviation sector, leading to India's Net Zero Targets.

### **8<sup>th</sup> World Green Economy Summit**

- ❖ It is one of the leading global forums on the green economy.
- ❖ The summit was organised by the Dubai Electricity & Water Authority, Dubai Supreme Council of Energy and World Green Economy Organization in cooperation with WETEX.
- ❖ The summit was held under the theme 'Climate Action Leadership through Collaboration: The Roadmap to Net-Zero'.

## **Annexation of Ukraine parts**



- ❖ Russia annexed four Ukrainian regions.
- ❖ The 4 Ukrainian territories are Donetsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia and Kherson regions.
- ❖ Earlier, Russia organized a referendum on Russia's administration of these regions.

## **UNESCO-MONDIACULT 2022 World Conference**

- ❖ UNESCO-MONDIACULT 2022 World Conference held at Mexico.
- ❖ This is the third such conference.
- ❖ In the conference, Culture Ministers of more than 100 countries participated on this multilateral forum to decide on the global cultural discourse.
- ❖ The first Mondiacult World Conference on Cultural Policies, held in Mexico City (Mexico) in 1982.
- ❖ Next the UNESCO World Conference on Cultural Policies for Development held in Stockholm (Sweden) in 1998.

## **Resolution against Russia's annexation**

- ❖ India abstained on a United Nations Security Council (UNSC) resolution against Russia's 'annexation'.
- ❖ It condemned Moscow's "illegal referenda" and declared its annexation of four Ukrainian territories as invalid.
- ❖ The UNSC resolution was vetoed by Russia.



- ❖ The UNSC could not adopt the resolution as Russia — a permanent member of the UN Security Council — vetoed it.
- ❖ It was supported by 10 of the 15 members of the Council.
- ❖ China, Gabon, India, and Brazil abstained.



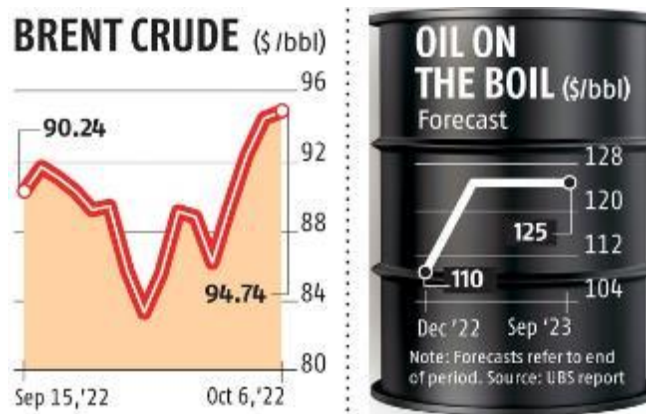
### **Anti - AUKUS resolution**

- ❖ China withdrew a draft resolution at the IAEA against the AUKUS grouping seeking to provide Australia with nuclear-powered submarines.
- ❖ The AUKUS (Australia, the UK and the US) security partnership was announced in last September.
- ❖ It would facilitate Australia getting technology to build nuclear-powered submarines.
- ❖ China argued that this initiative was in violation of their responsibilities under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).
- ❖ It also criticised the role of IAEA in this regard.
- ❖ There are 35 members at the IAEA including India.

### **Reduction in oil production**

- ❖ OPEC+ decided to cut oil production by 2 million barrels per day (bpd).
- ❖ This is the largest cut since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- ❖ OPEC was established in 1960 by founding members Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela.
- ❖ OPEC has since expanded and now has 13 member states.

- ❖ With the addition of another 11 allied major oil-producing countries that include Russia, the grouping is known as OPEC+.



### Burkina Faso Military Coup

- ❖ The West African country of Burkina Faso has been shaken by its second military coup in eight months.
- ❖ Captain Ibrahim Traoré is now positioned at the head of Burkina Faso.
- ❖ He seized the power from Lieutenant-Colonel Paul-Henri Sandaogo Damiba.
- ❖ Burkina is struggling with a seven-year-old jihadist campaign.

### Global Food Security Platform

- ❖ International Finance Corporation has launched Global Food Security Platform.
- ❖ It aims to strengthen the private sector's ability to respond to food crisis and boost food production.
- ❖ International Finance Corporation is the World Bank's private sector arm.

### Trade and Development Report 2022

- ❖ The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has released its annual Trade and Development Report.
- ❖ It expects the world economy to grow 2.6% in 2022.
- ❖ This is 0.9 percentage points below last year's projected rate.
- ❖ The growth is expected to further decelerate in 2023 to 2.2%.
- ❖ The report expects the Indian economy, the largest in the region, to grow 5.7% in 2022 and 4.7% in 2023.
- ❖ In FY22, the country's GDP grew 8.7%.



## Defense self-reliance

### ARMS EXPORTS & IMPORTS; MILITARY SPENDING IN INDO-PACIFIC REGION

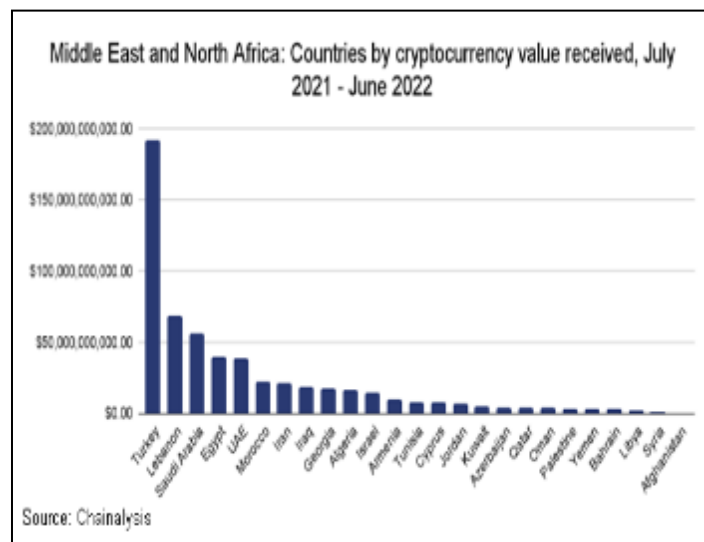
Country	Exporter rank*	Importer rank*	Largest supplier**	Military Spending 2021***	Spending rank****
Australia	3	2	US (69%)	31,754	5
China	1	3	Russia (77%)	293,352	1
India	4	1	Russia (54%)	76,598	2
Indonesia	5	8	US (23%)	8,259	9
Japan	14	6	US (97%)	54,124	3
South Korea	2	4	US (58%)	50,227	4
Malaysia	NA	16	Spain (32%)	3,830	13
Pakistan	13	5	China (72%)	11,305	8
Singapore	7	9	France (43%)	11,115	7
Taiwan	12	15	US (100%)	12,958	6
Thailand	15	10	South Korea (25%)	6,605	10
Vietnam	11	7	Russia (66%)	5,500*****	NA

\*Regional rank, 2016-20. Regional ranking is based on 44 jurisdictions in Asia and Oceania as defined in SIPRI databases. \*\*Share of total arms imports. \*\*\*Current US\$ mn. \*\*\*\*Regional rank, 2021. \*\*\*\*\*In 2018 NA: Not applicable.  
Sources: SIPRI Arms Transfers Database, March 2022; SIPRI Military Expenditure Database, April 2022

- ❖ India stands at fourth position among 12 countries of the Indo-Pacific in self-reliant defence production.
- ❖ This study was conducted by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI).
- ❖ It assessed self-reliance in arms production.
- ❖ China dominated the list leaving others behind by a long margin.
- ❖ After China, Japan and South Korea, India is ranked fourth.
- ❖ Taiwan, Australia and Singapore rank fifth, sixth and seventh.
- ❖ Pakistan is ranked eighth, followed by Indonesia (rank 9), Malaysia (rank 10) and Thailand (rank 11).

## World's fastest crypto adopter

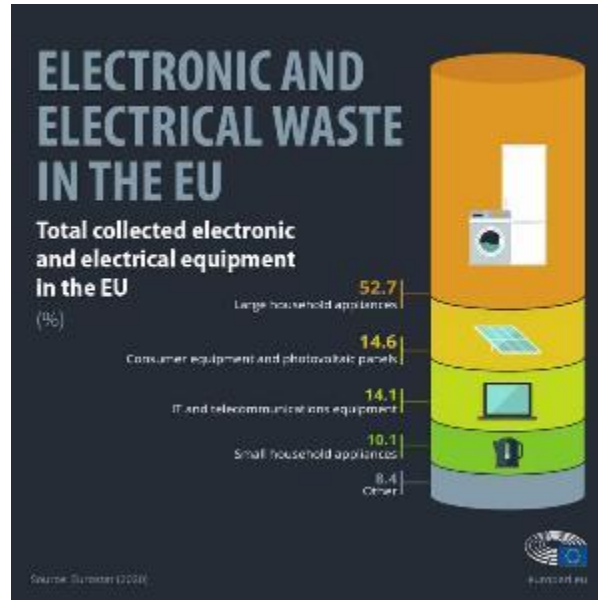
- ❖ The 2022 Global Crypto Adoption Index released by the blockchain researcher Chainalysis.
- ❖ It revealed that the Middle East and the North Africa (MENA) region witnessed 48 per cent increase in the volume of cryptocurrency received.
- ❖ This is the highest in the world.
- ❖ This region received cryptocurrency worth 566 billion between July 2021 and June 2022.
- ❖ Turkey currently tops the MENA countries by having highest value of cryptocurrencies received.
- ❖ After MENA, Latin America witnessed the second biggest cryptocurrency growth.
- ❖ It recorded a 40 per cent increase.
- ❖ It was followed by North America at 36 per cent growth and Central Asia, Southern Asia and Oceania at 35 per cent growth.
- ❖ The three MENA countries – Turkey, Egypt and Morocco – were among the top 30 in the index.



## World's first single charger rule

- ❖ The European Parliament has approved the new rule to introduce single charging port for electronic gadgets by 2024 in the European Union.
- ❖ It states that all new smartphones, tablets and camera will have a single standard charger.
- ❖ The new rules allow customers to choose between two chargers – one with and one without USB-C chargers while purchasing a handheld device.

- ❖ From 2026, the rules will be expanded to include laptops.
- ❖ The new law aims to minimise e-waste and empower customers to make more sustainable choices.



### **Manesar Anti-Terror Exercise 2022**

- ❖ India is currently hosting the multilateral anti-terror exercise 'Manesar Anti-terror 2022'.
- ❖ It is conducted under the framework of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS).
- ❖ Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) is one of the permanent organs of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation.
- ❖ It has its headquarters in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.
- ❖ The objective of SCO RATS is to facilitate cooperation and coordination against Terrorism, Extremism and Separatism.
- ❖ India assumed the chairmanship of the Council of SCO RATS in Oct 2021.

### **Resolution condemning Russian annexation**

- ❖ The 193-member UN General Assembly on voted on a motion by Albania that action on the draft resolution that would condemn Russia's illegal annexation.
- ❖ Russia had demanded that the resolution be voted upon by secret ballot.
- ❖ Moscow's demand for a secret ballot was rejected after 107 UN member states, including India.



- ❖ Only 13 nations voted in favour of Russia's call for a secret ballot while 39 abstained.
- ❖ Russia and China were among the countries that did not vote.
- ❖ Meanwhile, India has not yet condemned the Russian invasion of Ukraine and maintained that the crisis must be resolved through diplomacy and dialogue.

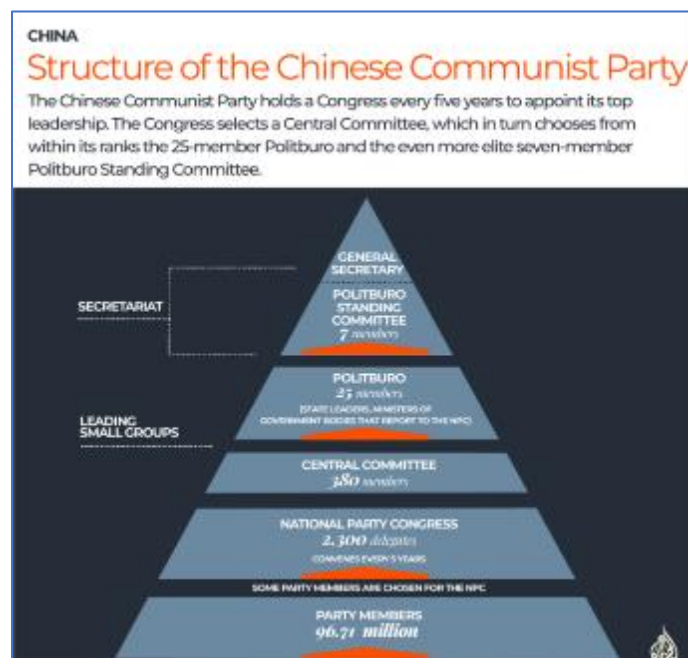
### Votes on the UN resolution to condemn Russia's "illegal annexation" in Ukraine

On Oct. 12, 2022

Yes No Abstain



## 20th National Congress of Communist Party of China



- ❖ The 20th National Congress of Communist Party of China amend its constitution and approve the country's policy directions for the next five years.
- ❖ This year's congress is the 20th since the party's founding in 1921.
- ❖ Chinese President Xi Jinping is expected to clinch an unprecedented third term as the party's leader and further cement his power.

- ❖ This includes, the appointments to the organisation's top-decision making bodies, the Politburo and the elite Politburo Standing Committee (PSC).

### Exercise "Steadfast Noon"



- ❖ The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), announced had started its annual nuclear exercise code-named "Steadfast Noon".
- ❖ Steadfast Noon involves training flights with dual-capable fighter jets, as well as conventional jets, backed by surveillance and refuelling aircraft.
- ❖ No live weapons are used.
- ❖ This exercise helps to ensure that NATO's nuclear deterrent remains safe, secure and effective.

### UN World Geospatial International Congress

- ❖ The second edition of the UN World Geospatial International Congress is being organized in Hyderabad.
- ❖ It is being hosted by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and convened by the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM).
- ❖ It is organized by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs.
- ❖ The theme of the event is "Geo-Enabling the Global Village: No one should be left behind".
- ❖ The inaugural edition of this event was held in 2018 at China's Deqing, Zhejiang.

### IBSAMAR VII

- ❖ INS Tarkash reached Port Elizabeth South Africa to participate in the seventh edition of India-Brazil-South Africa Maritime (IBSAMAR).



- ❖ IBSAMAR is an important part of IBSA trilateral defence cooperation.
- ❖ It is a joint Multinational Maritime Exercise between the Indian, Brazilian and South African Navies
- ❖ The previous edition of IBSAMAR (IBSAMAR VI) was conducted in Simons Town, South Africa in 2018.

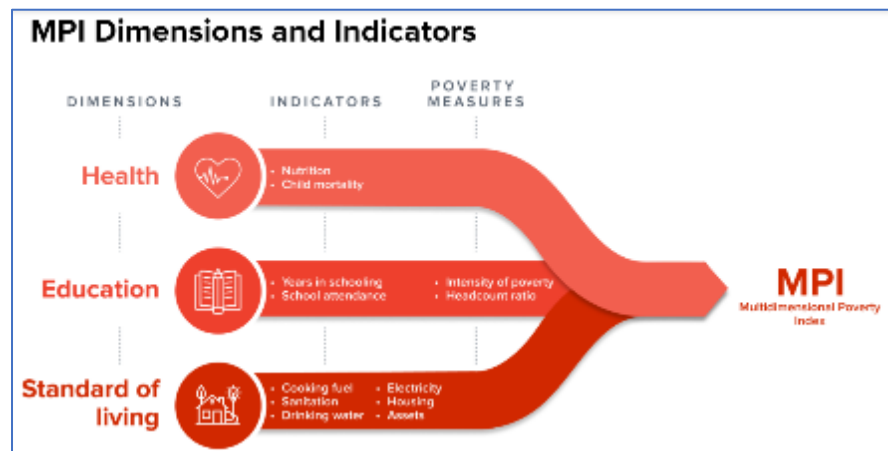
### **Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index 2022**

- ❖ The Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) 2022 was released by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI).

#### **Key Highlights**

- ❖ 1.2 billion people are multidimensionally poor.
- ❖ Nearly half of them live in severe poverty.
- ❖ Half of poor people (593 million) are children under age 18
- ❖ The number of poor people is highest in Sub Saharan Africa (579 million), followed by South Asia (385 million).
- ❖ The two regions together are home to 83% of poor people.
- ❖ India has managed to pull out 415 million people from poverty in the last 15 years.
- ❖ 22.8 crore in India still multi-dimensionally poor, of whom 9.7 crore are children.
- ❖ India is followed by Nigeria with 9.6 crore.
- ❖ Two-thirds of these Indian people live in a household in which at least one person is deprived of nutrition.
- ❖ The incidence of poverty fell from 55.1% in 2005/06 to 16.4% in 2019/21 in the country.
- ❖ As many as 41.5 crore people moved out of poverty in India during the 15-year period between 2005-06 and 2019-21.
- ❖ South Asia now has not the lowest number of poor people than Sub-Saharan Africa.
- ❖ The relative reduction from 2015/2016 to 2019/21 was faster - 11.9% a year compared with 8.1% from 2005/2006 to 2015/2016.
- ❖ Bihar, the poorest state in 2015-16, saw the fastest reduction in MPI value in absolute terms.
- ❖ Of the 10 poorest states in 2015/2016, only one (West Bengal) have emerged out of the list in 2019-21.

- ❖ Across states and union territories in India, the fastest reduction in relative terms was in Goa
- ❖ It is followed by Jammu and Kashmir, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan.
- ❖ The incidence of poverty fell from 36.6% in 2015-2016 to 21.2% in 2019-2021 in rural areas and from 9.0% to 5.5% in urban areas.



### **Sustainable Mountain Development Summit 2022**

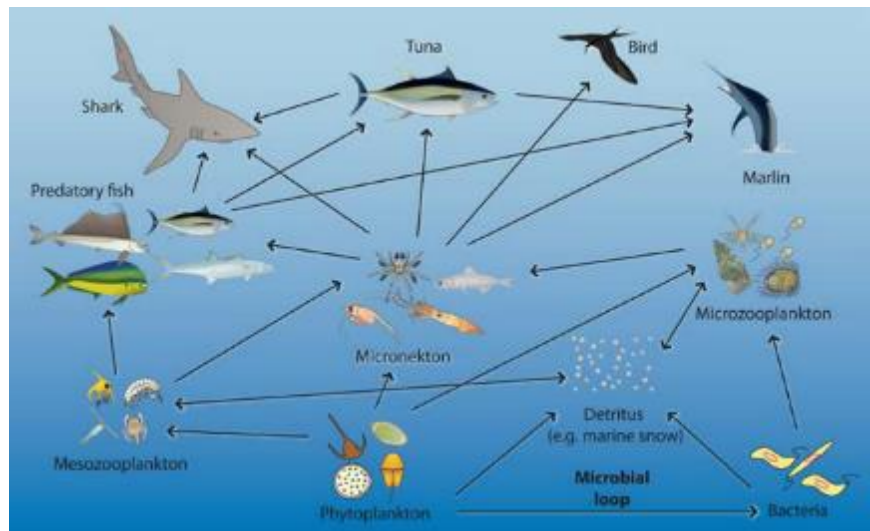
- ❖ Sustainable Mountain Development Summit-XI (SMDS-XI) was held at Leh, Ladakh.
- ❖ It is a flagship annual event of Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI), a civil society led forum working across the Indian Himalayan Region (IHR).
- ❖ The Indian Himalayan Region (IHR) comprises 10 mountain states, two union territories and four hill districts.
- ❖ The theme of the summit is 'Harnessing tourism for sustainable mountain development'.

### **Conference on B20 Indonesia Global Dialogue**

- ❖ The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) hosted Conference on B20 Indonesia Global Dialogue in partnership with Confederation of Indian Industry in New Delhi.
- ❖ B20 Indonesia Global Dialogue 2022 was hosted by India.
- ❖ It aims to aligning the perspectives of Indian industry with the policy recommendations of B20 Indonesia.
- ❖ Business 20 (B20) was formed in 2010.
- ❖ It is the official G20 dialogue forum with the global business community.

## The Trapping Zone

- ❖ Recently, Scientists discovered 'The Trapping Zone' in Maldives.
- ❖ This Trapping Zone is a new ecosystem, discovered some 500 meters beneath the surface.
- ❖ It is being referred to as 'as oasis of oceanic life'.
- ❖ The scientists spotted the ecosystem using the camera on the submersible named Omega Seamaster II.
- ❖ The survey revealed the presence of several mega-faunal predators like sharks and other large marine fishes that feed on micro-nekton.
- ❖ Notably, this is the first instance of such a high diversity of shark species being spotted in the deep sea around Maldives.



## UK PM resignation



- ❖ U.K. Prime Minister Liz Truss resigned following a failed tax-cutting budget.



- ❖ Truss was in office for just 44 days, making her the shortest-serving prime minister in British history.
- ❖ Earlier, Boris Johnson resigned in early July.
- ❖ Prevailing economic uncertainty is expected to further spook the markets in the world's sixth-largest economy.

### **World health Summit 2022**

- ❖ World Health Summit (WHS), an international health conference, is held in Berlin, Germany.
- ❖ This is the first time the World Health Organization has co-hosted the global health conference.
- ❖ The leading theme of the opening ceremony 'Taking Global Health to a New Level, stressed the need for exchange between scientific disciplines and science, politics and society'.



### **One Health Joint Plan of Action**

- ❖ A new One Health Joint Plan of Action was launched by the Quadripartite –
  - The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO),
  - The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP),
  - The World Health Organization (WHO), and
  - The World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH)
- ❖ The One Health Joint Plan of Action would develop a framework and integrate systems and capability to enable improved collaborative prevention, prediction, detection, and response to health hazards.
- ❖ This will support sustainable development while enhancing the health of people, animals, plants, and the environment.



### GI Tag for Nihonshu

- ❖ This is the first time a product from Japan has filed for a tag at the Geographical Indication Registry in Chennai.
- ❖ Nihonshu also known as Japanese sake is an alcoholic beverage.
- ❖ It is regarded as a special and valuable beverage made from fermenting rice.
- ❖ People traditionally drink nihonshu on special occasions, such as festivals, weddings or funerals, but it is also consumed on a daily basis.
- ❖ Thus, it is an integral part of the lifestyle and culture in Japan.



### **International Solar Alliance chair**

- ❖ India and France have been re-elected as the President and Co-President of the International Solar Alliance.
- ❖ Union Power and New and Renewable Energy Minister R K Singh has been re-elected as the President of International Solar Alliance.
- ❖ Chrysoula Zacharopoulou, France Minister of State for Development has been re-elected as Co-President.

### **New prime minister of Britain**

- ❖ Rishi Sunak created history by becoming the first Indian-origin Prime Minister of UK.
- ❖ He is replacing Liz Truss, the outgoing leader who only lasted 44 days in the job before she resigned.
- ❖ He is the UK's 57th prime minister.
- ❖ Both his parents are of Indian descent.
- ❖ Sunak will also be the UK's first ever person of non-white to lead the country, and first Hindu prime minister.



### **Xi Jinping's third term**

- ❖ Chinese President Xi Jinping has created history, becoming the first leader of the ruling Communist Party after party founder Mao Zedong,
- ❖ Xi's "election" for the third term in power formally ends the over three decades of rule followed by his predecessors, barring Mao, of retiring after a 10-year tenure.
- ❖ Xi was first elected in 2012 and will be completing his 10-year term this year.

