

Legend Magazine

April 2022

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LEGEND MARCH 2022 TOPPERS



Name: NANDHINI.K

En ID: Ti-B150921-MOR-012



Name: SIVASAKTHI

En ID: C-B160419-MOR-018



Name: MONISHA

En ID: C-B041021-MOR-024



Name: JANA K I

En ID: Vp-B060921-MOR-013



Name: SAHITHYAA

En ID: S-B040222-MOR-013

NATIONAL NEWS

Union Government extends the ECLGS Scheme for MSMEs until March 2023

- 📌 The Union Government has extended the **Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS)** for **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)** till **March 2023** and expanded the guaranteed cover under this scheme by ₹ 50,000 crores to ₹ 5 lakh crores.
- 📌 The ECLGS helped MSMEs get access to additional credit during the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Microsoft launches the 'Microsoft for Startups Founders Hub' platform in India

- 📌 This platform supports early-stage startup founders in India with over \$ 3,00,000 worth of benefits and credits.
- 📌 It will also give startups free access to the technology, tools and resources they need to build and run their business.

Chief Justice of India N. V. Ramana launches 'FASTER' digital platform to transmit court orders swiftly

- 📌 Chief Justice of India, **N. V. Ramana**, has launched the '**Fast and Secured Transmission of Electronic Records**' (FASTER), a digital platform to communicate **interim orders, stay orders, bail orders**, etc., of the apex court (Supreme Court) to the concerned authorities through a secured electronic communication channel.
- 📌 '**FASTER**' system was developed on a war-footing by the **Registry** in collaboration with the **National Informatics Centre (NIC)**.

State Bank of India signs an MoU with the Border Security Force to offer special benefits through CAPSP Scheme

- 📌 **State Bank of India (SBI)** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **Border Security Force (BSF)** to offer special benefits to the serving and retired BSF personnel and family pensioners through the **Central Armed Police Salary Package (CAPSP)** scheme.
- 📌 It also supports **child education** and the **marriage of girl children** of deceased BSF personnel.

Flipkart Group launches the 'Flipkart Foundation' to support development in socio-economic areas in India

- 📌 Walmart-backed homegrown e-commerce giant, **Flipkart** has launched the '**Flipkart Foundation**' with a vision to facilitate an inclusive, equitable, empowered and sustainable society in India.
- 📌 This will enable Flipkart to drive **inclusive growth** with a mission to drive **grass-root level** at-scale and institutionalised impact for sustainable livelihoods and growth opportunities in India for the **underprivileged**.

Stand-Up India Scheme completes six years

- 📌 The **sixth** anniversary of the launch of the **Stand-Up India scheme** was celebrated on **05 April 2022**. The **Stand-Up India scheme** was launched by Indian Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** on 5 April 2016.
- 📌 This scheme was launched to **encourage entrepreneurship** at the grassroots level, especially for promoting economic empowerment and employment generation among **Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST)** and **women entrepreneurs**.

Union Minister Bhupender Yadav launches awareness mascot 'Prakriti' and green initiatives for effective plastic waste management

- 📌 This mascot named '**Prakriti**' aims to spread awareness among the masses about small changes that can be sustainably adopted in our lifestyle for a better environment and various green initiatives taken by **MoEFCC** and the **Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)** to ensure effective **Plastic Waste Management (PWM)** in India.

India's first underwater metro tunnel in Kolkata is set to be made functional by 2023

- 📌 The construction of **India's first underwater metro tunnel** in **Kolkata** under the **Hooghly River** for establishing metro connectivity between **Howrah** and **Kolkata** is underway and will be made fully functional by **2023**.
- 📌 This metro tunnel is built under the Hooghly River at a depth of 33 metres. Of the **16.6-km-long** east-west stretch, **520 metres** of the metro tunnel will be under the riverbed.

Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying launches the 'One Health' pilot project in Uttarakhand

- 🌱 The **Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying (DAHD)** under the Government of India has launched a pilot project named '**One Health**' in **Uttarakhand** to implement the '**One Health** Framework by **One Health Support Unit**'.
- 🌱 The key objective of this One Health Support Unit is to develop a national '**One Health**' roadmap based on the learnings of this pilot project implementation.

World Bank and AIIB are set to provide ₹ 7,500 crores to the 'Mission School of Excellence' project in Gujarat

- 🌱 The **World Bank** and **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)** will provide a loan of **₹ 7,500 crores** for the Gujarat Government's '**Mission School of Excellence**' project that aims to improve the **quality of education** in **Gujarat**.
- 🌱 Under this project, Gujarat Government will spend **₹ 10,000 crores** in the next **five** years and cover all 35,133 government and 5,847 grant-in-aid schools in Gujarat.

Tata Steel Foundation signs an MoU with the Jharkhand Government to set up an Industrial Training Institute at Chandil

- **Tata Steel Foundation (TSF)** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **Government of Jharkhand** to set up an **Industrial Training Institute (ITI)** at Chandil in the Seraikela-Kharsawan district of **Jharkhand**.
- The main aim of this MoU is to shape more young talents from **Jharkhand** and make them industry-ready.

Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana completes seven years

- 🌱 The **seventh anniversary** of the launch of the **Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY)** was celebrated on **08 April 2022**.
- 🌱 The Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana was launched by Indian Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** on **8 April 2015** to provide loans from **₹ 50,000** to **10 lakhs** rupees to the non-corporate, non-farm small (or) micro-enterprises.

Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY)

- 🌱 Loans from **₹ 50,000** to **₹ 10 lakhs** are provided to start/grow the business under three categories of this scheme — Shishu, Kishore and Tarun.
- 🌱 **Shishu** - Loans upto **₹ 50,000**
- 🌱 **Kishore**- Loans ranging from **₹ 50,000** to **₹ 5 lakhs**
- 🌱 **Tarun** - Loans above **₹ 5 lakhs** and below **₹ 10 lakhs**

AAI's airports are set to provide a platform for the self-help groups through the 'AVSAR' scheme to promote local artisans and products

- 🌱 The **Airport Authority of India (AAI)** has taken the '**AVSAR**' (**Airport as Venue for Skilled Artisans of The Region**) initiative to allocate space to **Self Help Groups (SHGs)** at its airports for selling/showcasing the self-made products from their region.
- 🌱 '**AVSAR**' initiative aims to help the indigent to mobilise their households into functionally effective **self-earned groups** for self-reliance and self-dependence.

103rd Anniversary of the Jallianwala Bagh Massacre – 13 April 2022

- 🌱 The **Jallianwala Bagh Massacre**, also known as the **Amritsar Massacre**, took place on **13 April 1919**. A large peaceful crowd had gathered at the Jallianwala Bagh in **Amritsar, Punjab**, to protest against the arrest of pro-Indian independence leaders, **Saifuddin Kitchlew** and **Satya Pal**.
- 🌱 This year (2022) marks the **103rd** anniversary of the Jallianwala Bagh Massacre.

President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurates the National Conference on Mediation and Information Technology at Kevadia, Gujarat

- 🌱 President **Ram Nath Kovind** addressed the inaugural ceremony of the **National Conference on Mediation and Information Technology** organised by the High Court of Gujarat at **Kevadia** in the **Narmada district**.
- 🌱 He stated that **information and technology** has played a crucial role in the judiciary during the difficult time of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia flags off the first 'Made in India' Dornier 228 aircraft

- ✎ Union Civil Aviation Minister **Jyotiraditya Scindia** flagged off the first 'Made in India' **Dornier 228 aircraft** in **Passighat, Arunachal Pradesh**.
- ✎ This **Dornier 228** aircraft will facilitate regional connectivity in the NorthEast. This Dornier type aircraft of Alliance Air was made by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited.
- ✎ Alliance Air's 'Made-in-India' **Dornier 228** aircraft was deployed for its first commercial flight on the **Dibrugarh-(Assam)-to-Pasighat** (Arunachal Pradesh) route.

Union Government's 'Svanidhi Se Samridhi' programme was expanded to cover 126 more cities

- ✎ Secretary of the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) **Manoj Joshi** has launched the '**SVANidhi Se Samridhi**' programme in additional **126 cities** across **14 states and union territories**.
- ✎ '**SVANidhi Se Samridhi**' is an additional programme of the **PM SVANidhi** and was launched on **4 January 2021** in **125 cities** in the first phase, covering approximately **35 lakh street vendors** and their families.

Asian Development Bank is set to provide a \$ 2 million loan to support urban development in Nagaland

- ✎ The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** offered a **\$ 2 million** Project Readiness Financing (PRF) loan for designing climate-resilient urban infrastructure, strengthening institutional capacity and improving municipal resource mobilisation in **Nagaland**.
- ✎ This PRF loan will help design **water supply, sanitation, solid waste management** and **urban roads** in 16 district headquarter towns (DHTs) with climate-resilient features and improved access to the **poor** and **vulnerable** population of **Nagaland**.

Union Cabinet approves the extension of the Atal Innovation Mission till March 2023

- ✎ The Union Cabinet, chaired by Indian Prime Minister **Narendra Modi**, has approved the continuation of the **Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)** till **March 2023**. The AIM shall work on its intended target of creating an innovation **culture** and **entrepreneurial** ecosystem in India.

Flipkart launches its first grocery fulfilment centre in Assam

- ✎ E-commerce major **Flipkart** has launched its **first grocery fulfilment** centre in **Palasbari** in **Assam**.
- ✎ This fulfilment centre will be run by women and it is another step towards **empowering women** and creating a conducive and inclusive environment for everyone to grow.
- ✎ This facility in **Palasbari** will be spread across 1.23 lakh sq. ft. and provide more than 300 job opportunities while having the ability to cater to almost the entire northeast region.

South-Central Railway launches the 'One Station One Product' initiative at six major railway stations

- ✎ The **South Central Railway (SCR)** has launched the '**One Station - One Product**' initiative at six major railway stations in all its **six divisions**. General Manager (in charge) of the SCR, **Arun Kumar Jain**, has inaugurated stalls under this new initiative at the **Secunderabad railway station**.
- ✎ Stalls have also been opened at Kacheguda beside Vijayawada, Guntur and Aurangabad railway stations. The Union Government had announced this new initiative in the **Union Budget 2022-23**. This initiative is already under trial at **Tirupati**.

The first-ever NTCA meeting outside the national capital was held at Arunachal Pradesh

- ✎ The twentieth meeting of the **National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)** was held in the **Pakke Tiger Reserve** in **Arunachal Pradesh**.
- ✎ This meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Union Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change, **Bhupender Yadav**.
- ✎ For the first time in history, the **NTCA** meeting happened outside the Indian national capital, **New Delhi**.

A two-day national workshop to speed up the development of the national tribal freedom fighters' museum was organised at Bhopal

- ✎ The **Development Support Agency of Gujarat (DSAG)** and the **Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs** have organised a two-day national workshop to speed up the development of the national tribal freedom fighters' museum in **Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh**.

Tamil Nadu will celebrate 14 April as 'Equality Day' in memory of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar

- 🌱 **Tamil Nadu** Chief Minister **M. K. Stalin** has announced that **B. R. Ambedkar**, the 'Father of the Indian Constitution', will be honoured in Tamil Nadu by the celebration of his birth anniversary on **14 April** as the '**Day of Equality**'.
- 🌱 Ambedkar's birth anniversary would be observed as '**Samathuva Naal**' (meaning 'Equality Day').
- 🌱 Further, he announced that the selected works of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar will be translated into **Tamil** by the **Tamil Nadu Government**.

India's first-ever community museum was inaugurated in Gya - Sasoma villages in the Leh district

- 🌱 **India's** first-ever community museum was inaugurated in **Gya - Sasoma** villages of **Leh, Ladakh**, in the direction of preserving and forwarding the rich cultural heritage of these places to future generations.
- 🌱 **Gya** is the first village and oldest inhabitation in Upper **Ladakh**. Along with the **Gya - Sasoma** villagers, women associations of the villages, the Department of Museology under the National Museum Institute in New Delhi and the LAHDC of Leh have together participated in the establishment of this community museum.

Japan is set to send modified trains suitable for Indian specifications for India's first bullet train project

- 🌱 **Japan** intends to send its improved high-speed train named '**E5 Shinkansen**' series from Japan for **India's** first bullet train project to India based upon the modifications to Indian specifications like temperature, dust and weight.
- 🌱 Japan will send **six** trains initially to India.
- 🌱 These **E5 series trains** are Japanese Shinkansen high-speed trains built by Hitachi and **Kawasaki Heavy Industries**.

Union Ministry of Ports organises the 'Waterways Conclave 2022' in Dibrugarh, Assam

- 🌱 The **Union Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways**, along with the **Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI)**, organised the '**Waterways Conclave 2022**' in **Dibrugarh, Assam**.
- 🌱 This conclave aims for speedy development of **multimodal projects** in the Northeastern region to energise the economic activities and augment employment generation.
- 🌱 The **Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI)** was the industry partner for this two-day conclave.

India's first radio channel for visually-impaired people named 'Radio Aksh' was launched in Nagpur

- 🌱 India's first-ever radio channel for **visually-impaired** people named '**Radio Aksh**' was launched in **Nagpur, Maharashtra**.
- 🌱 The Blind Relief Association of Nagpur and **Samdrushti Kshamata Vikas Avam Anusandhan Mandal (Saksham)** will serve as the pioneers of this concept that will help the visually impaired gain seamless access to **education resources** and **audiobooks**.
- 🌱 This concept was created as a substitute for **audiobooks** provided by **Saksham** to the visually impaired on their digital devices, access to which was cut off due to the COVID-19 pandemic due to restrictions on travelling.

National Hydroelectric Power Corporation signs an MoU with Himachal Pradesh to develop green hydrogen technologies

- 🌱 Under this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) will develop a pilot green hydrogen production on a commercial scale to supply the hydrogen needs for sectors like **mobility, transportation, heating and microgrid**.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurates India's first Semicon India Conference in Bengaluru

- 🌱 Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** inaugurated India's first-ever Semicon India 2022 Conference in **Bengaluru, Karnataka**.
- 🌱 This conference was organised by the Union Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology. The theme of this conference is '**Design and manufacture in India, for the world: Making India a semiconductor nation**'.

Paytm becomes the official digital payments partner for the Prime Ministers' Museum

- 🌱 **Paytm** became an official **digital payments partner** for the **Prime Ministers' Museum**.
- 🌱 Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** inaugurated the '**Pradhan Mantri Sangrahalaya**' (Prime Ministers' Museum) in Delhi, which is a tribute to all prime ministers of India since independence.

