

# 2022 Legend Magazine May

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# Legend of March Exam Toppers



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## National News

### India's first pure green hydrogen plant was commissioned in Jorhat, Assam

- **Oil India Limited (OIL)** has commissioned a **99.999 per cent** pure green hydrogen pilot plant with an installed capacity of **10 kg** per day at its **Jorhat Pump Station** in Assam.
- This plant produces **green hydrogen** from the electricity generated by the existing **500 kW** solar plant using a **100 kW** Anion Exchange Membrane (AEM) electrolyser array. The use of the AEM technology is being used for the first time in India.

#### Assam

- Capital: **Dispur**
- Chief Minister: **Himanta Biswa Sarma**
- Governor: **Jagdish Mukhi**
- National Parks: **Orang National Park, Manas National Park, Dibru-Saikhowa National Park, Kaziranga National Park, Nameri National Park, Raimona National Park, Dihing-Patkai National Park**

### Telangana is set to get the world's largest three-wheeler electric vehicle production plant

- California-based **Biliti Electric Inc** has announced that it will be establishing the **world's largest electric three-wheeler factory**, with a production capacity of **2,40,000** electric vehicles per year in **Telangana**.
- These facilities will be built in two phases over an area of **200 acres**. The first phase of this facility will be developed over **13.5 acres** with the capability to produce **18,000** vehicles per year and is expected to be operational by early **2023**.

#### Telangana

- Capital: **Hyderabad**
- Chief Minister: **K. Chandrashekar Rao**
- Governor: **Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan**
- National Parks: **Kasu Brahmananda Reddy National Park, Mahaveer Harina National Park, Mrugavani National Park**

### Mumbai is set to host India's first International Cruise Conference

- **Mumbai** is set to host India's first **International Cruise Conference**. This conference will highlight **regional connectivity** and disseminate information about India's preparedness for developing the **cruise tourism sector**.
- This two-day international conference will witness participation from **stakeholders, including international and Indian cruise line operators, investors, global cruise consultants/experts** and **senior government officials** from the Union Ministry of Home, Finance, Tourism and Ports and Shipping.

#### Maharashtra

- Capital: **Mumbai**
- Chief Minister: **Uddhav Thackeray**
- Governor: **Bhagat Singh Koshyari**
- National Parks: **Chandoli National Park, Gugamal National Park, Nawegaon National Park, Jawaharlal Nehru (Pench) National Park, Sanjay Gandhi (Borivilli) National Park, Tadoba National Park**

### Apple announces a new partnership to protect mangroves in the Raigad district of Maharashtra

- **Apple** has partnered with the **Applied Environmental Research Foundation (AERF)** and **Conservation International** to protect the mangrove ecosystem and the livelihoods that depend on it in the **Raigad district** of **Maharashtra**.
- Apple awarded a grant to the AERF in **2021** to work with the local community to protect the **2,400-hectare mangrove forest** in the region.

### Maharashtra inaugurates India's first bus service with a fully digital ticketing facility

- Maharashtra's Tourism Minister **Aditya Thackeray** has inaugurated **India's first bus service** with 'Tap In, Tap Out' fully-digital ticketing facility.
- Under this 'Tap In, Tap Out' service, a passenger will have to 'Tap In' his Chalo smartcard or the Chalo mobile application in front of the machine installed at the entrance of the bus.

### India's first Global Ayush Investment and Innovation Summit 2022 was held in Gujarat

- India's first-ever Global **Ayush Investment and Innovation Summit 2022** was held in **Gujarat**.
- This was the first-ever mega event of this scale in the **Ayush sector**. This summit facilitated agreements with international and national institutions and various other sectors, **fuelling financial considerations, mutual research** and increasing the reach of **Ayush** globally.

### Netflix India partners with the Union Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to develop short videos highlighting the role of women change makers

- **Netflix India** has collaborated with the **Union Ministry of Information and Broadcasting** to release a series of short videos series under an initiative called '**Azadi Ki Amrit Kahaniya**', highlighting the role of Indian women achievers.
- Under this partnership, **Netflix India** will also conduct workshops and masterclasses for the skill development of Indian filmmakers.

### Total enrolments of Atal Pension Yojana crosses four crore

- Indian Government's social security scheme **Atal Pension Yojana (APY)** has crossed total enrolments of **4.01 crore registrations** as of **March 2022**, out of which more than **99 lakh** APY accounts were opened during **2021–2022**.
- According to the latest APY data, around **71 per cent** of the enrolments into this scheme was done by the public-sector banks, **19 per cent** by the regional rural banks, **6 per cent** by the private sector banks and 3 per cent by payment and small finance banks.

### India's first Amrit Sarovar was developed in Rampur, Uttar Pradesh

- India's first '**Amrit Sarovar**' was completed in **Rampur's** Gram Panchayat of Patwai in **Uttar Pradesh**.
- Under the Amrit Sarovar initiative, **seventy-five** water bodies will be developed and rejuvenated in each district as part of '**Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav**'.

### Agra becomes the first Indian city to have vacuum-based sewer systems

- **Agra** became the **first city in India** to have **vacuum-based sewer systems**. These sewers would be used in public places.
- **Agra Municipal Corporation** has linked 240 such houses near the **Taj Mahal** with vacuum-based sewers, where conventional sewer systems could not be used.

### Jamtara becomes India's first district to have community libraries in every village

- **Jamtara** in **Jharkhand** became the only district in **India** where all **gram panchayats** have community libraries.
- This district, with a population of about eight lakhs, has a total of **118 gram panchayats** under **six blocks** and each panchayat has a well-equipped library that is open for students from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### Unnat Bharat Abhiyan 2.0 completes four years

- **Unnat Bharat Abhiyan 2.0** has successfully completed **four years** on **25 April 2022**. This scheme was launched with the aim of bringing transformational changes in the processes of **rural development** on 25 April 2018.
- Unnat Bharat Abhiyan is a flagship programme of the Union Education Ministry. This scheme aims to link the **higher education institutions** with a set of at least **five villages** so that these institutions can contribute to the **economic and social betterment** of village communities using their knowledge base.

### Prime Minister Narendra Modi launches the Global Patidar Business Summit in Surat

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has virtually inaugurated the **Global Patidar Business Summit** in **Surat, Gujarat**.

- This three-day business summit was organised by **Sardardham**, an organisation that is devoted to the **Patidar community** in **Gujarat**. The two earlier editions of this summit were held in **2018** and **2020**.

#### **Maharashtra approves India's first Gene Bank Programme for biodiversity conservation**

- **Maharashtra's Cabinet** has approved **India's** first-of-its-kind **Gene Bank Programme** in Maharashtra.
- This programme is aimed at conserving native **biodiversity** to ensure that natural resources are passed on to the next generation.

#### **Union Minister Virendra Kumar launches the DACE Scheme in Uttar Pradesh**

- Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment and Chairman of Dr. Ambedkar Foundation (DAF), **Virendra Kumar** has launched the **Dr. Ambedkar Centres of Excellence (DACE) Scheme** all over India from the **Banaras Hindu University** in **Varanasi**.
- **Anandiben Patel**, Governor of Uttar Pradesh, was the chief guest at the launch of this event.
- Under the **DACE Scheme**, a total of **100 seats** will be sanctioned for coaching per centre for the Scheduled Caste candidates.

#### **Bihar Chief Minister inaugurates India's first ethanol plant in Purnia**

- India's first ethanol plant was inaugurated in the Purnia district of Bihar.
- On this occasion, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar said ethanol production through this plant would help reduce the cost of petrol and generate fresh employment opportunities in Bihar.

#### **India becomes the first country in the Asia Pacific to land an aircraft using the indigenous 'GAGAN' satellite navigation system**

- For the first time in the history of the Indian aviation industry, IndiGo became the first airline in India to land an aircraft using the indigenous satellite navigation system, **GAGAN (GPS-Aided Geo-Augmented Navigation)**.
- GAGAN is the space-based augmented navigation system of India, which was jointly developed by Airports Authority of India (AAI) and Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) for India and neighbouring countries in the equatorial region.
- There are only **four** such space-based augmentation systems available in the world — GAGAN (India) WAAS (the United States), EGNOS (Europe) and MSAS (Japan).

#### **International semiconductor consortium (ISMC) to invest \$3 billion in Karnataka to set up India's first chip-making plant**

- International Semiconductor Consortium (ISMC), a joint venture between Abu Dhabi-based Next Orbit Ventures and Israel-based Tower Semiconductor, will invest **\$ 3 billion** in **Karnataka** to set up India's first chip-making plant.
- Semiconductors are the building blocks of electronic devices ranging from smartphones and cloud servers to modern cars, industrial automation, critical infrastructure and defence systems.

#### **TPCDT partners with CADDRE to launch India's first bridgital autism support network 'Pay Attention'**

- Tata Power Community Development Trust (TPCDT) has partnered with the Center for Autism and other Disabilities Rehabilitation Research and Education (**CADRRE**) to launch 'Pay Attention: A different Mind is a Gifted Mind', India's first bridgital autism support network.
- This initiative shall pave the way for small towns and rural India to access specialised care and support and help create an auxiliary network of champions for the differently-abled. This platform shall also enable mentoring, skilling and meaningful livelihoods for people with autism.

#### **India launches the pilot phase of UPI-type protocol 'Open Network for Digital Commerce' in five cities**

- India launched the pilot phase of **Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)**, a UPI-type protocol, in five cities with an aim to democratise fast-growing e-commerce sector, help small retailers and reduce dominance of online retail giants.
- ONDC is an initiative aimed to promote open networks for all aspects of the exchange of goods and services over digital or electronic networks. ONDC is to be based on open-sourced methodology, using open specifications and open network protocols independent of any specific platform.

### Union Government launches the revamped 'Zero Effect Zero Defect' scheme for MSMEs

- Union Minister Narayan Rane launched a sustainable certification scheme to facilitate micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) to adopt 'Zero Defect Zero Effect' practices and become energy efficient while improving quality through increased compliance with manufacturing processes.
- The 'Zero Defect Zero Effect' or ZED scheme is a programme that will ensure that all the MSMEs are delivering top-quality products and using clean technology.
- A provision of up to ₹ **5 lakhs** per MSME will be made available for handholding and consultancy support for MSMEs under the ZED certification to assist them to move towards 'Zero Defect Zero Effect' solutions.
- Under this scheme, micro enterprises will get **an 80 per cent** subsidy on the cost of the ZED certification and small enterprises and medium enterprises will get **60 per cent** and **50 per cent** subsidies, respectively.

### National Open Access Registry goes live successfully

- National Open Access Registry (NOAR) is a **centralised online platform** through which the short-term open access to the inter-state transmission system is being managed in India.
- NOAR has successfully gone live on **1 May 2022**.
- It is an integrated platform accessible to all stakeholders in the power sector, including open access customers (both sellers and buyers), power traders, power exchanges, national/regional/state Load Despatch Centre (LDCs) and others.

### India is the 'Country of Honour' at the Marche Du Film in 2022

- India will be the 'official country of honour' at the upcoming Marche' Du Film 2022, organised alongside the 75<sup>th</sup> edition of the **Cannes Film Festival in France**.
- The 'country of honour' status ensures India's presence as a **focus country at the Marche Du Film in 2022**.

### IIT Bombay partners with the India Meteorological Department to develop user-friendly weather forecasting applications

- Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay has collaborated with the **India Meteorological Department (IMD)** under the Union Ministry of Earth Sciences) to develop climate solutions for stakeholders at the village, city and district levels.
- IIT Bombay, set up in **1958** as the second IIT in India, is recognised worldwide as a leader in the field of engineering education and research.