## Global Youth Climate

- ❖ The Global Youth Climate Summit, a three-day summit, held at Ava Center in Khulna, Bangladesh.
- ❖ It is one of Bangladesh's most climate vulnerable regions.
- ❖ The Global Climate Risk Index (CRI) for 2021, places Bangladesh seventh among ten countries that bore the cumulative impact of climate change between 2000 and 2019.
- ❖ But it accounts for a mere 0.56 percent of global emissions.
- ❖ Bangladesh was the first developing country to draw up a coordinated action plan in 2009 called the Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan.

## Change of Recognition of Jerusalem by Australia



- ❖ Australia has reversed a previous government's recognition of West Jerusalem as Israel's capital.
- ❖ The centre-left Labour Party government Cabinet agreed to again recognize Tel Aviv as the capital.
- ❖ They also, reaffirmed that Jerusalem's status must be resolved in peace negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians.
- ❖ Israel annexed east Jerusalem following the 1967 Six Day War and has declared the entire city as its “eternal and indivisible capital”.
- ❖ Palestinians claim the eastern part as the capital of a future state.

## Interpol Metaverse

- ❖ The Interpol Metaverse was launched at the 90th General Assembly held in New Delhi.

- ❖ This is the world's first metaverse specifically designed for law enforcement.
- ❖ It enables the registered users to take virtual tour of Interpol's general secretariat headquarters in Lyon, France to interact with other officers through their avatars.
- ❖ It also provides training courses on forensic investigation and other policing skills.
- ❖ It is currently fully operational for use by law enforcement officials from 195 member countries of the Interpol.



### **Solar Facility**

- ❖ To bolster investments in solar power projects, the International Solar Alliance (ISA), approved the 'Solar Facility'.
- ❖ It is a payment guarantee mechanism expected to stimulate investments into solar projects through two financial components.
  - A Solar Payment Guarantee Fund and
  - Solar Insurance Fund.

### **Israel and Lebanon agreement**

- ❖ Israel and Lebanon finalized an agreement defining their maritime borders in the Mediterranean.
- ❖ This is United States-brokered deal at the United Nations mission on the land border between the countries.
- ❖ This agreement settles a years-long maritime border dispute involving major oil and gas fields in the Mediterranean.





## WHO fungal priority pathogens list

- ❖ The World Health Organisation (WHO) released the first-ever list of fungal infections -- "priority pathogens".
- ❖ The fungal priority pathogens list (FPPL) includes 19 fungi that represent the greatest threat to human health.
- ❖ The WHO FPPL is divided into three categories - critical, high and medium priority.
- ❖ These fungal pathogens are ranked in each priority category based on their impact on public health and/or emerging antifungal resistance risk.
- ❖ The critical group includes *Candida auris*, which is a highly drug-resistant fungi, *Cryptococcus neoformans*, *Aspergillus fumigatus*, and *Candida albicans*.

Fig. 1. WHO fungal priority pathogens list (WHO FPPL)





## **ECONOMY**

### **Asian Palm Oil Alliance**

- ❖ India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal have come together to form the Asian Palm Oil Alliance (APOA).
- ❖ APOA held its first general body meeting on the side-lines of the Globoil Summit being held at Agra, India.
- ❖ Next meeting is expected to be held in Indonesia early next year 2023.
- ❖ Globoil Summit is one of the World's Leading Edible Oils and Agri Trade Conference, Exhibitions & Awards.
- ❖ 2022 also marks the 25th year celebration of Globoil India.
- ❖ Indonesia and Malaysia together account for almost 90% of the global palm oil production.
- ❖ Top consumers of the commodity are India, China, and the European Union.
- ❖ India is the largest importer of palm oil in Asia, accounting for 15% of global imports.
- ❖ India is followed by China (9%), Pakistan (4%) and Bangladesh (2%).

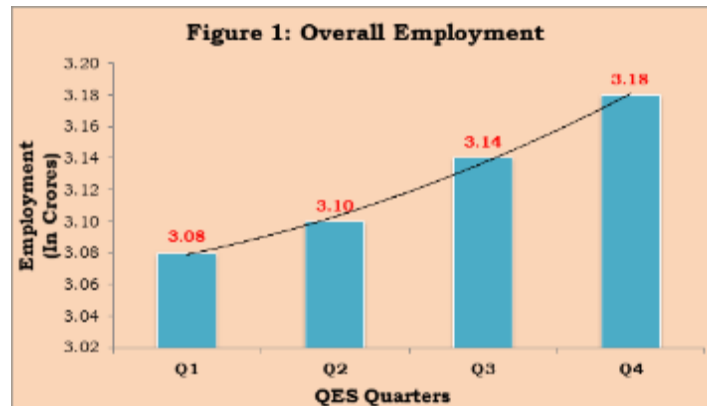
### **100 percent digitization of banking operations**

- ❖ Leh has achieved 100 per cent digitization of banking operations.
- ❖ Digital Banking refers to the electronic banking service provided by a bank for its financial, banking and other transactions through electronic devices online.
- ❖ Thrissur district of Kerala became the first fully digital banking district of the country in August 2021.
- ❖ Kerala is also the first state in India to achieve the target of Financial Inclusion of having at least one bank account in a family.

### **Employment in fourth quarter**

- ❖ The fourth round (January-March 2022) of the Quarterly Employment Survey (QES) was released recently.
- ❖ It is a part of the All-India Quarterly Establishment based Employment Survey (AQEES).
- ❖ It claimed an increase of about four lakh workers compared with the third round of QES, which was done for the last three months of 2021.

- ❖ The Manufacturing continues to be the largest institutional employer in the country, employing about 38.5% of the workers.
- ❖ It was followed by education sector with 21.7%, IT/BPO sector with 12% and Health sector 10.6%.
- ❖ Almost 80% of the establishments engaged 10 to 99 workers.
- ❖ About 12% of the establishments reported fewer than 10 workers.
- ❖ Only 1.4% of the establishments surveyed reported at least 500 workers.
- ❖ The participation of women workers witnessed a marginal increase from 31.6% in the third quarter to 31.8% in the fourth quarter report.
- ❖ However, women workers constituted about 52% of the workforce in the health sector.
- ❖ While the corresponding percentages in education, financial services and IT/ BPO sectors stood at 44%, 41% and 36%, respectively.
- ❖ The survey said 86.4% of the workers were regular employees, and 8.7% were contractual employees followed by casual employees (2.3%) and self-employed (2%).



### **Extension of Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20**

- ❖ The current Foreign Trade Policy has been extended by six months due to currency volatility and global uncertainty.
- ❖ Currently, there are fears of recession in major economies like the United State and Europe.
- ❖ This has resulted in the rapid withdrawal of investments and foreign funds outflow in India.
- ❖ Geopolitical crisis caused by the Ukraine war, inflation and monetary policy tightening are weakening the rupee against the US dollar.

- ❖ Currently the USD is at a 22-year high and the Indian Rupee has hit an all-time low of 81.6 against the dollar.
- ❖ Hence, the current geo-political situation is not favourable for the adoption of long-term foreign policy FTP 2022-27.
- ❖ The Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20 provides the framework for increasing exports of goods and services and focuses on improving ease of doing business in India.



### **RBI's approval for rupee trade**

- ❖ UCO Bank has received the approval of the Reserve Bank of India to open a special Vostro account with Gazprom Bank of Russia for trade settlement in Indian rupees.
- ❖ UCO Bank, a Kolkata-based lender, is the first bank to receive this regulator's approval.
- ❖ Gazprom Bank is a Russian lender and one of the top three banks in Russia.
- ❖ It was set up by World's largest gas producer and exporter Gazprom to provide banking services for gas industry enterprises.

### **Ageas Federal Life Insurance**

- ❖ Ageas Federal Life Insurance announced that after Belgium-based Ageas Insurance International successfully acquired the 25% investment in the life insurance joint venture from IDBI Bank.
- ❖ It has become the first life insurance firm in India with a 74% stake held by a foreign partner.

### RBI raises repo rate

- ❖ RBI raised the benchmark lending rate by 50 basis points to 5.90 per cent.
- ❖ The latest repo rate hike has come in a bid to curb inflation.
- ❖ The repo rate or the short-term lending rate at which banks borrow from the central bank is now close to 6 per cent.

### Interest rates on small savings schemes

SL No.	Instrument / Scheme	Rate of Interest from 01.07.2022 to 30.09.2022	Rate of Interest from 01.10.2022 to 31.12.2022
1.	Post Office Savings Account	4.0	4.0
2.	1 Year Time Deposit	5.5	5.5
3.	2 Year Time Deposit	5.5	5.7
4.	3 Year Time Deposit	5.5	5.8
5.	5 Year Time Deposit	6.7	6.7
6.	5 Year Recurring Deposit	5.8	5.8
7.	Senior Citizen Savings Scheme	7.4	7.6
8.	Monthly Income Account Scheme	6.6	6.7
9.	Sukanya Samriddhi Account Scheme	7.6	7.6
10.	Public Provident Fund Scheme	7.1	7.1
11.	National Savings Certificate	6.8	6.8
12.	Kisan Vikas Patra	6.9 (will mature in 124 months)	7.0 (will mature in 123 months)

- ❖ The Government raised the interest rate for the Senior Citizen Savings Scheme by 20 basis points (bps), or from 7.4 to 7.6%.
- ❖ For the Monthly Income Account Scheme, it was by 10 bps, or from 6.6 to 6.7.
- ❖ The interest rate on savings deposits will continue to be 4 per cent per annum.
- ❖ Also, the following three schemes remains unchanged.
- ❖ The Public Provident Fund (PPF) will fetch 7.1 per cent.
- ❖ The National Savings Certificate yields 6.8 per cent.
- ❖ Rates on the girl child savings scheme Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana are 7.6 per cent.

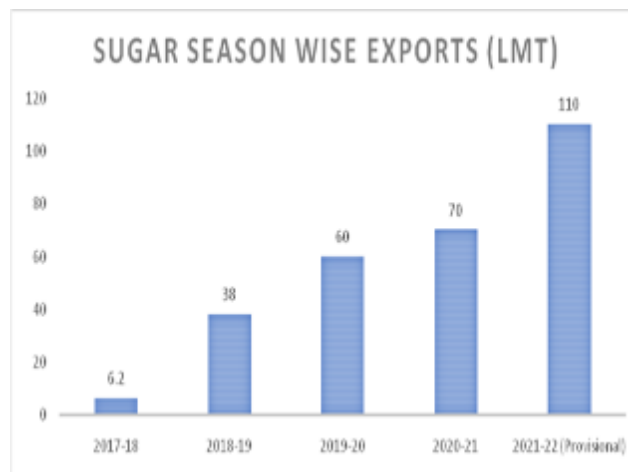


### **SBI - Gram Seva Program**

- ❖ State Bank of India launched the SBI Foundation's Gram Seva Program across six states of India.
- ❖ It will adopt 30 remote villages across India under the 4th phase of the 'SBI Gram Seva' Program.
- ❖ The bank will adopt remote villages across Aspirational Districts in Haryana, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, and West Bengal.



### **World's top sugar producer**



- ❖ The world's top producer, user, and second-largest exporter of sugar is now India.
- ❖ More than 5,000 lakh metric tonnes (LMT) of sugarcane were produced in the country.
- ❖ Around 3,574 LMT of sugarcane was crushed by sugar mills to produce about 394 LMT of sugar.

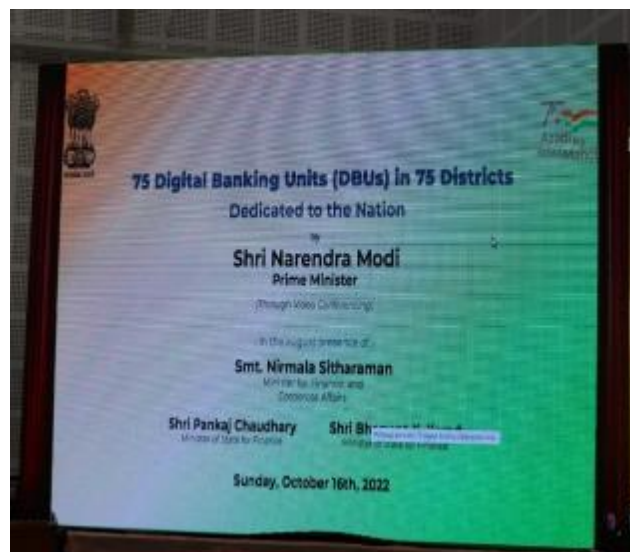
- ❖ 35 LMT sugar was diverted to ethanol production.
- ❖ And 359 LMT sugar was produced by sugar mills.
- ❖ India also recorded its highest exports of about 109.8 LMT with no financial assistance.
- ❖ Ethanol growth as a biofuel in the last five years has led to “better financial positions of sugar mills”.

### **Gross direct tax collection**

- ❖ Gross direct tax collections including corporate and personal income tax rose nearly 24 per cent so far in the current financial year.
- ❖ This includes a 32.3 per cent growth in personal income tax (including Securities Transaction Tax) mop up and 16.73 per cent increase in corporate tax revenues over the same period last year.
- ❖ The Budget had estimated direct tax collection at Rs 14.20 lakh crore this fiscal.

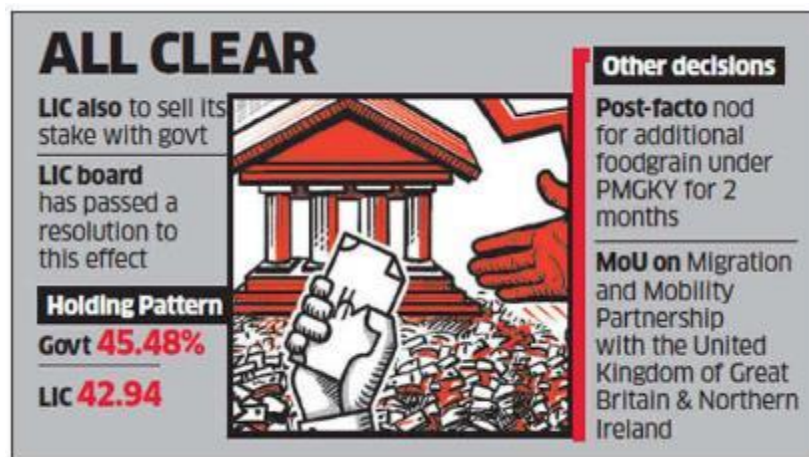
### **75 New Digital Banking Units**

- ❖ Prime Minister of India has dedicated 75 Digital Banking Units (DBU) across 75 districts to the nation.
- ❖ A Digital Banking Unit is a specialised fixed point business unit or hub.
- ❖ It is set up by scheduled commercial banks.
- ❖ It housing certain minimum digital infrastructure for delivering digital banking products and services as well as servicing existing financial products and services digitally in self-service mode at any time.



## **IDBI Bank disinvestment**

- ❖ The government has asked the Reserve Bank of India to consider tweaking the promoter criteria that may bring a wider pool of bidders for public sector banks.
- ❖ There are currently 12 public sector banks.
- ❖ The bank privatisation has come a cropper because RBI's norms are clear that no existing bank can promote a new bank, and the same promoter cannot promote another bank.
- ❖ The Budget for 2021-22 (Apr-Mar) had proposed privatising two public sector banks and one general insurance company.
- ❖ Privatisation of public sector banks will require legislative amendments.



## **Crypto-Asset Reporting Framework of OECD**



- ❖ OECD has announced a new Crypto-Asset Reporting Framework (CARF).



- ❖ The OECD framework provides for reporting and exchange of information regarding crypto-assets.
- ❖ The frame work will be presented to G20 Ministers and Central Bank governors.
- ❖ The crypto-assets are not comprehensively covered by the G20 Common Reporting Standard (CRS) and increases risk of tax evasion.
- ❖ Crypto-assets can be transferred and held without any central administrator having full visibility on the transactions/holdings.
- ❖ The crypto market has also given rise to crypto-asset exchanges and wallet providers many of which are unregulated.
- ❖ The framework contains model rules that can be transposed into domestic legislation.

### **India's third-largest export market**

- ❖ The Netherlands has emerged as India's third-largest export destination, ahead of China and Bangladesh.
- ❖ It has moved up two spots in the list of India's top ten export destinations since FY22.
- ❖ The US and the UAE continue to be the largest and second-largest export destinations.
- ❖ Brazil, occupied the 21<sup>st</sup> spot in FY22, is now India's 8th biggest export market.

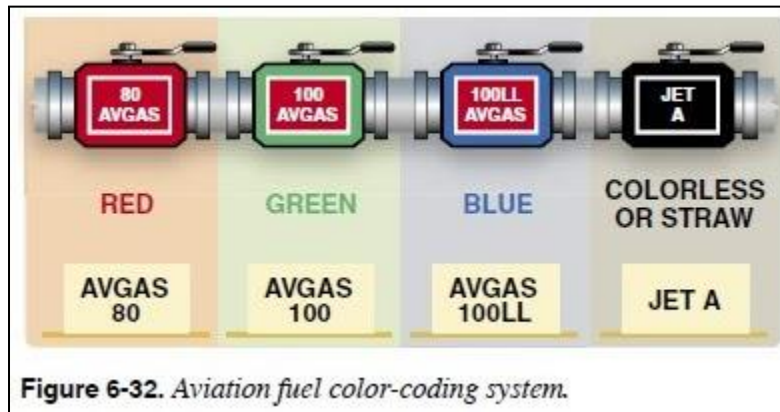
### **China's Trade Surplus with India**

- ❖ In 2021, annual two-way trade crossed \$100 billion for the first time, reaching \$125.6 billion.
- ❖ Now, China's exports to India climbed to USD 89.66 billion, registering an increase of 31 per cent.
- ❖ While India's trade deficit climbed to over USD 75 billion.
- ❖ India's exports in the past nine months stood at USD 13.97 billion, registering a decline of 36.4 per cent.
- ❖ As a result, the total trade deficit went up to over USD 75.69 billion.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### AVGAS 100 LL

- ❖ India launched an Indigenously developed special aviation fuel AVGAS 100 LL.
- ❖ It was indigenously developed by the Indian Oil Corporation for the piston engine aircrafts and unmanned aerial vehicles.
- ❖ This is a blue aviation gasoline with a high-octane number, which measures the fuel's ability to resist compression without bursting.
- ❖ India is currently importing the special aviation fuel from the European countries.
- ❖ It will be produced in Indian Oil's refinery in Vadodara, Gujarat.
- ❖ The Vadodara refinery currently has the capacity to cater to the domestic needs as well the export requirements.



### VSHORADS missile

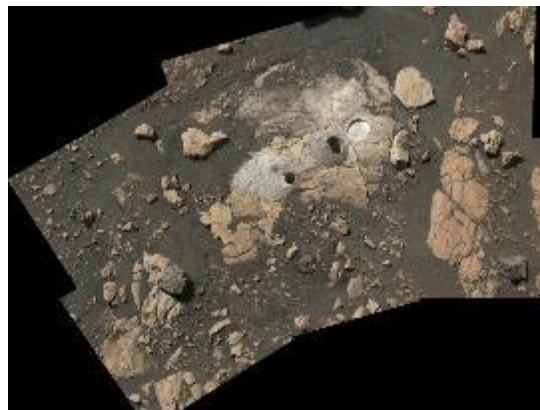
- ❖ The DRDO conducted two successful test flight of Very Short-Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS) missile.
- ❖ It is a Man Portable Air Defence System (MANPAD).
- ❖ This missile is capable of neutralizing low-altitude aerial threats at short range.
- ❖ It is propelled by a dual thrust solid motor.
- ❖ MANPADS are short-range, lightweight and portable surface-to-air missiles.
- ❖ It can be fired by individuals or small groups to destroy aircraft or helicopters.





## Organic matter on Mars

- ❖ The Perseverance Rover has collected several organic rock samples from an ancient river delta on Mars.
- ❖ These samples are currently stored for collection by future Mars missions that would return them back to the Earth.
- ❖ These rock samples have large concentration of organic matter, the highest concentration since the start of the mission.
- ❖ With the latest collection, the rover has now collected a total of 12 samples.
- ❖ One of the rocks the Perseverance collected was nicknamed as Wildcat Ridge.
- ❖ This rock was likely formed when mud and sand settled in a saltwater lake as it evaporated billions of years ago.



## **DART Mission NASA**

- ❖ NASA's Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART) is the agency's first attempt to move an asteroid in space.
- ❖ This world's first planetary Defense technology demonstration successfully impacted its asteroid target.
- ❖ DART targeted the asteroid moonlet Dimorphos, a small body just 530 feet (160 meters) in diameter.
- ❖ It orbits a larger, 2,560-foot (780-meter) asteroid called Didymos.
- ❖ Neither asteroid poses a threat to Earth.



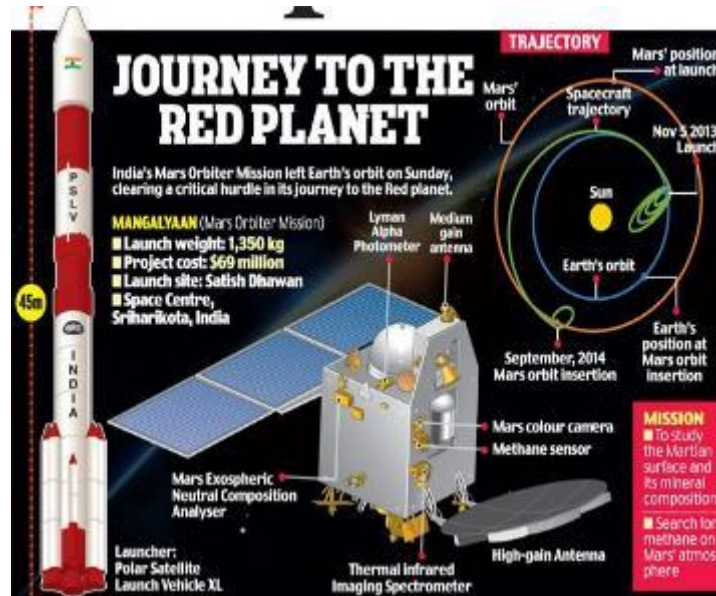
## **Light Combat Helicopter - Prachanda**

- ❖ The first indigenously-developed multirole light combat helicopters named Prachanda were inducted into the Indian Air Force.
- ❖ The name Prachanda means “fierce”.
- ❖ It was designed and developed by the state-owned defence company Hindustan Aeronautics Limited.



## Mangalyaan mission

- ❖ India's Mars orbiter has retired after 8 long years of work in the interplanetary mission.
- ❖ It was launched in November 2013 and successfully entered Mars' orbit in September 2014.
- ❖ It was designed to function for a mere 6 months but worked for a long 8 years.
- ❖ Before India's Mangalyaan, only the US, Soviet Union, and Europe Space Agency had explored Mars.
- ❖ Mangalyaan was a huge milestone which helped to study Martian landscapes including surface geology, morphology, atmospheric processes, surface temperature, and atmospheric escape process.
- ❖ Mangalyaan used 5 instruments for this task:
  - Mars Colour Camera (MCC),
  - Thermal Infrared Imaging Spectrometer (TIS),
  - Methane Sensor for Mars (MSM),
  - Mars Exospheric Neutral Composition Analyser (MENCA), and
  - Lyman Alpha Photometer (LAP).