'Smart Cities, Smart Urbanisation' Conference was inaugurated in Surat, Gujarat

- 🌱 The three days '**Smart Cities, Smart Urbanisation**' conference was inaugurated in **Surat, Gujarat**. This event was organised by the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) under the Government of India with **Surat Smart City Corporation Development Limited**.

BRO is set to construct the world's highest tunnel to connect Himachal Pradesh with the Zaskar Valley in Ladakh

- 🌱 The **Border Roads Organisation (BRO)** is set to construct the **world's highest tunnel** at **Shinku La Pass** at **16,580 ft** to connect **Himachal Pradesh** to **Ladakh**.
- 🌱 BRO will execute this ambitious project under '**Project Yojak**'. This tunnel is proposed to be completed by **2025**.

India's first portable solar rooftop system was unveiled in Gandhinagar, Gujarat

- 🌱 India's first portable **solar rooftop system** was inaugurated at the **Swaminarayan Akshardham Temple Complex** in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- 🌱 The installation of **10 PV Port systems** in this temple complex was supported by the German development agency **Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)**.

STATE NEWS

Odisha celebrates its eighty-seventh Foundation Day on 01 April

- 🌱 **Odisha** celebrated its **eighty-seventh** Foundation Day (**Odisha Day or Utkala Dibasa**) in memory of the formation of Odisha as a separate state out of **Bihar** and **Orissa Province** with the addition of **Koraput** and **Ganjam** from the **Madras Presidency** on **1 April 1936**.
- 🌱 Under British rule, **Odisha** was part of the **Bengal Presidency**, which consisted of the present-day **Bihar**, **West Bengal** and **Odisha**.

Andhra Pradesh launches first 'She Auto' stands to provide safe transport to women

- 🌱 **Andhra Pradesh's Tirupati** police have launched three '**She Auto**' stands, the first of its kind in **Andhra Pradesh**. These three auto stands have been set up in **RTC Bus Stand**, **Mahila University** and **Ruia Hospital** in **Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh**.

Andhra Pradesh Government launches the Talli-Bidda Express for new mothers and newborns

- 🌱 Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister **Jagan Mohan Reddy** has flagged **500 air-conditioned vehicles** named '**Talli-Bidda Express**' to provide **free transport** for **new mothers** and **their newborns** right to their doorstep. This service is coordinated by **102 (or) 108** call centre, which operates 24x7.

Tata Power Renewables commissions a 300 MW solar plant in Gujarat

- 🌱 **Tata Power's** arm, **Tata Power Renewables** has commissioned a **300 MW** solar plant in **Dholera, Gujarat**. It is India's largest **single-axis solar tracker system**.
- 🌱 This project will generate **774 MUs** (million units) annually. Along with the power generation, it will reduce approximately **7,04,340 MT/year** (tonnes per annum) of **carbon** emission. The installation entails **8,73,012 monocrystalline PV modules**.

Gangaur festival was celebrated across Rajasthan

- 🌱 The festival of **Gangaur** was celebrated across **Rajasthan** with traditional reverence and gaiety. **Women** prayed for **happiness** and **prosperity** by worshipping **Isar-Gaur**, i.e., **Lord Shiva** and **Parvati**, at their homes and in temples.

Karnataka Chief Minister establishes India's first dairy cooperative bank named 'Nandini Ksheera Samridhi Sahakara Bank'

- 🌱 **Karnataka** Chief Minister **Basavaraj Bommai** has established India's first dairy cooperative bank named '**Nandini Ksheera Samridhi Sahakara Bank**' in **Karnataka** to provide financial strength for **milk producers** of **Karnataka**.
- 🌱 The **Karnataka Government** provided **₹ 100 crores** as its share capital and the **Milk Federation and Cooperatives** would contribute **₹ 260 crores** as its share of capital for this cooperative bank.

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launches the 'School Chalo Abhiyan' initiative

- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has launched the 'School Chalo Abhiyan' to ensure **100 per cent** enrolment in primary and upper primary schools from the **Jaichandpur Katghara** upper primary schools in the **Shravasti** district of **Uttar Pradesh**.
- This initiative will be an effort by the **Uttar Pradesh** Government towards shaping the future of **primary education** and the holistic development of **primary schools**.

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister launches the 'Kaaval Uthavi' mobile application to assist the public during an emergency

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister **M. K. Stalin** has launched the 'Kaaval Uthavi' mobile application containing **60 features** that will help the public to seek police assistance during any **emergency**.
- This mobile application is used to send an '**emergency**' alert to the police control room to obtain immediate police assistance during any **distress or emergency** by the members of the public. The **user's live location** will be shared with the police control room when pressing the **emergency red button** in the mobile application.

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan launches the 'Mukhyamantri Udyam Kranti Yojana'

- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister **Shivraj Singh Chouhan** has launched the '**Mukhyamantri Udyam Kranti Yojana**'.
- Under this scheme, **Madhya Pradesh** Government will provide **₹ 1 lakh** to **₹ 50 lakhs** for micro, small and medium startup enterprises in Madhya Pradesh. The **Madhya Pradesh** Government will give a **3 per cent** per year interest subsidy and bank loan guarantee fee for a maximum period of **seven years**.

Punjab Government provides digital 'J-forms' to farmers

- Punjab Government led by **Bhagwant Mann** has decided to make available **digital J-Forms** to the farmers in **Punjab** from 01 April 2022. This initiative would benefit over 9 lakh registered farmers, thereby furnishing '**J-Forms**' digitally to them for their **agriculture** products sold in mandis on their WhatsApp account in realtime.

Sarhul festival was celebrated across Jharkhand

- 'Sarhul', the festival of nature, was celebrated across **Jharkhand** with great enthusiasm and fervour.
- It is a **three-day** festival, which begins on the third day of '**Chaitra**' (the first month of the Hindu Calendar). This festival marks the advent of the spring season or '**Phaagun**' and is celebrated till the month of June 2022.

Maharashtra partners with NTPC to set up an ultra-mega 2500-MW solar power park in Maharashtra

- The **Maharashtra State Power Generation Corporation (MAHAGENCO)** has partnered with the **National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC)** to set up an '**ultra-mega solar park**' in **Maharashtra** to generate **2,500 MW** of green power.
- This project, worth **₹ 1,727 crores**, was kickstarted in **2020**. It was approved by the Cabinet of the Maharashtra Government presided over by **Maharashtra** Chief Minister **Uddhav Thackeray**.

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami launches the '1064 Anti-Corruption Mobile App'

- Uttarakhand Chief Minister **Pushkar Singh Dhami** has launched a mobile application named '**1064 Anti-Corruption Mobile App**'. This mobile application was developed by the **Uttarakhand Vigilance Department**.
- This will make it easier for people to lodge **graft-related complaints** directly with the authorities through the **mobile application** or by **phone**.

Odisha Government signs an MoU with BPCL for developing a renewable energy plant in Odisha

- The **Odisha Government** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited** to take vital steps towards the proliferation of **green energy** in Odisha for five years.
- This MoU offers support in the fields of the feasibility of setting up **renewable energy plants** and **green hydrogen plants** (both for domestic and export customers), round the clock (RTC) power for consumers and proposed green hydrogen plants, setting up of requisite infrastructure, training and knowledge sharing, etc.

Telangana signs an MoU with Thailand for trade and investment promotion

- Telangana's Department of Industries and Commerce and **Thailand's** Ministry of Commerce have agreed to collaborate to promote bilateral **trade** and **investment** through greater cooperation in the areas of **small and medium enterprises (SMEs)** and startups.

- 🌱 This MoU seeks to strike synergies, for SMEs and startups, through innovation ecosystem enabler T-Hub, Telangana State Global Linker and Thaitrade.com of Thailand.

Jammu and Kashmir Government launches the 'Jan Nigrani' application to help people lodge complaints online

- 🌱 Jammu and Kashmir Government has launched a mobile application named 'Jan Nigrani' to help people lodge complaints related to various schemes online.
- 🌱 This application is an internet-based solution for reporting and resolving grievances by the residents of the Jammu and Kashmir against various schemes of the department.

Telangana Government launches the Space Tech Framework on Metaverse

- 🌱 Telangana Government has launched its Space Tech Framework on Metaverse with a vision to establish Telangana as a globally recognised one-stop destination for space technology.
- 🌱 This framework aims to encourage private participation in the space industry in line with the recent reforms by the Indian Government.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

The twentieth India–France bilateral naval exercise 'VARUNA -2022' kicks off in the Arabian Sea

- 🌱 India and France conducted the twentieth edition of the bilateral naval exercise 'Varuna' in the Arabian Sea.
- 🌱 This bilateral naval exercise was named 'Varuna' in 2001 and has become a vital part of the strategic bilateral relationship between India and France.
- 🌱 Various ships, submarines, maritime patrol aircraft, fighter aircraft and helicopters of the two national navies have participated in the 'VARUNA-2022' exercise.

International Organization for Migration partners with NITI Aayog to organise a national panel discussion on safe migration

- 🌱 The International Organization for Migration (IOM) has partnered with NITI (National Institution for Transforming India) Aayog to organise a national conclave on 'The impact of COVID-19 on migration: Benchmarking of good practices and preparing for the future'.
- 🌱 This conclave was aimed to initiate and support a holistic analysis on and of the core areas of migration.

The ninth edition of the India-Kyrgyzstan joint special forces exercise 'Khanjar 2022' was held in Himachal Pradesh

- 🌱 The ninth edition of the India–Kyrgyzstan joint special forces exercise 'Khanjar 2022' was held at the Special Forces Training School in Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh.
- 🌱 India and Kyrgyzstan shared their expertise and best practices of tactics, techniques and procedures to counter existing and emergent threats across the entire spectrum of conflict.
- 🌱 Combat shooting, sniping, survival in mountains, hostage rescue drills and unarmed combat were practiced extensively during this joint special forces exercise.

Nepal gets approval to export an additional 325 MW of electricity to India

- 🌱 Nepal has received permission to export an additional 325 MW of electricity to the energy market in India, taking the total electricity export to 364 MW.
- 🌱 The Indian Central Electricity Authority has given consent to Nepal Electricity owned by the Nepal Government to sell an additional 325 MW of electricity in the Indian market.

Arya.ag joins the United Nations Global Compact network from India

- 🌱 Arya.ag, an integrated grain commerce platform, has joined the United Nations Global Compact India, thereby voluntarily conforming to universal sustainability principles and taking steps to support the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- 🌱 The United Nations Global Compact is an evolved framework of corporate governance driven sustainability that requires members to conduct business conforming to 10 principles encompassing elements such as human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption.

India and Turkmenistan sign four MoUs for cooperation and agree to expand bilateral trade

- India and Turkmenistan signed four agreements, including financial intelligence and disaster management.
- President of India **Ram Nath Kovind** met President of Turkmenistan **Serdar Berdimuhamedow** and agreed to expand bilateral trade and energy cooperation to further strengthen the multifaceted partnership.

Bangladesh signs an agreement with the Adani Group for an Indian Economic Zone

- The **Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority (BEZA)** has signed an agreement with **Adani Ports & SEZ Limited** to set up an Indian Economic Zone at the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Shilpa Nagar (BSMSN) at Mirsarai in **Chattogram, Bangladesh**.
- The Indian Economic Zone will provide facilities for Indian investors in **Bangladesh**.

Viktor Orban was elected as the Prime Minister of Hungary

- Viktor Orban** won the election to become the Prime Minister of **Hungary** for a **fourth consecutive** term. **Viktor Orban**, currently fifty-eight years old, is already the longest-serving head of **Hungary**.
- Recently, **Katalin Novak** was elected as the first-ever woman **President** of **Hungary**. The forty-four-year-old **Katalin Novak** is Hungary's **youngest**-ever head of state.

Aleksandar Vucic was elected as the President of Serbia

- Aleksandar Vucic** was elected as the **President** of **Serbia** for a **second** term after he won the presidential election that was recently held in **Serbia**.
- He served as the **Prime Minister** of **Serbia** from **2014** to **2016** and from **2016** to **2017**. He also served as the Deputy Prime Minister of **Serbia** from **2012** to **2014**.

China launches the world's largest electric cruise ship

- The largest electric cruise ship in the world, the '**Yangtze River Three Gorges 1**' has started its maiden voyage in Yichang in the Hubei province. This electric cruise ship is **100 metres long, 16.3 metres wide** and has room for **1,300 passengers**.
- This cruise ship has been powered by a **7,500-kilowatt-hour** massive-sized marine battery. This ship was built at a cost of **150 million yuan** (\$ 23.5 million).

Madagascar becomes the thirteenth country to join the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure

- Madagascar** became the **thirteenth** country to join the **Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI)**.
- The **CDRI** was launched by Indian Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** during his speech at the **United Nations (UN) Climate Action Summit** in September 2019.

India financially supports the construction of the Khumjung Khunde wastewater management project in Nepal

- The **Indian Embassy** in **Kathmandu** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration of the Government of **Nepal** and Khumbu Pasang Lhamu Rural Municipality in Solukhumbu for the construction of the **Khumjung Khunde wastewater management project**.

India hosts the meeting of senior officials of Clean Energy Ministerial

- India** hosted the senior officials meeting of the **Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM)**. This meeting was organised to review the work of various workstreams in **clean energy policies**.
- The **Government of India** and the **United Kingdom** lead the plenary dialogue on the future of **energy transition**.

India contributes \$ 72,124 to the UNESCO Fund for Elimination of Doping in Sport

- The **Union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports** under the Government of India has contributed an amount of **\$ 72,124** towards the **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)** Fund for Elimination of Doping in Sport in 2022.
- First time in **2021**, the Union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports under the Government of India made a contribution of **\$ 28,172** towards the UNESCO Fund for Elimination of Doping in Sport based on the request received from the **UNESCO**.

UNHRC suspends Russia from the United Nations Human Rights Council

- Russia** was suspended from the **United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC)** after the **193-member** United Nations General Assembly voted to adopt a resolution moved by the **United States** over allegations that **Russian** troops killed civilians while pulling back from towns around the Ukrainian capital of **Kyiv**.

- 🌱 This resolution titled '**Suspension of the rights of membership of the Russian Federation in the Human Rights Council**' was adopted with 93 votes in favour, 24 against and 58 abstentions, including India.
- 🌱 In 2011, **Libya** was the **first country** to get suspended by the United Nations General Assembly when the upheaval occurred in the **North African** country which brought down its longtime leader **Moammar Gadhafi**.