### India's first tribal health observatory is set to come up in Odisha

- Odisha is set to come up with India's only observatory that will establish a repository on the health of the **tribal population** in Odisha.
- This tribal health observatory will perform systematic and ongoing observation on disease burden, health-seeking behaviour and healthcare delivery system pertaining to tribal health in Odisha.

### India's first 'Flow Chemistry Technology Hub' was opened in Hyderabad

- India's first 'Flow Chemistry Technology Hub' was opened in Hyderabad.
- This hub will be an enabler for the **pharma industry** in India to make a paradigm shift towards the incorporation of modern approaches from research and development to manufacturing and migration to greener and sustainable processes.
- Flow chemistry deals with the process of performing **chemical reactions** in a tube or pipe.

### Union Minister Narayan Rane inaugurates the Enterprise India National Coir Conclave 2022 in Coimbatore

- Union Minister for MSME Narayan Rane and Minister of State for MSME Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma, along with other state ministers and senior officials, inaugurated the 'Enterprise India National Coir Conclave 2022' organised under 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' in **Coimbatore**, Tamil Nadu.
- '**Run for Coir**' was also organised to promote the use of coir as a natural, degradable and eco-friendly product.

### NCRTC receives India's first Regional Rapid Transit System train

- The National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) has received India's first semi-high speed train set for the Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) at Alstom's Savli plant in Gujarat.
- The NCRTC is the implementing agency of India's first RRTS corridor between **Delhi–Ghaziabad–Meerut**.

### Supreme Court gets two new judges and is set to regain its full strength of 34

- The Union Government notified the appointment of Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia, the Chief Justice of Gauhati High Court and Justice Jamshed Burjor Pardiwala, a Judge of the Gujarat High Court, as judges of the Supreme Court.
- At present, the Supreme Court has a strength of 32 judges against a sanctioned strength of **34** judges.

### Etsy inks a pact with the North Eastern Handlooms and Handicraft Development Corporation to support weavers and traditional artisans based in Northeast

- **Etsy**, the global marketplace for unique and creative goods, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **North Eastern Handicrafts and Handloom Development Corporation (NEHHDC)** to promote small sellers, weavers and craftsmen by providing market access and enabling support.
- The goal of this pact is to provide vital tools and resources to craftsmen, creators and small entrepreneurs in the Indian handicrafts sector, so they can start and maintain internet companies.

### Priyanka Mohite becomes the first Indian woman to scale five peaks above 8,000 m

- Priyanka Mohite from Maharashtra became the first Indian woman to scale five peaks above **8,000 m** after she climbed **Mount Kanchenjunga**.
- She has also climbed the world's highest peak Mount Everest (8,849 m) in 2013. Additionally, she has climbed Mount Lhotse (8,516 m) in 2018, Mount Makalu (8,485 m) and Mount Kilimanjaro (5,895 m) in 2016.

### Atal Innovation Mission and the NITI Aayog launch the AIM-PRIME playbook to help academicians launch deep-tech spin-offs

- The AIM **PRIME (Programme for Researchers in Innovation, Market Readiness and Entrepreneurship)** programme was aimed at promoting early-stage science-based, deep technology ideas to market through training and guidance over a period of **12 months** using a blended learning curriculum.
- Other benefits of the programme include a guide for science-based entrepreneurs and ventures named the PRIME playbook, a curated resource shared by the faculty and expert mentors associated with the programme named the PRIME library and an open-access video collection of the lectures delivered as part of the PRIME classroom named the PRIME videos.

### India's first Centre of Excellence for Khadi is set to be inaugurated in New Delhi

- India's first Centre of Excellence for Khadi (CoEK) is set to be inaugurated soon in New Delhi.
- This centre has been planned to make Khadi a universal, classic and value-driven brand.
- It is aimed at designing apparel, home furnishing and accessories for people from different age groups.

### RailTel launches PM-WANI based access to its Wi-Fi at 100 railway stations across India

- RailTel, a **Mini Ratna Public Sector Undertaking (PSU)** has launched the Prime Minister Wi-Fi Access Network Interface (PM-WANI) scheme based on access to its public Wi-Fi services across 100 railway stations across India. Android users can download the mobile application named '**Wi-DOT**' available on Google Play Store to access this Wi-Fi network.
- PM-WANI is an **ambitious programme** of the Department of Telecom (DoT) to connect all silo Wi-Fi networks for ease of use and proliferate broadband usage for the masses.

### Hardeep Puri launches the 'Bharat Tap' initiative at the Plumbex India Exhibition

- Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs & Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Puri launched the '**Bharat Tap**' initiative at the '**Plumbex India**' exhibition.
- This exhibition is aimed at products and services related to plumbing, water and sanitation industry.

- 📌 **NITI Aayog and the World Economic Forum collaborate to focus on emerging technologies to benefit small and marginal farmers**
  - **World Economic Forum (WEF)**, in collaboration with the Indian Government's think tank NITI Aayog, is focusing on how to better use emerging technologies like artificial intelligence (AI), **the Internet of Things (IoT)**, block chain and drones to benefit farmers, particularly small and marginal farmers.
  - The World Economic Forum focuses on financial inclusion and insurance, as banks currently face the greatest difficulty in providing loans.
  
- 📌 **Department of Telecommunication launches the 'Gati Shakti Sanchar' portal for centralised Right of Way approvals**
  - The Department of Telecommunications has launched the '**Gati Shakti Sanchar**' portal that will streamline the process of Right of Way (RoW) applications and approvals across India.
  - This portal will enable applicants from various **Telecom Service Providers (TSPs)** as well as Infrastructure Providers (IPs) to apply at a single common portal for RoW permissions to lay down optical fibre cable and for erecting mobile towers to states and local bodies.
  
- 📌 **Amit Shah inaugurates the National Cyber Forensic Laboratory at the CFSL campus in Hyderabad**
  - Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the 'National Cyber Forensic Laboratory' (NCFL) at the Central Forensic Science Laboratory (CFSL) campus in **Hyderabad**.
  - The NCFL will speed up the process for the disposal of cybercrime cases India.
  
- 📌 **NITI Aayog launches the National Data & Analytics Platform**
  - NITI Aayog recently launched the **National Data and Analytics Platform**.
  - This platform aims to democratise access to public government data by making data accessible, interoperable, interactive and available on a user-friendly platform.
  - The NDAP is a critical milestone that aims to aid India's progress by promoting data-driven disclosure, decision making and ensuring availability of data connection to the last mile.
  
- 📌 **Union Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship partners with the Indian School of Business to further build the capacity of officers from its ecosystem**
  - Union Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has partnered with the Indian School of Business (ISB) to conduct capacity-building programmes for MSDE officials.
  - This partnership is in line with Indian Prime Minister's ambitious programme '**Mission Karmayogi**,' which is a first-of-its-kind experiment in the direction of capacity building and modernising the mindset, methodology and skill set of government employees.
  
- 📌 **Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses a programme marking the silver jubilee celebrations of TRAI**
  - Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed a programme marking the silver jubilee celebrations of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) through video conferencing. He also released a **postal stamp** to commemorate this occasion.
  - TRAI was established in **1997** through the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997.
  
- 📌 **Piyush Goyal chairs the fourth meeting of the National Startup Advisory Council**
  - Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and Textiles Piyush Goyal chaired the fourth meeting of the **National Startup Advisory Council (NSAC)** in New Delhi.
  - The **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)** had constituted the NSAC to advise the Indian Government on measures needed to build a strong ecosystem for nurturing innovation and startups in India to drive sustainable economic growth and generate large-scale employment opportunities.
  
- 📌 **Adani Group becomes the second-largest cement maker of India with \$1 0.5-billion acquisition of Ambuja-ACC**
  - Indian billionaire Gautam Adani clinched a \$10.5 billion deal that grants his conglomerate a **63.19 per cent** stake in Swiss cement major Holcim Limited's India operations, Ambuja Cements Limited and its subsidiary ACC.
  - The Adani Group became the **second largest cement producer** in India after the Aditya-Birla-Group-owned **UltraTech Cement**.

### India overtakes Germany as the fourth largest vehicle market of the world in 2021

- India surpassed Germany to become the world's fourth-largest automotive market in 2021, as per the data released by the **Organisation Internationale des Constructeurs d'Automobiles (OICA)**.
- The most number of vehicles were sold in **China**, followed by the United States and Japan.

### Union Ministry of Heavy Industries signs an MoU with the National Research Development Corporation for enhancement of the Capital Goods Scheme

- Union Ministry of Heavy Industries has signed an MoU with the National **Research Development Corporation** for undertaking various activities for smooth implementation of the scheme for enhancement of competitiveness in the Indian capital goods sector.
- As per the MoU, the National Research Development Corporation will conduct activities like evaluation and review of the scheme, management of intellectual property rights, and commercialisation support for the products developed under the **Capital Goods Scheme**.

### GeM, CSC e-Governance India and Department of Posts sign an MoU for the engagement of last-mile buyers, sellers and service providers

- Government e-Marketplace (GeM) Common Service Centre e-Governance India Private Limited and Department of Posts signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the engagement of last-mile buyers, sellers and service providers in public procurement.
- This MoU was conceived after the successful integration of GeM and India Post on **5 May 2022**.
- GeM services offered through CSCs and **India Post** offices will be made available to all government buyers, sellers and service providers at no charge.

### Puducherry signs an MoU with Delhi-based National Building Construction Corporation to launch projects worth more than ₹ 300 crores

- **National Buildings Construction Corporation (NBCC) India Limited** signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **Puducherry Smart City Development Limited (PSCDL)** for various infrastructure development works.
- Under this MoU, NBCC will be implementing various infrastructure projects worth more than ₹ 300 crores.

### Bibek Debroy released the State of Inequality in India Report

- The State of Inequality in India Report was released by Dr. Bibek Debroy, the Chairman of the **Economic Advisory Council to the Indian Prime Minister**.
- This report was written by the Institute for Competitiveness and it presents a holistic analysis of the depth and nature of inequality in India.

### Piyush Goyal announces the formation of the Cotton Council of India to bring out improvement in cotton manufacturing

- Union Minister of Textiles, Commerce & Industry Piyush Goyal announced the formation of the Cotton Council of India.
- This council will discuss, deliberate and prepare a robust action plan for bringing out a tangible improvement in this field.
- The formation of this council is announced under the Chairmanship of **Suresh Bhai Kotak**, with representation from the Union Ministry of Textiles, Union Ministry of Agriculture, Union Ministry of Commerce, Union Ministry of Finance, Cotton Corporation of India and Cotton Research Institute.

### Dr. Jitendra Singh addresses the platinum jubilee celebrations of CSIR-Central Leather Research Institute

- Union Minister of State of Ministry of Science and Technology Dr. Jitendra Singh informed that the leather industry in India will aim at net-zero carbon footprint to meet the environmental norms. He addressed the platinum jubilee celebrations of CSIR-Central Leather Research Institute in Chennai.
  - He emphasised that the carbon footprint of leather processing activity needs to approach zero levels and the bio-economy of animal skin-derived products is the new mantra of the time.
  - The foundation for Central Leather Research Institute was laid by Shyama Prasad Mukherjee on 24 April 1948.