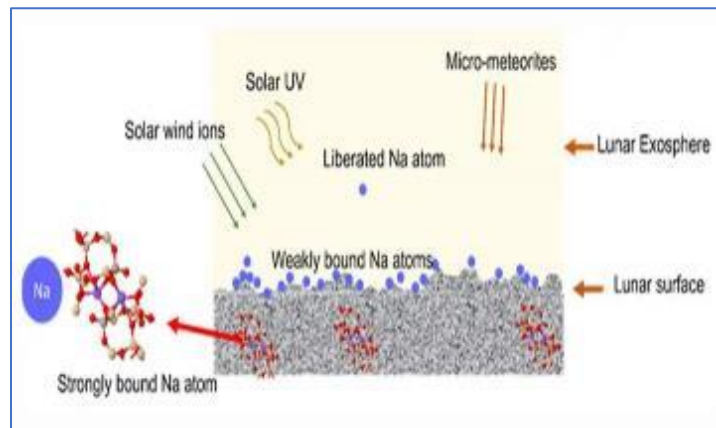


## Optimus robot's prototype

- ❖ Elon Musk has presented the latest prototype of a humanoid robot being developed by his Tesla electric car company.
- ❖ Tesla's mass-market robots will be tested by working jobs in the car factories.



### Abundance of sodium on moon



- ❖ The X-ray spectrometer 'CLASS' on the Chandrayaan-2 Orbiter has mapped an abundance of sodium on the moon for the first time.
- ❖ CLASS stands for Chandrayaan-2 Large Area Soft X-ray Spectrometer.
- ❖ These sodium atoms can be nudged out of the surface by solar wind or ultraviolet radiation more easily than if they were part of the lunar minerals.
- ❖ Chandrayaan-1 X-ray Fluorescence Spectrometer (C1XS) detected sodium from its characteristic line in X-rays.

### Space rocks hitting Mars

- ❖ The NASA InSight Lander has 'heard' and detected the vibrations of four space rocks hitting the surface of Mars over the past two years.
- ❖ This is the first time a mission has picked up both seismic and acoustic waves from an impact.

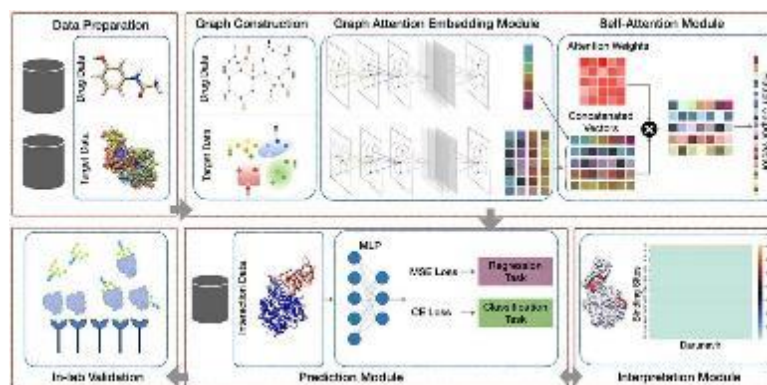


- ❖ It is also InSight's first detection of impacts since landing on Mars in 2018.
- ❖ The space rocks InSight tracked - one landing in 2020 and the other three in 2021.
- ❖ Mars is proximity to our solar system's asteroid belt.
- ❖ It is far more vulnerable than Earth to being struck by space rocks.



### AI based drug screening technique

- ❖ Researchers have found a new artificial intelligence-based drug screening technique.
- ❖ Using this technique, they gained up to 97% accuracy in identifying promising drug candidates.
- ❖ The technique reinforces drug-protein interactions through words for each protein binding site.
- ❖ It uses deep learning to extract the features that govern the complicated interactions between the two.



### Kuafu-1 telescope

- ❖ The Advanced Space-based Solar Observatory (ASO-S) was launched aboard the Long March-2D carrier rocket by China.



- ❖ It is nicknamed Kuafu-1, after a mythical giant that sought to capture and tame the sun.
- ❖ It will enable scientists to capture and study the previously unprecedented images of the Sun during the “solar maximum”.
- ❖ The solar maximum is expected to occur around the year 2025.
- ❖ The ASO-S is China’s first full-scale satellite dedicated to researching the Sun.
- ❖ It is the world’s first solar telescope capable of simultaneously monitoring both solar flares and coronal mass ejections.
- ❖ This mission is similar to NASA’s Parker Solar Probe and ESA’s Solar Orbiter.
- ❖ India is planning to launch a similar solar mission in 2023 called Aditya-L1 to research the solar atmosphere.



### ISRO's heaviest rocket

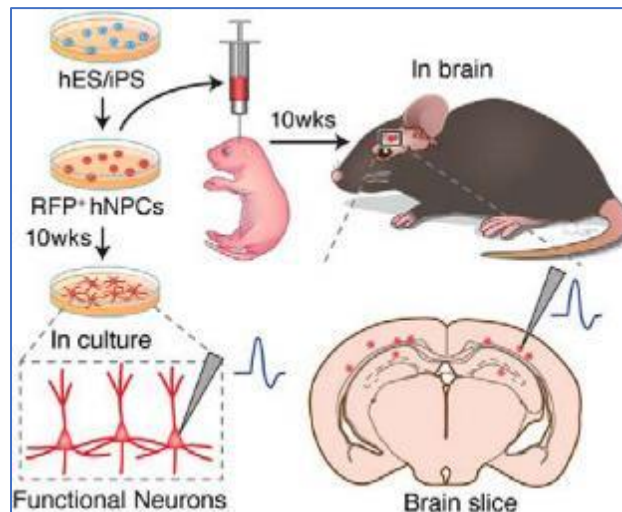
- ❖ The Launch Vehicle Mark III - LVM3-M2, India’s heaviest rocket injected 36 broadband satellites of a UK-based customer into precise orbits.
- ❖ The vehicle is also dubbed as one of the heaviest for its ability to carry satellites up to 8,000 kg.

- ❖ It is becoming the first Indian rocket with a payload of 5,796 kg.
- ❖ LVM3-M2 is a three-stage launch vehicle consisting of two solid propellant S200 strap-ons on its sides.
- ❖ The core stage was comprising L110 liquid stage and C25 cryogenic stage.
- ❖ It was the first Indian rocket to carry a six-tonne payload, first commercial launch of LVM3 with NSIL.
- ❖ Also, this is the first multi-satellite mission of LVM3 to LEO and first One Web mission with NSIL/DoS.



### Human brain cells integrated into rats

- ❖ Scientists have successfully implanted and integrated human neurons into newborn rats.
- ❖ These rats help research psychiatric disorders and test treatment against them.
- ❖ The researchers also tested and concluded that the implanted human neuron can send signals back to the rat's body.
- ❖ This study will play a major role in improving the current understanding about human brain development and neurodevelopment disorders.



## Missile Agni Prime

- ❖ DRDO successfully test-fired indigenously-developed new generation nuclear-capable, medium-range ballistic missile Agni Prime (Agni-P).
- ❖ It is a two-stage canisterised missile.
- ❖ It is the latest and sixth variant of the Agni series missiles.
- ❖ It is built under IGMDP - Integrated Guided Missile Development Program.
- ❖ The missile is capable of delivering a number of warheads at separate locations at a distance of 1,000 - 2,000 km.

### AGNI PRIME MISSILE

- **About:** New generation advanced variant of the Agni class of missiles.
  - Fully made up of composite material.
  - Smallest and lightest among the entire Agni series of ballistic missiles.
- **Nature:** Canisterised surface-to-surface ballistic missile.
  - Canisterisation lessens time required for launch & improving storage, mobility.
  - A hermetically sealed canister protects the missile from the environment.
- **Range:** 1,000 -2,000 km.
- **Significance:** Further Strengthen deterrence capabilities, manoeuvring & accuracy.
  - High level of accuracy

## ENVIRONMENT

### New Target under NCAP

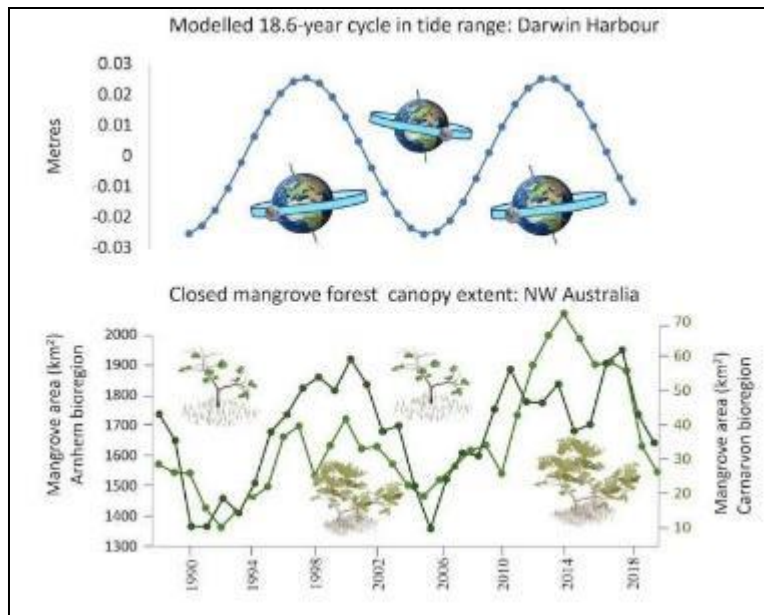
- ❖ The Indian Government has set a new target of 40 per cent reduction in the particulate matter concentration by 2026 in cities under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP).
- ❖ This is an update of the earlier goal of 20 to 30 per cent reduction of particulate matter concentration by 2024.
- ❖ The city-specific plans under NCAP are being upgraded to make them on par with the new goals.
- ❖ According to the Environment Ministry, 95 of the 131 non-attainment cities covered under the NCAP have reduced their PM10 levels in 2021 when compared with the 2017 levels.
- ❖ Non-attainment cities are those that have fallen short of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for over 5 years from 2011 to 2015.
- ❖ 20 cities have met the national standards for annual average PM10 concentration, which is 60 micrograms per cubic meters.
- ❖ The NCAP was launched in 2019 as the first-ever national framework for air quality management with time-bound reduction target.
- ❖ It aims to bring down the concentration of PM10 and PM2.5 across India.
- ❖ 2017 set as the base year for the comparison of concentration of the pollutants.

BY 2024, POLLUTION CUT BY 30%	
<b>NATIONAL CLEAN AIR PROGRAMME (NCAP)</b>	<b>BUILD CAPACITY BY SETTING UP:</b>
<b>Cities to be covered: 102</b>	<b>1</b> National emission inventory
<b>GOAL:</b> To meet annual average ambient air quality standards	<b>2</b> Air Information Centre for data analysis
<b>MID-TERM (5 YEARS) TARGET:</b> Reducing air pollution by 20-30% by 2024, taking 2017 as base year	<b>3</b> Source apportionment studies
<b>HOW:</b> Through city-specific air pollution abatement action plan	<b>4</b> Guidelines for indoor air pollution
	<b>5</b> Rural monitoring stations
<b>INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT AGENCIES:</b> World Bank, German development agency (GIZ), AFD (French funding agency), Swiss Development Corporation, Bloomberg Philanthropies	



## Effect of the Moon on Mangroves

- ❖ Scientists have found that the oscillation of the moon's orbit or 'moon wobble' has a significant impact on the mangrove canopy cover of the world.
- ❖ The moon's gravitational pull forms tides that maintain the health of the oceans, coastal areas and biodiversity.
- ❖ The new study has found that these long-phase tidal cycles play an important role in the regulation of tidal wetland ecosystems — such as the growth of mangrove forests.
- ❖ When the lunar wobble is in its minimum phase, the researchers figured that mangrove ecosystems would be sucked dry, experiencing fewer days where their roots were saturated and greater water stress, leading to thinner canopy.
- ❖ At its maximum, the lunar wobble might thrust tides higher, boosting mangrove growth.
- ❖ Mangroves are coastal trees that offer habitat for fish as well as protection from erosion.



## Neelakurinji flowers

- ❖ The Neelakurinji flowers have turned the green patches of Bababudangiri range of the Western Ghats (Chandradrona Mountains) into purple-blue.
- ❖ It is a shrub of the Acanthaceae family that famously blooms once every 12 years.
- ❖ It is endemic to Western Ghats, covering the slopes of Kerala, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.





### **First tiger reserve in Bundelkhand**

- ❖ The Uttar Pradesh has released the notification of fourth tiger reserve in the Ranipur Wildlife Sanctuary (RWS) in Chitrakoot district.
- ❖ This wildlife sanctuary does not host tigers of its own.
- ❖ It is often frequented by tigers from the neighbouring Panna Tiger Reserve in Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ This is the fourth tiger reserve in the state, after Dudhwa, Pilibhit and Amangarh (buffer of Corbett Tiger Reserve).
- ❖ This is the first tiger reserve in Bundelkhand region, which spans across the states of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ Uttar Pradesh hosts 173 tigers, with Dudhwa National Park having the highest population.

### **India currently has 53 tiger reserves. World's largest safari park**

- ❖ Haryana has decided to hire two international firms to develop the world's largest jungle safari park in the Aravalli range of Gurugram.
- ❖ Currently, the largest curated safari park outside Africa is in Sharjah.
- ❖ The proposed Aravalli Park will be five times of that size.
- ❖ It will include a large herpetarium, aviary/bird park, four zones for big cats, a large area for herbivores, an area for exotic birds, an underwater world, nature trails, tourism zones, botanical gardens and biomes.

### **18th meeting of Stockholm Convention**

- ❖ The 18th meeting of the Persistent Organic Pollutants (POP) Review Committee (POPRC-18) to the Stockholm Convention was held in Rome, Italy.

- ❖ It included five more chemicals for listing them under the convention.
- ❖ Three of the listed chemicals (chlorpyrifos, chlorinated paraffin (beyond prescribed) and long-chain perfluoro carboxylic acids) were already nominated at the POPRC-17.
- ❖ Two chemicals — dechlorane plus, a flame retardant and UV-328, a stabilizer used in some personal care products — will be evaluated at this session.
- ❖ The UNEP's proposal to list chlorpyrifos as POP was resisted by India.
- ❖ India argued that
  - Chlorpyrifos is not a carcinogen, and its concentrations are low.
  - Some of the studies in the POPRC-17 proposal showing adverse effects of chlorpyrifos were not peer reviewed.

### ***Chlorpyrifos and India***

- ❖ Chlorpyrifos was registered under the Insecticide Act of 1968 since 1977.
- ❖ Also, Anupam Verma Committee recommended its review for continued use in 2015.
- ❖ Chlorpyrifos was approved for agricultural use in 2021.
- ❖ Approval includes its use as a pesticide against pests affecting Bengal gram, rice and cotton.
- ❖ It was approved for 18 crops in India.
- ❖ It is one of the ten pesticides banned by Punjab and Haryana governments in August 2022.
- ❖ China and India are among the largest producers of chlorpyrifos.

### **Bannerman's Turaco**

- ❖ The population of the bird species Bannerman's Turaco is deteriorating.
- ❖ This is because of habitat loss and the ancient hunting tradition for obtaining these birds' feathers.
- ❖ This bird species is categorized as Endangered in the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.
- ❖ There are an estimated 1,500 of these birds in Kilum-Ijim Mountain Forest, situated in northwest part of Cameroon.
- ❖ The red and crimson feathers of these birds have significant cultural importance in Cameroon.

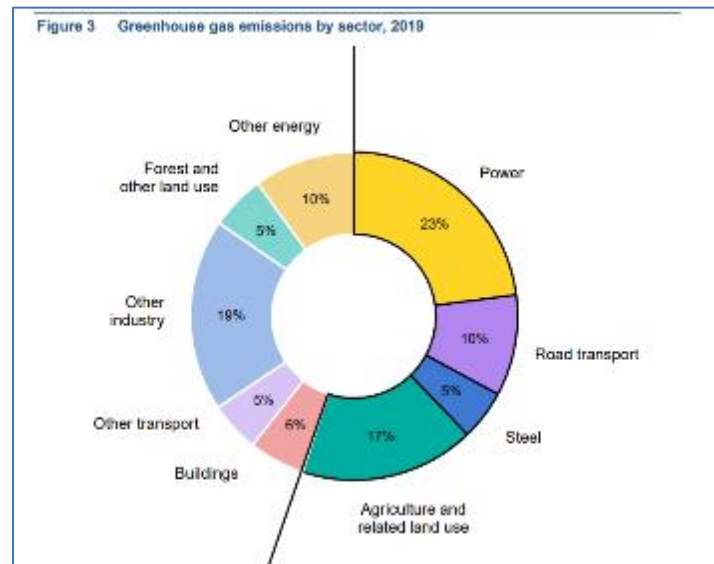


### **Mammal extinction capital of the world**

- ❖ Australia has committed to preventing any animal or plant extinctions in the coming decade.
- ❖ An additional 50 million hectares (124 million acres) of land in Australia, more than 30% of the country, will be protected by 2027.
- ❖ For this, the government created new Threatened Species Action Plan.
- ❖ Under the new policy, 110 “priority species” will be protected over the next 10 years.
- ❖ It is including the koala, the quokka and the northern hairy-nosed wombat.
- ❖ The government has also pledged no new extinctions in the next ten years.
- ❖ Australia has one of the highest rates of species’ extinction in the world.
- ❖ It is driven by the spread of feral animals, climate change and widespread deforestation.
- ❖ In February, koalas were officially listed as an “endangered” species by the government for the first time.



## The Breakthrough Agenda Report 2022



- ❖ It was released by the International Energy Agency (IEA), the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and the UN Climate Change High-Level Champions.
- ❖ It assesses progress on reducing emissions in five key sectors – power, hydrogen, road transport, steel and agriculture.
- ❖ It is a first-of-its-kind annual progress report, requested at the UN Climate Change Conference COP26 in November 2021.
- ❖ It covers more than two-thirds of the global economy, with endorsement from 45 world leaders, including those of the G7, China and India.
- ❖ The five sectors analysed in the report together account for nearly 60% of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

## Net-zero carbon emissions - 2050

- ❖ All 193 International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) members have pledged to support the long-term aviation goal (LTAG) of net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.
- ❖ The announcement comes after several years of planning and preparations following the historic Paris Agreement in 2015.
- ❖ The aviation industry currently contributes to around 2.4% of global emissions from fossil fuel use.

## Leopards in Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary



- ❖ Leopards have been sighted in Delhi's Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary for the first time since 1940.
- ❖ Eight leopards have been sighted in the Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary.
- ❖ This sanctuary has not recorded sightings of leopards since the year 1940.
- ❖ Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary is situated at the border between Haryana and Delhi on the Aravalli hill range's Southern Delhi Ridge.
- ❖ It spans across Southern Delhi and northern parts of Haryana's Faridabad and Gurugram districts.
- ❖ It is part of the Northern Aravalli Leopard Wildlife Corridor.

## Jurassic reptile

- ❖ Researchers have discovered a new extinct species of lizard-like reptile that lived among dinosaurs.
- ❖ *Opisthiamimus gregori* lived in North America during the Jurassic period about 150 million years ago.
- ❖ It was the same time as dinosaurs *Stegosaurus* and *Allosaurus*.
- ❖ The reptile belongs to the same lineage as the tuatara, which is found in New Zealand.





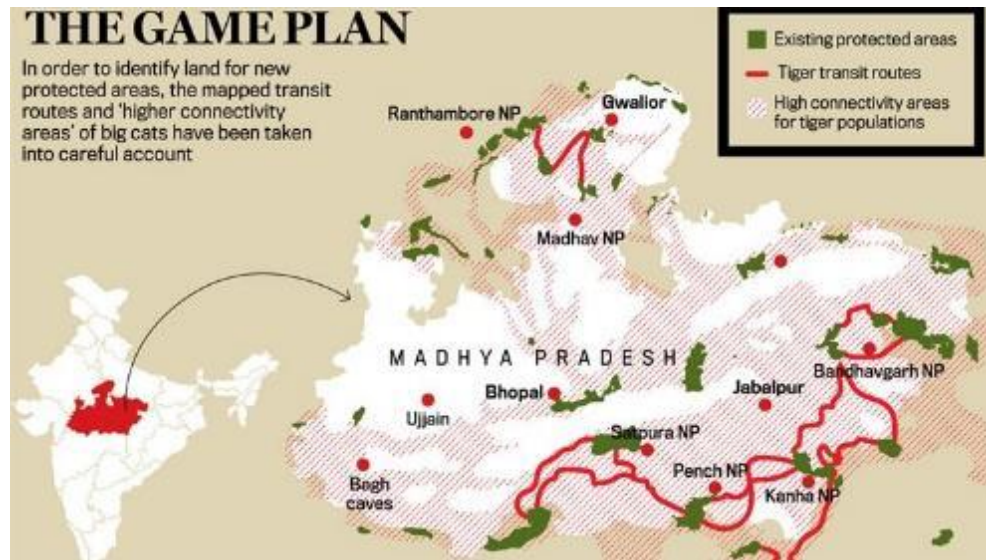
## Lead Poisoning in India



- ❖ NITI Aayog and CSIR's joint report highlighted the growing concern of lead poisoning among children under 19 years of age in India.
- ❖ India has the highest health and economic burden caused by lead poisoning.
- ❖ The 2020 report found that India accounted for 275,561,163 of the total 800 million children who were poisoned by lead across the world.
- ❖ This means that 50 per cent of children in India suffered lead poisoning.
- ❖ It also caused 2.3 lakh premature deaths in the country.
- ❖ The report found that Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Andhra Pradesh have the highest average blood lead levels (BLL) among the Indian states.
- ❖ They accounted for 40% the total Indian population with high average BLL.

## Durgavati Tiger Reserve

- ❖ Madhya Pradesh Wildlife Board approved a new reserve for tigers of Panna Tiger Reserve.
- ❖ The 2,339 square kilometres new tiger reserve is to be called Durgavati Tiger Reserve.
- ❖ It will spread across Narisinghpur, Damoh and Sagar districts.
- ❖ A green corridor linking PTR with Durgavati will be developed for the natural movement of the tiger to the new reserve.

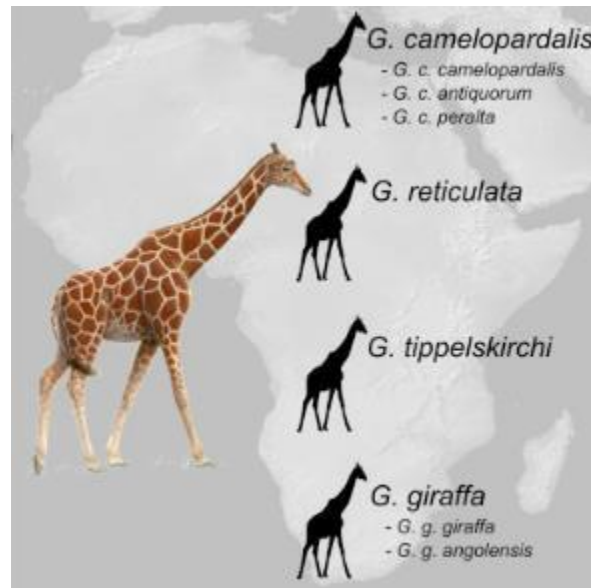


### Reintroduction of Gaur

- ❖ The Sri Lankan government has requested India to transfer Indian Bisons to revive its population.
- ❖ If the Indian Government agrees to this proposal, this will be the first of its kind agreement between India and Sri Lanka.
- ❖ It is in line with the global trend of wildlife or zoological diplomacy.
- ❖ Sri Lanka has asked for the transfer of at least 6 Indian Bisons.
- ❖ Indian bison or gaur is known as gavara in Sinhala.
- ❖ It was once widespread in the Sri Lanka but became extinct by the end of the 17th century.
- ❖ The Indian gaur is the largest wild bovine in the world.
- ❖ The Indian Gaur is listed as “vulnerable” in the IUCN Red List.