Indian luxury handbag brand 'Aranyani' was launched in New York

- 🌱 Indian luxury handbag brand '**Aranyani**' was launched in **New York** at the Consulate General of India with a focus on the '**Make in India**' and '**Local for Global**' campaigns.
- 🌱 **Aranyani** was the first luxury handbag brand from India to amalgamate **traditional Indian craftsmanship**, contemporary format and design.
- 🌱 This launch was a step in the direction of Indian Prime Minister **Narendra Modi**'s mission of '**vocal for local**' and local-global campaigns.

ADB partners with French firm LDC for a \$ 100 million loan pact to help small farmers

- 🌱 The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** has partnered with the French firm **Louis Dreyfus Company (LDC)** for a **\$ 100 million (₹ 760 crores)** loan pact to help small farmers in **India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Thailand** and **Vietnam** to recover from the economic challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and improve their resilience to **climate change impacts**.
- 🌱 This loan will support LDC's operations by financing **coffee, cotton** and **rice** inventories for over 50,000 smallholder farmers across these countries.

Shehbaz Sharif was elected as the new Prime Minister of Pakistan

- 🌱 **Pakistan's** Parliament has elected **Shehbaz Sharif** as the new **Prime Minister** of **Pakistan**. He succeeded **Imran Khan**.
- 🌱 **Shehbaz Sharif** is the younger brother of three-time Pakistan Prime Minister **Nawaz Sharif**.

Ecuador becomes the first country in the world to give legal rights to wild animals

- 🌱 **Ecuador** became the **first country** in the world to give legal rights to wild animals.
- 🌱 This decision came as **Ecuador's highest court** heard the case of a woolly monkey named '**Estrellita**', who was taken from the wild when she was only **one month old** and was raised as a pet but died within a month after it was shifted to a zoo.

UNDP and AIM announces \$ 2.2 million in climate action grants for 22 local innovators across 19 countries

- 🌱 The **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** has partnered with the **Adaptation Innovation Marketplace (AIM)** to announce **\$ 2.2 million** in climate action grants for 22 local innovators across **19 countries**, including **India**.
- 🌱 This funding will be done through the **Adaptation Fund Climate Innovation Accelerator (AFCIA)** window.

TCS receives digital transformation deal from the UK Financial Ombudsman Service

- 🌱 **Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)** was selected as a strategic partner by the **UK Financial Ombudsman Service** to accelerate its digital transformation.
- 🌱 Operating within the United Kingdom public services sector, the Ombudsman provides free and **easy-to-use** services that help resolve complaints between **consumers, small businesses** and **financial services businesses**.

Extreme poverty in India declines by 12.3 percentage points between 2011 and 2019: World Bank

- 🌱 According to the **World Bank's** Policy Research Working Paper, **extreme poverty** in **India** declined by **12.3 percentage points** between **2011** and **2019**.
- 🌱 The extreme poverty count fell from **22.5 per cent** in 2011 to **10.2 per cent** in 2019 and the decline in rural areas was much higher than in urban areas.
- 🌱 This paper titled '**Poverty has declined over the last decade but not as much as previously thought**' was jointly authored by economists, **Sutirtha Sinha Roy** and **Roy Van Der Weide**.

India gets elected to the four UN ECOSOC bodies in 2022

- 🌱 **India** was elected to the **United Nations' Economic and Social Council's (ECOSOC)** four major bodies.
- 🌱 These bodies include — Commission for **Social Development**, Committee on **NGOs**, Commission on **Science and Technology** for Development and Committee for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.
- 🌱 Ambassador **Preeti Saran** was re-elected to the Committee for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

India and Maldives ink seven MoUs to implement community development projects

- India has signed **seven** Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) with the **Maldives** for projects to be built under the Indian grant assistance scheme for the **High Impact Community Development Project (HICDP)** through local bodies.
- These MoUs will strengthen Indian Government's efforts in fostering socio-economic development in local communities by promoting **health and wellbeing, empowerment of youth and preservation and protection of culture and heritage.**

India signs an MoU with Finland to establish a Virtual Network Centre on Quantum Computing

- India and **Finland** signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish an Indo-Finnish **Virtual Network Centre** on **Quantum Computing**. This centre will attempt to stimulate innovative research and development projects to address the needs of both nations.

BANKING and ECONOMY

RBI keeps key interest rates unchanged for the eleventh time in a row: First RBI Bi-monthly Monetary Policy of 2022–23

- The **Monetary Policy Committee (MPC)** of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) kept the **repo rate** unchanged at **4 per cent** for the eleventh time in a row. The **reverse repo rate** has also been kept unchanged at **3.35 per cent**.
- This is the first bi-monthly policy by the RBI for the current financial year **FY23 (2022-23)**.
- This is the eleventh time in a row that the MPC, headed by the RBI Governor **Shaktikanta Das**, has maintained the status quo.

Key Policy Rates 2022

Policy Rate	Rate
Repo Rate	4%
Reverse Repo Rate	3.35%
Bank Rate	4.25%
Marginal Standing Facility (MSF)	4.25%
Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR)	18%
Cash Reserve Ratio	4%

- RBI revised India's real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth to **7.2 per cent** for **2022–2023** from a previous projection of **7.8 per cent**. The retail inflation was revised to **5.7 per cent** for **FY23** from **4.5 per cent** earlier.

India's agriculture exports cross the \$ 50 billion mark for the first time

- India's **agricultural products export** surpassed a new milestone by crossing **\$ 50 billion** for the financial year **FY22 (2021–22)**, owing to significant growth in **sugar, rice, wheat** and other cereals exports. This would be the highest level ever achieved for **agriculture exports**.
- As per the data, the highest ever exports have been achieved for staples like **rice** (\$ 9.65 billion), **wheat** (\$ 2.19 billion), **sugar** (\$ 4.6 billion) and other **cereals** (\$ 1.08 billion).

RBI sets the WMA limit for the Government of India for the first half of the financial year 2022-23 at ₹ 1,50,000 crores

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has set the **Ways and Means Advances (WMA)** limit for the **Government of India** for the **first half** (from April 2022 to September 2022) of the financial year 2022–23 at **₹ 1,50,000 crores**.

RBI extends the timeline for banks to use lockable cassettes in ATMs by one year

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has extended the timeline for banks to use **lockable cassettes**, which could be swapped at the time of cash replenishment, in their **ATMs** by one year until **31 March 2023**.
- The RBI decided to extend the timeline after it received representations from various banks and the **Indian Banks' Association** expressing difficulties in meeting the timeline for using lockable cassettes.

Punjab National Bank mandates 'positive pay system' for high-value cheques to prevent check frauds

- Punjab National Bank (PNB)** has made the **'Positive Pay System' (PPS)** mandatory for cheques of **₹ 10 lakhs** and above to protect customers from large value cheque frauds.

- The **PPS** was developed by the **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)**. It requires the customer who issues the **high-value cheque** to reconfirm some essential details, which are cross-checked while presenting the cheque for clearance before payment.

Union Government keeps the interest rates on small savings schemes unchanged for the first quarter of 2022–23

- The **Union Government** has decided to maintain the interest rate of small savings schemes for the first quarter (Q1) of 2022–23. For the quarter from **April 2022 to June 2022**, there will be no change in post office **small savings interest rates**.

Interest rates of small savings schemes for Q1 (April to June) of 2022–23:

Small Savings Instruments	Interest Rate (from Apr 2022 to June 2022)	Compounding Frequency
Savings Deposit	4.0%	Annually
Senior Citizens' Savings Scheme (SCSS)	7.4%	Quarterly and paid
National Savings Certificate (NSC)	6.8%	Annually
Public Provident Fund Scheme (PPF)	7.1%	Annually
Kisan Vikas Patra (KVP)	6.9%	Annually
Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana (SSY)	7.6%	Annually

GST collections hit an all-time high of ₹ 1.42 lakh crores in March 2022

- The **Goods and Services Tax (GST)** collections for **March 2022** has reached a new record high of **₹ 1.42 lakh crores**, breaching its previous record of **₹ 1.40 lakh crores** in **January 2022**.
- Gross GST revenue for **March 2022** is **15 per cent** higher than the revenue in **March 2021**. It is also **46 per cent** higher than the revenue in **March 2020**.

SEBI extends the deadline for discontinuing the pooling of accounts to 01 July 2022

- The **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** has extended the deadline for discontinuing **the pooling of accounts** by three months to **01 July 2022**. The earlier deadline to stop this exercise was **01 April 2022**.

SEBI launches 'Manthan' ideathon to promote innovation in the securities market

- The Chairperson of the **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** **Madhabi Puri Buch** has launched **'Manthan'** SEBI Ideathon, highlighting that adoption of **Financial Technology (FinTech)** in the securities market will promote significant opportunities for stakeholders.
- 'Manthan'** is a six-week-long ideathon by SEBI in association with **BSE, NSE, NSDL, CDSL, KFinTech, CAMS, LinkInTime** and **MCX** to promote innovation in the securities market.

Union Bank of India launches a super app named 'UnionNXT' and digital transformation project named 'SMBHAV'

- Union Bank of India (UBI)** has launched its super app named **'UnionNXT'** and digital transformation project named **SMBHAV** with an investment outlay of around **₹ 1,000 crores** for the financial year **2022–23 (FY23)**.
- A banking super app essentially combines a number of services, such as **payments, online shopping, bill payments, recharges, investment, loans** and fund transfer, on a single platform.

RBI imposes several restrictions on the Shushruti Souharda Sahakara Bank

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has imposed several restrictions on Bengaluru-based **Shushruti Souharda Sahakara Bank Niyamita** for a period of six months due to a decline in the lender's financial position.
- A sum not exceeding **₹ 5,000** of the total balance across all **savings bank or current accounts** or any **other account** of a depositor of the Shushruti Souharda Sahakara Bank, may be allowed to be withdrawn subject to some conditions.

RBI issues guidelines for banks to set up 24x7 digital banking units

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** stated that existing banks can open digital banking units to offer products and services in both **self-served** and **assisted modes** round-the-clock.
- In the Union Budget, the Indian Government announced the setting up of at least **75 such digital banking units** in **75 districts** to commemorate **75 years** of India's independence as **'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'**.

Axis Bank inks a \$ 150 million partial guarantee pact with the ADB to support supply chain financing

- Axis Bank has signed a partial guarantee facility agreement (PGFA) with the **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** with an initial outlay of **\$ 150 million** (₹ 1,139.85 crores) to support supply chain financing for impact sectors, under which ADB will provide guarantees (variable) to the lending done by Axis Bank.
- The special focus will be on **Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG)** and **priority sectors**.

Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank launches a new deposit scheme named 'Vikas Siri Sampat-1111'

- The Chairman of the **Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank**, **P. Gopi Krishna**, has launched a new deposit scheme named '**Vikas Siri Sampat-1111**'. Under this deposit scheme, a minimum of **₹ 10,000** and a maximum of **₹ 2 crores** can be deposited.
- This scheme has a tenor of **1,111 days** with an interest rate of **5.70 per cent** for the **general public** and **6.20 per cent** for **senior citizens**.

Punjab National Bank celebrates its 128th Foundation Day on 12 April 2022

- Punjab National Bank (PNB)** celebrated its **128th Foundation Day** on 12 April 2022. PNB is India's **second-largest** public sector bank. It was founded by the freedom fighter **Lala Lajpat Rai** in **1894** as the first **swadeshi bank** after being influenced by the **Swadeshi Movement**.

RBI certifies 121 Finance as India's first NBFC-Factor under its Registration of Factors Regulations, 2022

- Jaipur-based **121 Finance** became India's first fintech-led **NBFC (non-banking financial company) Factor** to receive the **Certificate of Registration (CoR)** under the Registration of Factors (Reserve Bank) Regulations, 2022.
- This certification means that 121 Finance has become the first NBFC to convert from an Investment and Credit Company (ICC) to an NBFC-Factor.

Nexo partners with Mastercard and DiPocket to launch the world's first cryptocurrency-backed payment card 'Nexo Card'

- Crypto lender **Nexo** has partnered with global payments company **Mastercard** and **DiPocket** to launch the **world's first crypto card** named '**Nexo Card**' that allows users to spend without selling their cryptocurrencies.
- Nexo Card** is available in selected **European countries** and will give its users access to cryptocurrency-powered liquidity across 92 million merchant sites worldwide.

GDP Predictions

FICCI projects India's real GDP growth at 7.4 per cent for FY23

- Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)** has released its Economic Outlook Survey projecting India's real **Gross Domestic Product (GDP)** at **7.4 per cent** in **FY23** with a minimum growth estimate of **6 per cent** and a maximum of **7.8 per cent**.

Asian Development Bank projects India's FY23 GDP growth forecast at 7.5 per cent

- Asian Development Bank (ADB)** has projected **India's** real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at **7.5 per cent** for **FY23**.
- It also revised India's economic growth estimates for **FY24 at 8.0 per cent**.

IMF revises India's GDP growth rate to 8.2 per cent for FY23

- International Monetary Fund (IMF)** has revised India's economic growth forecast to **8.2 per cent** for 2023–24 (FY23) from **9 per cent** estimated earlier.
- It also projected **6.9 per cent** as India's GDP growth for the fiscal year 2024–25 (FY24).

Acquisitions and Mergers

Tesla CEO Elon Musk acquires a 9.2 per cent of stake in Twitter

- Tesla** Chief Executive Officer (CEO) **Elon Musk** has purchased a **9.2 per cent** stake in **Twitter**. This stake purchase amounts to nearly **73 million** shares, worth around **\$ 3 billion**.
- The disclosure of Elon's stake acquisition led to a **27 per cent** rise in **Twitter share price** in pre-market trading.

Agreements and MoUs Signed

ADB partners with HSBC India to set up a \$ 100 million partial guarantee programme for MFIs in India

- 🌱 The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** has partnered with **HSBC India** to establish a **\$ 100 million** partial guarantee programme to support more than 4,00,000 micro-borrowers and mostly women-run microenterprises across India.
- 🌱 To give impetus to this partnership, aggregated financing of an equivalent of **\$ 30 million** is being initially disbursed to three **Microfinance Institutions (MFIs)**.

Sun Mobility partners with Amazon India to expand the deployment of electric vehicles integrated with battery swapping technology

- 🌱 **Amazon India** and **Sun Mobility** are working together to expand the deployment of **Electric Vehicles (EVs)** equipped with **battery swapping technology** for delivery and logistics services.
- 🌱 These EVs will produce Amazon India's plan of adding **10,000 electric vehicles** to its Indian delivery fleet by **2025**.

IFSCA signs an information exchange pact with IRDAI

- 🌱 Global financial services watchdog, **International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)** has signed an agreement with the **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)** for strengthening information exchange between the two regulators.