## State News

### Tripura collaborates with NIXI-CSC to set up a world-class data centre in Tripura

- Tripura Government has inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI)** and **CSE e-governance Services Limited** to establish an international standard data centre in **Indira nagar, Tripura**.
- The **National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI)** and **CSE e-governance Services Limited** have floated a joint venture named '**NIXI-CSC Data Services Centre**' to set up this proposed data centre in Tripura.

### Shivamogga Airport is set to be named after B. S. Yediyurappa

- Karnataka Chief Minister **Basavaraj Bommai** has announced that **Shivamogga Airport** set to be named after the former Chief Minister of Karnataka, **B. S. Yediyurappa**.
- Shivamogga Airport is being constructed at **Sogane** on the outskirts of **Bengaluru**. The estimated cost of the construction of the Shivamogga Airport is ₹ **384 crores**.

### Rajasthan becomes the first Indian state to install an L-route server

- **Rajasthan** became the first state in **India** to install an **L-route server** for uninterrupted internet services.
- This L-route server is installed at the **Bhamashah State Data Centre** in **Rajasthan** to promote e-governance.
- This server was installed by the Union Government in association with the **Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)**.

### Manipur celebrates the Khongjom Day at the Khongjom War Memorial Complex

- **Manipur** celebrated the **Khongjom Day** at the Khongjom War Memorial Complex in the Thoubal district. **Khongjom Day** is celebrated on **23 April** every year to remember **Manipuri warriors**, who made supreme sacrifices fighting against the **British** to protect the freedom of Manipur in the Battle of Khongjom during the 1891 **Anglo-Manipuri War**.

### SIDBI approves ₹ 600 crores for industrial cluster development in Maharashtra

- **Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)** has provided its approval for ₹ **600 crores** to the **Maharashtra** Government under the **SIDBI Cluster Development Fund** to meet the growing demand for **skilled labour**.
- **SIDBI** is the principal financial institution engaged in the promotion, **financing and development of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)** in India. **Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)**

### Himachal Pradesh signs an agreement with NHLML for developing seven ropeways under the Parvatmala Yojana

- **National Highways Logistics Management Limited (NHLML)** has joined hands with the **Himachal Pradesh** Government to construct ropeways at an estimated cost of over ₹ **3000 crores** in **Himachal Pradesh** under the ambitious **Parvatmala Yojana**.
- An MoU was signed to construct the **seven ropeway projects** in Himachal Pradesh with a total length of **57.1 km** at an estimated cost of ₹ **3,232 crores**.

### Jammu & Kashmir's Palli becomes India's first 'carbon-neutral panchayat'

- Indian Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has inaugurated the **500 KW** solar power plant at **Palli village** in the Samba District of **Jammu & Kashmir**. With this inauguration, **Palli** became India's first carbon-neutral panchayat.
- A total of 1,500 solar panels were put up in an area of **6,408 sq. m** to provide clean electricity to **340 houses** in this model panchayat under the '**Gram Urja Swaraj**' programme.

### Google signs an MoU with Telangana to bring benefits of the digital economy to youth and women entrepreneurs

- **Google** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **Telangana** Government to bring benefits of the digital economy to youth and women entrepreneurs.
- Under this new initiative, **Google** will collaborate with the Telangana Government through its various arms to extend scholarships for **Google Career Certificates** to Telangana's **youth, support women entrepreneurs** through digital, business and financial skills training and strengthen the Telangana Government's school modernisation efforts with digital teaching and learning tools and solutions.

### Maharashtra becomes India's first state to develop a Migration Tracking System application for portability of the ICDS scheme

- Maharashtra became India's first state to develop a web-based **Migration Tracking System (MTS)** application to track the movement of migrant workers through individual unique identity numbers.
- This MTS project aims to ensure the continuity of **the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)** for migrant beneficiaries, such as children under the age of **18**, lactating mothers and **pregnant women** who are registered with **Anganwadi centres**.

### Rajasthan becomes the first Indian state to develop a 10 GW power capacity

- Rajasthan is fast emerging as the solar hub after becoming the first Indian state to develop a 10 GW power capacity.
- It has installed **5 GW** of large-scale solar power in FY22 alone.
- It has a total of 32.5 GW of installed power capacity, with renewables contributing 55 per cent, followed by thermal energy at 43 per cent and nuclear energy making up for the remaining two per cent.

### Union Minister Amit Shah lays the foundation stone of the Nrupathunga University in Bengaluru

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah laid the foundation stone of the Nrupathunga University in **Bengaluru, Karnataka**.
- He also virtually inaugurated the **Forensic Science Laboratory** in Bellary, Bengaluru.

### Telangana Government extends insurance coverage to handloom and power loom weavers under the 'Nethanna Bima' scheme

- Telangana Government has announced the extension of insurance coverage to handloom and power loom weavers under the 'Nethanna Bima (Weaver's Insurance) scheme.
- It has issued orders to extend the insurance coverage of ₹ **5 lakhs** for weavers under the Nehtanna Bima scheme on par with farmers' insurance scheme.
- This insurance coverage will be extended to weavers in the age group of **18 to 59** years.

### Maharashtra Government launches the JIVHALA loan scheme

- Maharashtra's Department of Prisons has launched a loan scheme for inmates **serving sentences in jails** across the state.
- This credit scheme is titled 'Jivhala' and is offered by the **Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank**.

### Haryana Government launches the 'e-Adhigam' scheme

- Haryana Government has launched a new initiative called 'e-Adhigam'. Under this initiative, lakhs of school students in **classes 10 and 12** from Haryana will be getting **free tablets**.
- This would help the students to access easy and effective online education.
- These devices come with pre-loaded content along with personalised and adaptive learning software and 2 GB of free data.

### Kerala Government is set to launch an application for diagnosing and controlling lifestyle diseases

- Kerala Government is set to launch an application that would primarily collect information from individuals about diseases like diabetes, high blood pressure, heart diseases, lung diseases, as well as other lifestyle-related ailments and cancers.
- The **health status** of the individuals would be scored based on the information collected and people with a score above four would be asked to visit the nearest health centre for a check-up for **lifestyle diseases**.

### United Nations launches a plan to catalyse action by 2025 on energy commitments

- Against the backdrop of a global energy crisis and worsening climate emergency, the United Nations took a major step to catalyse the large-scale action and support needed for the transition to clean, affordable energy for all and net-zero emissions with the launch of an **UN-Energy Plan of Action Towards 2025**.
- An '**Energy Compact Action Network**' was also launched to match those governments seeking support for their clean energy goals with those governments and businesses that have pledged over **\$ 600 billion** to support these commitments.

### [Uttar Pradesh Government is set to provide free Wi-Fi facilities for people within 50 metres of the village secretariat](#)

- Uttar Pradesh Government will provide free Wi-Fi facilities at more than 58 thousand places in the villages of Uttar Pradesh.
- This internet facility will be available for the people within **50 metres** of the **Gram Sachivalaya** (village secretariat) building, which is being built in every gram panchayat of Uttar Pradesh.

### [Haryana launches an application to track the movement of vehicles that carry sand and other mining materials](#)

- Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar launched a **Vehicle Movement Tracking System (VMTS)** mobile application that will help in tracking vehicles carrying sand and other mining materials.
- This application will be used at different checkpoints in all the districts of Haryana and vehicle details like vehicle numbers and vehicle types, along with driver details, like name, driver's mobile number and driver's license number will be entered into the application for easy tracking.

### [India's largest lithium-ion battery plant starts its production in Gujarat](#)

- Indian battery maker **Exide Industries** and joint venture partner Switzerland's Leclanche SA have begun mass production at India's largest lithium-ion battery plant in Gujarat.
- The plant, with a total installed capacity of **1.5 GWh**, has six automated assembly lines on which it will produce batteries for automobiles and energy storage applications.

### [Chhattisgarh becomes the first state to restore the old pension scheme](#)

- Chhattisgarh became the first state in India to restore the old pension scheme in order to provide assured income to its retired employees.
- The Chattishgarh Government has sent a proposal to the **Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)** for the withdrawal of ₹ 17,000 crores accrued under the **National Pension Scheme (NPS)** since November 2004.
- The NPS was launched on 1 January 2004 with the objective of providing retirement income to all the citizens.
- The NPS is based on a unique **Permanent Retirement Account Number (PRAN)**, which is allotted to every subscriber.
- PFRDA is the **governing body** for the NPS.

### [Rajasthan's Ramgarh Vishdhari Sanctuary was notified as a tiger reserve](#)

- The Ramgarh Vishdhari Sanctuary in Rajasthan was notified as India's **52<sup>nd</sup> tiger reserve**. This will be **Rajasthan's fourth tiger reserve** after Ranthambore, Sariska and Mukundra tiger reserves.
- According to the 'Status of Tigers in India' report released in 2019, there are **2,967** tigers in 20 states across India.

### [Andhra Pradesh to set up world's largest integrated renewable energy storage project in Kurnool](#)

- Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy inaugurated the construction of the world's largest Integrated Renewable Energy Storage Project (IRESP) implemented by Greenko Group at the **Kurnool district** in Andhra Pradesh.
- This **5,230 MW** IRESP will play a pivotal role in India attaining energy security and enabling global energy transition.

## [International News](#)

### [Patrick Achi was re-appointed as the Prime Minister of Cote d'Ivoire](#)

- **Ivory Coast President Alassane Ouattara** has re-appointed **Patrick Achi** as the **Prime Minister of Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)**.
- He was appointed as the Prime Minister in March 2021. He was the **third** Prime Minister of Ivory Coast in the last three years after **Amadou Gon Coulibaly** and **Hamed Bakayoko**, who died less than eight months apart in 2020 and 2021.

### [India provides an additional \\$ 500 million loan to Sri Lanka for fuel](#)

- **India** has provided an additional **\$ 500 million** in financial assistance to **Sri Lanka** for it to buy fuel.
- Bangladesh was also willing to postpone a **\$ 450 million** in swap repayments to ease Sri Lanka's financial issues.

### India and the Maldives jointly unveil a navigation chart to further maritime cooperation

- **India** and the Maldives have jointly unveiled a navigation chart to increase maritime cooperation between both the countries. India's Chief of Naval Staff Admiral **R. Hari Kumar** was on a three-day visit to the **Maldives** to boost India's defence ties with the Maldives.
- This is the first such navigation chart produced by both countries.

### José Ramos-Horta was elected as the President of Timor-Leste

- **José Ramos-Horta**, the Nobel Prize winner, was elected as the **President of Timor-Leste (East Timor)**.
- He secured 62.09 per cent of votes against incumbent Francisco Guterres who secured only 37.91 per cent of votes.
- Jose Horta served as the **President of Timor-Leste** from **2007** to **2012**.
- Timor-Leste is South-East Asia's youngest country.

### India's is set to participate as the 'Guest of Honour' country at the Paris Book Festival 2022

- **India** was designated as the '**Guest of Honour**' country at the **Paris Book Festival 2022**. The India Pavilion at the Paris Book Festival was designed by the **National Institute of Design (NID)** and it houses more than **15 digital** and physical exhibitions displaying over **400 books** published in various Indian languages representing the works of **65 Indian publishers**.

### India creates a Guinness record for the simultaneous waving of more than 78,000 National Flags

- **India** has entered the **Guinness Book of World Records** for waving the maximum number of national flags simultaneously.
- More than 78,220 people in **Bihar's Bhojpur** simultaneously waved the Indian National Flag together for celebrating 75 years of Indian independence, 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'.