## Genealogical study on Giraffe

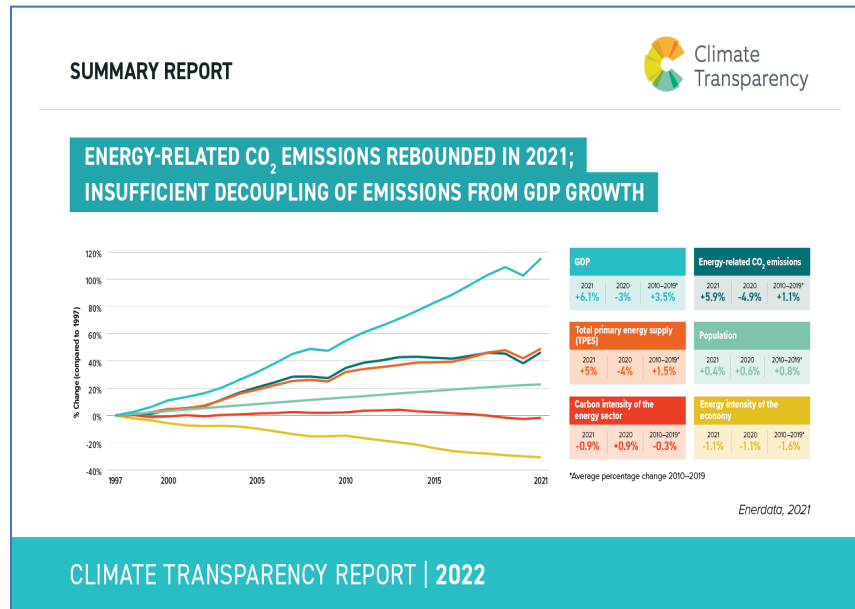


- ❖ The giraffes at the Alipore Zoological Garden in Kolkata are most likely Nubian giraffes or Rothschild giraffe.
- ❖ The largest captive herd of the northern Giraffe (29 individuals) in India is at the Alipore Zoological Garden in Kolkata.
- ❖ About 150 years ago, British colonists brought batches of northern giraffes from their other colonial possessions in Africa.
- ❖ The Nubian giraffe is the nominate subspecies of giraffe.
- ❖ It is used to be widespread everywhere in Northeast Africa.
- ❖ However, 95% of the population of Nubian Giraffe has declined in the past 3 decades.
- ❖ Rothschild's giraffe is one of the tallest subspecies, growing up to 6m tall.
- ❖ Its colouring is unique compared to other giraffes as their markings stop halfway down their legs.
- ❖ The Nubian and Rothschild giraffes are listed as 'critically endangered' and 'endangered' by the IUCN.

## Climate Transparency Report - 2022

- ❖ The eighth edition of the Climate Transparency report was released recently.
- ❖ G20 members with highest total subsidies for fossil fuels are China, Indonesia and the United Kingdom.
- ❖ In 2021, emissions in power and real estate sector were higher than pre-pandemic levels.

- ❖ The per capita emissions in these sectors in China and Turkey are currently higher than 2019 levels.
- ❖ Countries with highest increase in renewable energy share are the United Kingdom (67 per cent), Japan (48 per cent) and Mexico (40 per cent).
- ❖ The lowest increase was seen in Russia (16 per cent) and Italy (14 per cent).
- ❖ India experienced an income loss of 159 billion USD in service, manufacturing, agriculture and construction sectors because of extreme heat in 2021.
- ❖ This is equal to 5.4 per cent of its GDP.
- ❖ The heat exposure in India caused a loss of 167 billion potential labour hours – a 39 per cent increase from 1990-1999.
- ❖ The labour productivity in the country is expected to decline by 5 per cent from 1986-2006 level if global temperature increases by 1.5°C.



### **New species of deep-sea fish**

- ❖ Scientists have recently discovered a new species of deep-sea fish in the Atacama Trench.
- ❖ They recorded three types of hadal snailfish, one of which is never known to science.
- ❖ The new species, christened *Paraliparis selti*, was discovered some 6,000 to 7,000 meters deep.
- ❖ With its large eyes and unique colour, it resembled snailfish living in shallower waters.

- ❖ It belongs to genus Paraliparis.
- ❖ Species of this genus is mainly found in Southern Ocean of the Antarctic and rarely found deeper than 2,000 meters.
- ❖ This is the first time that the Paraliparis genus was recorded in the hadal zone.
- ❖ The name Paraliparis selti means blue in the Kunza language of the indigenous people living in Atacama Desert.
- ❖ The new species has evolved from the cold-adapted species of the Southern Ocean.
- ❖ Its discovery opens new questions related to the connection between cold temperature and high-pressure adaptation.
- ❖ The Atacama Trench or the Peru-Chile Trench is an oceanic trench in the eastern Pacific Ocean situated some 160 km off the coast of Peru and Chile.

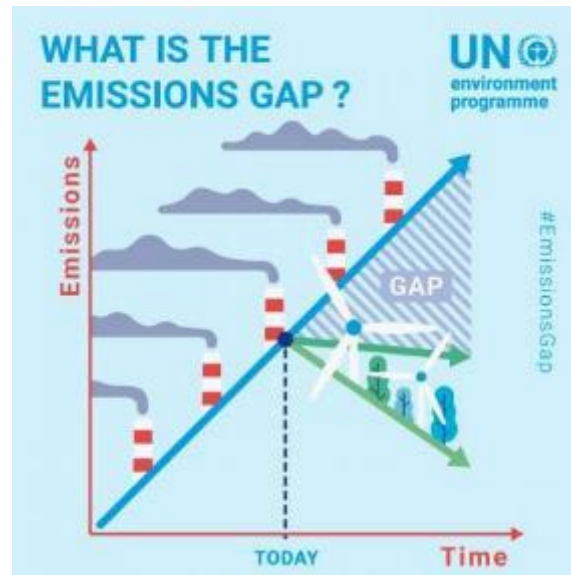


### **Emissions Gap Report 2022**

- ❖ The report titled “Emissions Gap Report 2022-The Closing Window” was released recently by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
- ❖ Emission Gap Reports assess the gap between countries’ pledges on emission reduction and the reduction required to bring down the global temperature increase below 2°C by the year 2100.
- ❖ It analyses the difference between where the GHG emissions are predicted to be in 2030 and where they should be to prevent catastrophic consequences of climate change.
- ❖ The current policies will lead to a 2.8°C temperature rise by 2100.
- ❖ Implementation of current climate pledges will only reduce this to a 2.4 to 2.6°C temperature rise by the end of this century.
- ❖ GHG emissions must be reduced by 45 percent by 2030 to achieve the Paris Agreement goals.



- ❖ The latest report recommended remedial actions in 6 areas – electricity supply, industry, transport and building sectors, and food and financial systems.
- ❖ It estimates that the global transformation to a low-carbon economy would require 4 to 6 trillion USD in investment each year.



## STATES

### Rhino Memorial

- ❖ Memorial made of ashes collected from rhino horns were unveiled at the Kaziranga National Park in Assam.
- ❖ The memorial having three rhino sculptures was named “Abode of the Unicorns”.
- ❖ It has one male rhino, a female rhino and a calf.
- ❖ It also has three statutes of forest guards, created using different materials.
- ❖ The rhino statues were created using ashes collected from around 2,500 rhino horns that burnt to flames by the Assam Government.
- ❖ On the occasion of World Rhino Day (September 22) last year, rhino horns were burnt cinders remotely using drones at the Kaziranga National Park.
- ❖ They were collected or seized over the past 40 years.
- ❖ Kaziranga National Park in Assam hosts the world’s largest population of one-horned rhinos.



### **Kannada Language Comprehensive Development Bill**

- ❖ It gives preference to Kannadigas in government jobs and provides reservations to locals in private jobs generated in the state.
- ❖ The Bill defines Kannadigas as individuals whose parents have resided in Karnataka for a minimum of 15 years with the knowledge of reading and writing Kannada.
- ❖ Under this Bill, practical and functional knowledge of Kannada will be taught in higher, technical and professional education courses.
- ❖ Students who have studies in Kannada Medium schools will get reservations in higher education.
- ❖ It will deny land concession, tax rebates and other incentives to private companies that do not recruit at least a minimum percentage of Kannadigas.
- ❖ Government jobs in the state will be provided only if a Kannada language exam is passed.



## Odisha's Encyclopedia on Tribes



- ❖ Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik released a Encyclopaedia of Tribes in Odisha.
- ❖ It has five volumes.
- ❖ Odisha became the first state in India to start an encyclopaedia on tribal communities and document their historic and unique traditions.
- ❖ The encyclopaedia was published by Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Research and Training Institute (SCSTRTI) and Odisha State Tribal Museum.
- ❖ The purpose of this book is to preserve the rapidly changing cultural identity of tribal communities in the state.
- ❖ Tribal population account for 22.85 per cent of Odisha's total population and it hosts 62 tribes.
- ❖ This state has the most diverse tribal communities in India.

## Surjapuri and Bajiika dialects



- ❖ Bihar state government has asked the state education department to set up academies for the promotion of Surjapuri and Bajiika dialects.
- ❖ Surjapuri is a mix of Hindi, Urdu and Bangla.



- ❖ It is also known by another name called 'Kishanganjia'.
- ❖ Similar to Maithili, Bajjika is mostly spoken in northwest Bihar.
- ❖ The two new academies for Bajjika and Surjapuri were set up on the lines of existing eight language centres.
- ❖ Already eight language academies existing in Bihar.

### **Bathukamma Festival**

- ❖ The state floral festival known as Bathukamma has started in Telangana.
- ❖ Bathukamma, means 'Mother Goddess come Alive' is celebrated towards the end of monsoon.
- ❖ The festival begins on the day of Mahalaya Amavasya, and is celebrated for nine days.

### **Assamese Dictionary Hemkosh**

- ❖ Prime Minister received a copy of the Assamese Dictionary Hemkosh in Braille.
- ❖ Dictionary Hemkosh was one of the first Assamese dictionaries, published in the nineteenth century.
- ❖ The earliest Assamese etymological dictionary based on Sanskrit spellings is called Assamese Dictionary Hemkosh.

### **India's first fully digital literate panchayat**

- ❖ Pullampara of kerala became the first grama panchayat in the country to attain full digital literacy among its residents.
- ❖ The state government has made 800-odd government services available online.
- ❖ And the digitally literate population can make maximum use of them.

### **Hike in ST reservation**

- ❖ Telangana state government increased a reservation for the Scheduled Tribe communities from 6 per cent to 10 per cent.
- ❖ The Telangana Assembly passed a Bill in April 2017 enhancing the reservation of the ST population to 10 per cent.
- ❖ The Bill was sent to the Government of India for the President's assent the same year.
- ❖ But even after six years, it is still pending before President.



### **‘Hall of Fame’ honor**

- ❖ Kerala has won the ‘Hall of Fame’ honour for the fourth time in a row by winning the national award in the comprehensive tourism development category.
- ❖ This honour is given to those who have received the National Tourism Award three times consecutively in the same category.
- ❖ Kozhikode has been selected as the best District Tourism Promotion Council in the country in the 2018-19 tourism awards.

### **Madhya Pradesh - National Tourism Awards**

- ❖ Madhya Pradesh awarded in 8 different categories under the 'National Tourism Awards 2018-19.
- ❖ Indore - the cleanest city in the country, won the award for 'Civic Management of a Tourist Destination in India' (Category A).
- ❖ 'Swachh Tourism Place - Western Region' - this award was received by Municipal Corporation Ujjain.
- ❖ Shiv Mandir, Bhojpur - 'Best Intended and Disabled Friendly Monument'.
- ❖ Devi Ahilya Bai Airport, Indore - Third consecutive time for 'Best Airport - Rest of India'.
- ❖ Malwa's mural - 'Excellence in Publishing-Hindi'.
- ❖ Bhopal Brochure - 'Best Tourism Promotion Publicity Material.
- ❖ Subhash Bhavre, Guide, Pench Tiger Reserve - 'Best Wildlife Guide, Western - Central'.
- ❖ 'Cotyard House', a homestay of Patpara village in Kanha National Park in Mandla district - 'Incredible India Bed and Breakfast Establishments Approved by State Government'.

### **Survekshan gramin 2022**

- ❖ Telangana won the first prize under the Large States category under Swachh Survekshan Gramin (SSG) 2022.
- ❖ Haryana was adjudged the second and Tamil Nadu the third.
- ❖ The top three districts of India are Bhiwani (Haryana), Jagtial (Telangana), and Nizamabad (Telangana) respectively.

### **Bird Festival at Pahalgam**

- ❖ Jammu and Kashmir have inaugurated Bird Festival 2022 in Pahalgam.





- ❖ It is a first-of-its-kind bird festival in the Union Territory.
- ❖ The festival will be organized in collaboration with the Department of Tourism and the Sanctuary Foundation.

### **Pahari in Jammu & Kashmir**

- ❖ Pahari Community in Jammu and Kashmir will get a Scheduled Tribe (ST) status.
- ❖ The abolition of Articles 370 and 35A in August 2019 paved the way for providing reservations to deprived sections of Jammu and Kashmir.
- ❖ The ST quota in J&K carries 7% in government jobs and educational institutions.
- ❖ The Gujjars and Bakerwals community were getting ST benefits since 1991.
- ❖ The Paharis were given a 4 percent quota in the OBC category from January 2020.
- ❖ The Centre formed the Justice Sharma Commission in March 2020

### **Bilaspur AIIMS**

- ❖ Prime Minister inaugurated the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in Himachal Pradesh's Bilaspur.
- ❖ It has been established under the Central sector scheme Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana.

### **Bharat Rashtra Samithi**

- ❖ Telangana Rashtra Samithi passed a resolution changing the name to Bharat Rashtra Samithi.
- ❖ TRS was formed 21 years ago to seek separate statehood for Telangana.
- ❖ In 2014, they achieved this goal.

### **Chhattisgarh Olympic**

- ❖ Chhattisgarh chief minister has inaugurated the state's own Olympics.
- ❖ It aims to provide a CenterStage to the village level sports so that a feeling of pride for the culture is inculcated.
- ❖ It also revives the age-old-tradition of traditional games namely 'langdi', 'bhaura', 'bati' (kancha), and 'pitthul'.
- ❖ A total 14 types of traditional sports have been included in the Chhattisgarh Olympics 2022-23.



### **Highest child marriage**

- ❖ Recently a demographic survey conducted by the Union Home Ministry.
- ❖ As per the data, Jharkhand has the highest percentage of underage girls getting married.
- ❖ In Jharkhand, the percentage of girls getting married before turning 18 is as high as 5.8 per cent.
- ❖ The percentage of females who got effectively married before reaching 18 years of age is 1.9 at the national level and varies from 0.0 in Kerala to 5.8 in Jharkhand.
- ❖ In Jharkhand, child marriages accounted for 7.3 percent of marriages in rural areas and three per cent in urban areas.
- ❖ Jharkhand and West Bengal are the only two states in the country where more than half of the women are married before attaining the age of 21 years.
- ❖ 54.9 percent of girls are married in West Bengal before attaining the age of 21 years, the figure for Jharkhand is 54.6 percent.
- ❖ The national average is 29.5 per cent.

### **Verdict on Karnataka hijab ban**

- ❖ The Supreme Court delivered a split verdict on the ban of wearing of hijab in educational institutions in Karnataka.
- ❖ Justice Hemant Gupta upheld Karnataka's prohibitive government order of February 5.
- ❖ He said that the Apparent symbols of religious belief cannot be worn to secular schools maintained from State funds.
- ❖ In his divergent opinion, Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia said secularity meant tolerance to "diversity".
- ❖ He said that the Wearing or not wearing a hijab to school was "ultimately a matter of choice".

## HIJAB ROW TIMELINE

- **June 1, 2021**  
Udupi PU College issues guidelines for uniform dress code
- **December 27, 2021**  
Udupi: 8 students wearing Hijab denied entry into a Government college
- **January 4, 2022**  
Students wearing saffron shawls protest against girls in Hijab
- **January 31, 2022**  
Girls file a petition against Hijab ban in the Karnataka High Court
- **February 5, 2022**  
Karnataka government issues order to follow uniform dress code
- **February 8, 2022**  
Case referred to a larger bench; government shuts schools, colleges for 3 days
- **February 10, 2022**  
High Court interim order restrains students from wearing any religious attire
- **March 15, 2022**  
High Court pronounces verdict, says 'Hijab not essential part of Islam'
- **March 15, 2022**  
Muslim students move Supreme Court challenging High Court verdict
- **September 5, 2022**  
Supreme Court begins hearing on Hijab Ban
- **September 22, 2022**  
Supreme Court reserves Hijab judgment
- **October 13, 2022**  
Supreme Court delivers split verdict, case before CJI to send to 3-judge bench



## World Green City Award 2022



- ❖ Telangana's Hyderabad city won the overall 'World Green City Award 2022' and 'Living Green for Economic Recovery and Inclusive Growth' award.
- ❖ It not only won the category award but the overall 'World Green City 2022' award i.e., the best across all six categories.
- ❖ Hyderabad also became the only Indian city to win laurels on the international platform.

### **Best-governed state**

- ❖ The 7th edition of Public Affairs Index, 2022, prepared by Bengaluru-based not-for-profit think tank Public Affairs Center.
- ❖ Haryana has emerged as the best-governed state among 18 big states in India.
- ❖ Sikkim has retained its position as the best-governed small state in India
- ❖ Haryana has emerged at the forefront in social justice, economic justice and political justice themes.
- ❖ Also, Haryana has topped among states such as Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Chhattisgarh, Punjab and Karnataka among others.
- ❖ The economic justice was measured on indicators such as Labour Productivity Assurance of standard of living to wage workers, public expenditure on development, Coverage of social safety Net, and Employment Opportunities

### **Ayodhya Deepotsav**

- ❖ The 6th edition of 'Deepotsav' celebrations took place in Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ Ayodhya bagged the Guinness World record for the 'largest display of oil lamps' by lighting more than 15.76 lakh earthen lamps.
- ❖ The grand celebration was held on the occasion of Chotti Diwali at Ram Ki Paidi on the banks of the revered Saryu River.

### **Honesty Shops**

- ❖ Honesty Shops have been opened in 15 schools in the Ernakulam district of Kerala.
- ❖ The Honesty Shops are a part of the Student Police Cadet (SPC) project which aims to provide valuable lessons on truth, and integrity for students.
- ❖ In these honestly shops, there is no salesman at the counters and students can drop the money for each item in the collection box kept in the shop.



### **Kati Bihu**

- ❖ The harvest festival of Kathi Bihu is observed on the first day of the Kati month in the Assamese calendar.
- ❖ The festival is also known as Kongali Bihu.
- ❖ Though Kati Bihu is celebrated with much pomp across Assam, each tribe has their own interpretation and rituals.

### **Trees outside forests in India program**

- ❖ The “trees outside forests in India (TOFI)” programme was jointly launched by the government of Assam and the US Agency for International Development (USAID).
- ❖ It expands tree coverage outside the traditional forest areas in the north-eastern state.
- ❖ It aims to rope in private entities to promote and scale traditional practice of agroforestry in the state through the adoption of modern methods to integrate productivity and profitability with environmental initiatives.

### **Restoration of Old Pension Scheme - Punjab**

- ❖ Punjab government took an in-principle decision to restore the old pension scheme for its employees.
- ❖ Under this, Employees will be given the option to join the old pension scheme.
- ❖ Earlier, it was discontinued in 2004.

### **Project ‘Vayu Amrit’**

- ❖ The Confederation of Indian Industry partnered with Indian Oil Corporation to launch ‘Vayu Amrit’ in Punjab’s Sangrur.
- ❖ Vayu Amrit’ is a crop residue management initiative.
- ❖ The CII already runs a crop residue management programme in Punjab and Haryana to mitigate stubble burning to reduce air pollution.

### **Jail Lok Adalat initiative**

- ❖ The Chhattisgarh State Legal Services Authority (CGSLSA) has launched an initiative to conduct Jail Lok Adalat.
- ❖ It aims to facilitate release of prisoners who are languishing in jails despite being granted bail or first-time offenders of crimes that are not heinous in nature,
- ❖ The Jail Lok Adalat was held for the first time in all 33 jails of the state on October 15, during which 448 prisoners were released.



## **Shaurya Diwas**

- ❖ The Defence ministry organised the 'Shaurya Diwas' celebrations in Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir (J&K).
- ❖ It aims to commemorate the 75th year of air landed operations of the Indian Army at Budgam Airport in 1947.
- ❖ On October 27, 1947, the Indian Army was air-lifted by the Indian Air Force and landed at the Budgam Airport to evict the Pakistani backed Tribal invaders from J&K.

## **PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS**

### **52<sup>nd</sup> Dadasaheb Phalke award**

- ❖ Veteran Hindi cinema actress Asha Parekh has been declared the recipient of the 2020 Dadasaheb Phalke award.
- ❖ She is the 52nd awardee of the honour.
- ❖ She worked in more than 95 films.
- ❖ She was the chairperson of the Central Board of Film Certification from 1998-2001.
- ❖ She is also a recipient of the Padma Shri, awarded to her by the Government of India in 1992 for services to cinema.

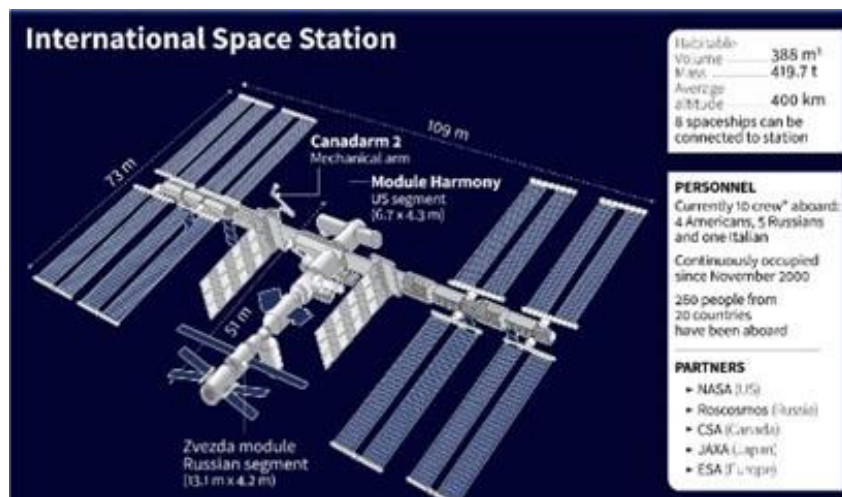
### **Italy's first woman prime minister**



- ❖ Giorgia Meloni is set to become Italy's first woman prime minister
- ❖ At the age of 21, she won her first local election.
- ❖ She was also Italy's youngest ever minister at age 31.