ICICI Securities partners with insurtech platform CoverStack to offer insurance on the ICICI Direct Platform

- 🌱 One of India's largest financial products distributors, **ICICI Direct** has partnered with **CoverStack** to offer insurance products on **ICICI Direct Platform**.
- 🌱 Under this partnership, **seven million** customers can now search, customise, compare and buy the most suitable insurance plans for health and motor insurance.

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited signs an MoU with Israel Aerospace Industries for multi-mission tanker transport aircraft

- 🌱 **Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)** has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI)** to convert civil (passenger) aircraft to **Multi-Mission Tanker Transport (MMTT)** aircraft in India.
- 🌱 This MoU will facilitate HAL and IAI's decades-long expertise in developing, manufacturing and producing leading defence platforms.

Thales signs an MoU with and Central Manufacturing Technology Institute (CMTI) for advanced collaborative research

- 🌱 **French** multinational company, **Thales** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **Central Manufacturing Technology Institute (CMTI)** of India for advanced collaborative research and development in the field of **open hardware**.
- 🌱 This collaboration will enable indigenous **hardware development** and provide complete control over the behaviour of the processor, which will be tailored to **software applications**.

IFSCA signs an MoU with GVFL Limited for strengthening the fintech ecosystem in GIFT IFSC

- 🌱 The **International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **GVFL Limited** for cooperation and collaboration to support and facilitate the fintech ecosystem in **Gujarat International. Finance Tec-City (GIFT) IFSC**.
- 🌱 This MoU focuses on collaboration between the two organisations for the **exchange of information** and undertaking diverse initiatives with regards to the fintech industry, including holding seminars, webinars, conferences, etc., for the growth of fintech in the GIFT IFSC.

NTPC inks pact with Gujarat Gas Limited to blend green hydrogen in piped natural gas

- 🌱 **National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) Limited** has signed an agreement with **Gujarat Gas Limited (GGL)** for blending green hydrogen in the **Piped Natural Gas (PNG)** network of Gujarat utility at the NTPC's Kawas facility.

Bank of Maharashtra joins hands with NPCI for fintech engagement

- 🌱 **Bank of Maharashtra (BoM)** has partnered with the **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)** to facilitate fintech engagement for fulfilling customers' **digital transaction** needs through partnerships.

DBS Bank India partners with Social Alpha to find innovative solutions to tackle food loss and wastage

- DBS Bank India has partnered with **Social Alpha**, a popular innovation curation and venture development platform for tech startups, to address the global issue of food waste through sustainable solutions.
- This partnership furthers **DBS Bank India's** commitment to supporting entrepreneurial efforts toward addressing productivity and supply chain efficiency issues, leading to food waste and value erosion in the food and agricultural sector.

KredX partners with ICICI Bank to offer a commercial cashback card for B2B payments

- Indian supply chain finance company, **KredX** has partnered with **ICICI Bank** to offer '**ICICI Bank-KredX Commercial Card**' for **Business-to-Business (B2B)** service payments.
- This **cashback** card enables businesses to avail of financial rewards instantly for all **B2B** payments without incurring any additional cost.

Indian Oil, L&T and ReNew Power join hands for green hydrogen projects across India

- Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Larsen and Toubro** and **ReNew Power** have agreed to form a joint venture company to develop **green hydrogen projects** across **India** and capitalise on the Indian Government's ambitious plans for this sector.
- These three companies signed a binding term sheet to set up the alliance that will combine **L&T's credentials** in designing, executing and delivering engineering, procurement and construction projects, **Indian Oil's** established expertise in petroleum refining with its presence across the energy spectrum and the expertise of **ReNew Power** in offering and developing utility-scale renewable energy solutions.

NRSC partners with UIDAI to develop the Bhuvan-Aadhar portal

- The **Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Union Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and the **National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC)** of ISRO, Hyderabad for technical collaboration.
- Under this new agreement, NRSC is set to develop the **Bhuvan-Aadhar portal** providing information and **locations** of the Aadhaar centres situated across India.

Tata AIA Life Insurance joins hands with CSC for the distribution of life insurance in rural areas

- Tata AIA Life Insurance** has partnered with the **Common Services Centres (CSC)** under the **Union Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology** to engage its network of over four lakh village-level entrepreneurs at the last mile for the distribution of **life insurance plans**.
- This partnership will allow Tata AIA Life Insurance to augment its reach to around 95 per cent of **gram panchayats**, building in-roads to make life insurance products accessible to the remotest areas in India.
- Through its network, CSC will offer the **Tata AIA Life POS Smart Income Plus** plan that provides the **dual advantage** of a life cover combined with savings.

Oil India Limited partners with Ohm Clean Tech to promote hydrogen-based mobility solutions in the Northeastern Indian region

- Oil India Limited (OIL)** has signed an incubation agreement with the **Ohm Clean Tech Private Limited** for the design, integration and development of a 9-M Hydrogen Fuel Cell powered e-bus and a **Liquid Organic Hydrogen Carrier (LOHC)** solution.
- Ohm Clean Tech Private Limited will be **mentored** and nurtured under the prestigious **IIT Guwahati**.

Infosys and Rolls-Royce partner to launch the 'Aerospace Engineering and Digital Innovation Centre' in Bengaluru

- Infosys** and **Rolls-Royce** have partnered to inaugurate their joint '**Aerospace Engineering and Digital Innovation Centre**' in **Bengaluru, Karnataka**.
- This digital innovation centre was established to provide high-end **Research and Development (R&D)** services integrated with advanced digital capabilities to Rolls-Royce's engineering and group business services from India.

ICICI Bank signs an MoU with GIFT SEZ to promote the special economic zone

- ICICI Bank** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **GIFT SEZ** at GIFT City in **Gandhinagar, Gujarat**, to promote the **special economic zone** to Indian as well as **global businesses, including IT, IT-enabled services** and financial services.

- 🌱 This MoU with **ICICI Bank** will stimulate participation by global financial institutions and further promote **GIFT City** as a preferred business destination for international **financial services and products**.

BPCL collaborates with Microsoft to leverage cloud and AI to redefine customer experience

- 🌱 **Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL)** and **Microsoft** have announced a strategic cloud partnership aimed at accelerating BPCL's **digital transformation** and shaping the future of innovation in the oil and gas industry.
- 🌱 This collaboration seeks to unlock the opportunities that **Microsoft's cloud** provides to address the unique challenges of the **oil and gas sector**, enabling **BPCL** to accelerate the modernisation of its technology architecture to enhance customer experience.

Mashreq NEO partners with Federal Bank to enable the opening of non-resident accounts for Indians in the UAE

- 🌱 **Mashreq Neo** has partnered with **Federal Bank** to enable its **Indian customers** to open non-resident accounts with Federal Bank in India instantly through the Neo mobile application.
- 🌱 In addition to **seamless account opening**, customers will soon be able to view the balance in their **Non-Resident accounts** with **Federal Bank** on the **Mashreq Neo application** and make instant remittances to India through its **quick remit facility**.

IAF signs an MoU with IIT Madras to develop indigenous solutions to maintain weapon systems

- 🌱 The **Indian Air Force (IAF)** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **IIT Madras** to develop indigenous solutions to maintain various weapon systems.
- 🌱 Under this MoU, the IAF has identified key focus areas involving **technology development** and finding indigenous solutions for the sustenance of **various weapon systems**.

IIT Guwahati partners with NTPC for the development of a plant to capture carbon dioxide

- 🌱 The **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Guwahati** has partnered with **National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC)** to design and develop a highly energy-efficient plant for carbon dioxide (**CO₂**) capture from power plants.
- 🌱 This indigenous technology was developed by a research team led by Professor **Bishnupada Mandal** in the Department of Chemical Engineering at IIT Guwahati.

PhonePe partners with Extreme IX to enable faster payments

- 🌱 **PhonePe** has partnered with an internet exchange point, **Extreme IX**, to enable a faster digital payments experience for 370 million **PhonePe users**.
- 🌱 This partnership will help PhonePe **decrease latency** for its users irrespective of their location or **Internet Service Providers (ISPs)** in India.

IFSCA signs an MoU with the National Insurance Academy to provide skilled talent pool

- 🌱 The **International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the **National Insurance Academy (NIA)** to provide a skilled talent pool in the insurance sector in the **International Financial Services Centres (IFSCs)**.

SCIENCE and TECHNOLOGY

Pixxel launches India's first private commercial imaging satellite named 'Shakuntala'

- 🌱 Bengaluru-headquartered space technology startup, **Pixxel** has successfully launched its **first** full-fledged commercial satellite named '**Shakuntala**' to space through SpaceX's **Falcon 9** rocket under its '**Transporter 4**' mission.
- 🌱 This '**Shakuntala**' satellite hosts one of the highest-resolution **hyperspectral** commercial cameras ever flown to space, bringing Pixxel one step closer to building a **24x7** health monitor for the Earth.

DRDO successfully flight tests SFDR booster missile system in Odisha

- 🌱 The **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** successfully flight-tested the **Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet (SFDR)** booster missile system at the Integrated Test Range (ITR) in **Chandipur** off the **Odisha coast**.
- 🌱 The SFDR-based propulsion enables missiles to intercept aerial threats at very long ranges at supersonic speeds.

Cadila Pharma launches the world's first novel three-dose vaccine named 'ThRabis' against rabies

- Pharmaceutical major **Cadila Pharmaceuticals** has developed the world's first **novel three-dose** vaccine named '**ThRabis**' against **rabies**.
- This three-dose vaccine is a recombinant nano-particle-based **G-protein vaccine**, which is prepared using virus-like particle technology.

IIT Madras launches India's first indigenously developed polycentric prosthetic knee named 'Kadam'

- The researchers from the **Indian Institute of Technology Madras** (IIT Madras) have launched **India's first indigenously developed polycentric prosthetic knee** named '**Kadam**'.
- '**Kadam**' prosthetic knee aims to improve the quality of life for thousands of above-knee amputees. This '**Made in India**' product is a polycentric knee for the above-knee prosthesis that was developed in association with the **Society for Biomedical Technology (SBMT)** and Mobility India.

Pakistan successfully conducts the test flight of 'Shaheen-III' ballistic missile

- Pakistan Army** has conducted the successful flight test of the **surface-to-surface** medium-range ballistic missile named '**Shaheen-III**'. This missile can strike targets up to **2,750 km**.
- This test flight was aimed at revalidating **various design** and technical parameters of the **weapon system**. This ballistic missile is solid-fuelled and equipped with the **Post-Separation Altitude Correction (PSAC)** system.

India successful flight-tests the anti-tank guided missile 'HELINA'

- A team of scientists from the **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**, **Indian Army** and **Indian Air Force (IAF)** have jointly conducted the flight test of the indigenously developed helicopter launched anti-tank guided missile named '**HELINA**' at high-altitude ranges.
- This flight trials was conducted from an **Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH)** and the missile was fired successfully, engaging a simulated tank target.

China successfully launches a new satellite for the observation of the Earth

- China** has successfully launched a new **Earth observation satellite** named '**Gaofen-3 03**' into space to improve China's land-sea radar satellite constellation launched from **Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre** by a Long **March-4C** rocket.
- This satellite will capture fine-resolution images to help China **safeguard** its maritime rights and interests.

Indian Coast Guard commissions the latest Advanced Light Helicopter MK-III squadron in Bhubaneswar

- The **Indian Coast Guard (ICG)** has commissioned the latest **Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH-Dhruv) MK-III squadron** in **Bhubaneswar, Odisha**, providing a boost to Indian maritime security.
- This most advanced variant of ALH will enhance the maritime capabilities of the Indian coast guard force along the **West Bengal** and **Odisha Coast** and beyond.
- These helicopters are equipped with state-of-the-art equipment like **surveillance radar, electro-optic pod, medical intensive care unit** and **high-intensity search light**.

Indian Air Force successfully test-fires BrahMos missile from a Su30-Mk I fighter jet

- The **Indian Air Force (IAF)** has successfully test-fired a **BrahMos supersonic cruise missile** from a **Sukhoi fighter jet** on the eastern seaboard.
- This '**live firing**' of BrahMos missile was carried out in close coordination with the Indian Navy. This missile hit the target with **accuracy** and **precision**.

APPOINTMENTS

S. Raju was appointed as the Director-General of the Geological Survey of India

- S. Raju** was appointed as the **Director-General** of the **Geological Survey of India (GSI)** in Kolkata, West Bengal. He succeeded **R. S. Garkhal**, who retired recently.

Bollywood actor Aamir Khan was appointed as the brand ambassador of PharmEasy

- PharmEasy has launched its latest campaign featuring Bollywood actor **Aamir Khan** as its **brand ambassador**. He will be seen endorsing the brand in the new campaign '**Ghar Baithe Baithe Take It Easy**'.

India's Ambassador to Nepal Vinay Mohan Kwatra was appointed as the new Foreign Secretary

- India's Ambassador to **Nepal**, **Vinay Mohan Kwatra** was appointed as the new **Foreign Secretary**. He succeeded **Harsh Vardhan Shringla**, who was appointed as the Special Coordinator for G20.
- Vinay Mohan Kwatra** is a 1988 batch Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer. He was the former Ambassador of India to **France** and has worked in the Indian Prime Minister's Office as **Joint Secretary**.

Arunabha Ghosh was appointed as a member of the High-Level Expert Group on Net-zero Emissions Commitments of Non-state Entities

- United Nations** Secretary-General **Antonio Guterres** has appointed **Arunabha Ghosh** as a member of a High-level Expert Group on the Net-Zero Emissions Commitments of Non-State Entities.
- Arunabha Ghosh is the CEO of the Delhi-based Council for Energy Environment and Water. He was appointed to the **Indian** Government's **G20 Finance Track Advisory Group** for India's G20 Presidency in **2023**.

Aprajita Sharma was appointed as the Vice-Chairperson of ITU's Standing Committee on Administration and Management

- International Telecommunication Union (ITU)** has appointed Aprajita Sharma as the **Vice-Chairperson** of the Standing Committee on Administration and Management.
- She will remain as the Vice-Chairperson of the ITU's Standing Committee for the years **2023** and **2024** and its Chairperson for the years **2025** and **2026**.

RBI approves the re-appointment of Murali M. Natrajan as the MD and CEO of DCB Bank

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has approved the re-appointment of **Murali M. Natrajan** as the **Managing Director (MD)** and **Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** of **DCB Bank** for a further period of two years from 29 April 2022 to 28 April 2024.
- Murali Natrajan** was appointed as the MD and CEO of **DCB Bank** back in May 2009. Prior to that, he worked with foreign banks such as **Citibank** and **Standard Chartered Bank**.