### Asia's biggest international Food and hospitality fair 'AAHAR-2022' commences at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi

- **Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA)**, in association with the **India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO)**, organised Asia's biggest international food and hospitality fair '**AAHAR 2022**' at Pragati Maidan in **New Delhi**.
- More than **80 exporters** from different segments of agricultural products, which include geographical indication **products**, **processed food and organic** and **frozen food** products, participated in the fair.

### Robert Golob was elected as the Prime Minister of Slovenia

- **Robert Golob** was elected as the **Prime Minister of Slovenia**. He defeated three-time **Slovenian Prime Minister Janez Janša** in the prime minister election recently held in **Slovenia**.

#### Slovenia

- Capital: **Ljubljana**
- Currency: **Euro**
- President: **Borut Pahor**
- Prime Minister: **Robert Golob**

### India is set to host the World Congress of Accountants for the first time in 118 years

- The **Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI)** is set to host the **twenty-first World Congress of Accountants (WCOA)**, for the first time in its **118 years** of existence.
- About 6,000 top accountants from **130 countries** will participate in this event.
- This event will take place in the **Jio World Convention Centre** in **Mumbai**.

### Estonia hosts the world's largest cyber defence exercise in Tallinn

- The **world's largest** and most complex annual international live-fire cyber defence exercise was held in **Tallinn, Estonia**. This cyber defence exercise was organised by the **North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO)** and Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence (CCDCOE).

- The cyber experts practiced the protection of national civilian and **military information technology systems** and critical infrastructure in a large-scale cyber-attack.

#### [United States places India, Russia and China on its intellectual property protection 'Priority Watch List'](#)

- The **United States** placed **India** and six other countries, including **China** and **Russia**, on its annual '**Priority Watch List**' for intellectual property protection and enforcement. Other countries on this year's watch list include **Argentina, Chile, Indonesia** and **Venezuela**.
- The countries in this watch list will be the subject of particularly intense bilateral engagement during the upcoming years.

#### [Russia withdraws from the UN World Tourism Organization amidst its war with Ukraine](#)

- According to the **UN World Tourism Organization**, **Russia** has announced its intention to withdraw from the body ahead of a vote to suspend **Moscow** for its military offensive in **Ukraine**.
- This development comes amid the ongoing war between **Russia** and **Ukraine**, which continues to date (as of 30 April 2022).

#### [Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveils a statue of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel in Canada](#)

- Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled a statue of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the first in **North America**, in Canada.
- This bronze statue was unveiled at a programme at the Sanatan Mandir Cultural Centre in Markham in **Greater Toronto**.

#### [10 per cent of the total forest area on the Earth was lost in 30 years: State of the World's Forests 2022](#)

- The world has lost **420 million hectares**, approximately 10.34 per cent of its total forest area, in the last 30 years, according to the **State of the World's Forests 2022 (SOFO)**.
- SOFO 2022 further stated that the world population is projected to reach 9.7 billion by 2050, which will increase the competition for land, as the demand for food for this large population will rise by 35 to 56 per cent by the 2050s.

#### [Nepal's Kami Rita Sherpa climbs Mount Everest for the 26<sup>th</sup> time to set a new world record](#)

- **Nepal's** legendary mountain climber Kami Rita Sherpa has climbed Mount Everest, the tallest peak in the world, for the **26<sup>th</sup> time** to set a new world record.
- Mount Everest is part of the Himalayan Mountain Range in Central Asia's Tibetan Plateau.
- Kami Rita Sherpa used the customary route up the **8,850 m mountain** while leading ten other climbers.

#### [World's longest glass-bottom bridge opens in Vietnam](#)

- The world's longest glass-bottom bridge was opened in the northwest Son La province of Vietnam
- This bridge named Bach Long (translates to 'white dragon') Pedestrian Bridge is present around dizzying cliff faces before with a total length of **632 m**.

#### [Indian Embassy in Beijing organises a yoga session at the Secretariat of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation](#)

- Indian Embassy in Beijing organised a yoga session with the theme 'Office Yoga' and 'Yoga for All' at the Secretariat of the **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)** in Beijing.
- India will assume the presidency of the SCO in **September 2022** and is looking forward to playing a constructive role in enriching SCO's role in all spheres.

#### [Bhagwant Khuba attends the Intersolar Europe 2022 in Munich](#)

- Union Minister of State for Ministry of New and Renewable Energy Shri Bhagwant Khuba reached **Munich**, Germany to attend Intersolar Europe 2022.
- This event is being organised by the **Indo-German Energy Forum (IGEF)**.
- Intersolar is the world's leading exhibition series for the solar industry and its partners. It unites people and companies from around the world with the aim of increasing the share of solar power in the energy supply.

### Parshottam Rupala releases the Breed-Wise Report of Livestock and Poultry based on the twentieth Livestock Census

- Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Parshottam Rupala released the Breed-Wise Report of Livestock and Poultry based on the twentieth Livestock Census.
- The breed-wise data collection was done along with **the twentieth** Livestock Census during 2019
- It was for the **first time in** India that breed-wise data was collected by using tablet computers instead of paper mode, which is indeed a unique attempt.
- The livestock, as well as poultry birds, were counted according to their breeds as recognised by the **National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources (NBAGR)**.

### South Korea becomes the first Asian country to join NATO's Cyber Defense Group

- South Korea has become the first Asian country to join the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's **Cooperative Cyber Defense Centre of Excellence (CCDCOE)**.
- The NATO CCDCOE is a cyber-knowledge hub focused on research, training and exercises in the field of cybersecurity. It was established in May 2008.
- With the current membership of South Korea, NATO CCDCOE currently has **32** countries as its official members.
- Out of the 32 countries, **27** NATO member countries are categorised as sponsoring nations and five contributing participants are non-NATO countries.

### World Economic Forum releases 'Fostering Effective Energy Transition 2022' Report

- World Economic Forum releases 'Fostering Effective Energy Transition 2022' Report
- According to this report, the urgency for countries to accelerate a holistic energy transition is reinforced by high fuel prices, commodities shortages, insufficient headway on achieving the climate goals and slow progress on energy justice and access.

### The United Nations (UN) General Assembly has voted for the Czech Republic to replace Russia on the UN Human Rights Council, the leading human rights body of the UN.

- The Czech Republic was the only candidate for the seat left vacant when the UN General Assembly voted to suspend Russia over gross and systematic violations and abuses of human rights.
- The **United Nations Security Council (UNSC)** is one of the **six** principal organs of the UN and is charged with ensuring international peace and security, recommending the admission of new members to the UN General Assembly and approving any changes to the UN Charter.

### Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam plans to set up 490 MW Arun-4 hydel power project worth ₹ 4,900 crores in Nepal

- India's Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam Limited (SJVN) will develop another hydropower project named Arun-4 worth ₹ 4,900 crores in **Nepal**.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the development of the 490 MW Arun-4 hydro-electric project in Nepal was signed in Lumbini, Nepal, in the presence of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Nepali Prime Minister **Sher Bahadur Deuba**.

### India and Jamaica sign an MoU for cooperation in diplomatic training

- India and Jamaica signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for **cooperation in diplomatic training** in the city of Kingston. This agreement was inked in the presence of Indian President Ram Nath Kovind and Jamaican President Andrew Holness.
- This MoU was signed between the **Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service (SSFSI)** and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of Jamaica. It aims to facilitate close academic and training exchange for Foreign Service officers of Jamaica in the SSFSI.

### India contributes \$ 8,00,000 to promote Hindi at the United Nations

- India has contributed **\$ 8,00,000** to the United Nations as part of its initiative to enhance public outreach of the organisation in Hindi. India has been partnering with the United Nations **Department of Global Communications (DGC)** since 2018 by providing an extra-budgetary contribution to mainstream and consolidating news and multimedia content of DGC in Hindi.

### Union External Affairs Minister Jaishankar participates in the BRICS Foreign Ministers' Meeting

- China is set to host the meeting of the BRICS Ministers of Foreign Affairs. India has handed over the BRICS Chairmanship to China from January 2022.
- The theme for BRICS 2022 is '**Foster high-quality BRICS partnership usher in a new era for global development**'.
- A total of 25 events have been planned. India will host five events in 2022 as part of the BRICS Science Technology Innovation Steering Committee, the Science and Technology ministry.

### World's first airport for drones was unveiled in the United Kingdom

- The world's first-ever drone airport was finally opened in **Coventry, the United Kingdom**.
- Coventry was chosen for this site due to its location in the heart of the United Kingdom, with most parts of the country within four hours of travel and its historic leadership in the automobile and aerospace industries.

### Sheikh Hasina offers Chittagong Port for use by India

- Union External Affairs Minister Jaishankar called on Bangladesh's Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.
- Sheik Hasina offered Bangladesh's main seaport, Chittagong Port, to India's north-eastern states like Assam and Tripura to enhance connectivity between the two neighbouring countries.

### Election Commission of India is set to lead 'Democracy Cohort on Election Integrity' in partnership with 100 democratic countries

- The Election Commission of India will lead 'Democracy Cohort on Election Integrity' in partnership with **100 democratic countries** and share experience and expertise with poll management bodies of various nations.
- The Election Commission of India was requested to also provide training and capacity building programmes to **election management bodies (EMBs)** across the world and technical consultancy according to the needs of other such bodies.

## Banking and Economy

### Russian Central Bank registers a new payment system named 'Hello'

- **Russian Central Bank** has included a new payment system named "**Hello**" into **HELLO**' into the national register of credit institutions.
- **Hello**, the payment system, is a set of payment services and institutions that facilitates **money transfer transactions**.

### India Post Payments Bank launches 'Fincluvation' for fintech startups

- **India Post Payments Bank (IPPB)** has launched '**Fincluvation**', a joint initiative to collaborate with the **fintech start-up community** to co-create and innovate solutions for **financial inclusion**.
- This initiative is part of the **75<sup>th</sup>** anniversary of the Indian independence and ongoing **Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav**.
- **Fincluvation**, a first-of-its-kind industry initiative would create a powerful platform to mobilise the startup community towards building meaningful financial products aimed at financial inclusion.

### Dhanlaxmi Bank signs an MoU with CBDT and CBIC for tax collection

- **Dhanlaxmi Bank** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)** and the **Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)** for the collection of taxes.
- This bank was authorised by the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** based on the recommendation from the Controller General of Accounts for the collection of **various taxes**.

### Reserve Bank of India launches the Industrial Outlook Survey

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has launched the next round of the quarterly **Industrial Outlook Survey (IOS)** to assess **business sentiment** for the current quarter and expectations for the ensuing three-month period.
- This survey assesses **business sentiment** and **expectations** based on **qualitative responses** on a set of indicators pertaining to demand conditions, financial conditions, employment and the price situation.

### RBI imposes a penalty on the Bank of Maharashtra for non-compliance

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has imposed a penalty of ₹ **1.12 crores** on the **Bank of Maharashtra** for **non-compliance** with certain regulatory directions, including those for Know Your Customer (**KYC**) norms.
- This action is not intended to pronounce upon the validity of any **transaction** or **agreement** entered into by the bank with customers.

### Pencilton introduces a contactless RuPay card in the form of a keychain

- **Pencilton**, a teen-focused fintech start-up, has launched '**Pencil Key**', which is a **National Common Mobility Card (NCMC)**-compliant RuPay contactless keychain in partnership with the **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)** and **Transcorp**. Users can activate and manage their Pencil Key through the Pencilton application, which is also used to load money, check spends, block/unblock accounts, set limits, etc.