## Command of the International Space Station

- ❖ Samantha Cristoforetti became the first woman from Europe to take over as the new astronaut in command of the International Space Station.
- ❖ The commander is responsible for overseeing the various tasks performed by the station's crew members.
- ❖ She was a former fighter pilot in the Italian Air Force.
- ❖ Samantha is the first non-US woman and fifth woman to become commander since the role was created in 2000.
- ❖ She is also the woman with the longest stay in space after clocking 199 days in orbit in 2014 and 2015.



## New Attorney General of India

- ❖ Senior advocate R Venkataramani has been appointed as the new Attorney General of India.
- ❖ He has appointed for a period of three years from the 1st of October.
- ❖ The Attorney General for India is the Indian government's chief legal advisor and is its chief advocate in the courts.
- ❖ They are appointed by the President of India at the advice of the Union Cabinet under Article 76 of the Constitution.
- ❖ He holds office during the pleasure of the President.

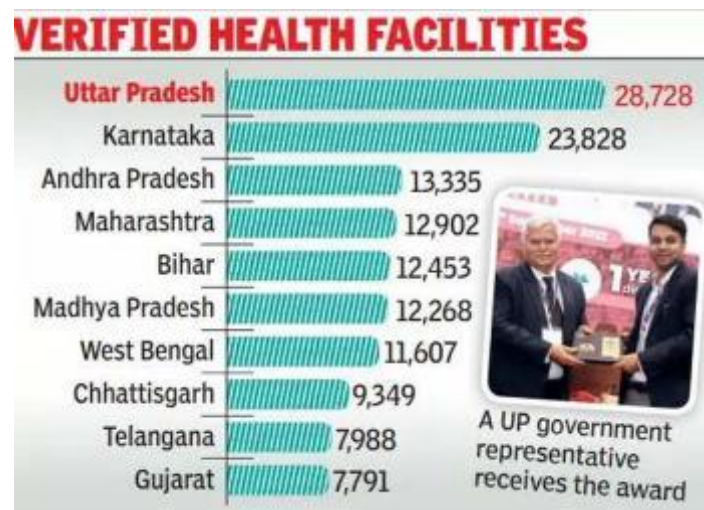
## Russian citizenship to Edward Snowden

- ❖ The President Vladimir Putin has granted Russian citizenship to former U.S. intelligence contractor Edward Snowden.

- ❖ He exposed the scale of secret surveillance operations by the National Security Agency (NSA).
- ❖ U.S. authorities have for years wanted him returned to the United States to face a criminal trial on espionage charges.



### **Ayushman Utkrishtha award 2022**



- ❖ They conferred to the top performers in the implementation of Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri – Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY).
- ❖ Ayushmann Utkrishta Award 2022 has been given to Uttar Pradesh for adding several healthcare facilities to the health facility register.

### **Other awards**

- ❖ Top Performing State/UT: Andhra Pradesh
- ❖ Top Performing District: Andhra Pradesh's Parvathipuram Manyam
- ❖ Top Performing Government Facility: District Hospital Dharwad in Karnataka
- ❖ Best Performing States: Kerala, Meghalaya, Gujarat, Manipur, Jharkhand, Uttarakhand, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh



- ❖ Best Performing UTs: Chandigarh and Jammu & Kashmir
- ❖ Top government integrator with highest number of health records linked to ABHA: National Informatics Centre
- ❖ Best private integrator with the highest number of health records linked to ABHA: Eka Care.
- ❖ AB PMJAY was launched on September 23, 2018.
- ❖ Ayushman Bharat Health Account (ABHA) is a unique health ID launched by the National Health Authority (NHA).
- ❖ It uses a 14-digit identification number that is generated using Aadhaar card or mobile number.
- ❖ It allows users to digitally share their health records with hospitals, clinics, insurance providers and other concerned stakeholders.

### **‘Changemaker’ award**

- ❖ A women’s rights activist from India, Srishti Bakshi has won the ‘Changemaker’ award.
- ❖ The award is given to recognise the efforts of Srishti Bakshi to raise awareness of gender-based violence and inequality.
- ❖ She is the founder of the CrossBow Miles movement.

### **Golden Pen of Freedom award**

- ❖ Polish newspaper Gazeta Wyborcza was awarded Golden Pen of Freedom by World Association of News Publishers.
- ❖ The award was announced during the 2022 World News Media Congress currently taking place in Zaragoza, Spain.
- ❖ The Golden Pen of Freedom is WAN-IFRA’s annual award.
- ❖ It is recognising individuals or organisations who contribute to the defence and promotion of press freedom.

### **Jayanti Patnaik**

- ❖ Jayanti Patnaik, a four-time MP and wife of late Odisha chief minister J B Patnaik passed away recently.
- ❖ She was the first chairperson of the National Women’s Commission from 3 February 1992 to 30 January 1995.

### 32<sup>nd</sup> Bihari Puraskar

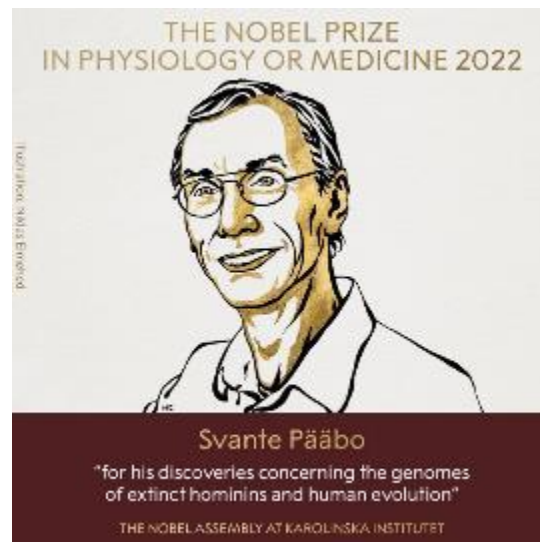
- ❖ Writer Madhav Hada will be awarded the 32nd Bihari Puraskar.
- ❖ This is for his 2015 literary criticism book 'Pachrang Chola Pahar Sakhi Ri'.
- ❖ This book focuses on the life of medieval devotee poet Meera.
- ❖ He has also been a member of the general Council of the Sahitya Akademi and the Hindi Advisory Board.

### SASTRA Ramanujan Prize 2022

- ❖ The SASTRA Ramanujan Prize for 2022 will be awarded to Yunqing Tang.
- ❖ Yunqing Tang is an Assistant Professor with the University of California, Berkeley, U.S.A.
- ❖ The award was instituted by the Shanmugha Arts, Science, Technology & Research Academy (SASTRA) in 2005.
- ❖ It is presented annually to individuals aged 32 and below, who made outstanding contributions in the field of mathematics.

### Nobel Prize in Medicine

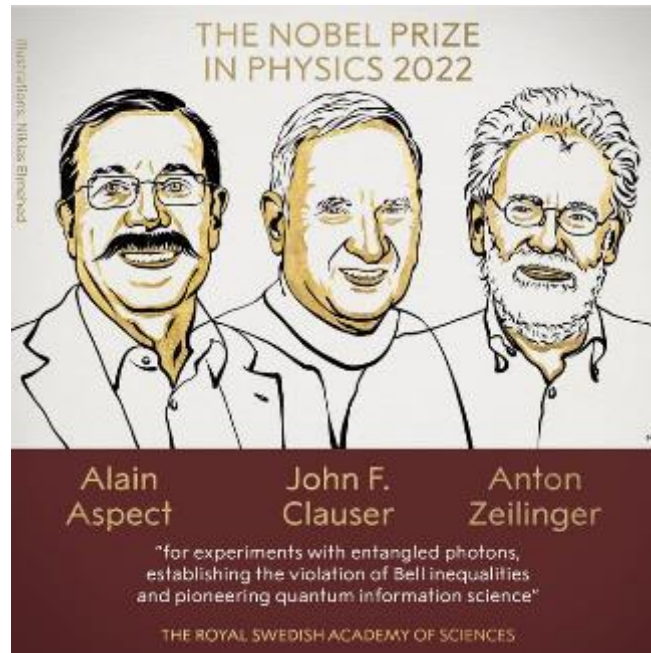
- ❖ Svante Paabo was awarded the 2022 Nobel Prize in Medicine.
- ❖ This is for his extraordinary discovery which proved modern humans share DNA with extinct relatives Neanderthals and Denisovans.
- ❖ The Swedish scientist provided key insights into our immune system and what makes us unique compared with our extinct cousins.
- ❖ Svante Paabo is the son of Sune Bergstrom, who won the Nobel prize in medicine in 1982.



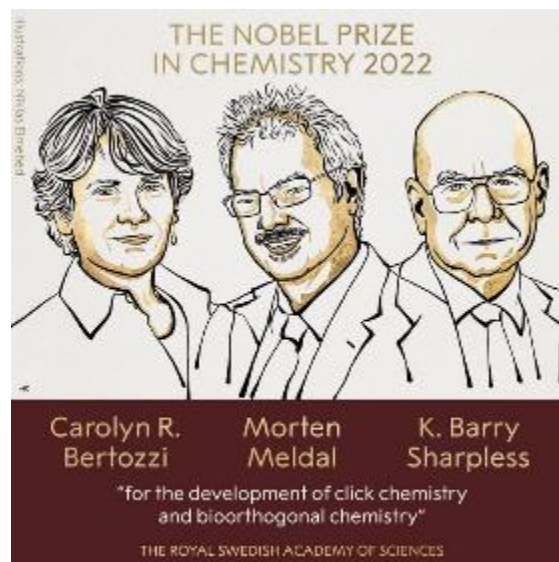


## Nobel Prize in physics

- ❖ The 2022 Nobel Prize in physics was awarded to Alain Aspect, John F Clauser and Anton Zeilinger.
- ❖ This is awarded for them “experiments with entangled photons, establishing the violation of Bell inequalities and pioneering quantum information science”.
- ❖ They have conducted experiments using entangled quantum states, where two particles behave like a single unit even when they are separated.



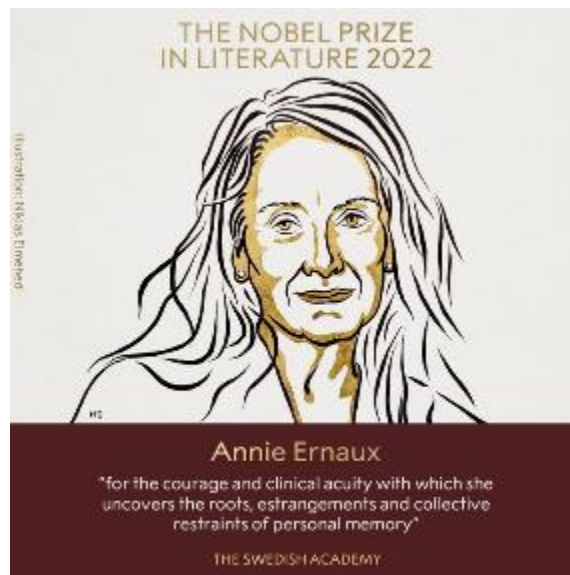
## Nobel Prize for Chemistry



- ❖ The Nobel Prize in Chemistry has been jointly awarded to Carolyn Bertozzi, Morton Meldal and Barry Sharpless.
- ❖ This is awarded for their work on snipping molecules together, known as click chemistry.
- ❖ "Click" chemistry is about linking together molecules like those in living cells.
- ❖ Their work is used to explore cells and track biological processes and can be applied in cancer treatment drugs.
- ❖ Barry Sharpless, previously won a Nobel Prize in 2001 and is now the fifth person to receive the award twice.

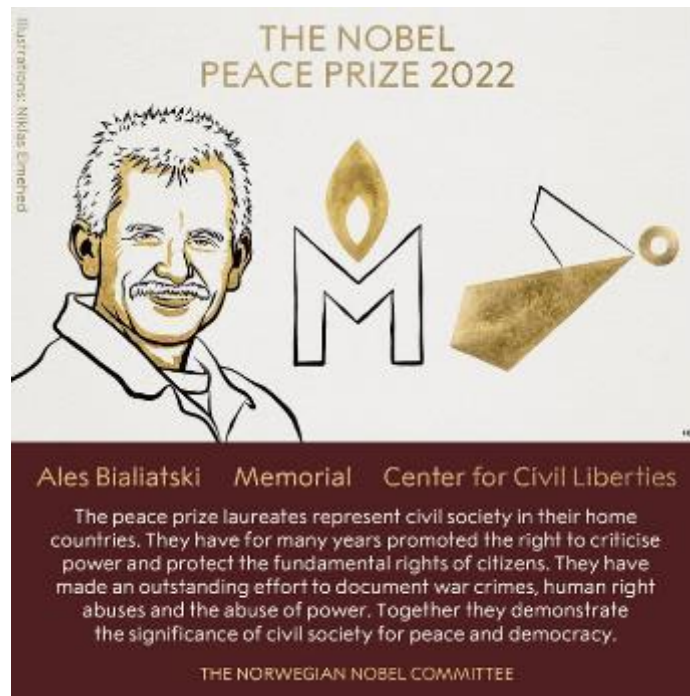
### **Nobel Prize for Literature**

- ❖ French writer Annie Ernaux has won the Nobel Prize in Literature.
- ❖ Ernaux is the first French woman to win the literature prize.
- ❖ Ernaux is renowned for her autobiographical prose works that examine "a life marked by strong disparities regarding gender, language and class".



### **Nobel Prize for Peace**

- ❖ The Nobel Peace Prize for 2022 has been awarded to the following individual and organizations
  - Human rights advocate Ales Bialiatski from Belarus,
  - The Russian human rights organisation - Memorial, and
  - The Ukrainian human rights organisation Center for Civil Liberties.



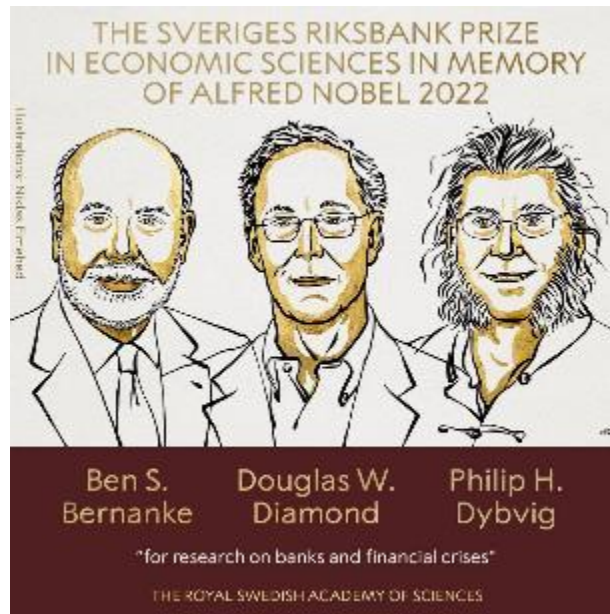
## Nansen Award

- ❖ Former German Chancellor Angela Merkel recently received the Nansen Refugee Award.
- ❖ While Merkel was the Chancellor in 2015 and 2016, Germany welcomed more than 1.2 million refugees and asylum seekers, especially from Syria.
- ❖ The Nansen Award committee also honoured four regional winners.
- ❖ These include
  - A refugee support cacao cooperative in Costa Rica in the Americas,
  - a volunteer refugee firefighting group in Mauritania in West Africa,
  - Humanitarian organization Meikse Myanmar that helps internally displaced people in Asia and the Pacific and
  - An Iraqi gynaecologist known for providing medical and psychological aid to Yazidi girls and women in North Africa and Middle East.
- ❖ The Nansen Award is conferred every year by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

## Nobel Prize Economy

- ❖ Ben S. Bernanke, Douglas W. Diamond and Philip H. Dybvig won the 2022 Nobel Prize in Economics for research on banks and financial crises.

- ❖ Modern banking research clarifies why we have banks, how to make them less vulnerable in crises and how bank collapses exacerbate financial crises.
- ❖ The foundations of this research were laid by Ben Bernanke, Douglas Diamond, and Philip Dybvig in the early 1980s.
- ❖ Their analyses have been of great practical importance in regulating financial markets and dealing with financial crises.



### **Subbu Arumugam**

- ❖ Kavignar Subbu Arumugam, who popularised villupaattu, a folk art of southern districts, across Tamil Nadu passed away recently.
- ❖ Villupaatu is performed in the temples of folk deities such as Sudalai Madan, Esakki Amman, and Mutharamman during kodai — festival during summer.
- ❖ Subbu Arumugam modernised the singing methods, the texts and introduced stories with social themes.
- ❖ References to villupaatu can be found in minor literary works such as Mukkudapallu and Viralividu Thoothu.

### **Mulayam Singh Yadav**

- ❖ Samajwadi Party founder Mulayam Singh Yadav passed away recently.
- ❖ He was elected an MLA 10 times and an MP seven times.
- ❖ He also served as the defence minister, and thrice as the UP CM.



### **First Native woman to space**

- ❖ SpaceX launched its crewed space mission to the International Space Station.
- ❖ This crew consists, a Russian cosmonaut, two Americans and a Japanese astronaut.
- ❖ This is the first spaceflight with a Russian launched from US soil in two decades.
- ❖ The commander of this mission is Nicole Mann.
- ❖ She is the first Native American woman to go to space.

### **Member of Inter-Parliamentary Union**

- ❖ The 145th Inter-Parliamentary Union Assembly is being held currently in Kigali, Rwanda.
- ❖ Lok Sabha member from Odisha, Aparajita Sarangi has been elected as a member to the executive committee of the Inter-Parliamentary Union.
- ❖ This will be the first time in 20 years, that India will have her representative in the international committee.
- ❖ Inter-Parliamentary Union was set up in 1887.
- ❖ This global organization of national parliaments has a total of 178 members.

### **UAE award for alternative medicine**

- ❖ Prof Wazahat Husain, from the Aligarh Muslim University has won an international award for Traditional, Complementary and Alternative Medicine.
- ❖ He received the Second Sheikh Zayed International Award of Zayed Charitable and Humanitarian Foundation recently.
- ❖ Earlier, Husain has been conferred Lifetime Achievement Awards twice.
- ❖ Once it was jointly by the University Grants Commission (UGC) and the AYUSH ministry and then by the Wildlife Institute of India and Department of Wildlife Sciences.

### **Sir Syed Excellence Award for 2022**

- ❖ Prof. Barbara Metcalf was awarded the Sir Syed Excellence Award 2022 by the Aligarh Muslim University.
- ❖ This is awarded on the 205<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of its founder Sir Syed Ahmad Khan.
- ❖ Prof. Metcalf has written extensively on the history of the Muslim population of India and Pakistan.




## Booker Prize

- ❖ Sri Lankan author Shehan Karunatilaka won the Booker Prize for his novel, "The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida."
- ❖ This makes him only the second Sri Lanka-born writer after Michael Ondaatje to receive the prestigious prize

## Dr Dilip Mahalanabis

- ❖ Dr Dilip Mahalanabis passed away recently.
- ❖ He was working in overflowing refugee camps during the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation war when he came up with ORS.
- ❖ The widely spread cholera and diarrhoea compelled his discovery of ORS.
- ❖ His magical potion is called "the most important medical discovery of the 20th century" by The Lancet.
- ❖ In 2002, Dr. Dilip Mahalanabis and Dr. Nathaniel F Pierce were jointly awarded the Pollin Prize by Columbia University for their contributions to the discovery and implementation of oral rehydration therapy.

**DONATED LIFE'S SAVINGS TO CHILDREN'S HOSP**



▶ Born on Nov 12, 1934; graduated from Medical College Hospital Kolkata in 1959

▶ Trained in paediatrics in Queen Elizabeth Hospital for Children in London

▶ Started working on ORS as part of Johns Hopkins University International Centre for Medical Research and Training in 1965

▶ In 1971, he started treating patients of the cholera outbreak following the Bangladesh Liberation War

▶ In 2002, he was honoured by University of Columbia and Cornell with the Pollin prize

▶ The Thai government recognised his work with the country's highest civilian award, the Prince Mahidol Award, in 2005

▶ Donated his life's savings of Rs 1 crore to ICH

Dilip Mahalanabis

## Ballon d' Or Féminin Award

Award	Winner
<b>Ballon d'Or (Men)</b>	Real Madrid's Karim Benzema
<b>Ballon d'Or (Women)</b>	Alexia Putellas (Barcelona)
<b>Kopa Award</b>	Gavi (Barcelona)
<b>Gerd Muller Award</b>	Robert Lewandowski (Barcelona)
<b>Yashin Trophy</b>	Thibaut Courtois (Real Madrid)
<b>Club of the Year Award</b>	Manchester City
<b>Socrates Award</b>	Sadio Mane (Liverpool)

- ❖ Real Madrid's Karim Benzema, a professional French footballer, has won the Men's Ballon d'Or (Golden Ball Award) 2022.

- ❖ He becomes the 5<sup>th</sup> Frenchman to win the prize.
- ❖ Barcelona's Alexia Putellas, a Spanish professional footballer, has won the Women's Ballon d'Or award or Ballon d'Or Féminin Award for the 2nd time.



### **World Book of Records for '101 Oonjals'**

- ❖ South Indian Bank bagged a world record for staging and swinging the highest 101.
- ❖ The Bank has organized an event 'Onnichirikkam Oonjaladam'.
- ❖ It was accoladed with the World Book of Records award for 'staging and swinging 101 Oonjals'.
- ❖ The event 'Onnichirikkam Oonjaladam' saw people gathered in large numbers to celebrate unity and prosperity during the ongoing festival season.
- ❖ Swings were made using wood and rope in the traditional way.

### **Movie on International Space Station**

- ❖ Hollywood actor Tom Cruise became first actor to film in outer space.
- ❖ The movie is being made on a massive budget and will be shooting scenes on the International Space Station.
- ❖ The team is currently working with both NASA and Elon Musk's SpaceX company to ensure smooth production.
- ❖ This would be the first Hollywood studio to film a feature film in space.

### **Seoul SARANG Festival**

- ❖ The 8th edition of annual flagship cultural program of Embassy of India, Seoul 'SARANG- The Festival of India in Republic of Korea' concluded recently.

- ❖ Starting in 2015, SARANG has emerged as a prominent Indian cultural festival.
- ❖ The word SARANG has a very meaningful interpretation for both Koreans and Indians.
- ❖ SARANG in Korean means 'love' and for Indians it refers to 'diversity representing different colours of India'.

### 14th World Spice Congress



- ❖ The 14th edition of the World Spice Congress is set to be organized next year in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- ❖ It is the gathering of the global spice industry that creates a platform to improve the understanding of the status and challenges of the spice sector.
- ❖ It was organized for the first time in 1990.
- ❖ Since then, 13 editions have been organized over the past 30 years.
- ❖ The 14th edition of the event will be organized by the Spices Board of India.
- ❖ The theme for the event is "Vision 2030: SPICES (Sustainability – Productivity – Innovation – Collaboration – Excellence and Safety)"
- ❖ The 2023 World Spice Congress will be organized as a G20 event.

### K.P. Ashwini

- ❖ K.P. Ashwini, has been appointed Special Rapporteur for United Nations Human Rights Commission (UNHRC).
- ❖ She is the first Indian and Asian woman to be appointed to this post.

- ❖ The Geneva-based 47-member UN human rights body has endorsed Dr. Ashwini's appointment for a period of six years.