Manoj Soni was appointed as the Chairman of the UPSC

- Eminent scholar and academician, **Manoj Soni** was appointed as the new **Chairman** of the **Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)**.
- He became the **youngest** university **Vice-Chancellor** of India in **2005** when he became the Vice-Chancellor of MS University.

BCCI Secretary Jay Shah was appointed as the Member Board Representative of the ICC Cricket Committee

- Board of Control for Cricket in India's (BCCI)** Secretary **Jay Shah** was appointed as the **Member Board Representative** of the ICC Cricket Committee.
- Former Sri Lankan cricket player **Mahela Jayawardene** was re-appointed as the **Past Player Representative** of the ICC Cricket Committee.
- These key decisions for the appointment were taken at the ICC Board Meeting held in **Dubai** in the **United Arab Emirates**.

UN Human Rights Council appoints Tuvalu's Ian fry as the world's first independent climate change and human rights expert

- The **United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC)** has appointed **Ian Fry** as the **world's first independent expert** for human rights and climate change for a period of three years.
- Ian Fry** holds dual citizenship in **Tuvalu** and **Australia**.

Iqbal Singh Lalpura was appointed as the Chairman of the National Commission for Minorities

- The Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has appointed former IPS officer **Iqbal Singh Lalpura** as the **Chairperson** of the **National Commission for Minorities (NCM)** for three years. He succeeded **Syed Ghayorul Hasan Rizvi**.
- Iqbal Singh Lalpura has authored dozens of books on **philosophy** and history of Sikhs. He has received several awards, including the **Sikh Scholar Award**, **Police Medal** for meritorious services, President's Police Medal and **Shiromani Sikh Sahitkar Award**.

Lloyd ropes in Sourav Ganguly as the brand ambassador for Eastern Indian markets

- Electrical goods major **Havells India's** consumer durables brand, **Lloyd** has roped in former Indian cricket captain and current BCCI President **Sourav Ganguly** as its brand ambassador for **Eastern Indian markets**.
- Sourav Ganguly will endorse **Lloyd's** range of consumer durables through promotion, advertising and marketing as a part of this association.

HDFC Bank has re-appointed Renu Karnad as its Non-executive Director

- HDFC Bank's** Board of Directors has approved the re-appointment of **Renu Karnad** as its **Non-executive Director** for **five years** with effect from 03 September 2022.
- She was a nominee of the parent **Housing Development Finance Corporation Limited (HDFC)**. She has been the **Managing Director** of the Housing Development Finance Corporation Limited since **2010**.

Karnataka's Health Department appoints Robin Uthappa as its brand ambassador for the Karnataka Brain Health Initiative

- The **Health Department of Karnataka** has appointed Indian cricketer **Robin Uthappa** as its brand ambassador for the Karnataka Brain Health Initiative (KA-BHI).
- This initiative is being undertaken in collaboration with the **Union Ministry of Health, NITI Aayog** and **NIMHANS**.
- This is a first-of-a-kind initiative in India that will facilitate early diagnosis and **timely treatment** for common **neurological diseases**.

Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande was appointed as the Chief of the Army Staff

- Lt. Gen. **Manoj Pande** was appointed as **India's Army Chief**.
- He is the first **engineer** to be promoted as the **Chief of the Army Staff (COAS)**.
- He replaced General **Manoj Mukund Naravane**.
- Lt. Gen Manoj Pande was commissioned in the Bombay Sappers in December **1982**.

Atomic Energy Commission Chairman Kamlesh Nilkanth Vyas gets a one-year extension

- Union Government has granted an extension of one year to **Atomic Energy Commission's** Chairman **Kamlesh Nilkanth Vyas**. The Appointment Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the extension in service to Vyas for **one year** beyond 03 May 2022.
- This is the second extension for Vyas, who was first appointed to the post in **September 2018**.

Lieutenant General Manoj Kumar Katiyar was appointed as the next Director-General of Military Operations

- Lieutenant General **Manoj Kumar Katiyar** was appointed as the next **Director-General** of Military Operations.
- He has also worked as the **Director of General (Staff Duties)** at the Army Headquarters. He has received the **Ati Vishisht Seva Medal**.

Jasleen Kohli was appointed as the new MD and CEO of Digit Insurance

- Jasleen Kohli** was appointed as the new **Managing Director (MD)** and **Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** of **Digit Insurance** with effect from 20 April 2022. He succeeded **Vijay Kumar**.

L. V. Vaidyanathan was appointed as the CEO of P&G India

- Procter & Gamble India** has appointed **L. V. Vaidyanathan** as its new Chief Executive Officer (CEO). He succeeded **Madhusudan Gopalan**.

Indian-American navy veteran Shanti Sethi was appointed as the Defence Advisor of Kamala Harris

- Indian-American navy veteran **Shanti Sethi** has joined United States Vice President **Kamala Harris'** office as her **Executive Secretary** and **Defence Advisor**.
- She is the first Indian-American commander of a major United States navy combat ship. She commanded the guided-missile destroyer 'USS Decatur' from December 2010 to May 2012. She was also the **first female commander** of a **United States naval vessel** to visit India.

AWARD and RECOGNITIONS

Arooj Aftab becomes the first Pakistani woman to win a Grammy Award

- 🌱 Pakistani singer **Arooj Aftab** has bagged her **first-ever Grammy Award** for her song '**Mohabbat**' in the **Best Global Performance** category in the Grammy Awards 2022. She became the **first Pakistani woman** to win a Grammy Award.
- 🌱 She was also nominated for the **Best New Artist** category in the Grammy Awards 2022.

HDFC Bank was adjudged as the Best Performing Bank in SHG Linkage by the National Rural Livelihood Mission

- 🌱 HDFC Bank was adjudged as the Best Performing Bank in Self Help Group (SHG) Linkage by the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM), under the Union Ministry of Rural Development.
- 🌱 **An Self Help Group (SHG)** is a group lending model with a group of small-time **women entrepreneurs** coming together for a loan, where the repayment is a collective responsibility of each member in the group.

Indian-American singer Falguni Shah and Ricky Kej win the Grammy Awards in 2022

- 🌱 Indian-American singer **Falguni Shah** won Grammy Award 2022 in the **Best Children's Music Album** category for '**A Colourful World**' at the sixty-fourth Annual Grammy Awards held in **Las Vegas, the United States**.
- 🌱 Composer **Ricky Kej** won his second Grammy Award for '**Divine Tides**' for the **Best New Age Album** category.

Journalist Aarefa Johari wins the Chameli Devi Jain Award in 2021

- 🌱 Mumbai-based journalist **Aarefa Johari** was announced as the winner of the **Chameli Devi Jain Award** for an **Outstanding Woman Media Person** in 2021. She works for '**Scroll.in**' in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- 🌱 The annual **Chameli Devi Jain Award** is a prestigious recognition for Indian in media who have reported on themes such as **social development, politics, equity, gender justice, health, war and conflict** and **consumer values**. This award was instituted in **1982**.

Ramdarash Mishra was selected for the Saraswati Samman 2021

- 🌱 **K. K. Birla Foundation** has announced that noted poet and litterateur, Professor **Ramdarash Mishra** will be awarded the prestigious **Saraswati Samman 2021** for his collection of poems, '**Mein to Yahan Hun**'.
- 🌱 The **Saraswati Samman** is one of the most prestigious literary awards in India. It was instituted in **1991**. This award is given every year to an outstanding literary work written in **any Indian language** by an Indian citizen and published within the last **10 years**.

IndusInd Bank's 'Indus Merchant Solutions' mobile application wins at the Digital CX Awards 2022

- 🌱 **IndusInd Bank** announced that its flagship mobile application for merchants named '**Indus Merchant Solutions**' was awarded the '**Outstanding Digital CX-SME Payments**' in the Digital CX Awards 2022.

Canadian photographer Amber Bracken wins the World Press Photo of the Year Award 2022

- 🌱 Canadian photographer **Amber Bracken's** photograph titled '**Kamloops Residential School**' won the **World Press Photo of the Year Award 2022**.
- 🌱 Her award-winning photo shows **children's clothing hung on crosses** commemorating the more than two hundred children who died of maltreatment, neglect and disease at the **Kamloops Indian Residential School** in **British Columbia**.
- 🌱 The annual World Press Photo of the Year Award is part of the **World Press Photo Awards** and is organised by the **Dutch foundation World Press Photo**.

Veteran Bengali writer Amar Mitra wins the O. Henry Prize 2022

- 🌱 Famous Bengali author **Amar Mitra** won the **O. Henry Prize 2022** for a short story he wrote in **1977**. He bagged the award for his short story titled '**Gaonburo**'.
- 🌱 '**Gaonburo**' is a **Bengali short fiction**, which was translated into **English** in the name of '**The Old Man Of Kusumpur**'.

Pakistan's Babar Azam and Australia's Rachael Haynes were named the ICC Players of the Month for February 2022

- 🌱 **Pakistan** cricketer **Babar Azam** was named the International Cricket Council (ICC) Men's Player of the Month for **March 2022**.

- 🌱 **Australian** cricketer **Rachael Haynes** was named the **International Cricket Council (ICC)** Women's Player of the Month for **March 2022**.

FAO recognises Mumbai as the '2021 Tree City of the World'

- 🌱 The **United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)** and **Arbor Day Foundation** have jointly recognised **Mumbai** as the '**2021 Tree City of the World**'.
- 🌱 **Mumbai** is now the **second Indian city** to hone this title. The first city to hone this title was **Hyderabad** which bagged the title **two years** in a row. Hyderabad was the only city in India to be recognised as a '2020 Tree City of the World'.
- 🌱 Apart from Hyderabad and Mumbai, **136 other cities** from **21 countries** have been recognised in the **third edition** of the 'Tree City of the World' list in 2021.

Nykaa founder Falguni Nayar wins the 2021 EY Entrepreneur of the Year Award

- 🌱 Founder and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of beauty and personal care platform **Nykaa**, **Falguni Nayar** won the **EY Entrepreneur of the Year 2021 Award** at the twenty-third edition of the EY Entrepreneur of the Year India awards.
- 🌱 The Lifetime Achievement Award was given to the Chairman of Larsen & Toubro, **A. M. Naik**.

NMDC wins the gold and silver awards at the eightieth SKOCH Summit in 2022

- 🌱 **National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC)**, under the Union Ministry of Steel, was awarded **one gold** and **one silver** award at the **eightieth SKOCH Awards** in 2022. The theme for the SKOCH Summit 2022 was '**State of BFSI and PSUs**'.
- 🌱 NMDC won the **Gold Award** in the category of **social responsibility** for the '**Promotion of Technical Education & Skill Development in Dantewada District through NMDC ITI Bhansi**' project and the **Silver Award** in the category of digital inclusion for the '**Project Kalpataru**' for ERP implementation.

Divyanka Tripathi was honoured with the Champion of Change Award 2021 in Madhya Pradesh

- 🌱 Actress **Divyanka Tripathi** was honoured with the **Champion of Change Award 2021** for her phenomenal work as an artist by the **Madhya Pradesh Government**.
- 🌱 She received this award from Madhya Pradesh Governor **Mangubhai Patel** and Chief Madhya Pradesh Minister **Shivraj Singh Chouhan**.

Prabhat Patnaik was selected for the Malcolm Adiseshiah Award 2022

- 🌱 Renowned Indian economist and political commentator **Prabhat Patnaik** was selected for the **2022 Malcolm Adiseshiah Award**.
- 🌱 This award is annually given by the **Malcolm and Elizabeth Adiseshiah Trust** to an outstanding social scientist selected from nominations received by a specially constituted national jury.

IndusInd Bank bags the global 'Celent Model Bank' Award for its Enterprise Payments Hub (EPH) initiative

- 🌱 **IndusInd Bank** was awarded the global '**Celent Model Bank**' Award under the '**Payments System Transformation**' category for building a best-in-class **Enterprise Payments Hub (EPH)**.

RANKS and INDICES

Maharashtra's Chandrapur enters record as the third hottest place in the world

- 🌱 As per the **El Dorado Weather Report**, the **Chandrapur district** of **Maharashtra** became the **third hottest place** in the world, with a temperature of **43.4 °C**. A fire was witnessed in the area of the Irai Dam.
- 🌱 **Kayes city** of **Mali** is the hottest place on earth with **44.4 °C**, Segou of Mali is the second on the list with **43.8 °C**, whereas Chandrapur is third on this list.

Nykaa's Falguni Nayar placed among the top ten self-made women billionaires in the world: Hurun Research Institute Report

- 🌱 According to a compilation released by the **Hurun Research Institute**, **Nykaa's founder Falguni Nayar** was ranked **tenth** in the **self-made women billionaires list** with a wealth of **\$ 7.6 billion**. She is the newest entrant in the women billionaires list and the only Indian among the top 10.

- Co-founder of Longfor, **Wu Yajun** from China topped this list followed by **Fan Hongwei** (China), Chairman of Hengli Petrochemical Co Limited and **Wang Laichun** (China) of Luxshare Precision Industry.

Elon Musk tops the Forbes World's Billionaires List 2022

- According to the **Forbes** richest list in 2022, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Tesla and SpaceX, **Elon Musk** (\$ 219 billion) became the richest person in the world for the first time ever.
- This list was topped by **Elon Musk** (\$ 219 billion), **Jeff Bezos** (\$ 171 billion), **Bernard Arnault & his family** (\$ 158 billion), **Bill Gates** (\$ 129 billion) and **Warren Buffett** (\$ 118 billion).
- The **United States** has the highest number of billionaires in the world, with **735 billionaires**. China (including Hong Kong and Macau) remains **second** with **607** billionaires, followed by **India** (166), **Germany** (134) and **Russia** (83).
- The top five Indians in the Forbes World's Billionaires List in 2022 are:**
 - Mukesh Ambani** (\$ 90.7 billion) – tenth rank
 - Gautam Adani** (\$ 90 billion) – eleventh rank
 - Shiv Nadar** (\$ 28.7 billion) – forty-seventh rank
 - Cyrus Poonawalla** (\$ 24.3 billion) – fifty-sixth rank
 - Radhakishan Damani** (\$ 20 billion) – eighty-first rank

Chhattisgarh tops among the states with the lowest unemployment rate in India: CMIE Report

- According to the latest data released by the **Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE)**, **Chhattisgarh** was ranked first among this list of the states with the lowest unemployment rate of **0.6 per cent** in India.
- As per the data, the states with the lowest unemployment rate in India was topped by **Chhattisgarh** (0.6 per cent), **Madhya Pradesh** (1.4 per cent), **Karnataka** (1.8 per cent) and **Gujarat** (1.8 per cent).
- India's** unemployment rate decreased to **7.6 per cent** in March 2022 from **8.10 per cent** in February 2022. **Haryana** has the highest unemployment rate in India at **26.7 per cent**.
- As per the data, the list of the states/union territories with the highest unemployment rate in India was topped by **Haryana** (26.7 per cent), **Rajasthan** (25 per cent), **Jammu and Kashmir** (25 per cent) and **Jharkhand** (14.5 per cent).