### Bank of Baroda launches a new feature named 'bob World Gold' for senior citizens on a mobile banking platform 'bob World'

- **Bank of Baroda (BoB)** has launched a new feature named 'bob World Gold' on its mobile banking platform for senior citizens.
- This new feature on the mobile banking platform 'bob World' has easy navigation, large fonts, sufficient spacing and clear menus with added features like ready-to-assist voice-based search service.

### ICICI Bank launches India's first 'Open-For-All' digital ecosystem for MSMEs in India

- **ICICI Bank** has launched India's first 'Open-For-All' comprehensive digital ecosystem for all **micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs)** in India, offering a complete range of enhanced banking and value-added services in one place.
- This 'Open-For-All' digital ecosystem is supported by three pillars:
  - Enhanced banking services for **existing customers**
  - A variety of banking services to **MSMEs**, who are customers of other banks
  - A wide range of **added-value services** for everyone

### SEBI cuts the listing time for REITs and InvITs from 12 days to six days

- The **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** has reduced the time taken for the allotment and listing of **REITs** (Real Estate Investment Trusts) and **InvITs** (Infrastructure Investment Trusts) after the closure of the issue to **six working days**, against the current requirement of **12 working days**.
- This new rule will be applicable to the public issues of REITs and InvITs, which will open on or after **01 June 2022**.

### Indian Bank launches a pre-approved personal loan product under 'Project WAVE'

- Indian Bank has launched a pre-approved personal loan (PAPL) product under 'Project **World of Advanced Virtual Experience (WAVE)**', which will be serviced only through digital channels.
- In January 2022, the Chennai-based Indian bank launched the digital transformation initiative — World of Advance Virtual Experience (WAVE) — to launch its first digital product "Pre-Approved Personal Loan (PAPL), which that aims to provide customers with instant loan disbursements.

### Union Bank of India becomes the first public sector bank to go live on the 'Account Aggregator' ecosystem

- Union Bank of India became the first public sector bank to go live on the '**Account Aggregator (AA)**' ecosystem.
- Account aggregators are licensed by the Reserve Bank of India to enable the flow of data between the **Financial Information Providers (FIPs)** and **Financial Information Users (FIUs)**.
- FIPs are institutions that hold customer data and FIUs are entities that consume data to offer better service, underwrite loans and so on. Banks and other financial institutions must become FIPs to be able to also become users of data from other financial institutions.

### Google-backed 'Open' neobank becomes the hundredth unicorn of India

- Open, a neobank platform for **the Small and Medium Enterprises (SME)**, has raised \$ 50 million at a valuation of \$ 1 billion. This has made Open as the hundredth unicorn to emerge from India, marking a seminal moment for the Indian start-up ecosystem.
- In the venture capital industry, the term '**unicorn**' refers to any start-up that reaches the valuation of **\$ 1 billion**.

### IRDAI allows insurance companies to invest up to 30 per cent of assets in BFSI sector.

- The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has raised the investment ceiling for insurance companies in the banking, financial services and insurance (BFSI) sector **to 30 per cent from 25 per cent** of their investment corpus.
- This will provide more room for insurers to optimise their investment strategy, thereby giving potentially higher investment income in their profit and loss.

### Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI):

- The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) is a regulatory body under the jurisdiction of Union Ministry of Finance in the Government of India and is tasked with regulating and licensing the insurance and re-insurance industries in India.

### India's services exports set a new record of \$ 254.4 billion in FY 2021–22

- India's services exports set a new record of \$ 254.4 billion in the financial year 2021–22. This new record achieved in FY 2021–22 surpassed the previous high of **\$ 213.2 billion** in FY 2019–20.
- India's services exports hit an all-time monthly high of **\$ 26.9 billion** in **March 2022**.

### FidyPay partners with Yes Bank to drive financial inclusion

- FidyPay, a fintech platform, announced its partnership with **Yes Bank** to extend digital facilitation to a wide range of enterprises, including small and medium enterprises, fintech companies and start-ups.
- FidyPay will provide the customers of Yes Bank with a smooth connected banking experience as part of this partnership.
- FidyPay will also serve as a solution provider for **Unified Payments Interface (UPI)** services.

### World Bank approves a \$ 47 million programme to strengthen India's public sector capability

- The World Bank's Board of Executive Directors has approved a \$47 million project to support the Indian Government's '**Mission Karmayogi**', a national programme to build civil service capacity.
- 'Mission Karmayogi' is a new capacity-building scheme for **civil servants** aimed at upgrading the post-recruitment training mechanism of the officers and employees at all levels.

### L&T Infotech and Mindtree announce merger to create India's fifth largest IT-services provider

- L&T Infotech Limited (LTI) and Mindtree Limited, two of Larsen & Toubro's (L&T) publicly traded software enterprises, have announced a merger.
- This merger would help the companies achieve greater size and compete for mega-deals with other information technology companies.
- L&T acquired Mindtree in **2019**, while LTI was founded in 1997 as a subsidiary of L&T.

### Adani Wilmar beats Hindustan Unilever to become the largest FMCG company in India

- Adani Wilmar Limited reported ₹ 54,214-crore revenue from operations for FY 2021–22, a **46.2 per cent** higher year-on-year (YoY) revenue.
- With this jump in its revenue, from ₹ 37,090 crores in the previous year, Adani Wilmar has dislodged **Hindustan Unilever (HUL)** from the top spot in the local **fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG)** market.

### Reserve Bank of India clears the merger of Equitas Holdings and Equitas Small Finance Bank

- The Reserve Bank of India has conveyed its 'no-objection' to the amalgamation of **Equitas Holdings Limited (EHL)** with **Equitas Small Finance Bank Limited (ESFBL)**.

- As per the conditions set by the Reserve Bank of India, EHL would have to divest its shareholding in its subsidiary, Equitas Technologies Private Limited, prior to the merger taking effect.

#### IRDAI's panel on micro-insurance suggests the introduction of a combi micro insurance product

- A panel on micro Insurance (MI) constituted by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has suggested the introduction of a combi micro insurance product.
- This committee, chaired by **Yegnapriya Bharath**, the Chief General Manager (Non-Life) of IRDAI, suggested that there is a case to have a combi micro insurance product that can be developed on a modular basis, giving flexibility to the insurer to offer coverage to different groups and individuals as per their specific protection needs.
- This combi micro insurance product may be solicited by all distribution channels authorised to distribute insurance products by IRDAI. It may also be sold in an online mode, wherever feasible.

#### Indian Bank unveils digital broking solution named 'E-Broking'

- Indian Bank has unveiled a digital broking solution named '**E-Broking**' that allows customers to open a Demat and trading account facility, in line with its digitalisation mission.
- '**E-Broking**' is an instant and paperless Demat and trading account opening facility that is integrated with Indian Bank's mobile banking application.

#### SEBI constitutes an advisory panel on Environment, Social and Governance related matters

- Capital markets regulator, SEBI has constituted an advisory committee for advising on **Environment, Social and Governance (ESG)** related matters in the securities market.
- This advisory committee will be chaired by **Navneet Munot**, the Chief Executive Officer of the HDFC Asset Management Company.
- Additionally, this committee will also examine evolving disclosures/metrics relevant to the Indian context, as well as suggest areas for assurance and a plan for implementation.

#### Exim Bank enters into an agreement to offer an additional Line of Credit of \$ 190 million to the SBM (Mauritius) Infrastructure Development

- Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) has entered into an agreement with the SBM (Mauritius) Infrastructure Development Company Limited (SBMIDCL) to make available to the Government of India supported Line of Credit (LoC) of **\$ 190 million** for the purpose of financing its participation through redeemable preference shares in public sector entities for implementing the ongoing Metro Express Project and other infrastructure projects in Mauritius.
- This credit facility is an additional tranche to the existing credit of \$ 500 million, which was extended to SBMIDCL on 27 May 2017.
- Exim Bank is the premier export finance institution in India, established in **1982** under the Export-Import Bank of India Act, 1981. Its headquarters is located in **Mumbai**.

#### City Union Bank appoints M. Narayanan as a part-time chairman

- M. Narayanan assumed charge as a part time chairman of City Union Bank for a period of **two years**.
- He is a graduate in Mathematics from Loyola College. He is a qualified chartered accountant, cost accountant and system auditor.
- He has professional experience of more than two decades in various reputed corporates and is currently practising as a chartered accountant.

#### Reserve Bank of India imposes a monetary penalty of ₹ 58 lakhs on Abhyudaya Co-operative Bank based in Mumbai

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a monetary penalty of ₹ 58 lakhs on **Mumbai-based** Abhyudaya Co-operative Bank for non-compliance with its directions on 'Placement of Deposits with Other Banks' and 'Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism of Frauds', among others.
- The RBI has also imposed a penalty of ₹ 1 lakh on the Noida Commercial Co-operative Bank in Ghaziabad for contravention of certain norms of the **Banking Regulation Act, 1949**.

### ICICI Bank signs an MoU with Santander UK to collaborate on banking requirements

- ICICI Bank has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Santander UK, a British bank, to collaborate for the banking requirements of corporates of the United Kingdom which operate in India.
- As per this MoU, ICICI Bank will provide banking solutions across trade, cross-border payments, supply chain, treasury solutions and retail banking to the corporates of the United Kingdom which operate in India. Santander UK will support Indian corporates and new-age businesses for their banking requirements in the United Kingdom.

### Supreme Court adjudges that state-enacted money-lending laws do not apply to RBI-registered NBFCs

- Supreme Court ruled that state enactments regulating the business of money-lending would have no application on **non-banking finance companies (NBFCs)** registered with and regulated by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- **Section 45 Q of the RBI Act** has an overriding effect on the state money-lenders laws.
- The state has no power to regulate the money-lending business of NBFCs. Only the RBI has jurisdiction to regulate the NBFCs. The RBI Act clearly overrides other laws.

### RBI extends the period of restriction on Laxmi Cooperative Bank and Sri Guru Raghavendra Sahakara Bank Niyamitha

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) extended the period of restriction under **Section 35 A** read with **Section 56** of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, on two cooperative banks — Laxmi Cooperative Bank in Solapur for up to three months and Sri Guru Raghavendra Sahakara Bank Niyamitha in Bengaluru for six months.
- These restrictions will continue to apply to the Laxmi Cooperative Bank for a further period of three months from 12 May 2022 to 11 August 2022, subject to review. The directions stipulate certain restrictions and/or ceiling on withdrawal/acceptance of deposits.

### HDFC Bank launches thirty-minute 'Xpress Car Loans'

- HDFC Bank has launched **thirty-minute 'Xpress Car Loans'**, which is an end-to-end digital new car loan for existing customers of HDFC Bank as well as non-customers.
- The loan amount will get credited to dealers' accounts in just about half an hour. HDFC Bank has integrated its lending application with automobile dealers across India.

### Union Bank of India launches the 'Trade-Nxt' platform for cross-border export-import trade transactions

- Union Bank of India (UBI) has launched a digital solution, 'Trade Nxt' to ease all cross-border export-import transactions for corporates and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).
- The online platform provides seamless entry and processing of **Letters of Credit (LC)**, bank guarantees, export and import bills, disbursement of export credit, outward & inward remittances, dealer financing, and much more.

### IDBI Bank appoints T. N. Manoharan as its Part-time Chairman

- The board of IDBI Bank has approved the appointment of T. N. Manoharan as its Part-time Chairman for a period of **three years**.
- IDBI Bank was established in **1964** as Industrial Development Bank of India, a development finance institution, which provided financial services to industrial sector.
- The Reserve Bank of India incorporated IDBI as a 'Scheduled Bank' in September 2004 under the RBI Act, 1934.