### **Lifetime Achievement Award of USISPF**

- ❖ The US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF) has bestowed the Lifetime Achievement Award on HCL founder Shiv Nadar.
- ❖ This is for his contribution to the technology industry and his initiatives in the sphere of education.
- ❖ He has invested US\$ 1.1 billion through the Shiv Nadar Foundation towards philanthropic initiatives, particularly in the area of education.
- ❖ The impact of his Foundation institutions is reflected in the aspirations of meritorious students who started their journeys from humble, geographically, remote backgrounds.

### **2023 Alper Dodger Science Index**

- ❖ Fifty-two Indian scientists have been placed in the top two percent of the world in the 2023 Alper Dodger (AD) Science Index.
- ❖ India ranks number 21 in the list of top 2 percent of scientists, whereas the US stands with 4,935 of the world's top scientists.
- ❖ 216 countries' scientists are listed in the "general ranking", with 50, 245 Indian scientists.
- ❖ It is a ranking and analysis system based on the scientific performance and added value of the scientific productivity of individual scientists.
- ❖ Harvard University has the maximum number of top 2 percent of scientists in the world.
- ❖ It is followed by Stanford University and Oxford University.

## SPORTS

### Historic series win of India

- ❖ India have won all six matches they have played in the ICC Women's cricket Championship 2022-25 and made a new history.
- ❖ The victory was India's first in 23 years in a bilateral series against England in England.
- ❖ Chanderkanta Aheer was the captain of the last India's women's team to win an away ODI series against England in 1999.



### Jhulan Goswami

- ❖ The Women's Cricketer Jhulan Goswami from West Bengal had announced her retirement from all forms of the game.
- ❖ She concluded her career with 255 wickets from 204 games.
- ❖ It was an ODI women's record.
- ❖ Her career spanning over two decades.
- ❖ It was the second longest in women's international cricket.
- ❖ She represented India in 12 Tests, 204 ODIs and 68 T20Is, picking 355 wickets across formats.
- ❖ She went on to play five ODI World Cups -- 2005, 2009, 2013, 2017 and 2022.
- ❖ She remains the leading wicket-taker in the history of the Women's World Cups.
- ❖ She also remains the only pacer in women's cricket to have 250-plus wickets in ODIs.





### 36th National Games

- ❖ Prime Minister recently inaugurated the 36th National Games in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
- ❖ Teams from 28 states and 8 union territories are expected to take part in this event.
- ❖ The two new UTs – Ladakh and Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu – will make their debut at the National Games this year.
- ❖ The last edition of these games was held in Kerala in 2015.

### Berlin marathon 2022

- ❖ Eliud Kipchoge shattered his own world record with a time of 2:01:09 in the Berlin marathon.
- ❖ It's the second time the Kenyan runner has set the official men's world record at the race in the German capital.
- ❖ Kipchoge's previous best in an official 42.2km race was 2:01:39 set in 2018.
- ❖ Ethiopia's Tigist Assefa won the women's race in a course record of 2:15:37.
- ❖ It is the third fastest time in history.



### **Highest matches in T20**



- ❖ Rohit Sharma becomes the first Indian to play 400 matches in T20 history.
- ❖ He is followed by Dinesh Karthik, who has played 368 T20s.
- ❖ MS Dhoni sits at the 3rd spot with 361 caps.
- ❖ Virat Kohli is playing his 354<sup>th</sup> T20.
- ❖ The list of topped by Kieron Pollard (614) matches.
- ❖ He is followed by Dwayne Bravo (556), Shoaib Malik (481), Chris Gayle (463), Sunil Narine (435), Ravi Bopara (429), Andre Russell (428) and David Miller (403), who sit ahead of Rohit.

### **FIH Women's Rising Star of the Year**

- ❖ India Mumtaz Khan was named as the FIH Women's Rising Star of the Year Award at the FIH Star Awards 2021-22.
- ❖ Mumtaz also emerged as India's leading goal-scorer at the FIH Women's Hockey 5s 2022.
- ❖ Timothee Clement of France was voted FIH Men's Rising Star of the Year.



### **Mallakhamb competition**

- ❖ Mallakhamb is an Indian indigenous sport that is a part of the 36th National Games.
- ❖ It is one of the five new games which is added to the 36th National Games this year.
- ❖ The sport made its debut at the Khelo India University Games.



### **Irani Trophy 2022**

- ❖ The Rest of India's side won the Irani Cup title after beating the Ranji Trophy Champion of 2019-2020 Saurashtra.
- ❖ Irani Trophy is also known as Mastercard Irani Trophy.
- ❖ It is a test match format cricket tournament in India.

- ❖ It is played annually between the incumbent Ranji Trophy winners and the Rest of the India Cricket Team.
- ❖ It is organized by the Board of Control for Cricket in India.

### **FIH Goalkeepers of Year**

- ❖ Savita Punia, the captain of the Indian women's hockey team, received the FIH goalkeeper of the year title in women's category.
- ❖ Veteran goalkeeper PR Sreejesh received the FIH goalkeeper of the year title in the men's category.
- ❖ The third individual to receive the FIH Goalkeeper of the Year title twice is Sreejesh.
- ❖ Sreejesh also reached 250 international appearances during the course of the season.
- ❖ He was also becoming only the eighth Indian and goalie to accomplish the accomplishment.
- ❖ Savita is now just the third athlete since the award's introduction in 2014 to have won Goalkeeper of the Year (women) in back-to-back years.

### **36<sup>th</sup> National Games 2022**

Rank	Team	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	Services	61	35	32	128
2	Maharashtra	39	38	63	140
3	Haryana	38	38	40	116
4	Karnataka	27	23	38	88
5	Tamil Nadu	25	22	27	74

- ❖ The 36<sup>th</sup> edition was hosted by Gujarat for the first time in 2022.
- ❖ Maharashtra bagged the Indian Olympic Association's Best State trophy.
- ❖ Sajan Prakash is named as Best Male Athlete to (5 gold, 2 silver, 1 bronze).
- ❖ Karnataka's Hashika Ramchandra, barely 14 years old, appropriated the Best Female Athlete crown with 6 gold and 1 bronze.
- ❖ Gujarat's 10-year-old Shauryajit Khaire (Mallakhamb) emerged as the 'viral star' of the Games, becoming its youngest medal winner.
- ❖ The Indian Olympic Association has confirmed that Goa will host the 37th edition of the National Games in October next year.

### 700th club goal

- ❖ Cristiano Ronaldo broke yet another record when he netted the 700th club goal of his career.
- ❖ He becomes the first and only player in this present generation to score seven times a hundred goals in football history.
- ❖ His 700th club goal extends his tally over Lionel Messi with Argentina forward scoring 691 goals.



### Jyothi Yarraji

- ❖ Jyothi Yarraji made history in the women's 100m hurdles as she became the first Indian woman to run a sub-13s time to win the gold medal at the Nation Games 2022.
- ❖ She broke her national record representing Andhra Pradesh by running the final in 12.79s.
- ❖ Earlier, Jyothi Yarraji won the women's 100m gold, leaving behind Sprinters lime Dutee Chand and Hima Das.

### Dommaraju Gukesh

- ❖ India teenager Donnarumma Gukesh scripted history in the ongoing Aimchess Rapid online tournament as he defeated Magnus Carlsen.
- ❖ He becoming the youngest player ever to beat him as world champion.
- ❖ Earlier 19-year-old compatriot Arjun Erigaisi posted a maiden win over the world champion.
- ❖ Another Indian teen, R Praggnanandhaa aged 16 years, has already beaten Carlsen twice this year.



### **Carrom World Champion**

- ❖ Rashmi Kumari from Bihar emerged the most victorious in the 8th World Carrom Championship in Langkawi, Malaysia.
- ❖ The men's title was bagged by Sandeep Dive who beat doubles partner Abdul Rahman.
- ❖ India had earlier won both the men's and women's team titles, by beating Sri Lanka and USA respectively.
- ❖ India had lost the team crown to Sri Lanka last time.

### **ICC Player of the Month**

- ❖ The International Cricket Council (ICC) has announced the winners of the ICC Player of the Month awards for September 2022.
- ❖ India's captain Harmanpreet Kaur is named the recipient of the ICC Women's Player of the Month award.
- ❖ Pakistan player Mohammad Rizwan claims the ICC Men's Player of the Month award.
- ❖ Harmanpreet Kaur has become India's first Women cricketer winner of the award.

### **Mascot FIFA Women World Cup 2023**

- ❖ Tazuni, a fun, football-loving penguin is unveiled as the Official Mascot of the FIFA Women's World Cup Australia & New Zealand 2023.
- ❖ The 2023 FIFA Women's World cup will be the 9th edition in the series.
- ❖ This is the first time that 2 nations co-host the tournament.
- ❖ The tournament will be split between Australia and New Zealand.



## IMPORTANT DAYS

### International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste - September 29

- ❖ The UNGA recognised that the observance of the International Day would contribute significantly in raising awareness about reducing food loss and waste.
- ❖ The Food and Nutrition Organization of the UN (FAO) and the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) collaborate in order to facilitate the observance of this Day.
- ❖ Theme for this year's is 'Stop Food Loss and Waste! For People and Planet.'
- ❖ 14 percent of the world's food is lost between harvest and retail.
- ❖ 17 per cent is wasted in retail and at the consumption level.
- ❖ This food loss and waste accounts for 8-10 per cent of the total global greenhouse gas emissions.



### International Day of the Older Persons - October 1

- ❖ On 14 December 1990, the United Nations General Assembly designated 1 October the International Day of Older Persons.
- ❖ This was preceded by initiatives such as the Vienna International Plan of Action on Ageing – which was adopted by the 1982 World Assembly on Ageing.
- ❖ The overall umbrella theme for the day is “Resilience of Older Persons in a Changing World.”

### National Voluntary Blood Donation Day - October 1

- ❖ This day aims at spreading awareness about the importance of donating blood and the benefits associated with this noble cause.
- ❖ It recognises and commemorate the immense contribution made by Dr Jai Gopal Jolly on his birthday.



- ❖ He was an internationally known expert in the field of blood transfusion.
- ❖ He also pioneered the voluntary blood donation movement in India.
- ❖ He is regarded as the "Father of Transfusion Medicine in India".
- ❖ The Indian Society of Blood Transfusion and Immunohematology first observed this day in 1975 on October 1.

### **World Vegetarian Day - October 1**

- ❖ The day aims to bring awareness to the ethical, environmental, health and humanitarian benefits of a vegetarian lifestyle.
- ❖ October is also observed as Vegetarian Awareness Month.
- ❖ World Vegetarian Day was established by the North American Vegetarian Society (NAVS) in 1977.
- ❖ It was further endorsed by the International Vegetarian Union in 1978.

### **World Maritime Day - September 29**

- ❖ The International Maritime Organization observed this Day on the last Thursday of September.
- ❖ The day focuses on drawing public attention to maritime safety and the marine environment.
- ❖ The theme for this year is 'New technologies for greener shipping'.

### **NPS Diwas - October 01**

- ❖ The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority is observing 1st October as the National Pension System Diwas (NPS Diwas).
- ❖ It aims to promote pension and retirement planning among the citizens of India, and enjoy financial independence post retirement.

### **International Day of Non-Violence - October 02**

- ❖ Every year, since 2007, the day is observed on October 2, the birth anniversary of Gandhi.
- ❖ It aims to "disseminate the message of non-violence, including through education and public awareness."
- ❖ Iranian Nobel Laureate Shirin Ebadi, in January 2004, first proposed the idea of dedicating a day to non-violence, around the world.



### **World Farm Animals Day - October 02**

- ❖ The day is celebrated to commemorate the lives of animals raised for food and to raise awareness of the humane treatment of these animals.
- ❖ This day is anniversary of the founding of the Animal Welfare Institute.

### **68th National Wildlife Week - October 02 to 08**

- ❖ The 68<sup>th</sup> National Wildlife Week is observed all over India from 2nd to 8th October 2022.
- ❖ The main objective of this campaign is to promote the conservation and protection of animal life.
- ❖ The Indian Board of Wildlife established Wildlife Week in 1952.
- ❖ Wildlife Day was first observed in 1955.
- ❖ Later in 1957, it was renamed Wildlife Week.

### **World Space Week - October 04 to 10**

- ❖ It celebrates science and technology, and their contribution towards the betterment of the human condition.
- ❖ This year's theme is 'Space and Sustainability'.
- ❖ October 4 marks the launch of the first human-made Earth satellite, Sputnik 1. in 1957.
- ❖ A decade later, on October 10, 1967, the Treaty on Exploration and Use of Outer Space was signed.
- ❖ The first time this event was celebrated was in 2000.

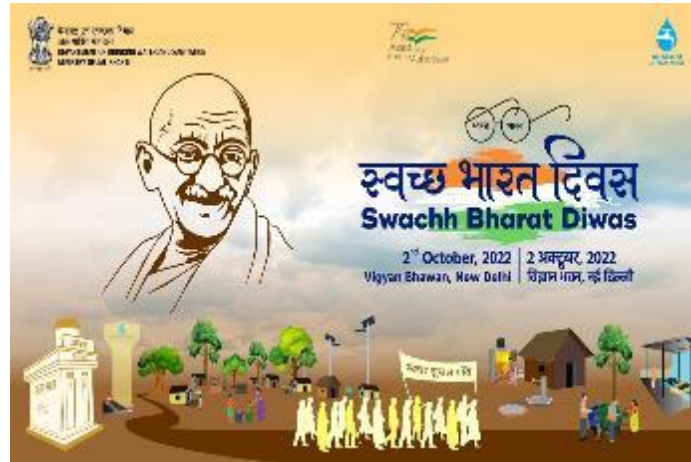
### **Breast Cancer Awareness Month**

- ❖ October is breast cancer awareness month.
- ❖ It was created in 1985, and founded by the American Cancer Society.
- ❖ It is an annual campaign to educate people about breast cancer.
- ❖ Breast cancer is the most prevalent form of cancer.
- ❖ This disease has become a major problem all across the world including India.

### **Swachh Bharat Diwas – October 02**

- ❖ It is celebrated across the nation on 2nd October, 2021 under Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen Phase 2 as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.

- ❖ Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS), Ministry of Jal Shakti organized important activities/campaigns under Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen (SBMG) Phase 2.
- ❖ It aims to accelerate the ODF Plus momentum and sustaining the Open Defecation Free (ODF) achievements in villages.



### **World Habitat Day – October 03**

- ❖ It is marked on the first Monday of October each year.
- ❖ It was first celebrated in 1986 in Nairobi, Kenya and was recognized by the United Nations.
- ❖ It is intended to remind the world that we all have the power and the responsibility to shape the future of our cities and towns.
- ❖ The theme for this year is 'Mind the Gap. Leave No One Behind and No Place Behind'.
- ❖ This year seeks to draw attention to the growing inequalities and vulnerabilities that have been exacerbated by the Triple 'C' Crises: COVID-19, Climate and Conflict.

### **World Teachers' Day – October 05**

- ❖ It is held annually to celebrate all teachers around the globe since 1994.
- ❖ It is co-convened in partnership with the International Labour Organization (ILO), UNICEF and Education International (EI).
- ❖ The theme for this year is "The transformation of education begins with teachers".





### **World Cerebral Palsy Day – October 06**

- ❖ Cerebral Palsy is a lifelong disability with no known cure.
- ❖ In 2012, Cerebral Palsy Alliance created this day.
- ❖ This year's Theme is "Millions of Reasons".
- ❖ It is to embrace diversity and to help create a more accessible future for everyone.

### **World Animal Day – October 07**

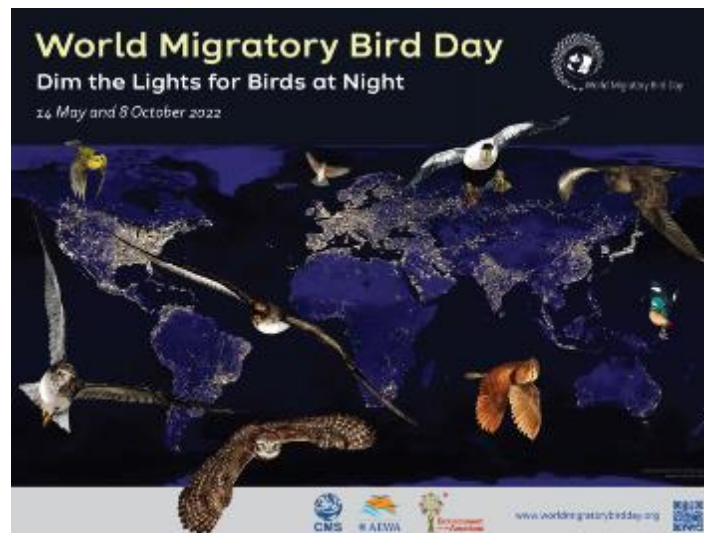
- ❖ It is aimed at promoting peaceful coexistence between animals and humans and making this world a safer place for animals.
- ❖ It was because, animals do not have a voice and are exploited.
- ❖ This day is for both domesticated animals and wild animals, endangered species, and those threatened by environmental devastation.
- ❖ The theme for 2022 is Shared Planet.
- ❖ It was established in 1925 and the first event was organized by Heinrich Zimmermann in Berlin.
- ❖ Zimmermann was the publisher of a German animal lovers' magazine, "Man and Dog".
- ❖ 4 October is also known as the feast day of Saint Francis of Assisi, the patron Saint of animals.
- ❖ Saint Francis was famously recognized for his way with animals and all living things.

### **World Cotton Day – October 07**

- ❖ Year 2022 marks the third-anniversary celebration of the international event.
- ❖ India is one of the largest cotton producers globally.
- ❖ The theme for 2022 is "Weaving a better future for cotton".
- ❖ It was released by the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO).
- ❖ The first World Cotton Day was proposed by the World Trade Organization on October 7, 2019.
- ❖ It was by the Cotton Four, four sub-Saharan African cotton producers Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, and Mali, collectively known as the Cotton Four (WTO).

## **World Migratory Bird Day – October 08**

- ❖ Since its creation in 2006, this Day has been commemorated twice a year.
- ❖ It is supposed to be celebrated on the second Saturday of May and the second Saturday of October.
- ❖ This year, it was previously celebrated on 14 May and for the second time, the world marks this day again, 8 October.
- ❖ It is to increase public awareness on the issues migrating birds encounter, their ecological importance, and the need for global cooperation to safeguard them.
- ❖ It was established as a result of the United Nations Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds along with the Secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS).
- ❖ This year's theme will be "Light Pollution".



## **Indian Air Force Day – October 08**

- ❖ Indian Air Force was raised on October 8, 1932, and it is completing 90 years today.
- ❖ The President of India is the Commander-in-chief of the IAF.
- ❖ This time Air Force Day flypast took place over Sukhna Lake in Chandigarh.
- ❖ In a historic first, the parade and fly-past of Air Force Day have been moved out of the national capital region by the Indian Air Force.
- ❖ Indian Air Force was officially established on 8 October 1932 by the British Empire as the Royal Indian Air Force.
- ❖ The name was changed to Indian Air Force in 1950.

### **World Hospice and Palliative Care Day – October 08**

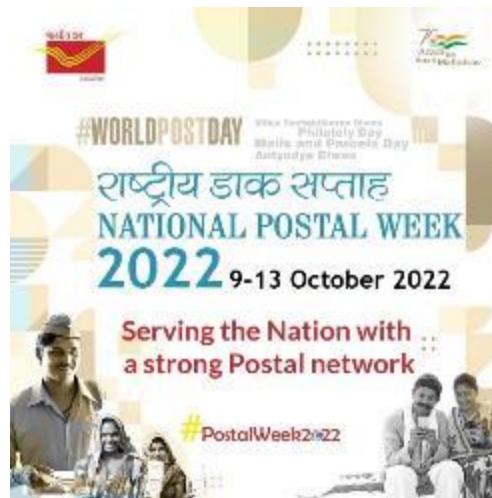
- ❖ Theme for 2022 is Healing Hearts and Communities.
- ❖ The Worldwide Hospice Palliative Care Alliance (WHPCA) observes this.
- ❖ Palliative care is a holistic approach aimed at optimising the quality of life.



### **73rd Raising Day of Territorial Army – October 09**

- ❖ It is celebrated to commemorate its raising by the first Governor General Rajagopalachari on this day in 1949.
- ❖ The Territorial Army has ten Ecological Battalion working for the restoration of the environment in the country.

### **World Post Day - October 09**



- ❖ It is the anniversary of the establishment of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) in 1874 in the Swiss Capital, Bern.
- ❖ It was declared World Post Day by the UPU Congress held in Tokyo, Japan in 1969.
- ❖ The theme for 2022 is 'Post for Planet'.
- ❖ The national Post week is also observed between October 9th and 13th.

### **Indian Foreign Service (IFS) Day – October 09**

- ❖ On 9 October 1946, the Indian government established the Indian Foreign Service.
- ❖ The origin of this can be traced back to British rule.
- ❖ Then the Foreign Department was created to conduct business with the “Foreign European Powers”.



### **World Day Against the Death Penalty – October 10**

- ❖ 2022 marks the observance of the 20th year anniversary.
- ❖ The day was first organised by the World Coalition Against the Death Penalty in 2003.



### **World Homeless Day – October 10**

- ❖ It was first observed in 2010.
- ❖ The day was created to bring attention to the plight of homeless people around the world.
- ❖ This year, Delhi government organized its first ever Slum Festival.

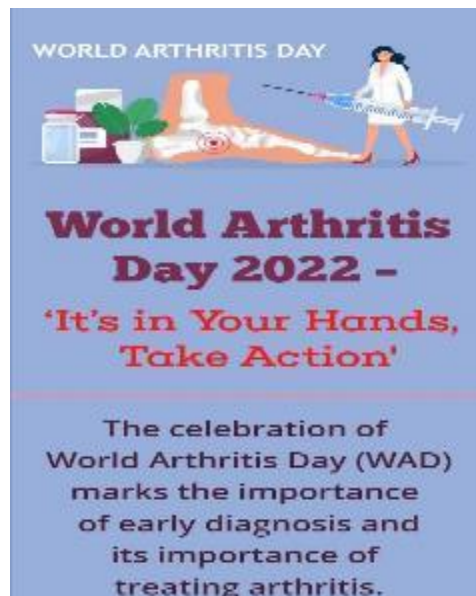
### **World Mental Health Day – October 10**

- ❖ On this, the Lancet released a report titled “Ending Stigma and Discrimination in Mental Health”.
- ❖ It was first observed on 1992.
- ❖ Theme for this Year is ‘Making mental health for all a global priority’.

### **International Day of the Girl Child – October 11**

- ❖ This year marks the 10th anniversary.
- ❖ In 2011, United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution in this regard.
- ❖ Theme for 2022 is “Our time is now—our rights, our future”.
- ❖ First time in history, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in 1995, proposed an action plan to advance the rights of girls.

### **World Arthritis Day – October 12**



- ❖ It is a global health awareness event that helps create awareness about rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases.
- ❖ The theme for 2022 is “It’s in your hands, take action”.
- ❖ It was established by Arthritis and Rheumatism International (ARI).
- ❖ The first event for World Arthritis Day was organized in 1996.



## World Sloth Bear Day – October 13



- ❖ The first World Sloth Bear Day was in 2022.
- ❖ It was proposed by Wildlife SOS India, an organisation involved in sloth bear conservation and protection for over two decades.
- ❖ The (International Union for Conservation of Nature) IUCN-Species Survival Commission (SSC) sloth bear expert team accepted and declared the day to be celebrated worldwide.
- ❖ Sloth Bear is one of the 8 bear species found across the globe.
- ❖ Sloth bears do not hibernate
- ❖ Its alternative name is “honey bear”.
- ❖ Presently Sloth bears are only found in the Indian subcontinent, Nepal and a sub-species in Sri Lanka.
- ❖ About 90% of the global Sloth Bear population is found in India.