IIT Kharagpur was placed among the top universities in the world: QS World University Rankings 2022

- According to the latest edition of the **QS World University Ranking** in 2022, **IIT Kharagpur** ranked thirty-seventh and is one of the top universities in the world for the study of **several subjects** in the domain of **engineering**. Last year (2021), IIT Kharagpur was ranked **forty-four** in mineral and mining engineering.
- The QS World University Rankings 2022 index was topped by **Harvard University** (USA) for Social Sciences and Management, **Massachusetts Institute of Technology** (USA) for Engineering and Technology and **University of Oxford** (UK) for Arts and Humanities.

Gautam Adani becomes the only Indian in the world's top 10 billionaires' list: Bloomberg Billionaires Index

- According to the **Bloomberg** Billionaire's Index, Adani Group Chairman **Gautam Adani** became the **sixth** richest person in the world and the only Indian in the list with a net worth of **\$ 118 billion**.
- Tesla and SpaceX CEO **Elon Musk** has topped this list with a net worth of \$ 249 billion. **Jeff Bezos** is at the second spot with \$ 176 billion, **Bernard Arnault** is in the third spot with **\$ 139 billion**, **Bill Gates** is in the fourth the spot with a **\$ 130 billion** net worth, **Warren Buffett** is at the fifth spot at **\$ 127 billion** and **Gautam Adani** is at the **sixth spot**.
- Reliance Industries Chairman **Mukesh Ambani's** net worth currently stood at **\$ 97 billion** and he was at the eleventh spot on the Bloomberg's Billionaire Index.
- The **Bloomberg Billionaires Index** measures personal wealth based on the changes in the **stock markets, economy** and other reporting.

BOOKS and AUTHORS

Union Minister of State for External Affairs Meenakshi Lekhi released a new book titled 'Crunch Time: Narendra Modi's National Security Crises'

- The Dean of the Jindal School of International Affairs of OP Jindal Global University **Sreeram Chaulia** authored a new book titled '**Crunch Time: Narendra Modi's National Security Crises**'.
- This book was published by **Rupa Publications**. It was released by the Union Minister of State for External Affairs **Meenakshi Lekhi** at the **India International Centre** in **New Delhi**.

A new book titled 'Queen of Fire' was authored by Devika Rangachari

- Award-winning children's writer and historian **Devika Rangachari's** new book titled '**Queen of Fire**' was released. This book focuses on the journey of **Rani Lakshmibai** as a queen, soldier and stateswoman.
- This book was published by **Penguin Random House India**.

A new book titled 'Decoding Indian Babudom' by Ashwini Shrivastava was released

- Ashwini Shrivastava's** new book titled '**Decoding Indian Babudom**' was released. This is a first-of-its-kind book by a journalist covering the **bureaucratic system** of India.
- This book was published by **Vitasta Publishing Private Limited**.

Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan releases a new book titled 'Birsa Munda: Janjatiya Nayak' in New Delhi

- Union Education and Skill Development Minister **Dharmendra Pradhan** released a book titled '**Birsa Munda: Janjatiya Nayak**' authored by professor **Alok Chakrawal**, who is the Vice-Chancellor of **Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya**, **Bilaspur**.
- This book is about the life of tribal freedom fighter, **Birsa Munda**.

A new book titled 'The Maverick Effect: The Inside Story of India's IT Revolution' was released

- The co-founder and first elected Chairperson of **NASSCOM**, **Harish Mehta's** new book titled '**The Maverick Effect: The Inside Story of India's IT Revolution**' was released.
- This book tells the untold story of how in the **1970s** and **1980s** a '**band of dreamers**' joined hands to create **National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM)** and pave the way for the Information Technology (IT) revolution in India.
- This book is touted to be an authoritative biography of the **NASSCOM**, the apex body of software and IT service companies.

A new book titled 'Not Just A Nightwatchman: My Innings with BCCI' was authored by former CAG Vinod Rai

- Former Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG), **Vinod Rai's** new book titled '**Not Just A Nightwatchman: My Innings with BCCI**' was released.
- This book was published by **Rupa Publications**. **Vinod Rai** was the first Chairman of the **Banks Board Bureau (BBB)**.

Geetanjali Shree's 'Tomb of Sand' becomes the first Hindi novel to be shortlisted for the International Booker Prize

- Indian author **Geetanjali Shree's** novel '**Tomb of Sand**' became the **first Hindi language** work of fiction to be shortlisted for the **International Booker Prize**.
- This book was translated into English by **Daisy Rockwell** and described by the International Booker Prize judges as a '**loud and irresistible novel**'.

Prem Rawat launches his new book titled 'Hear Yourself' in Mumbai

- Prem Rawat** has launched his book '**Hear Yourself**' in **Mumbai, Maharashtra**. This book is a **New York Times** bestseller and is already available in **58** countries and **five languages**.
- This book helps people understand their own potential. It will help them find **peace** in a noisy world.

Rajesh Talwar's new book titled 'The Boy Who Wrote a Constitution: A Play for Children on Human Rights' was released

- A new book titled '*The Boy Who Wrote a Constitution: A Play for Children on Human Rights*' was authored by **Rajesh Talwar** and released on the occasion of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar's **131st birth anniversary** on 14 April 2022.
- This book is a fact-based drama on **Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar's** own recollections of his childhood.

OBITUARY

Pulitzer Prize awardee Richard Howard passed away at 92

- Richard Howard**, a **Pulitzer Prize-winning poet**, passed away at the age of 92. He made the venerable genre of the **dramatic monologue speak** in a modern voice.
- He won the Pulitzer Prize for '*Untitled Subjects*' in 1970. He was a **National Book Award** finalist for '*Without Saying*' in 2008.

Writer and actor Shiv Kumar Subramaniam passed away at 62

- Veteran screenwriter and actor, **Shiv Kumar Subramaniam** passed away at the age of 62. He is known for penning critically-acclaimed films '*Parinda*', '*1942: A Love Story*' and '*Chameli*'.
- As an actor, he featured in Karan Johar-backed '*Meenakshi Sundareshwar*'. His other onscreen appearances were in films '*2 States*', '*Hichki*', '*Stanley Ka Dabba*' and '*Kaminey*'.

Pakistan's humanitarian activist Bilquis Edhi passed away at 74

- Pakistan's** humanitarian activist **Bilquis Edhi** passed away at the age of 74. She is the founder of the **Edhi Foundation**, a social welfare organisation in **Pakistan**.
- Bilquis Edhi is the wife of Pakistan's renowned and revered humanitarian and philanthropist, late **Abdul Sattar Edhi**.

Legendary Odia singer Prafulla Kar passed away at 83

- Legendary **Odia** singer and music director **Prafulla Kar** passed away at the age of 83.
- He received the prestigious **Padma Shri** in 2015 and was honoured with the **Jayadeva Award** in 2004.
- He had received Odisha's film award **eight times** with a record **six times** in a row.

SPORTS NEWS

FIFA launches the official match ball named 'Al Rihla' for the 2022 Qatar FIFA World Cup

- Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA)** has launched the official match ball named '**Al Rihla**' for the upcoming 2022 Qatar FIFA World Cup that starts on 21 November 2022.
- This ball would travel faster in the air than any ball in the history of the FIFA World Cup. It was made by **Adidas** and is called **Al Rihla**, which means '**the journey**' in Arabic and its design was inspired by the **culture, architecture, iconic boats** and **flag** of Qatar.

Meghalaya is set to host the eighty-third National Table Tennis Championship in 2022

- Meghalaya** is set to host the eighty-third **National Table Tennis Championship in 2022** at the SAI Indoor Training Centre in **Shillong, Meghalaya**.
- This is the second time that the biggest national table tennis event is being hosted in the **Northeast region**.

India is set to host the Asian Junior and Cadet Fencing Championships in 2023

- Fencing Association of India (FAI) announced that India is set to host the **Asian Junior U-20 Men and Women and Cadet U-17 Boys and Girls Fencing Championships**, in **Ahmedabad, Gujarat**, in 2023.
- These championships events will witness the participation of approximately **1200** fencers from **20 to 25 countries** and will take place in **April 2023**.

Iga Swiatek defeats Naomi Osaka to win the women's singles title at the Miami Open 2022

- 🟢 Iga Swiatek of **Poland** defeated **Naomi Osaka** of **Japan** to win the women's singles title at the Miami Open 2022.
- 🟢 She became only the fourth and youngest player to win the 'Sunshine Double' of **Indian Wells** and **Miami Open** in the same year (2022) following **Steffi Graf**, **Kim Clijsters** and **Victoria Azarenka**.

Carlos Alcaraz Garfia defeats Casper Ruud to win the men's singles title at the Miami Open 2022

- 🟢 **Spanish** tennis player **Carlos Alcaraz Garfia** won the men's singles title at the **Miami Open 2022** by defeating **Casper Ruud** of Norway. **Carlos Alcaraz** became the **youngest** Miami Open men's singles title champion.
- 🟢 The 18-year-old Alcaraz won his first ATP Masters 1000 crown and is the **first Spanish** man to triumph in Miami after eight previous final appearances by his compatriots, including five appearances by **Rafa Nadal**.

Australia won the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup 2022 for the seventh time

- 🟢 **Australia** won their **seventh ICC Women's Cricket World Cup** in 2022 with a 71-run victory over **England** in Christchurch. **Alyssa Healy** of **Australia** scored **170** and it became the highest score in either a women's or men's ICC World Cup final.
- 🟢 Over the past four years, **Australia** has won **38** matches out of **39** and their only defeat in **ODIs** came against India last year (2021).
- 🟢 Highest Run-scorer: **Alyssa Healy** (509 runs)
- 🟢 Leading Wicket-taker: **Sophie Ecclestone** (21 wickets)
- 🟢 Player of the Tournament: **Alyssa Healy**
- 🟢 Highest Scorer in any World Cup Final: **Alyssa Healy** (She broke Adam Gilchrist's previous record).

FIFA unveils 'La'eeb' as the official mascot for the FIFA World Cup 2022

- 🟢 **Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA)** has unveiled '**La'eeb**' as the official mascot for the **FIFA World Cup 2022** to be held in **Qatar**.
- 🟢 **La'eeb** is an **Arabic word** meaning a **super-skilled player**. This mascot belongs to a parallel mascot verse that is indescribable and everyone is invited to interpret what it looks like.
- 🟢 Recently, **FIFA** launched the official FIFA World Cup 2022 match ball named '**Al Rihla**' and **BYJU'S** was named as the official sponsor of the **FIFA World Cup 2022**.

Hockey India Senior Men's National Championship 2022 kick-starts in Bhopal

- 🟢 The prestigious twelfth **Hockey India Senior Men's National Championship** in **2022** began in **Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh**. The **12-day** tournament will witness **28 teams** vie for top honours.
- 🟢 The previous edition of Hockey India Men's Senior National Championship was won by **Hockey Punjab**.

Thirteen-year-old Riya Jadon wins the eleventh DGC Ladies Open Amateur Golf Championship in 2022

- 🟢 Thirteen-year-old **Riya Jadon** won the **DGC Ladies Open Amateur Golf Championship** in **2022** by defeating her elder sister **Lavanya Jadon**. She also won the **junior girls trophy**.
- 🟢 Over a hundred women golfers took part in this year's (2022) tournament, which resumed at the **Delhi Golf Club** after a two-year hiatus.

Former tennis world no.5 Jo-Wilfried Tsonga announced his retirement

- 🟢 French tennis player **Jo-Wilfried Tsonga** has announced that he will retire after the **French Open 2022**. The former **world no.5** will compete at the iconic clay-court Grand Slam for the fifteenth and final time as a professional player.
- 🟢 He is a two-time **ATP Masters 1000 champion** (2008 Paris, 2014 Canada) and he also reached a major final at the **2008 Australian Open**. Tsonga is an **18-time** tour-level titlist who has won **467 matches**.

India wins its maiden women's doubles and mixed doubles titles in the World Doubles Squash Championships 2022

- 🟢 India's **Dipika Pallikal**, teaming up with **Saurav Ghosal** and **Joshna Chinappa**, has won the **mixed doubles** and **women's doubles** titles in the World Doubles Squash Championships 2022 held in **Glasgow, Scotland**.
- 🟢 **Dipika Pallikal** and **Saurav Ghosal's** team defeated England's pair **Adrian Waller** and **Alison Waters** in the final to win the mixed doubles title, becoming India's first-ever World Doubles Squash Championships mixed doubles winners.

- 🏆 **Dipika Pallikal**, paired up with **Joshna Chinappa**, defeated England's pair **Sarah-Jane Perry** and **Alison Waters** to claim the women's doubles title.

South Africa is set to host the ICC U19 Women's T20 World Cup in 2023

- 🏆 **South Africa** is set to host the inaugural **ICC U19 Women's T20 World Cup** in January 2023. This 16-team tournament was originally scheduled to take place in **2021**, but the COVID-19 pandemic saw that event delayed twice in 2021.
- 🏆 This inaugural **ICC U19 Women's T20 World Cup** will be held a month before the **2023 ICC Women's T20 World Cup**, which is also slated to be held in **South Africa** from 09 February 2023 onwards.

Charles Leclerc wins the Australian Formula One Grand Prix 2022

- 🏆 Scuderia Ferrari's driver **Charles Leclerc** (Monaco) has won the **Australian Formula One Grand Prix 2022**.
- 🏆 Red Bull's driver **Sergio Pérez** (Mexico) came in the second position and Mercedes' driver **George Russell** (Great Britain) came in the third position.
- 🏆 **Charles Leclerc** also won the **Bahrain Formula One Grand Prix 2022**.

The Netherlands was crowned as the FIH Junior Women's Hockey World Cup champions for a fourth time

- 🏆 **The Netherlands** won their **fourth International Hockey Federation (FIH) Women's Junior World Cup 2022** by defeating **Germany** in the final match held in **Potchefstroom, South Africa**.
- 🏆 **England** won the bronze medal by defeating **India**.