### Worldline India partners with Bank of India to digitise e-challan collections

- Worldline, a payment services firm, has partnered with Bank of India (BOI) to digitise e-challan collections for the Madhya Pradesh Police Department.
- A Memorandum of Association was signed between BOI and Madhya Pradesh's Police Department to integrate **Point of Sale (POS)** terminals with the e-challan portal of the Madhya Pradesh Police Department.
- **E-challan** is an electronically generated challan (online generated system challan) that is taken care of by the Electronic Challan System.

### Spice Jet and Axis Bank partner to launch a co-branded credit card

- **Spice Jet** and Axis Bank have partnered to launch a co-branded credit card, powered by **VISA**. This co-branded credit card will offer a host of privileges and benefits to customers.
- This credit card comes in two variants — **Spice Jet Axis Bank Voyage** and **Voyage Black**. This is aimed at facilitating a superlative travel experience for flyers through Spice Club, the first frequent flyer programme by a low-cost carrier in India.

### BSE Ebix appoints Sachin Seth as its CEO & Managing Director

- BSE Ebix Insurance Broking Private Limited, a joint venture of the Bombay Stock Exchange and Ebix Singapore Pte Limited, announced Sachin Seth as its Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director.
- BSE Ebix is focused on the distribution of insurance products by combining the physical presence of **PoSs (Point of Sales Persons)** with an omnichannel digital channel.

### RBI opens banks credit for NBFCs to on-lend continuously to priority sector

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) decided to allow banks to lend to Non Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs) for on-lending to priority sectors on an ongoing basis to ensure the continuation of the synergies that have been developed between banks and NBFCs in delivering credit to the specified priority sectors.
- The same holds true for small finance banks who are on-lending to NBFC-MFIs. This facility was earlier allowed till March 31, 2022.
- Bank credit to NBFCs, including housing finance companies (HFCs), for on-lending to priority sectors, will be allowed up to an overall limit of **5 per cent** of an individual bank's total priority sector lending. Similarly, small finance banks for on-lending to NBFC-MFIs and other MFIs, which are RBI-recognised, will be allowed up to an overall limit of **10 per cent** of an individual bank's total priority sector lending.
- Small finance banks will be allowed to lend to registered NBFC-MFIs and other MFIs who have a gross loan portfolio of Up to ₹ **500 crores** as of 31 March of the previous financial year.
- On-lending means giving loans by the use of borrowed money. In India, the RBI has promoted on-lending by banks to the NBFCs for providing loans to certain sectors.

### Reserve Bank of India imposes a monetary penalty of ₹ 59 lakhs on KEB Hana Bank

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a penalty of ₹ **59 lakhs** on KEB Hana Bank for non-compliance with the certain norms related to 'interest rate on deposits'.
- The **Korean bank** was penalised for non-compliance with the directions issued by the RBI on the Reserve Bank of India (Interest Rate on Deposits) Directions, 2016.

### RBI restricts withdrawals from Maharashtra's Shankarrao Pujari Nutan Nagari Sahakari Bank

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed several restrictions on Shankarrao Pujari Nutan Naga ri Sahakari Bank Limited from **Kolhapur**, Maharashtra, including on withdrawals. These restrictions were imposed in view of the lender's worsening financial position.
- Restrictions have also been made on loans, investments and deposits as well.
- The RBI announced that these restrictions will remain in force for a period of six months from the close of business on 13 May 2022 and are subject to review.

### RBI appoints Rajiv Ranjan and Sitikantha Pattanaik as executive directors

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has appointed Rajiv Ranjan and Sitikantha Pattanaik as executive directors (ED) with effect from 1 May 2022.
- Rajiv Ranjan will look after the **Monetary Policy Department (MPD)**. He will also serve as an ex-officio member of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC).
- Sitikantha Pattanaik will look after the **Department of Economic and Policy Research (DEPR)** as executive director.

### NSE Academy Limited collaborates with HDFC Mutual Fund for a financial awareness programme

- NSE Academy Limited (NAL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the **National Stock Exchange of India Limited (NSE)**, has signed an agreement with HDFC Asset Management Company Limited to launch a first-of-its-kind programme named '**Invest-verse: An introduction to the world of investing**'.
- This programme will be offered to college students across India.
- The course under this programme aims to reach a large number of students and give them access to basic financial knowledge so that they make wise financial decisions.

### Bangladesh becomes the seventh highest recipient of foreign remittance in 2021: World Bank Report

- Bangladesh became the seventh highest recipient of remittance from abroad in 2021, according to the World Bank Report on Migration and Development. Bangladesh received over **\$ 22 billion** as remittance in 2021, which marked an increase of 2.2 per cent over 2020.
- **India topped this list** in the world receiving **\$ 89 billion** in remittance followed by Mexico at \$ 54 billion and China at \$ 53 billion in 2021.

### World Bank sanctions \$ 350 billion to Gujarat to boost its health services

- The World Bank has approved \$ 350-million-aid for the **Systems Reform Endeavours for Transformed Health Achievement in Gujarat (SRESTHA-G)** project.
- **The SRESTHA-G project** will be a **\$ 500 million** project with \$ 350 million support from the World Bank.
- This project includes transforming key health delivery systems in Gujarat.
- This programme will focus on four key result areas to improve the quality, equity and comprehensiveness of primary healthcare services for adolescent girls and the capacity of disease surveillance systems.

### SEBI notifies rules to strengthen the regulatory framework for collective investment scheme

- Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has enhanced the net worth criteria and track record requirements for entities managing collective investment schemes to strengthen the regulatory framework of such schemes.
- SEBI has mandated a minimum of **20** investors and a subscription amount of at least **₹ 20 crores** for each **Collective Investment Scheme (CIS)**.
- In addition, SEBI has put a cap on cross-shareholding in a **Collective Investment Management Company (CIMC)** to 10 per cent to avoid conflict of interest.
- CIS is a **pooled investment vehicle** in closed-ended investment space and the units of the schemes are listed on an exchange.
- The structure of CIS is a two-tier one as there are two entities involved in the process, the CIMC and trustees
- CIMC is created to float and manage a CIS and the trustee is appointed as the guardian of the funds and assets.
- CIMCs are required to have a minimum net worth of **₹ 50 crores** as compared to the present requirement of ₹ 5 crores.

### PNB MetLife launches India's first dental health insurance plan

- Punjab National Bank's (PNB) subsidiary company, **PNB MetLife India Insurance Company** has launched a dental health insurance plan.
- This is the **first insurance plan** in India that covers fixed-benefit outpatient expenses and provides financial assistance with costs related to overall dental health.
- PNB MetLife's Dental Care Plan will help customers manage their dental health and ensure they do not have to dive into their savings or reduce their essential spending in order to make space for dental treatment.

### UCO Bank appoints Sujoy Dutta as its new Chief Financial Officer

- UCO Bank has designated Sujoy Dutta as its new Chief Financial Officer with immediate effect.
- He holds a Bachelor's degree in Commerce from Calcutta University and he is a member of the **Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI)**.

- J&K Bank informed that the Government of Jammu & Kashmir has nominated **Vivek Bhardwaj**, Additional Chief Secretary of the Finance Department as government nominee director on the board of directors of the bank.
- J&K Bank has a total of **11** board members, including its Managing Director and CEO Baldev Prakash.

#### Assam Rifles, Axis Bank and NIEDO join hands to establish a Centre of Excellence and Wellness in Nagaland

- Assam Rifles, Axis Bank and **National Integrity and Educational Development Organisation (NIEDO)** inked a tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish a Centre of Excellence and Wellness to secure a better future for the youth of Nagaland.
- This will be a fully sponsored annual programme, which will give a platform for talented and deserving students from the rural, semi-rural and non-urban areas to avail requisite coaching and grooming for clearing mainstream competitive exams.

#### Reserve Bank of India rejects six banking licence applications

- The Reserve bank of India (RBI) has rejected **six applications** for licenses to set small and universal banks after finding them unsuitable.
- The decision to reject these applications was taken by a Standing External Advisory Committee (**SEAC**) headed by former Deputy Governor Shyamala Gopinath.
- The RBI released the guidelines for 'on tap' licensing of universal banks in the private sector in **August 2016** and on tap licensing norms for small finance banks in **December 2019**.
- In the last round, the RBI gave two universal banking licences in 2014 to IDFC First Bank and Bandhan Bank.
- It gave 10 small finance bank licences in 2018, which include Janalakshmi Financial Services, Ujjivan Financial Services based in Bengaluru, RGVN (North East) Microfinance based in Guwahati, among others.

#### Vasudevan resigns as the MD and CEO of Equitas Small Finance Bank

- P. N. Vasudevan, the founder and Chief Executive Officer of Equitas Small Finance Bank, informed the lender's board about his decision to step down to pursue philanthropic activities. He will continue as the managing director and CEO of Equitas Small Finance Bank till the board identifies his successor. Vasudevan started Equitas Microfinance in **2007**, which was later converted into a small finance bank in **2016**.

#### India receives the highest annual FDI inflow of \$ 83.57 billion in FY 2021–22

- India has recorded the highest-ever annual Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflow of \$ 83.57 billion in the FY 2021–22.
- In terms of top investor countries of FDI equity inflow, **Singapore** is at the top with 27 per cent, followed by the United States (18 per cent) and Mauritius (16 per cent) for the FY 2021–22.
- '**Computer Software & Hardware**' has emerged as the top recipient sector of FDI equity inflow during FY 2021–22 with around 25 per cent share followed by 'Services' sector (12 per cent) and 'Automobile Industry' (12 per cent), respectively. **Karnataka** is the top recipient state with a 38 per cent share of the total FDI equity inflow reported during the FY 2021–22, followed by Maharashtra (26 per cent) and Delhi (14 per cent).

#### RBI approves a surplus transfer of ₹ 30,307 crores to the Indian Government for 2021–22

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Board approved a sharply lower surplus transfer of **₹ 30,307 crores** to the Indian Government for the accounting year of 2021–22, the lowest in last 10 years.
- This lower surplus transfer is due to the RBI's absorption of huge amounts of liquidity from banks under the reverse repo window and paying interest to them.
- The Contingency Risk Buffer (**CRB**) was maintained at **5.50 per cent** of the RBI's balance sheet.
- The CRB is the country's savings for the 'rainy day' (a financial stability crisis) which has been consciously maintained with the RBI in view of its role as the lender of last resort.

#### RBL Bank ties up with Amazon Pay to offer UPI payment services

- RBL Bank has tied up with Amazon Web Services (AWS) to offer Unified Payments Interface (UPI) payments. RBL Bank has partnered with Amazon Pay to offer peer to peer and peer to merchant transactions. With this integration, Amazon Pay will issue National Payments Corporation of India's (NPCI) allocated UPI ID with the handle @rapl to RBL Bank.

### Ageas Federal Life Insurance is set to look at inorganic play for bank partnership

- Ageas Federal Life Insurance is hoping to increase its distribution footprint this fiscal with partnerships and tie-ups with banks after **IDBI Bank discontinued** selling its products.
- For the next three to five years, the aim of Ageas Federal Life Insurance is to shore up its topline and distribution footprint through a combination of proprietary channels like agency, group, online and also inorganic play.

### New Development Bank opens its Indian regional office in GIFT city

- The **New Development Bank (NDB)** has announced the launch of its Indian Regional Office (IRO) in Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City).
- The Indian Regional Office will work in close coordination with the NDB headquarters in Shanghai and will also focus on project origination (including initial project preparation and technical assistance), pipeline development, project implementation and monitoring, as well as regional portfolio management.