## World Sight Day – October 13

- ❖ This year’s theme was “Love Your Eyes”.
- ❖ It is observed every year on the second Thursday of October.
- ❖ Sir John Wilson and others drew the attention of the international community to the problem of global blindness.

### **International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction – October 13**

- ❖ The theme for 2022 is Early Warning.
- ❖ It will focus on Target of the Sendai Framework: “Substantially increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessments to people by 2030.”
- ❖ It was started in 1989, after a call by the United Nations General Assembly.
- ❖ In 2015, Sendai Framework was released at the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai, Japan.

### **International E-Waste Day - October 14**

- ❖ International E-Waste Day was developed in 2018 by the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment recycling (WEEE) Forum.
- ❖ It aims to raise the public profile of waste electrical and electronic equipment recycling and encourage consumers to recycle.
- ❖ 2022 is the fifth edition of International E-Waste Day.
- ❖ This year is has focusing on small items of e-waste, under the slogan “Recycle it all, no matter how small”.



### **World Standards Day - October 14**

- ❖ This day attempts to educate consumers, policymakers, and businesses about the value of standardisation.
- ❖ This day commemorates the first gathering of representatives from 25 nations in London in 1956.
- ❖ This is marked the launch of an international body to facilitate standardisation.



- ❖ The International Organization for Standardisation (ISO) was founded in 1947 with 67 technical committees.
- ❖ The theme of 2022 is 'Shared Vision for a Better World'.

### **World Egg Day - October 14**

- ❖ World Egg Day was established in 1996 in Vienna by the International Egg Commission.
- ❖ This day aims to promote and mark the importance of eggs for human nutrition.
- ❖ The theme for World Egg Day 2022 is 'Eggs for a Better Life.'

### **World Student's Day - October 15**

- ❖ The day commemorates the birthday of former Indian president APJ Abdul Kalam.
- ❖ He served as an inspiration to many students to achieve and do something remarkable.
- ❖ After his tenure as the President came to an end, he became a visiting faculty at the IIM - Shillong, IIM-Indore and IIM- Ahmedabad.

### **International Day of Rural Women - October 15**

- ❖ It aims to promote gender equality and women empowerment in rural regions.
- ❖ It celebrates the achievements and contributions of women living in remote rural regions.
- ❖ During the Fourth World Conference on Women, which was held in 1995 in Beijing, the UN suggested the creation of the International Day of Rural Women
- ❖ The UN declared this day on December 18, 2007.
- ❖ The theme for 2022 is "Rural Women, key for a world free from hunger and poverty".

### **Global Handwashing Day - October 15**

- ❖ It aims to increasing awareness and understanding about the importance of handwashing with soap as an effective and affordable way to prevent diseases and save lives.
- ❖ This year's theme is "Unite for Universal Hand Hygiene".
- ❖ This day was founded by the Global Handwashing Partnership.

### **World Food Day - October 16**

- ❖ The day is celebrated to mark the anniversary of the founding of Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) OF THE United Nations in 1945.
- ❖ The main objectives are to combat world hunger and work toward its eradication.
- ❖ The theme for World Food Day 2022 is “Leave NO ONE behind”.
- ❖ The day was first established in November 1979.
- ❖ In the Global Hunger Index, 2022, India ranked 107 out of 121 countries.



### **International Day for the Eradication of Poverty - October 17**

- ❖ It is a day to raise awareness about the global issue of poverty and how it is a violation of human rights and of human dignity.
- ❖ The commemoration of the victims of extreme poverty, violence and hunger in Paris was the first incident and the historical background of this day.
- ❖ This year's theme for International Day for the Eradication of Poverty is “Dignity for All in Practice”.
- ❖ This is the 30th anniversary of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

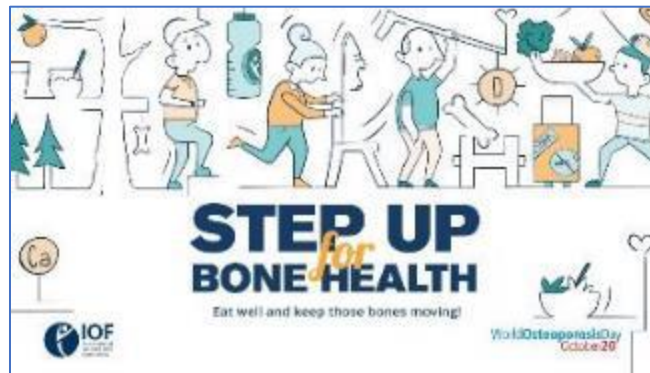
### **World Trauma Day - October 17**

- ❖ The day is observed with a view to prevent the increasing rate of accidents and injuries causing death and disability across the world.
- ❖ The day was created in New Delhi, India in 2011.
- ❖ This was a result of the high number of deaths caused by road accidents in the country, an estimate of over 400 people lost their lives each day to it.
- ❖ Road Traffic Accident (RTA) is the leading cause of trauma across the world.

### **World Statistics Day - October 20**

- ❖ World Statistics Day was established in 2010 by the United Nations Statistical Commission.
- ❖ It aims to highlight the importance of statistics and the significance of academic research on the development of civil society and business.
- ❖ The theme of Statistics Day 2022 is “Data for Sustainable Development”.

### **World Osteoporosis Day - October 20**



- ❖ The day is observed with the aim of raising global awareness about the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of osteoporosis and metabolic bone disease.
- ❖ Osteoporotic fractures affect around 10 million Indians each year, both males and females.
- ❖ The day was introduced on October 20, 1996, by the United Kingdom's National Osteoporosis Society to raise awareness about the bone health.
- ❖ Osteoporosis makes your bones weak and fragile.
- ❖ It leads them to break easily - even after a sudden movement, a minor fall, a sneeze, or a bump.
- ❖ The theme for World Osteoporosis Day 2022 is ‘Step Up for Bone Health’.

### **International Chefs Day - October 20**

- ❖ International Chefs Day was initiated in 2004.
- ❖ It was created by the late Dr. Billy Gallagher, a renowned chef and businessman.
- ❖ He was the President of the South African Chefs Association for 21 years.
- ❖ Dr Gallagher also became the President of the World Association of Chefs Societies (WACS) in 1996.
- ❖ The theme for this year is “Growing A Healthy Future.”





### **Global Dignity Day - October 19**

- ❖ It is observed every year on the third Wednesday of October.
- ❖ This year, Global Dignity Day is observed on the 19<sup>th</sup> of October.
- ❖ The day is an initiative to educate and inspire young people and help them to understand their self-worth and goals.
- ❖ It was established in 2008 and continues to grow in popularity.

### **National Solidarity Day - October 20**

- ❖ This day is observed to honour the Armed Forces.
- ❖ It is the date on which China attacked India in 1962.
- ❖ The purpose of the day is to celebrate the memory of the solidarity, unity, and integrity of our people during the war in order to protect the nation.

### **Police Commemoration Day - October 21**

- ❖ In the year 1959, a lot of tensions arose between the borders of India and China.
- ❖ The time was October 21 when China opened fire on 20 soldiers in Ladakh, out of which 10 Indian soldiers were dead.
- ❖ Since then, Police Commemoration Day is observed on October 21.

### **World Iodine Deficiency Day - October 21**

- ❖ The theme of World Iodine Deficiency Day, 2022 is 'Thyroid and Communication'.
- ❖ Iodine is a mineral used by the body to regulate metabolism.
- ❖ It is an element that is needed for the production of thyroid hormone.
- ❖ The body does not secrete iodine.
- ❖ Globally, 2 billion people are at risk of iodine deficiency diseases.
- ❖ In 1992, iodized salt was made mandatory for human consumption in India.

### **International Stuttering Awareness Day - October 22**

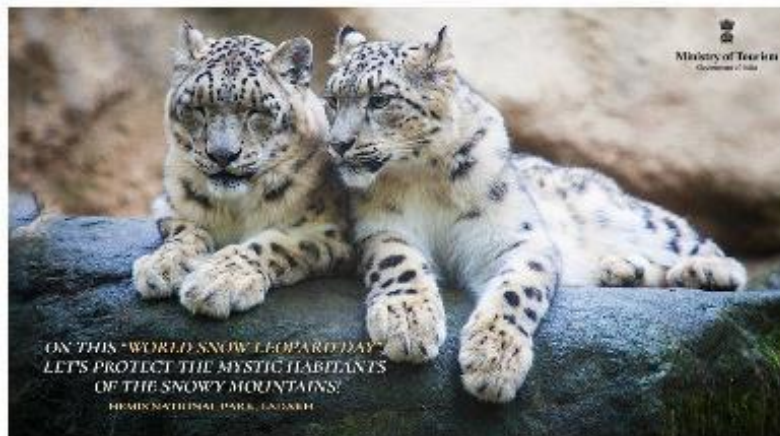
- ❖ The day creates awareness about the speech disorder known as stuttering or stammering.
- ❖ Stuttering refers to disruptions in the fluency of speech.
- ❖ The theme for 2022 is "Being seen, being heard: Representation and normalisation of stuttering in the mainstream".

### **National Ayurveda Day - October 23**

- ❖ This Day is observed on the occasion of Dhanvantri Jayanti (Dhanteras) every year since 2016.
- ❖ Lord Dhanvantri is considered as divine propagator of Ayurveda.
- ❖ The 7<sup>th</sup> National Ayurveda day is celebrated this year.
- ❖ India celebrates this year's Ayurveda Day under the theme of "Har Din Har Ghar Ayurveda".
- ❖ Ayurveda has long been recognised as one of the most ancient and well-documented systems of medicine.

### **International Snow Leopard Day - October 23**

- ❖ The day came into being with the adoption of the Bishkek Declaration by 12 countries on the conservation of snow leopards.
- ❖ It was on October 23, 2013, when 12 countries came together to endorse the 'Bishkek Declaration on the conservation of snow leopards.
- ❖ Snow Leopard is found in 12 countries.
- ❖ They are India, Nepal, Bhutan, China, Mongolia, Russia, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.



### **International Gibbon Day - October 24**

- ❖ It was originated in 2015 when the IUCN Primate Specialist Group established the day as a commemoration to draw public attention to gibbon protection.
- ❖ There is a total of 20 different species of gibbons, also called small apes (not monkeys).
- ❖ They live in the rainforests of Bangladesh, India, China, and Indonesia.



### **World Development Information Day - October 24**

- ❖ This day is observed to create awareness towards the problems surrounding development in different nations and how to overcome them.
- ❖ It aims to draw the attention of the world toward development problems and also to strengthen international cooperation.
- ❖ Notably, the date also coincides with United Nations Day which also falls on 24 October.

### **United Nations Day - October 24**

- ❖ This day marks the anniversary of the entry into force in 1945 of the UN Charter.
- ❖ The ratification of this founding document by the majority of its signatories, including the five permanent members of the Security Council.
- ❖ The United Nations officially came into being.
- ❖ The Charter was signed on 26 June 1945 by the representatives of the 50 countries.

### **International Day of Diplomats - October 24**

- ❖ The day aims to commemorate the contributions made by diplomats in shaping the world since ancient times and in making our planet a better place.
- ❖ It also aims to bridge the gap in perception and reality of diplomats' lives among the general public.
- ❖ The first International Day of Diplomats was celebrated in Brasília on 24 October 2017.
- ❖ The day was proposed by Indian poet-diplomat Abhay K.

### **World Polio Day - October 24**

- ❖ World Polio Day was established in 1985 by Rotary International to commemorate the birth of Jonas Salk.
- ❖ He was the lead medical researcher of the team that developed a vaccine against polio.
- ❖ He developed the inactivated poliovirus vaccine, which first came into use in 1955.
- ❖ This was further developed as the oral polio vaccine by Albert Sabin, which came into use in 1961.
- ❖ Theme of World Polio Day is “World Polio Day 2022 and Beyond: A healthier future for mothers and children”.

### **ITBP Raising Day - October 24**

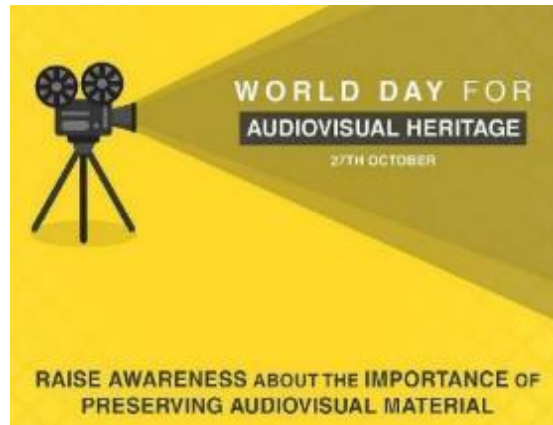


- ❖ The ITBP was raised on 24th October, 1962 during the India-China War.
- ❖ It is a border guarding police force specializing in high altitude operations.
- ❖ Presently, ITBP is deployed on border guarding duties from Karakoram Pass in Ladakh to Jachep La in Arunachal Pradesh covering 3488 km of Indo-China Border.
- ❖ ITBP was initially raised under the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) Act, 1949.
- ❖ However, in 1992, parliament enacted the ITBPF Act and the rules were framed in 1994.

### **World Day for Audio visual Heritage - October 27**

- ❖ It is an attempt to raise awareness about the need to take measures and acknowledge the importance of preserving audio-visual materials.

- ❖ The World Day for Audio-visual Heritage (WDAH) is a commemoration of the adoption, in 1980 by the 21st General Conference for the Safeguarding and Preservation of Moving Images.
- ❖ Theme of the year is theme “Enlisting documentary heritage to promote inclusive, just and peaceful societies”.



### **Infantry day - October 27**

- ❖ It aims to pay homage to the soldiers who fought for the country and laid down their lives in the line of duty.
- ❖ The date October 27 was chosen for the occasion as it was on this day that the first Indian infantry soldiers defended the country's territory from external aggression.
- ❖ After the Maharaja of Jammu and Kashmir, Hari Singh, signed the instrument of accession, on October 26, 1947, the region became part of the Indian dominion.
- ❖ Soon, the first Battalion of the Sikh Regiment reached the Srinagar airbase to fight against Pakistani invaders.







### **UN Disarmament Week 2022 - October 24 to 30**

- ❖ It aims to raise awareness and improve understanding of the significance and challenges of disarmament.
- ❖ The week starts on October 24, which marks the anniversary of the founding of the United Nations.
- ❖ Since the UN was founded, disarmament and arms control has been one of its major focus areas.
- ❖ It calls for the elimination of all materials that support armed conflicts.
- ❖ United Nations Disarmament Commission (UNDC) was set up in 1952.
- ❖ Disarmament Week was observed for the first time. In 1995.
- ❖ In 2019, the observance of Disarmament Week was led by women for the first time.

### **International Animation Day - October 28**

- ❖ It commemorates the day when animation had its first public appearance.
- ❖ That was October 28, 1892, at the Grévin Museum in Paris, when Charles-Émile Reynaud and his Théâtre Optique presented his first production, “Pantomimes Lumineuses.”
- ❖ It aims to celebrate the art of animation and also recognise the artists, scientists and technicians behind animation.
- ❖ This year marks the 20<sup>th</sup> International Animation Day.
- ❖ The day was created in 2002 by International Animated Film Association (ASIFA).

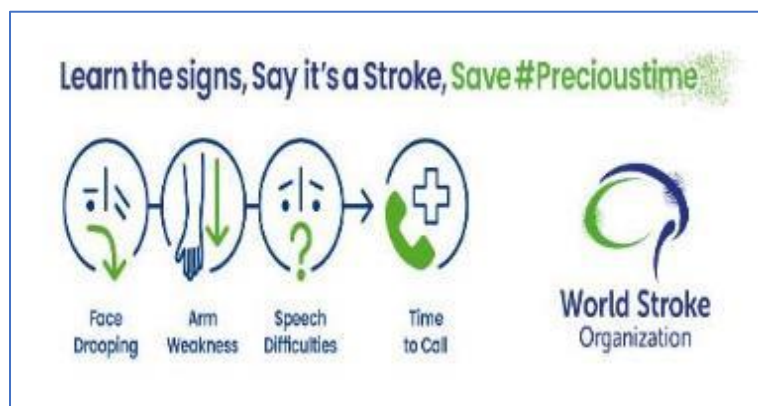
### **Global Media and Information Literacy (MIL) Week - Oct 24 to 30**

- ❖ It focuses on trust and solidarity as it relates to people, media, digital platforms, governments, the private sector, and non-governmental organizations.
- ❖ The theme for this year’s MIL week was “Nurturing trust: A Media and Information Literacy Imperative.”
- ❖ The eleventh Global Media and Information Literacy (MIL) Week is hosted by Nigeria and is taking place in Abuja.
- ❖ The first Global Media and Information Literacy Week was held in 2011 in Fez, Morocco.



### **World Stroke Day - October 29**

- ❖ This day emphasize the serious nature and high rates of stroke.
- ❖ The day is also observed to raise awareness of the prevention and treatments of strokes.
- ❖ World stroke day was established on 29th October 2004 at World Stroke Congress in Vancouver, Canada.
- ❖ Later in 2006, the day was proclaimed for public awareness.
- ❖ This year's Theme is "#Precioustime".



### **World Thrift Day/World Saving Day - October 30**

- ❖ It aims to promote the habit of savings.
- ❖ The World Savings Day was established on October 30, 1924, during the first International Savings Bank Congress.

- ❖ It was proposed by the Italian Professor, Filippo Ravizza.
- ❖ The idea behind the day was to encourage the practice of saving money, especially through thrifting.
- ❖ Theme for this year was “Saving prepares you for the future.”



### **Accession Day for Jammu Kashmir - October 26**

#### **KASHMIR'S ACCESSION TO INDIA**

**Jammu & Kashmir's accession to India in 1947 is celebrated annually as Accession Day**



**M**aharaja Hari Singh, the last Dogra ruler of Jammu & Kashmir, agrees to accede to the Dominion of India

**T**he Instrument of Accession is executed by the Maharaja under the provisions of the Indian Independence Act 1947

**T**he Schedule appended to the Instrument of Accession gave Parliament the power to legislate in respect of J&K only on defence, external affairs and communications

**O**n Oct. 27, 1947, Lord Mountbatten, the then Governor-General of India, accepts the accession

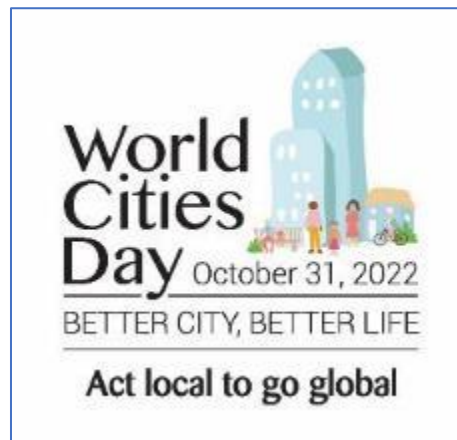


- ❖ It commemorates the day when Maharaja Hari Singh signed the Instrument of Accession in 1947, making Jammu and Kashmir an integral part of India.
- ❖ The Jammu and Kashmir Accession Day was officially made a public holiday in 2020 to be celebrated every year in the valley.
- ❖ Originally, Maharaja Hari Singh had decided to retain the independence of his state, signing standstill agreements with both the neighbouring countries to maintain the status quo.
- ❖ However, after he faced attacks from Pathan tribes' people and army personnel from Pakistan, he sought India's help.
- ❖ Thus, the Maharaja inked the treaty on October 26, 1947.

### **National Unity Day - October 31**

- ❖ The Rashtriya Ekta Diwas or National Unity Day is observed every year since 2014.
- ❖ It commemorates the birth anniversary of the Iron Man of India, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.
- ❖ He was the first Home Minister and Deputy Prime Minister of independent India.
- ❖ Women of Bardoli bestowed the title 'Sardar' on Vallabhbhai Patel, which means 'a Chief or a Leader'.

### **World Cities Day - October 31**



- ❖ The Day aims to emphasize the world's urban challenges and engage the international community towards the New Urban Agenda.
- ❖ It was first celebrated in 2014.
- ❖ The theme of this year is "Act Local to Go Global".




## **MISCELLANEOUS**

### **Hurun India Rich List 2022**

- ❖ Gautam Adani and family have topped in the IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List 2022.
- ❖ Mukesh Ambani and his family have been named as the 2nd richest in India.
- ❖ Nykaa Founder and CEO, Falguni Nayar became India's richest self-made woman and the richest female in India.

- ❖ She was surpassing Biocon chief Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw in net worth.
- ❖ Falguni is followed by Rekha Jhunjhunwala.
- ❖ India has 221 billionaires.
- ❖ Mumbai tops the India Rich list with 283 individuals
- ❖ It is followed by New Delhi (185) and Bengaluru (89).

**India's richest people**  
Wealth as released by Hurun India Rich List 2022

Rank	Name	Wealth (Rs crore)	Change in wealth	Company
1	 <b>Gautam Adani</b>	1,094,400	116%	Adani
2	 <b>Mukesh Ambani</b>	794,000	11%	Reliance Industries
3	 <b>Cyrus S Poonawalla</b>	205,100	25%	Serum Institute of India
4	 <b>Shiv Nadar</b>	184,800	-21%	HCL
5	 <b>Radhakishan Damani</b>	175,100	13%	Avenue Supermarts

### Arrival of foreign tourists

- ❖ The COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting restrictions saw the foreign tourist arrivals in India dip by 44.5% in 2021.
- ❖ While in 2020, 2.74 million foreign tourists had visited India, in 2021, the number was 1.52 million.
- ❖ The arrival of NRIs, however, are increased by 52.6% in 2021 compared to 2020.
- ❖ The number of foreign tourist arrivals during 2019 was 10.93 million.
- ❖ In 2021, the top 15 countries from which foreign tourists arrived in India included the U.S., the U.K., Bangladesh, Canada, Nepal, Afghanistan and Australia.
- ❖ These nations accounted for nearly 81% of foreign tourist arrivals in India last year.
- ❖ Air travel was the most favoured mode of travel for foreign tourists with 87.5% opting for it.



- ❖ The number of Indian nationals departing the country saw a rise in 2021 as compared to 2020.
- ❖ In 2021, 8.55 million Indian nationals departed the country as compared to 7.29 million in 2020 — a 7.3% increase.
- ❖ The UAE was the top destination for Indians in 2021, followed by the U.S., Qatar, Oman and the U.K.
- ❖ Domestic tourism in India saw a minor revival with an increase of 11.05%.
- ❖ In 2020, the number of domestic tourists was 610.22 million, in 2021 it was 677.33 million.
- ❖ The vice president of India Jagdeep Dhankar also gave away the National Tourism Awards for 2018-19 with Uttarakhand, Maharashtra and Telangana getting the top places.



### 32nd Global Financial Centers Index

- ❖ The top three most favoured financial centres in the world are New York, London and Singapore.
- ❖ It has been jointly published by Z/Yen Group in London and the China Development Institute in Shenzhen.
- ❖ It is published twice a year.
- ❖ New York has retained the top position for the past four years.
- ❖ Singapore has overtaken Hong Kong to the third rank.
- ❖ Hong Kong, on the other hand, was ranked at the fourth position.
- ❖ San Francisco was stood at the fifth position in this ranking.