Australia's Victoria state is set to host the 2026 Commonwealth Games

- 🏆 The **Australian** state of **Victoria** is set to host the **2026 Commonwealth Games**, with all sporting events taking place outside of the state capital **Melbourne**.
- 🏆 The Commonwealth Games will be staged in March 2026 across multiple cities and regional hubs, including **Melbourne, Geelong, Bendigo, Ballarat** and **Gippsland**, each with its own athletes' village.

R. Praggnanandhaa wins the prestigious Reykjavik Open Chess Tournament

- 🏆 Indian Chess Grandmaster **R. Praggnanandhaa** won the prestigious Reykjavik Open Chess Tournament held in **Reykjavik, Iceland**. He defeated **D. Gukesh**.
- 🏆 Recently, **Praggnanandhaa** became only the third Indian to defeat Magnus Carlsen after former World Chess Champion **Vishwanathan Anand** and **Pentala Harikrishna**.

Rohit Sharma becomes the second Indian after Virat Kohli to score 10,000 runs in the T20 cricket

- 🏆 **Rohit Sharma** became only the second Indian after **Virat Kohli** to score **10,000 runs** in the T20 cricket. He became the **seventh** batter overall to reach the 10,000 runs in the T20s.
- 🏆 West Indian legend **Chris Gayle** is leading the list of T20 run-getters with **14,562 runs** followed by Pakistan's **Shoaib Malik** (11,698 runs), West Indies' **Kieron Pollard** (11,474 runs), Australia's **Aaron Finch** (10,499 runs), **Virat Kohli** (10,379 runs) and Australia's **David Warner** (10,373 runs).

India is set to host the Street Child Cricket World Cup in 2023

- 🏆 **India** is set to host the **Street Child Cricket World Cup** in **2023**. It is to be organised by the Street Child United and Save the Children India. The Street Child Cricket World Cup **2023** will welcome **22 teams** from **16 countries** to India.
- 🏆 This event will take place in September ahead of the **ICC World Cup 2023** and see children take part in a mixed-gender cricket tournament.

Indian shuttler Mithun Manjunath wins the silver medal in the men's singles event at the Orleans Masters 2022

- 🏆 Indian shuttler **Mithun Manjunath** won the **silver medal** after losing to **Toma Junior Popov** of **France** in the men's singles final of the Orleans Masters 2022 badminton tournament in **Orleans, France**.
- 🏆 The Indian women's doubles pair of **Ashwini Bhat** and **Shikha Gautam** were the only other Indian players to make it to the semi-finals at the **Orleans Masters 2022**.

Sajan Prakash wins the gold medal at the Danish Open Swimming Tournament in 2022

- Indian swimmer **Sajan Prakash** won the gold medal in the **200 m Butterfly** event at the Danish Open Swimming Tournament 2022.
- Vedaant Madhavan**, Indian actor Madhavan's son, won the silver medal in the **1500 m Freestyle** event at this tournament.

The first Khelo India national-ranking women's archery tournament is set to be held in Jamshedpur

- The **Sports Authority of India (SAI)** has approved ₹ **75 lakh** to host the first-ever **Khelo India National Ranking Women's Archery Tournament** over six phases at the Tata Archery Academy in **Jamshedpur, Jharkhand**.
- This tournament will be held across the **Recurve and Compound** events in the senior, junior and cadet categories and will be conducted as per the **world archery rules**.

Mongolia hosts the Senior Asian Wrestling Championships in 2022

- Mongolia** hosted the **Senior Asian Wrestling Championships** in 2022. A total of **twenty men wrestlers** across the Freestyle and Greco-Roman categories and **ten women's wrestlers** are participating in the event.
- Sports Authority of India has sanctioned ₹ **1.28 crores** for the participation of the **Indian wrestlers**.

Haryana was crowned as the champions of the Senior Men's National Hockey Championships 2022

- Haryana** was crowned as the champions of the **twelfth Senior Men's National Hockey Championship 2022** by defeating **Tamil Nadu**. **Haryana** won the trophy for the first time since **2011**.
- Karnataka** defeated **Maharashtra** in the third/fourth place classification match.

D. Gukesh wins title at the La Roda International Open 2022 held in Spain

- India's youngest chess grandmaster **Dommaraju Gukesh** won the forty-eighth **La Roda International Open chess tournament in 2022** held at **Castilla La Mancha, Spain**, by defeating Israel's **Victor Mikhalevski** in the final.
- The third place was secured by **Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa**. The fourth and fifth place was won by India's **Raunak Sadhwani** and Spain's **Manuel Lopez Martinez Josep**, respectively.

New Zealand bowler Hamish Bennett announces his retirement from all forms of cricket

- New Zealand** fast bowler **Hamish Bennett** has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket.
- He represented the New Zealand men's national team in 31 matches across all formats, taking **43 wickets**.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Date	Important Day	Other Information
1 April to 07 April	Prevention of Blindness Week	-
2 April	International Children's Book Day	The theme of International Children's Book Day 2022 is 'Stories are wings that help you soar every day'.
2 April	World Autism Awareness Day	The theme of World Autism Awareness Day 2022 is 'Inclusion in workplace'.
4 April	International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action	The theme of International Mine Awareness Day 2022 is 'Safe ground, Safe steps, Safe home'.
4 April	World Rat Day	The day was founded in 2002
5 April	National Maritime Day in India	The theme of National Maritime Day (India) 2022 is 'Sustainable shipping beyond COVID-19'.
5 April	International Day of Conscience	It was established by the United Nations General Assembly on 25 July 2019.
6 April	International Day of Sport for Development and Peace	The theme of the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace 2022 is 'Securing a sustainable and peaceful future for all: the contribution of sport'.
7 April	World Health Day	The theme of World Health Day 2022 is 'Our planet, our health'.

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9 April	CRPF Valour Day	2021 marks the fifty-seventh CRPF Valour Day.
10 April	World Homeopathy Day	The theme for World Homoeopathy Day 2022 is 'People's choice for wellness'.
11 April	National Safe Motherhood Day	The theme for National Safe Motherhood Day 2022 is 'Remain at home amid coronavirus, protect mother and infant safe from coronavirus'.
11 April	World Parkinson's Day	-
12 April	International Day of Human Space Flight	It is the annual celebration held on 12 April to the anniversary of the first human space flight by Yuri Gagarin.
13 April	102 nd Anniversary of the Jallianwala Bagh Massacre	The incident happened in the year 1919.
13 April	International Turban Day	The 2022 Turban Day marks the 553 rd birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev and the festival of Baisakhi.
14 April	National Fire Service Day	-
15 April	World Art Day	-
16 April	World Voice Day	The theme for World Voice Day 2022 is 'Lift Your Voice'.
17 April	World Hemophilia Day	The theme for World Hemophilia Day is 'Access for all: Partnership. Policy. Progress'.
18 April	World Heritage Day	The theme for World Heritage Day is 'Heritage and Climate'.
19 April	World Liver Day	-
20 April	UN Chinese Language Day	-
21 April	World Creativity and Innovation Day	-
21 April	National Civil Service Day	On this day Sardar Vallabhai Patel inaugurated the All-India Services in 1947.
22 April	International Mother Earth Day	-
23 April	World Book and Copyright Day	As per UNESCO, the city of Guadalajara in Mexico was selected as the World Book Capital for 2022.
22 April	International Girls in ICT Day	-
24 April	National Panchayati Raj Day	The annual celebration of National Panchayati Raj Day is done to commemorate the day on which the 73 rd Constitutional Amendment was passed.
24 April	World Day for Laboratory Animals	-
24 April	World Veterinary Day	The theme for World Veterinary Day 2022 is 'Strengthening Veterinary Resilience'
25 April	World Malaria Day	The theme for World Malaria Day 2022 is 'Harness innovation to reduce the malaria disease burden and save lives'
25 April	International Delegate's Day	-
25 April	International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace	-
26 April	World Intellectual Property Day	The theme for World Intellectual Property Day 2022 is 'IP and youth innovating for a better future'
26 April	International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace	-
April (24–30)	World Immunisation Week 2021	-
28 April	Workers' Memorial Day	-
28 April	World Day for Safety and Health at Work	-
29 April	International Dance Day	-
30 April	International Jazz Day	-

English

Vocabulary

1. Legitimate

Meaning: conforming to the law or to rules

Synonyms: legal, lawful, licit, legalised

Antonyms: illegal, illegitimate

Usage: The decisions made by the team would be outside the scope of **legitimate** judicial interpretation.

2. Mitigate

Meaning: make (something bad) less severe, serious or painful

Synonyms: alleviate, reduce, diminish, lessen

Antonyms: aggravate, increase, intensify

Usage: Drainage schemes have helped to **mitigate** the sanitation problem.

3. Ensure

Meaning: make certain that (something) will occur or be the case

Synonyms: secure, guarantee, warrant, certify

Usage: The use of an electronic device **ensures** the collection of accurate, rapidly accessible data.

4. Revert

Meaning: return to a previous state, practice, topic, etc.

Synonyms: return, retrogress, regress

Usage: The student **reverted** to his native language in academics.

5. Circumvent

Meaning: find a way around (an obstacle)

Synonyms: avoid, evade, get past, bypass

Usage: If you come to an obstruction in a road, you can seek to **circumvent** it.

6. Predict

Meaning: say or estimate that (a specified thing) will happen in the future or will be a consequence of something

Synonyms: forecast, foretell, foresee, prophesy

Usage: If we could **predict** the future uses of new technology, they wouldn't be innovative.

7. Advent

Meaning: the arrival of a notable person or thing

Synonyms: arrival, appearance

Antonyms: departure, disappearance

Usage: The **advent** of computing should lead to a cull of white-collar workers.

8. Adverse

Meaning: preventing success or development; harmful; unfavourable

Synonyms: unfavourable, disadvantageous, inauspicious

Antonyms: favourable, beneficial

Usage: The recent development will not have any **adverse** effect upon wildlife living in the area.

9. Surge

Meaning: a sudden large increase (typically a temporary one)

Synonyms: rise, growth, upswing

Usage: After the lecture from the doctor, there was **surge** of interest in healthy lifestyles among the students.

10. Gradual

Meaning: taking place or progressing slowly

Synonyms: slow, moderate, measured

Antonyms: sudden, abrupt

Usage: Her success has been a **gradual** progression over a 14-year career.

11. Vigorous

Meaning: characterised by or involving physical strength, effort or energy

Synonyms: energetic, lively, active, spry

Antonyms: frail, weak

Usage: Trying to sweat out a cold and fever with **vigorous** physical exercise is a really bad idea.

12. Impediment

Meaning: a hindrance or obstruction in doing something

Synonyms: obstacle, barrier

Antonym: benefit

Usage: The compliance costs are a very major **impediment** to growth for smaller businesses.

13. Enhance

Meaning: intensify, increase or further improve the quality, value or extent of

Synonyms: amplify, increase

Antonyms: diminish, mar

Usage: Improving democracy is about **enhancing** the opportunities for local communities to make their own decisions.

14. Attribute

Meaning: a quality or feature regarded as a characteristic or inherent part of someone or something

Synonyms: assign, allocate

Usage: We agreed on the key **attributes** of the character and the artistic direction.

15. Attire

Meaning: clothes (especially fine or formal ones)

Synonyms: clothes, garments

Usage: Hanna was **attired** in an elaborate evening gown.

16. Avert

Meaning: prevent or ward off (an undesirable occurrence)

Synonyms: prevent, stop

Usage: A vigilant driver managed to stop the locomotive and **avert** a major disaster.

17. Accomplish

Meaning: achieve or complete successfully

Synonyms: fulfill, achieve

Antonyms: fail in, give up

Usage: We don't worry about anything else other than **accomplishing** our specific mission.

18. Emanate

Meaning: issue or spread out from (a source)

Synonyms: arise, originate

Usage: The strength of non-violence **emanates** from an understanding of the origins of power.

19. Contradict

Meaning: deny the truth of (a statement) by asserting the opposite

Synonyms: deny, refute

Antonyms: corroborate, support

Usage: The manager did not **contradict** what he said last week.

20. Conceal

Meaning: not allowed to be seen; hide

Synonyms: hide, cover up

Antonyms: show, disclose

Usage: She carefully picked up two small boxes **concealing** one with the other.

21. Resilient

Meaning: able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions

Synonyms: flexible, pliable

Antonyms: inflexible, rigid

Usage: There is a belief that girls are more **resilient** to environmental factors than boys.

22. Precarious

Meaning: not securely held or in position; dangerously likely to fall or collapse

Synonyms: uncertain, insecure

Antonyms: safe, secure

Usage: By the time I returned, he was at the top of this **precarious** ladder cleaning windows.

23. Delicate

Meaning: very fine in texture or structure; of intricate workmanship or quality

Synonyms: fine, exquisite

Antonyms: crude, coarse

Usage: Her **delicate** bone structure and elegant grace would always turn heads when she dances.

24. Serenity

Meaning: the state of being calm, peaceful and untroubled

Synonyms: calmness, peacefulness

Antonyms: anxiety, agitation

Usage: The sculpture, by contrast, displays a deep sense of calm and **serenity**.

25. Impetus

Meaning: something that makes a process or activity happen more quickly

Synonyms: momentum, propulsion

Antonym: block

Usage: I believe that these new leaders add a new **impetus** to the situation of our company.

26. Rigid

Meaning: stiff or fixed; not able to be bent or moved

Synonyms: stiff, hard

Antonyms: flexible, lenient

Usage: They're **rigid** about their proposals and strategies but compromise on their core values.

27. Upend

Meaning: set or turn (something) on its end or upside down

Synonyms: toppled, overturned, upset

Antonyms: straighten, persist

Usage: She **upended** the bucket.

28. Adequately

Meaning: to a satisfactory or acceptable extent

Synonyms: sufficiently, passably, amply

Antonyms: defectively, inefficiently

Usage: The best solution is to ensure that the room is **adequately** ventilated.

29. Brutal

Meaning: savagely violent

Synonyms: savage, cruel, unpleasant

Antonyms: gentle, humane, civilised

Usage: The journalist wrote the corruption made by the politician with **brutal** honesty.

30. Subsequent

Meaning: being, occurring or carried out at a time after something else

Synonyms: after, ensuing

Antonyms: advance, early

Usage: In **subsequent** years, the amount of weeding necessary should become less and less.

31. Exploit

Meaning: make use of (a situation) in a way considered unfair or underhand; make full use of and derive benefit from (a resource)

Synonyms: abuse, utilise

Antonyms: passivity

Usage: He has never fully **exploited** his talents.