### RBI asks banks and ATM operators to provide cardless cash withdrawal facilities

- The Reserve Bank of India has directed banks and ATM operators to provide cardless cash withdrawal facilities at all ATMs.
- In a circular, the RBI said, all banks, automated teller machine (ATM) networks and White Label ATM operators may provide the option of **Interoperable Card-less Cash Withdrawal (ICCW)** at their ATMs.
- The RBI informed that the **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)** had been advised to facilitate Unified Payments Interface (UPI) integration with all banks and ATM networks.
- The on-us and off-us ICCW transactions would be processed without levy of any charges other than those prescribed under the circular on interchange fee and customer charges.
- According to the RBI, withdrawal limits for ICCW transactions shall be in-line with the limits for regular on-us and off-us ATM withdrawals.
- A transaction carried out at an ATM of the card-issuing bank is called an **on-us** transaction. A transaction carried out at any other ATM is called an **off-us** transaction.

### Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman chairs the seventh Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of New Development Bank through video-conference

- Union Minister of Finance & Corporate Affairs and India's Governor for the New Development Bank (NDB), Nirmala Sitharaman, chaired the seventh Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of NDB through video conference in New Delhi.
- This year's theme for the annual meeting was 'NDB: Optimising development impact', which is particularly important and relevant in the current global economic scenario. NDB was operationalised in 2015. Its headquarters is in Shanghai, China.
- NDB has expanded its membership to include four countries namely, Bangladesh, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt and Uruguay in 2021.

## Agreements and MoU Signed

### NITI Aayog signs a Statement of Intent with UNICEF India on sustainable development goals with a focus on children

- **NITI (National Institution for Transforming India) Aayog** and the **United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) India** have signed a Statement of Intent (Sol) on **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** with a focus on children. This Sol seeks to formalise a framework of cooperation to launch the first report on the '**State of India's Children: Status and Trends in Multidimensional Child Development**'.

### Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority signs an MoU with National Rural Development Corporation to boost the export value chain

- **Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA)** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **National Research Development Corporation (NRDC)** for the implementation of the **agriculture export policy** and to strengthen the export value chain.

- This MoU was inked for utilising both the organisations' expertise by working together to synergise the activities in the interest of **agriculture** and **allied sectors** to bring better value to the stakeholders.

#### IIT Delhi signs an MoU with POSOCO for research on India's Power Sector and Strengthen Academia and Industry Interaction

- IIT Delhi has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **Power System Operation Corporation Limited (POSOCO)**-NRLDC to encourage research on issues related to **India's power sector** and strengthen collaboration between academia and industry.
- The goal of this partnership is to improve **academia-industry interaction** with the objective of **knowledge sharing** and capacity building through collaboration, as well as to promote **research** on topics related to India's power sector.

#### Indian Navy signs an MoU with IIM Kozhikode to exchange best practices

- The Indian Navy's **Naval Institute of Educational and Training Technology (NIETT)** at Kochi Naval Base has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **IIM Kozhikode** to exchange best practices.
- This MoU is intended to build collaboration and **exchange** of best practices in the field of **instructional leadership, educational psychology** and **management**.

#### SBI Card partners with Tata Consultancy Services to revamp the digital experience

- **SBI Cards and Payments Services** has expanded its partnership with its **Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)** to boost its digital transformation.
- Under this new engagement, **TCS** will further digitalise and transform **SBI Cards'** online onboarding processes to enable a faster turnaround and frictionless experience, which is expected to drive greater customer satisfaction.

#### Prasar Bharati signs an MoU with the public broadcaster of Argentina

- **Prasar Bharati** has signed an MoU with the public broadcaster of Argentina **Radio Television Argentina**, for collaboration in the field of broadcasting.
- **India** and **Argentina** are strategic partners that share cordial relations and developmental partnerships in the areas of **political, economic, scientific** and **technological cooperation**.

#### FinMapp partners with Bajaj Finance to launch a fixed deposit feature

- Fintech firm, **FinMapp** has collaborated with **Bajaj Finance** to launch a fixed deposit feature on its application by adding a new icon for an improved **customer experience**.
- FinMapp offers an interest rate of **7.35 per cent** on the **fixed deposit** for its users, which will assist against the current high inflation rate.

#### Suryoday Small Finance Bank partners with Kyndryl to drive digital and information technology transformation

- **Suryoday Small Finance Bank** will partner with **Kyndryl** to drive its technology **transformation programme, improve operational efficiency** and increase **digital banking** adoption among its customers as part of a five-year transformation deal.
- **Kyndryl** will provide advisory and implementation services to Suryoday Small Finance Bank to deploy and support a new **core banking system** and integrate it with digital channels to deliver an agile **banking platform** that accelerates retail business growth and enhances the bank's customer experience.

#### Larsen & Toubro partners with IIT Bombay to develop a green hydrogen technology

- **Larsen & Toubro (L&T)** has signed an agreement with **IIT Bombay** to jointly pursue research and development work in the **green hydrogen** value chain.
- L&T and IIT Bombay have joined hands to contribute toward the development of the **green hydrogen industry** in India and to develop next-generation technology in this emerging field.

#### Reliance Industries and Ta'ziz sign a shareholder agreement for the Ruwais chemicals project

- **Reliance Industries Limited (RIL)** and **Abu Dhabi Chemicals Derivatives Company RSC (Ta'ziz)** have signed a formal shareholder agreement for the Ta'ziz EDC & PVC project.

- This joint venture will construct and operate a Chlor-Alkali, Ethylene Dichloride (EDC) and Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) production facility, with a total investment of over \$ 2 billion.
- These chemicals will be produced in the United Arab Emirates for the first time, unlocking new revenue streams and opportunities for local manufacturers to 'Make it in the Emirates'.

#### **Airtel Payments Bank partners with IndusInd Bank to offer a fixed deposit facility**

- **Airtel Payments Bank** has partnered with IndusInd Bank to offer a Fixed Deposit (FD) facility. With this partnership, Airtel Payments Bank has further strengthened its digital banking portfolio.
- Customers can now book **fixed deposits** starting from ₹ 500 up to ₹ 1,90,000 within minutes through a seamless digital journey on the Airtel Thanks application.

#### **ONGC inks an MoU with Norway's Equinor ASA**

- Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) from India has signed a pact with Norwegian energy company Equinor ASA for collaboration in oil and gas exploration and production as well as clean energy projects. This agreement is aimed at collaboration and partnership in the areas of upstream exploration and production, midstream, downstream and clean energy options, including carbon capture utilisation and sequestration (CCUS).

#### **NTPC inks an MoU with Energy Vault for gravity-based energy storage technology**

- **National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC)** Limited has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **Energy Vault Holdings Inc** with an objective to collaborate and formalise a long-term strategic partnership for the deployment of **Energy Vault's EVx**, which is a gravity-based **energy storage technology** and **software solutions**.
- The objective of this MoU is to collaborate and formalise a long-term strategic partnership for the deployment of **Energy Vault's EVx™**, a gravity-based **energy storage technology** and **software solutions** based on the outcome of a joint feasibility study.

#### **Optum Global Solutions ties up with IIIT Hyderabad to set up a studio for startups**

- **Optum Global Solutions**, in association with the **International Institute of Information Technology (IIIT) Hyderabad**, has launched the **Optum Startup Studio** in India.
- This studio will identify innovative ideas and **startups** that can help accelerate developing solutions in the **healthcare sector**.

#### **IIM Kozhikode inks an international MoU with AARDO to promote sustainable agriculture**

- **Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode** has signed an international Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **AARDO** to promote sustainable agriculture.
- This international MoU will bring regular interaction between officials of member countries with faculty members of **IIM Kozhikode** through different **technical programmes**.

#### **BHEL and GE Power Conversion sign an MOU for the development of integrated electric propulsion systems for the Indian Navy**

- Bharat Heavy Electricals has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with GE Power Conversion for development of integrated full electric propulsion systems for the **Indian Navy**.
- GE Power Conversion is a world leader in electric propulsion, with equipment installed on some of the latest platforms of the US Navy and the Royal Navy, including the Queen Elizabeth class of aircraft carriers.

#### **Union Cabinet approves the signing of the pact between India and Chile for cooperation in the disability sector**

- The Union Cabinet has approved the signing of a pact between India and Chile for cooperation in the disability sector.
- This bilateral Memorandum of Understanding will encourage cooperation between the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Government of India and Government of Chile, through joint initiatives in the disabilities sector. This pact will also strengthen bilateral ties between India and Chile.

#### **Union Ministry of Home Affairs and Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited sign an MoU to realise India's green energy initiative**

- The Union Ministry of Home Affairs has initiated a proposal to install solar energy panels on the campuses of the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) and National Security Guard (NSG) as a step toward the Indian Government's efforts to promote renewable energy, thereby moving towards a carbon-neutral economy.

- Accordingly, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Union Ministry of Home Affairs and Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited in New Delhi in the presence of the Union Home Secretary and the Secretary of the Union Ministry of the New and Renewable Energy.

#### India and Madagascar sign an MoU to explore co-production of TV programmes

- India and Madagascar have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that aims at exchange of programmes, exploring co-production of programmes and training/exchange of personnel.
- The Madagascar National Television (TVM) will broadcast programmes from internal productions of **Prasar Bharati** in the fields of culture, education, science, entertainment, sports, news, as well as other areas of mutual interest.

#### Union Agriculture Ministry signs an MoU with UNDP for strategic partnership on agriculture, crop insurance and credit

- Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and the **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) wherein UNDP will provide technical support towards Indian Government's Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) and Kisan Credit Card - Modified Interest Subvention Scheme.
- UNDP is a United Nations organisation tasked with helping countries eliminate poverty and achieve sustainable economic growth and human development. It is headquartered in **New York**.

## Science and Technology

#### India gets its sixth Scorpene-class submarine 'INS Vagsheer' in Mumbai

- Union Defence Secretary **Ajay Kumar** launched 'INS Vagsheer', the sixth Scorpene-class submarine under **Project-75**, at the Mazagon Dock in Mumbai, Maharashtra. **Vagsheer** is named after the **sandfish**, a deadly deep-sea predator of the Indian Ocean.
- The first submarine Vagsheer, belonging to **Russia** (the then Soviet Union), was commissioned into the Indian Navy on 26 December 1974 and was decommissioned on **30 April 1997** after almost three decades of maritime service in the Indian Navy.

#### Russia test-launches 'Satan 2' Sarmat missile

- **Russia** has test-launched an nuclear missile named the 'Satan 2'. This **Sarmat** Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (**ICBM**) was launched in Northern Russia, with its practice warheads reaching mock targets more than **3,500 miles** away on the far eastern Kamchatka Peninsula. This missile has been under development since **2009**.

##### Russia

- Capital: **Moscow**
- Currency: **Russian Rouble**
- President: **Vladimir Putin**
- Prime Minister: **Mikhail Mishustin**

#### OneWeb inks a pact with New Space India Limited for launching satellites

- OneWeb has partnered with the **New Space India Limited**, the commercial arm of the **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)**, to complete OneWeb's satellite launch programme.
- The first launch with **New Space India** is expected in **2022** from the **Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC)** in Sriharikota.