- ❖ Paris has returned to the top 10 by replacing Tokyo.
- ❖ Moscow has fallen 22 places to the 73rd rank
- ❖ In India, New Delhi and Mumbai are ranked 68<sup>th</sup> and 70<sup>th</sup> ranks respectively.

The top 20 centres in GFCI 30 are shown in the table below.

Centre	GFCI 30		GFCI 29		Change In Rank	Change In Rating
	Rank	Rating	Rank	Rating		
New York	1	762	1	764	0	▼2
London	2	740	2	743	0	▼3
Hong Kong	3	716	4	741	▲1	▼25
Singapore	4	715	5	740	▲1	▼25
San Francisco	5	714	12	718	▲7	▼4
Shanghai	6	713	3	742	▼3	▼29
Los Angeles	7	712	13	716	▲6	▼4
Beijing	8	711	6	737	▼2	▼26
Tokyo	9	706	7	736	▼2	▼30
Paris	10	705	25	699	▲15	▲6
Chicago	11	704	15	714	▲4	▼10
Boston	12	703	24	703	▲12	0
Seoul	13	702	16	713	▲3	▼11
Frankfurt	14	701	9	727	▼5	▼26
Washington DC	15	700	14	715	▼1	▼15
Shenzhen	16	699	8	731	▼8	▼32
Amsterdam	17	698	28	695	▲11	▲3
Dubai	18	694	19	710	▲1	▼16
Toronto	19	693	29	694	▲10	▼1
Geneva	20	692	20	709	0	▼17

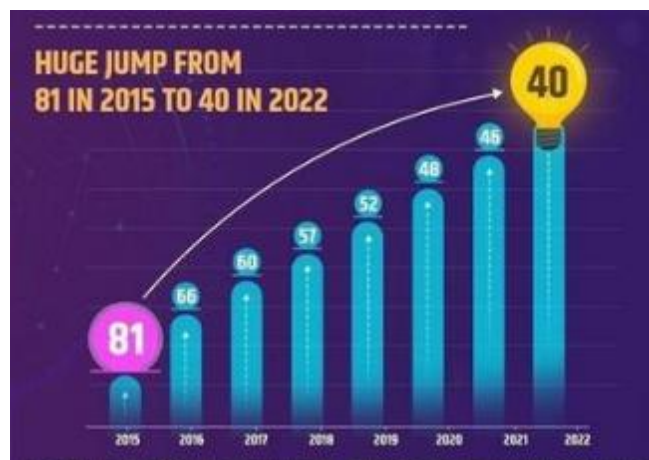
### Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS) report

- ❖ It is providing a deep insight on the state, capacity and value of our Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS).
- ❖ GOOS is a collaborative platform with six key components that help define ocean observing requirements, coordinate observing networks, and ensure the flow of data and forecasts.
- ❖ GOOS is an Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) led programme.
- ❖ The IOC is part of UNESCO.
- ❖ As per the report, System to observe carbon concentration in the world's oceans is extremely inadequate to meet the growing and urgent need for information on oceanic carbon.
- ❖ 26 per cent of the 40 gigatonnes of carbon emitted into the atmosphere annually because of human activities is absorbed by the oceans.

### **TIME100 Next**

- ❖ Akash Ambani, has found his name on Time magazine's top 100 global rising stars.
- ❖ Every year, TIME magazine publishes the TIME100 Next.
- ❖ It is a list--inspired by its flagship TIME100--that recognizes 100 rising stars worldwide.
- ❖ Akash Ambani is reportedly the only Indian on the list.

### **Global Innovation Index 2022**



- ❖ India was ranked 40th position out of 132 in the Global Innovation Index (GII) 2022.
- ❖ It was released by World Intellectual Property Organisation.
- ❖ Theme for 2022: “What is the future of innovation-driven growth?”.
- ❖ Switzerland is the most innovative economy in the world in 2022 for the 12th year in a row.
- ❖ It is followed by the United States, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the Netherlands.
- ❖ China is nearing the top 10.
- ❖ Türkiye and India enter the top 40 for the first time.

### **Hurun India 40 & under self-made rich list 2022**

- ❖ The IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List 2022 was released recently.
- ❖ Nikhil Kamath, the cofounder of Zerodha, topped the list.
- ❖ Bhavish Aggarwal, the founder of Ola, came in second place.

- ❖ Divyank Turakhia of Media.net came in third place.

Rank	Name	Wealth INR Cr
1	Nikhil Kamath	17,500
2	Bhavish Aggarwal	11,700
3	DivyankTurakhia	11,200
4	Nakul Aggarwal	9,900
4	Ritesh Arora	9,900
6	Binny Bansal	8,100
7	Ritesh Agarwal	6,300
8	HarshilMathur	5,500
8	Shashank Kumar	5,500
10	Neha Narkhede& family	4,700

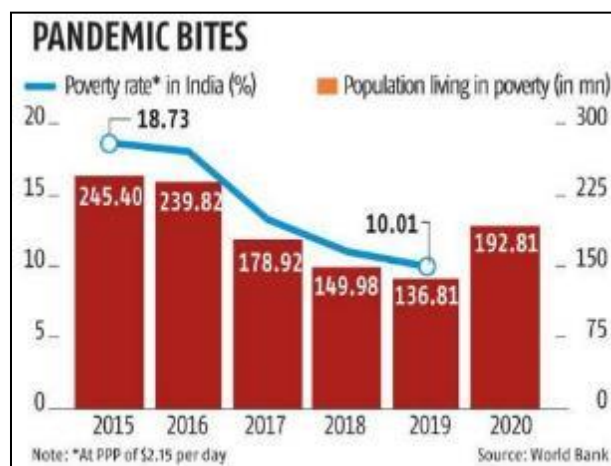
### 50 iconic Indian textiles

- ❖ Recently, UNESCO released a list of 50 exclusive and iconic heritage textile crafts of the country.
- ❖ One of the major challenges to the safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in South Asia is lack of proper inventory and documentation.
- ❖ The publication, which aims to bridge this gap, brings together years of research on the 50 selected textiles.
- ❖ Some of the textiles are mentioned in the list are
  - Sikalnayakanpet Kalamkari from Tamil Nadu
  - Toda embroidery and Sungudi from Tamil Nadu
  - Himroo weaves from Hyderabad
  - Bandha tie and dye weaving from Sambalpur in Odisha
  - Kunbi weaves from Goa
  - Mashru weaves and Patola from Gujarat
  - Himroo from Maharashtra
  - Garad-Korial from West Bengal
  - Ilkal and Lambadi or Banjara embroidery from Karnataka

## Report of ICIMOD

- ❖ “State of Gender Equality and Climate Change in South Asia and the Hindu Kush Himalayas (HKH) Region” report was released by the ICIMOD (The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development).
- ❖ It assessed the state of gender equality and climate change in climate-affected sectors like agriculture, water and energy.
- ❖ It focused on 10 countries – Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.
- ❖ These countries’ national policy recognize that women are more vulnerable to climate change.
- ❖ China, India, Nepal and Pakistan are witnessing climate change-induced migrations of men.
- ❖ There are no regional and national policies to protect these women agriculture labourers.
- ❖ The policy documents of governments in South Asia and HKH regions do not focus on the gender-based pay gap.
- ❖ The report highlighted that India’s Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) to manage climate change recognised the importance of gender equality and women’s empowerment.
- ❖ It recommends monitoring and evaluating interventions in the agriculture, energy and water sector to make policies more gender-inclusive.

## Poverty and Shared Prosperity 2022: Correcting Course



- ❖ The World Bank released a report titled “Poverty and Shared Prosperity 2022: Correcting Course”.
- ❖ Global poverty reduction has been slowing down since 2015.



- ❖ By 2015, the global extreme-poverty rate had been cut by more than half.
- ❖ In 2020 alone, the number of people living below the extreme poverty line rose by over 70 million.
- ❖ This is the largest one-year increase since global poverty monitoring began in 1990.
- ❖ Given current trends, 574 million people (nearly 7% of the world's population) will still be living on less than USD 2.15 a day in 2030, with most in Africa.
- ❖ Extreme poverty in India was 12.3% points lower in 2019 compared with 2011.
- ❖ Poverty headcount rate declined from 22.5% in 2011 to 10.2% in 2019.
- ❖ Poverty reduction was higher in rural areas compared with urban India as rural poverty declined from 26.3% in 2011 to 11.6% in 2019.
- ❖ In urban areas the decline was from 14.2% to 6.3% in the corresponding period.

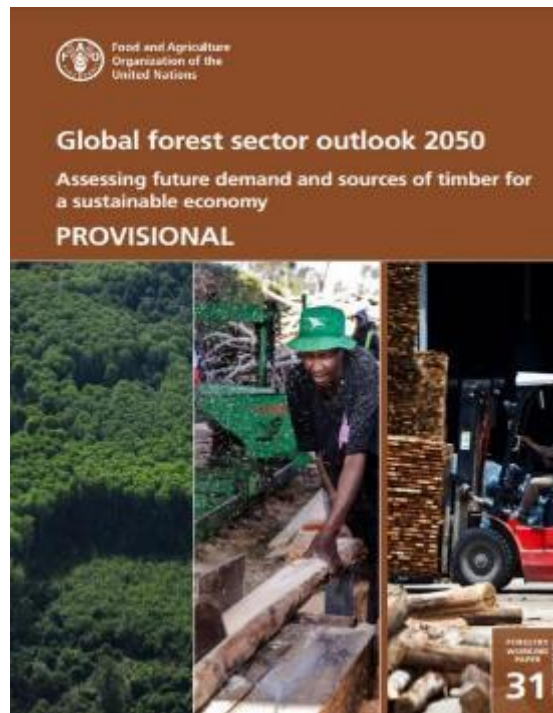
### **Durga Puja pandal**

- ❖ 136 feet tall Durga Puja pandal situated in Lucknow's Janaki Puram is all set to enter the Guinness Book of World Records as the tallest ever.
- ❖ The pandal is a replica of Vrindavan's Chandrodaya temple as is as high as a 14-storey building.
- ❖ Before this, the title of the world's tallest pandal was held by Kolkata, whose height was 125 feet.

### **Global Forest Sector Outlook 2050**

- ❖ The report titled "The global forest sector outlook 2050: Assessing future demand and sources of timber for a sustainable economy" was published.
- ❖ It was released recently by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization.
- ❖ The consumption of primary processed wood products will increase to 3.1 billion cubic meters by 2050.
- ❖ Their demand may surge by up to 272 million cubic metres by 2050.
- ❖ This is expected to create over 1 million jobs in developing countries.
- ❖ The report also forecasted that the industrial roundwood (IRW) will be vulnerable to uncertainties caused by climate-change.
- ❖ In 2020, about 44 per cent of the IRW production was provided by regenerated temperate and boreal forests.
- ❖ In 2020, the global consumption of fuelwood was 1.9 billion cubic meters.

- ❖ In 2050, this figure is expected to increase 11 to 42 per cent by reaching 2.1 to 2.7 billion cubic meters.



### **Report on 'Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Forestry'**

- ❖ The report was produced through a partnership between Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) and the non-profit Centre for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), the lead centre of the CGIAR (Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research) Research Program on Forests, Trees and Agroforestry.
- ❖ In 2019, the FAO adopted the Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors.
- ❖ Mainstreaming biodiversity means embedding biodiversity considerations into policies, strategies and practices of key public and private actors to promote the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.
- ❖ CGIAR is a global partnership that unites international organisations engaged in research about food security.
- ❖ Forests cover 31 per cent of the world's land surface & store an estimated 296 gigatonnes of carbon.
- ❖ The world's forests provide habitats for about 80 per cent of amphibian species, 75 per cent of bird species and 68 per cent of mammal species.
- ❖ In addition, about 60 per cent of all vascular plants occur in tropical forests.

### **Made-in-India drone**

- ❖ Indian cricketer Mahendra Singh Dhoni has launched a quadcopter consumer camera drone named 'Droni'.
- ❖ The made-in-India camera drone with advanced features is manufactured by Garuda Aerospace.
- ❖ It is offering drone solutions for agricultural pesticide spraying, solar panel cleaning, industrial pipeline inspections, mapping, surveying, public announcements, and delivery services.



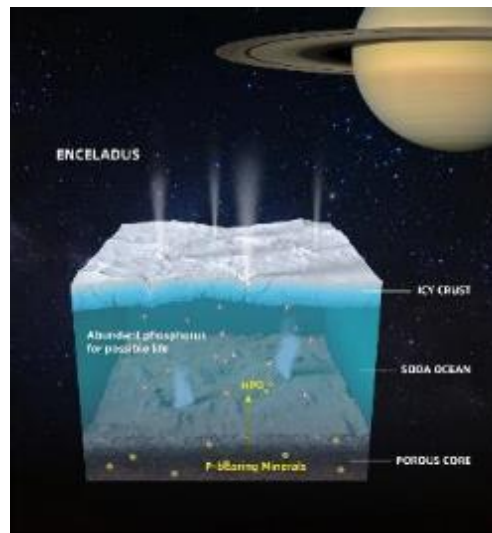
### **“The Merge” of the Ethereum**



- ❖ Ethereum is the world’s second most valuable cryptocurrency.
- ❖ Ethereum completed its migration from Proof-of-Work (PoW) to Proof-of-Stake (PoS) on mainnet.
- ❖ It is also known as the Merge.
- ❖ It promises to ramp up security of the cryptocurrency while claiming to cut down on its carbon footprint.
- ❖ ‘The Merge’ will make transactions on the Ethereum network extremely secure.
- ❖ Ethereum is a decentralised cryptocurrency.
- ❖ It does not have institutions like banks approving the transactions that happen on its network.

## Enceladus Ocean

- ❖ Enceladus is sixth largest moon of Saturn.
- ❖ Recently, A team of scientists have discovered dissolved phosphorus in the subsurface ocean of Saturn's moon Enceladus.
- ❖ It is providing new evidence for a key building block for life Enceladus has an ice-covered water ocean that erupts into space.
- ❖ It forms a plume that contains almost all of the basic requirements of terrestrial life, according to observations made by the Cassini spacecraft.
- ❖ Phosphorus is an element that is essential to the DNA, biofilms and bones that make up living organisms.
- ❖ Phosphorus can only be used by organisms if it is dissolved in water.
- ❖ The water on Enceladus is highly alkaline and oxygen-free compared to the water on Earth.



## THE World University Ranking 2023

- ❖ The Times Higher Education (THE) rankings 2023 were released Recently.
- ❖ The parameters based on which the institutes are ranked are teaching (30%), research (30%), citations (30%), international outlook (7.5%), and industry outcome (2.5%).
- ❖ In teaching and research, 15% weightage each is based on a reputational survey.
- ❖ India is the sixth most represented country in the 2023 rankings with 75 ranked universities.
- ❖ The Indian Institute of Science (IISc) is at the top position among Indian institutes.

- ❖ Globally, the IISc is placed in the 251-300 band.
- ❖ The second position among Indian institutions has been taken by Himachal Pradesh based Shoolini University of Biotechnology and Management Sciences (351-400 overall).
- ❖ IIT Ropar, which was the second highest ranking Indian institute in 2022 rankings, slipped to 6<sup>th</sup> position.
- ❖ The third position is backed by Tamil Nadu's Alagappa University.



## Living Planet Report 2022



- ❖ Living Planet Report 2022 is a joint endeavour of the World Wildlife Fund and Zoological Society of London.
- ❖ There has been a 69 per cent decline in the global wildlife population between the years 1970 and 2018.
- ❖ This does not mean that 69 per cent of individual animals across the world has declined.
- ❖ The report analysed almost 32,000 populations of 5,230 species.
- ❖ The Latin America and the Caribbean region, which hosts the Amazon Rainforest, witnessed the highest wildlife decline of 94 per cent between 1970 and 2018.



- ❖ Africa recorded the second highest decline of 66 per cent during the same period, followed by the Pacific (55 per cent).
- ❖ North America and Europe recorded lesser nature decline, falling by 20 per cent and 18 per cent respectively.
- ❖ Freshwater species population declined by 83 per cent.
- ❖ Mangroves continue to be lost to aquaculture, agriculture and coastal development at a rate of 0.13% per year.
- ❖ Around 137 square kilometres of the Sundarbans mangrove forest in India and Bangladesh has been eroded since 1985.

### **Friendship Benches**



- ❖ Thirty-two 'Friendship Benches' representing the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022's competing nations are being installed in prominent locations around Qatar to promote mental wellbeing.
- ❖ In conjunction with World Mental Health Day, a selection of the first benches was presented at Stadium 974 in Doha.
- ❖ Earlier, the bench initiative was symbolically inaugurated with the preview of the England bench at Qatar Foundation's global health event.

### **Global Status of Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems — Target G**

- ❖ This was jointly released by United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction and the World Meteorological Organization.
- ❖ The findings of the report are based on the assessment of the data from the Sendai Framework Monitor.
- ❖ Target G of the Sendai Framework seeks to increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems (MHEWS) and disaster risk information and assessment by the year 2030.



- ❖ 50 per cent the countries in the world do not have early warning systems to prepare against natural disasters.
- ❖ Africa, South America and several countries in Arab and Caribbean region have very low coverage of MHEWS.
- ❖ On average, at least 40% of countries in every region have reported the use of MHEWS.
- ❖ Less than half of Least Developing Countries (LDC) and only 33 per cent of Small Island Developing Countries have MHEWS.
- ❖ The number of deaths in countries with limited early warning coverage is eight times higher than in countries with substantial to comprehensive coverage.

### **Commitment to Reducing Inequality Index – 2022**

- ❖ The CRI Index tracks 161 countries' performance in reducing inequality among its population.
- ❖ The index ranks countries based on their policies and actions in the areas of public services (health, education and social protection), Taxation and Workers' rights.
- ❖ It is a joint project of Oxfam International and Development Finance International.
- ❖ The 2022 edition is the first detailed assessment of the countries' policies and actions combating inequality during the pandemic years.
- ❖ 50% of the low-income and lower middle-income countries have cut the share of healthcare expenditure in their budgets.
- ❖ 50% of all countries have reduced the share of social protection spending and 70% of the countries have cut the share of education spending.
- ❖ 143 countries have refrained from increasing the tax rate on the richest citizenry.
- ❖ 11 governments have actually lowered the tax rates for the rich.
- ❖ The Norway tops the 2022 index.
- ❖ It is followed by Germany, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Japan, Denmark, and New Zealand.
- ❖ India has been ranked at the 123rd spot, which is an improvement of 6 places since 2020 (ranked at 129th position).
- ❖ However, the country has come down 2 spots with regards to health spending.

### **Global Pension Index survey**

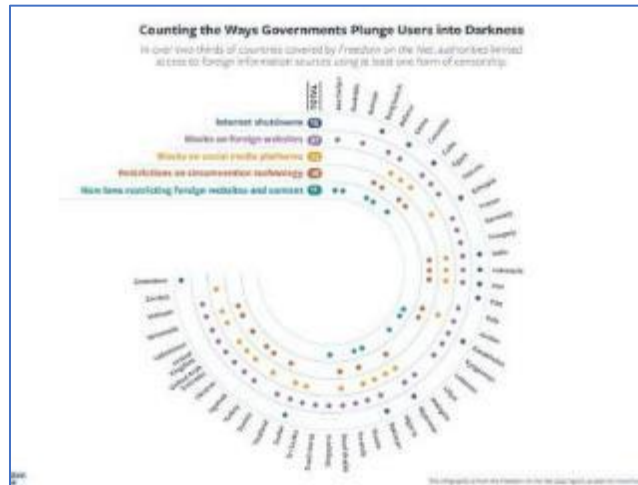
- ❖ The 2022 Mercer CFA Institute Global Pension Index survey was released recently.
- ❖ The index assesses the pension systems in various countries across the world.
- ❖ Iceland topped the list, and the second and third positions are held by the Netherlands and Denmark respectively.
- ❖ Thailand is the worst performer in the index.
- ❖ India stood at the 41st rank out of 44 countries in the index.
- ❖ In the previous edition, it held the 40th position out of 43 countries.
- ❖ India witnessed a marginal improvement with an increase in the overall index value from 43.3 in 2021 to 44.4 in 2022.
- ❖ However, this score is lower than 45.7 in 2020.
- ❖ India's scores in the three sub-indices adequacy, sustainability and integrity are 33.5, 41.8 and 61.0 respectively.
- ❖ However, the scores in "sustainability" and "integrity" have declined.
- ❖ The report recommended the expansion of coverage under private pension arrangements to boost the sub-indices adequacy and sustainability.



### **World's Number 1 Basmati Rice Brand**

- ❖ India Gate has been recognized as the world's No. 1 Basmati Rice Brand.
- ❖ It is exported to over 90 countries and sells 8+ cr. packs annually.
- ❖ The grains of the Basmati Rice are aged to perfection.
- ❖ It makes them longer, fluffier, non-sticky, and full of beautiful aroma.
- ❖ It is setting them apart from the others.

## India's internet freedom



- ❖ US-based NGO Freedom House has stated that India's internet freedom score has improved by two points.
- ❖ Now it is reaching 51 in the global ranking.
- ❖ India's score was 49 in 2021.
- ❖ The report stated that the internet was 'partly free' in the country.
- ❖ China was the worst among internet freedom providers while Iceland ranked at the top.
- ❖ The United States of America was also among the top 15 countries that ranked green in terms of internet freedom.
- ❖ It is improving its rank for the first time in six years.
- ❖ Russia saw the sharpest decline after the Russian war on Ukraine.

## World's 10th busiest airport



- ❖ The world's top 10 busiest airports list is prepared using total capacity, both domestic and international.
- ❖ The Indira Gandhi International Airport in the national capital has emerged as the world's 10th busiest airport in October.
- ❖ In its report, aviation analytics firm OAG said Delhi airport has improved its position from 14th place in October 2019.
- ❖ In October 2022, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport was the busiest in the world.
- ❖ After Atlanta, Dubai and Tokyo Haneda airports are at the 2nd and 3rd positions, respectively.
- ❖ According to the report, Dubai is the busiest international airport.
- ❖ It followed by London Heathrow Airport and Amsterdam airport at the 2nd and 3rd positions, respectively.
- ❖ There is no Indian airport in the top 10 list of busiest international airports.
- ❖ Mumbai to Dubai and Delhi to Dubai were among the top 10 busiest international routes.
- ❖ The route between Mumbai and New York is among the largest unserved routes,

### List of Centi-millionaires



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



- ❖ Out of the world's 25,490 centi-millionaires, India has 1,132, beating countries like the UK, Russia and Switzerland.
- ❖ By 2032, India will overtake China (number 2) as the fastest growing market for centi-millionaires.
- ❖ The US ranks at number 1, and it is home to 38 per cent (9,730) of global centi-millionaires.
- ❖ It is closely followed by China with 2,021 centi-millionaires.

### **Most Popular GI Award**

- ❖ The 'Most Popular Geographical Indication' award was conferred to Hyderabad Haleem and its other GI products.
- ❖ This is awarded under the food category and agriculture category.
- ❖ It is the only product in Telangana to receive a GI tag under the foodstuff category.
- ❖ Under the handicraft category, Thanjavur Art Plate from Tamil Nadu won the award.
- ❖ Mysore Sandal Soap from Karnataka received the award under the manufacturing category.
- ❖ Uttar Pradesh's Chuna Balua Patthar won in the natural category.



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