32. Rapid

Meaning: happening in a short time or at a great rate

Synonyms: fast, swift, hasty

Antonyms: slow, leisurely

Usage: The patient made a **rapid** recovery.

33. Anguish

Meaning: be extremely distressed about something

Synonyms: torment, agony, distress

Antonyms: happiness, contentment

Usage: No one suspected the **anguish** he carried on his shoulders.

34. Alleviate

Meaning: to make something less painful, severe or serious

Synonyms: help, soothe

Antonyms: aggravate, exacerbate

Usage: If you want to **alleviate** the situation, start by apologising for your mistakes.

35. Unprecedented

Meaning: never done or known before

Synonyms: unequaled, unmatched, unrivaled

Antonyms: familiar, usual

Usage: The damage caused by the hurricane is **unprecedented** and has never been experienced before in this country.

36. Infusing

Meaning: fill; pervade

Synonym: permeate, suffuse

Antonym: deprive, divest

Usage: She has **infused** her followers with confidence.

37. Adjudicate

Meaning: to make an official decision about who is right in a dispute

Synonyms: adjudge, judge, arbitrate, decide, determine

Usage: You should never **adjudicate** a major decision when you are under the influence of alcohol.

38. Vulnerable

Meaning: exposed to the possibility of being attacked or harmed, either physically or emotionally

Synonyms: unprotected, unsafe, pregnable

Antonyms: protected, safe, resilient

Usage: Older persons are in a **vulnerable** position.

39. Conceal

Meaning: not allow to be seen; hide

Synonyms: obscure, camouflage, enshroud

Antonyms: reveal, expose, disclose

Usage: A thick cover of mangroves **concealed** the distant sea.

40. Isolation

Meaning: the process or fact of isolating or being isolated

Synonyms: confine, detach, disconnect

Antonyms: attach, combine, connect

Usage: He wished to **isolate** Vere to preserve her.

41. Vague

Meaning: of uncertain, indefinite or unclear character or meaning

Synonyms: indistinct, indefinite, obscure

Antonyms: clear, certain, distinct

Usage: She rolled her eyes at the **vague** response.

42. Usher

Meaning: show or guide (someone) somewhere

Synonyms: escort, accompany, help, assist

Antonyms: neglect, stop, cease

Usage: By refusing to discuss euthanasia, they **usher** in something worse.

43. Futile

Meaning: incapable of producing any useful result; pointless

Synonyms: insufficient, trivial, unproductive, unprofitable

Antonyms: effective, fruitful, helpful, productive

Usage: The efforts to revive the polluted river became **futile**.

44. Revamp

Meaning: give a new and improved form, structure or appearance

Synonyms: clean, overhaul, refurbish

Antonyms: break, damage, destroy

Usage: We are planning to **revamp** our house.

45. Blatant

Meaning: (of bad behaviour) done openly and unashamedly

Synonyms: flagrant, glaring, undisguised

Antonyms: imperceptible, inconspicuous, unnoticeable

Usage: The promise that he made when they were in relationship was exposed as a **blatant** lie.

46. Viable

Meaning: capable of working successfully; feasible

Synonyms: applicable, feasible, possible, usable

Antonyms: impossible, unfeasible, unlikely

Usage: Deva is dancing quite well. His idea of becoming a dancer is **viable**.

47. Indigenous

Meaning: originating or occurring naturally in a particular place

Synonyms: native, innate, inborn, primitive, congenital

Antonyms: alien, foreign

Usage: They were our **indigenous** peoples, our first peoples, our first speakers and our first hearers.

48. Traumatic

Meaning: causing great and lasting pain or distress

Synonyms: alarming, dreadful

Antonyms: comforting, calming

Usage: I suffered a nervous breakdown. It was a **traumatic** experience.

49. Obviously

Meaning: in a way that is easily noticed by an outside observer

Synonyms: clearly, evidently

Antonyms: privately, secretly

Usage: **Obviously** the school cannot function without teachers.

50. Subsequent

Meaning: being, occurring or carried out at a time after something else

Synonyms: after, ensuing

Antonyms: advance, early

Usage: In **subsequent** years, the amount of weeding necessary should become less and less.

D.51–55) Each sentence is divided into four parts. Rearrange them to form a meaningful sentence. If no rearrangement is required, then choose option (e).

51. Said that the central board (A) / has approved raising up to \$ 2 billion (B) / the country's largest lender SBI (C) / towards bonds this fiscal year to compensate its loss (D)

- a) ACBD
- b) CABD
- c) BCDA
- d) DBAC
- e) No rearrangement required

Ans: b

Exp:

Correct sentence: The country's largest lender SBI said that the central board has approved raising up to \$ 2 billion towards bonds this fiscal year to compensate its loss.

52. As the election draws to a close, (A) / to multi-phase polling as a permanent practice (B) / the time may have come for (C) / the ECI to reconsider its resort (D)

- a) ACDB
- b) CABD
- c) BCDA
- d) DBAC
- e) No rearrangement required

Ans: a

Exp:

Correct sentence: As the election draws to a close, the time may have come for the ECI to reconsider its resort to multi-phase polling as a permanent practice.

53. It would seem sensible to (A) / before turning to the solution (B) / regarding the case (C) / collect more information (D)

- a) ACBD
- b) CABD
- c) BADC
- d) DBAC
- e) No rearrangement required

Ans: c

Exp:

Correct sentence: Before turning to the solution, it would seem sensible to collect more information regarding the case.

54. From the extraction process (A) / to the diluting and manufacturing, (B) / oil needs to be retained (C) / the true essence of the (D)

- a) ACBD
- b) CABD
- c) BCDA
- d) ABDC
- e) No rearrangement required

Ans: d

Exp:

Correct sentence: From the extraction process to the diluting and manufacturing, the true essence of the oil needs to be retained.

55. The vagueness exists notwithstanding (A) / the fact that the government has, (B) / from time to time, suggested that it does not (C) / consider cryptocurrency to be legal tender (D)

- a) ACBD
- b) CABD
- c) BCDA
- d) DBAC
- e) No rearrangement required

Ans: e

Exp:

No rearrangement required.

D.56–60): In each question below, a sentence with four words is given in bold. These are lettered as (a), (b), (c) and (d). One of these four words given in bold may either be misspelt or inappropriate in the context of the sentence. Choose the word which is wrongly spelt or inappropriate, if any. If all the words given in bold are correctly spelt and also appropriate in the context of the sentence, mark (e), i.e. 'All are correct' as your answer.

56. **Emphasising** the need to enhance **awareness** about the environment-**friendly** concept, he said that while implementing eco-tourism related **schems**, the local people should not be ignored.

- a) Emphasising
- b) Awareness
- c) Friendly
- d) Schems
- e) All are correct

Ans: d

Exp:

The correct spelling is 'schemes'.

57. The timing of Brian Lara's **retirement** from international cricket is a **wisttul** reminder that not all great **sportspersons** can **exit** on a high.

- a) Retirement
- b) Wisttul
- c) Sportspersons
- d) Exit
- e) All are correct

Ans: b

Exp:

The correct spelling is 'wistful'.

58. France, which finds itself in an extremely **difficult** situation, with slow growth, high unemployment and an **unprecedented** social **malaise** must decide what it **wishes** to become in the next five years.

- a) Difficult
- b) Unprecedented
- c) Malaise
- d) Wishes
- e) All are correct

Ans: e

Exp:

All the given words are correct.

59. Kingfisher Airlines is **holding** talks with an Abu Dhabi-based engineering firm to start a private **maintanance** repair and **overhaul** (MRO) facility, the airline **promoter** said.

- a) Holding
- b) Maintanance
- c) Overhaul
- d) Promoter
- e) All are correct

Ans: b

Exp:

The correct spelling is 'maintenance'.

60. Fresh **bout** of dollar selling by **exporters** in the absence of any intervention by the central bank helped the rupee to **bounce** back after a four-day losing **streek**.

- a) Bout
- b) Exporters
- c) Bounce
- d) Streek
- e) All are correct

Ans: d

Exp:

The correct spelling is 'streak'.

D.61–70) In the following passage, one or two words have been left out in some of the sentences shown by blank spaces, each of which is indicated by a series of numbers. Find the suitable word from the given options marked as (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) against each number and fill up the numbered blanks with the appropriate option to make the paragraph meaningfully complete.

Once upon a time, there lived a great bird named Bharunda, on the banks of a lake. It was ____ (61) ____ because he had two necks with two heads, but shared the common body. One day, as the bird was ____ (62) ____, it found a delicious-looking red-golden fruit. One of the heads ____ (63) ____, "Oh, what a delicious looking fruit. I am lucky to have found it. I am sure the fruit is sent from heavens only for me". On saying so, it started eating the fruit with ____ (64) ____ pleasure. While eating, it kept on ____ (65) ____ how it was the most delicious fruit he had ever eaten. Hearing and seeing all this, the other head requested, "Oh dear, please also allow me to taste the fruit that you are praising with all your heart". The first head did not want to share it, so it laughed and said, "We share the same stomach. Whoever amongst us eats the fruit, it goes to the same stomach. It makes no difference on who eats the fruit. Moreover, since I am the one who found this fruit in the first place, I have the right to eat it myself." This ____ (66) ____ of the first head hurt him very much and he went silent with ____ (67) ____ on hearing the first head's reply. A few days later, as they were wandering the second head found some fruits. The fruits were from a poisonous tree. He declared to the first head, "You are a ____ (68) ____ person. The other day, you had insulted me by not sharing the delicious fruit. Now I am going to eat this fruit and avenge your insult". The first head ____ (69) ____, "Please don't eat this fruit, it is a poisonous one. We share the same stomach. If you eat it, we will both suffer". Mocking at the first head, the second head replied, "Shut up! Since I am the one who found this fruit in the first place, I have the right to eat it myself". Knowing what would happen, the first head began to cry. The second head ate the poisonous fruit without ____ (70) ____ the first head's requests. As a consequence of this action, as soon as the poison reached the stomach, the bird severely suffered.

61.

- | | | |
|------------|------------|---------|
| a) appeal | b) strange | c) poor |
| d) similar | e) funny | |

Ans: b

Exp:

Strange – unusual or surprising; difficult to understand or explain

62.

- | | | |
|--------------|-------------|------------|
| a) wandering | b) roamed | c) strayed |
| d) yielding | e) dwelling | |

Ans: a

Exp:

Wandering - walk or move in a leisurely or aimless way

63.

- | | | |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| a) compelled | b) inspired | c) ventured |
| d) temper | e) mumbled | |

Ans: e

Exp:

Mumbled – say something indistinctly and quietly, making it difficult for others to hear

64.

- | | | |
|------------|-------------|-----------|
| a) gutter | b) trivial | c) utmost |
| d) despair | e) majority | |

Ans: c

Exp:

Utmost - most extreme; greatest

65.

- | | | |
|-------------|----------------|---------|
| a) praising | b) humiliating | c) veto |
| d) debasing | e) celebrated | |

Ans: a

Exp:

Praising - express warm approval or admiration

66.

- | | | |
|-------------|----------------|-------------|
| a) contempt | b) selfishness | c) persists |
| d) exert | e) plead | |

Ans: b

Exp:

Selfishness – the quality or state of being selfish; lack of consideration for other people

67.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------------------|---------------|
| a) oppression | b) contending | c) comforting |
| d) attaining | e) disappointment | |

Ans: e

Exp:

Disappointment – sadness or displeasure caused by the non-fulfilment of one's hopes or expectations

68.

- | | | |
|------------|----------|--------------|
| a) bestow | b) toil | c) deceitful |
| d) upright | e) naive | |

Ans: c

Exp:

Deceitful – guilty of or involving deceit; deceiving or misleading others

69.

- | | | |
|--------------|------------|-----------|
| a) ascertain | b) pleaded | c) modest |
| d) alleged | e) steeped | |

Ans: b

Pleaded – make an emotional appeal

70.

- | | | |
|--------------|---------------|---------|
| a) ordaining | b) contriving | c) cede |
| d) bothering | e) retorting | |

Ans: d

Exp:

Bothering – cause trouble or annoyance to (someone) by interrupting or otherwise inconveniencing

D.71–75) A sentence is divided into four parts. One of the parts may have an error. Identify the part that has the error and choose from the given options. If there is no error in the given sentence, then choose option '(e)' as the answer.

71. Californian cities are coping with an epic four-year drought, (A) / which may have been exacerbated by (B) / climate change, by buying water rights from (C) / farmers and recycling more wastewater. (D) / No Error (E)

a) A b) B c) C d) D e) E

Ans: e

Exp:

There is no error.

72. Although the court refrained from commenting on (A) / instances of arbitrariness in the exercise of pardon powers, (B) / there was an omnipresent notion of seeking accountability and (C) / ensuring responsibility while act on the basis of the constitutional mandate. (D) / No Error (E)

a) A b) B c) C d) D e) E

Ans: d

Exp:

Replace 'act' with 'acting'. If a verb follows a preposition, then it must be in the '-ing' (gerund) form.

73. The legal effect of the extraordinary (A) / depravity of the offence exhausts (B) / itself when the court sentenced (C) / the person on death for that offence. (D) / No Error (E)

a) A b) B c) C d) D e) E

Ans: d

Exp:

Replace 'on' with 'to'. The phrase 'sentenced to' is the appropriate usage in the sentence. In between the phrases, the object 'the person' is used.

74. One of the reasons for the (A) / increased death rates in cancer (B) / are the modern lifestyle and food habits, (C) / that affect both physical and mental health. (D) / No Error (E)

a) A b) B c) C d) D e) E

Ans: c

Exp:

Replace 'are' with 'is'. Here, 'one of the' is a singular subject and it takes a singular verb after it.

75. Lightning over (A) / ocean is (B) / more stronger than (C) / over land. (D) / No Error (E)

a) A b) B c) C d) D e) E

Ans: c

Exp:

Remove 'more' before 'stronger'. Double comparatives and double superlatives should not be used together.

Current Affairs Quiz

1. Which of the following states recently celebrated the Sarhul festival? (April 2022)

- a) Manipur
- b) Tripura
- c) Rajasthan
- d) Jharkhand
- e) Kerala

Ans: d

Exp: 'Sarhul', the festival of nature, was celebrated across Jharkhand with great enthusiasm and fervour.

It is a three-day festival, which begins on the third day of 'Chaitra' (the first month of the Hindu Calendar). This festival marks the advent of the spring season or 'Phaagun' and is celebrated till the month of June 2022.

Scan to QR Codes for more CA questions:

March 4th Week Quiz.



April 1st Week Quiz.



April 2nd Week Quiz.