#### Germany pledges £ 10 billion for India's climate action targets

- Germany committed an additional **£ 10 billion** assistance to India to help achieve climate action targets set for 2030. This includes sourcing 50 per cent energy requirement from renewables and installing 500 GW of non-fossil fuel electricity capacity in India.
- At COP 26 in Glasgow, India had committed to net zero emissions by **2070**. It had also assured to install **500 GW** of non-fossil fuel power capacity and achieve a carbon intensity reduction of 45 per cent over 2005 levels by 2030.

#### Russia launches a secret military payload into the orbit

- Russia has launched a secret payload into orbit around the Earth using its **Angara 1.2 rocket**.
- The launch of this payload took place at the Plesetsk Cosmodrome in the Mirny town in the north western Russian region of Arkhangelsk Oblast.

### Boeing and Air Works are set to collaborate for maintenance support of Indian Navy's P-8I and IAF VIP transport fleet

- Boeing has announced strategic agreements with Air Works Group for the maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) of two key Boeing defence platforms in India — the **P-8I** operated by the **Indian Navy (IN)** and the VIP transport fleet operated by the **Indian Air Force (IAF)**.
- Air Works Group was established in 1951 and it is India's biggest independent MRO firm with a pan-Indian presence across 27 cities.

### Indian Navy is set to acquire a dedicated earth-imaging satellite to boost capability in the Indian Ocean Region

- The Indian Navy is set to acquire a dedicated earth imaging satellite named **Geo Imaging Satellite-2 (GISAT-2)** in this fiscal as part of its modernisation and network-centric warfare and communications programme.
- Once operational, GISAT-2 is expected to enhance the Indian Navy's operational capabilities in the strategically and geopolitically important **Indian Ocean Region**.

### Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav is set to attend the fifteenth Conference of Parties of the United Nations Convention on Combating Desertification in Abidjan

- The Indian delegation led by Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Shri Bhupender Yadav has reached at Abidjan, Cote D Ivoire to attend the Conference of Parties, 15th meeting of the United Nations Convention on Combating Desertification (UNCCD COP15).
- The **theme** for UNCCD COP15 in 2022 is 'Land. Life. Legacy: From scarcity to prosperity, is a call to action to ensure land, the lifeline on this planet, continues to benefit present and future generations'.
- **India** hosted the fourteenth session of the Conference of Parties of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification from 2 September 2019 to 13 September 2019 in New Delhi and is the **current president** of the UNCCD COP 15.

### Indian Air Force successfully fires an extended-range version of the Brahmos missile from Su-30 MKI

- The Indian Air Force has successfully fired extended-range version of the BrahMos missile from **Su-30 MKI** fighter aircraft.
- BrahMos Aerospace, an **India-Russian joint venture**, produces supersonic cruise missiles that can be launched from submarines, ships, aircraft or land platforms.
- BrahMos missile flies at a speed of 2.8 Mach or almost three times the speed of sound.
- The range of this advanced version missile have been extended to around 350 km from the original 290 km.

### INS Gharial was deployed to Seychelles under Mission Sagar IX

- As part of the ongoing deployment of INS Gharial in the Southwest Indian Ocean under Mission Sagar IX, the Indian naval ship called at Port Victoria in Seychelles from 11 May 2022 to 14 May 2022.
- Successive deployments, like these, of the Indian Navy under **Mission Sagar** are aligned with the vision of **Security And Growth for All in the Region** and strengthen the concept of 'collective responsibility' for maritime security in the Indian Ocean Region.

### Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launched 'Surat' and 'Udaygiri' indigenous frontline warships

- Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launched two frontline warships of the Indian Navy — 'Surat' and 'Udaygiri' — at **Mazagon Dock Limited (MDL)**, Mumbai.
- Surat is the **fourth** guided missile destroyer of the P15 B class, while Udaygiri is the second stealth frigate of the P17 A class.
- Both warships have been were designed in India by the Directorate of Naval Design (DND) and built at MDL in Mumbai.

### India is set to send twin satellites named DISHA to study the upper atmosphere

- The twin satellites named **DISHA (Disturbed and quiet time Ionosphere-thermosphere System at High Altitudes)** will be launched by India in the low earth orbit, about 500 km above earth, to study the physics and chemistry of the upper atmosphere.
- These two satellites will carry identical Payloads. **DISHA-H** will be placed at a higher inclination and the **DISHA-L** will be placed at a lower inclination to the equator.

## Acquisitions and Mergers

### Elon Musk acquires Twitter for \$ 44 billion

- Tesla and SpaceX's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) **Elon Musk** has acquired Twitter for **\$ 44 billion**.
- He is the world's richest person, according to **Forbes magazine's 2022 report**, with an estimated net worth of **\$ 273.6 billion**.

## Appointments

### Ajay Kumar Sood was appointed as the new Principal Scientific Advisor to the Indian Government

- Physicist **Ajay Kumar Sood** of the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) in Bengaluru was appointed as the new **Principal Scientific Advisor (PSA)** to the Indian Government for **three years**.
- He replaced **K. Vijay Raghavan**. He was honoured with the **PadmaShri** in **2013**.
- He had done his Masters in Physics from Punjab University in Chandigarh in 1972 and Ph.D. in Physics from the IISc Bangalore in 1982.

### Senior IAS officer Naresh Kumar was appointed as the Chief Secretary of Delhi

- Senior IAS officer **Naresh Kumar** was appointed as the **Chief Secretary** of **Delhi**.
- He is a 1987-batch AGMUT (AGMUT stands for Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Mizoram and Union Territories ) cadre IAS officer who has been transferred from **Arunachal Pradesh** to **Delhi**.

### Justice Vineet Saran was appointed as the Chairman of the Ravi-Beas Water Tribunal

- Justice **Vineet Saran** was appointed as the Chairman of the **Ravi-Beas Water Tribunal**. He succeeded Justice **Ashok Bhushan**.
- Justice Ashok Bhushan took charge as the Chairperson of the **National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT)** in November 2021. The Ravi-Beas Water Tribunal is important in view of the issue of water availability and allocation discussed at various levels as part of concerted efforts to reach an amicable resolution for the **Sutlej-Yamuna Link (SYL)** canal issue between **Punjab** and **Haryana**.

### Capgemini CEO Ashwin Yardi was appointed as Co-chair of UNICEF's YuWaah

- YuWaah (Generation Unlimited India) in India has announced **Ashwin Yardi** as its Co-chair on board. He will be a co-chair along with **Yasumasa Kimura**, the UNICEF Representative.

### Krishnan Ramanujam was appointed as the Chairperson of NASSCOM for 2022-23

- **National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM)** has appointed the President (Enterprise Growth Group) of **Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)** **Krishnan Ramanujam** as its Chairperson for 2022–23. He succeeded **Rekha M. Menon**, Chairperson and Senior Managing Director of Accenture India..
- NASSCOM also appointed the President of **Microsoft India**, **Anant Maheshwari** as its Vice-Chairperson for 2022–23.

### Vishakha Mulye was appointed as the CEO of Aditya Birla Capital

- **Aditya Birla Capital Limited** has appointed **Vishakha Mulye** as its **Chief Executive Officer (CEO)**. She succeeded **Ajay Srinivasan**.
- She is the first woman to be appointed to the **Aditya Birla Management Corporation**.

### Generali Asia appoints Bruce De Broize as the MD and CEO of Future Generali India Life Insurance

- **Generali Asia** has appointed **Bruce De Broize** as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of **Future Generali India Life Insurance (FGILI)**.
- He replaced **Miranjit Mukherjee**, who has been serving as the Interim **CEO** since September 2021.

### Vijay Sampla was appointed as the Chairperson of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes for a second time

- Former Union Minister Vijay Sampla was appointed as the Chairperson of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC) for a second time. He was the Chairman of the **Punjab Khadi Board** from 2008 to 2012 and the Chairman of the **Punjab State Forest Development Corporation** in 2014.
- He was elected to the Lok Sabha from Hoshiarpur constituency and became a Union Minister in 2015.

### Shivalik Small Finance Bank appoints Anshul Swami as its MD and CEO

- **Anshul Swami** was appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of **Shivalik Small Finance Bank**. He replaced **Suveer Kumar Gupta**.
- Anshul Swami has over 20 years of experience across various customer and geographic segments.
- He also has worked across various customer segments like retail, MSME, microfinance and agriculture.

### Lt. Gen. B. S. Raju was appointed as the Vice Chief of the Army Staff

- The Army's Director General of Military Operations, **Lt. Gen. B. S. Raju** was appointed as the next **Vice Chief of the Army Staff**. He will take over on **01 May 2022**.
- The current Vice Chief of the Army Staff, **Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande**, is set to take over as the next Indian Army Chief on 30 April 2022 from incumbent **General Manoj Naravane**.

### Senior IFS officer Vinay Mohan Kwatra assumes charge as India's new Foreign Secretary

- Senior IFS officer Vinay Mohan Kwatra assumed charge as India's new Foreign Secretary.
- He succeeded incumbent Harsh Vardhan Shringla.
- Vinay Mohan Kwatra is a 1988 batch IFS officer and served as India's Ambassador to Nepal.

### Joydeep Karmakar takes over as the national chief rifle coach

- National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) has appointed Joydeep Karmakar as the national chief rifle coach.
- He missed the Olympic bronze medal by a whisker in the 2012 Olympics in the men's **50-metre** rifle prone event. He has been running his own shooting academy in Kolkata since 2015.

### Indian-origin Nand Mulchandani appointed as the first-ever chief technology officer of the CIA

- Nand Mulchandani, an Indian-origin man who studied at a Delhi school, was appointed the Central Intelligence Agency's (CIA) first-ever Chief Technology Officer.
- The CIA is a **government agency of the United States** that provides objective intelligence on foreign countries and global issues to the United States President, the National Security Council, and other policymakers to help them make national security decisions in the United States.

### IBM Chairman Arvind Krishna was elected to the Board of Federal Reserve Bank of New York

- The Federal Reserve Bank of New York announced that Arvind Krishna was elected as a Class B director, 'representing the public with due but not exclusive consideration to the interests of agriculture, commerce, industry, services, labour and consumers'.
- The Federal Reserve Bank of New York works within the **Federal Reserve System** to foster the safety, soundness and vitality of the United States economic and financial systems.

### RBI Board approves the nomination of Rajiv Ranjan as an ex-officio member of the Monetary Policy Committee

- The central board of the Reserve Bank of India has approved the nomination of Executive Director Dr. Rajiv Ranjan as an ex-officio member of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC).
- Out of the **six MPC members**, three are **external**. The other three members are the RBI Governor, who is the chairperson of the MPC, the RBI Deputy Governor in charge of the monetary policy and one officer of the RBI nominated by the central board of the RBI.

### Former Petroleum Secretary Tarun Kapoor was appointed as an advisor to the Prime Minister

- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of Tarun Kapoor as an advisor to the Prime Minister in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) in the rank and scale of Secretary to the Indian Government.
- His appointment will be initially for a period of **two years** from the date of his joining.

### Alkesh Kumar Sharma assumes charge as the new Secretary of the Union Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology

- Alkesh Kumar Sharma assumed charge as the Secretary of the Union Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY).
- He is an Indian Administrative Services Officer of the 1990 batch from the Kerala cadre.
- He has earlier served as the Additional Secretary and Secretary in the Union Cabinet Secretariat under the Government of India.

### Air Marshal Sanjeev Kapoor takes charge as the Director-General (Inspection and Safety) of the Indian Air Force

- Air Marshal Sanjeev Kapoor assumed charge as the Director-General (Inspection and Safety) of the Indian Air Force.
- He is a graduate of the **National Defence Academy** and was commissioned in the flying branch of the Indian Air Force in December 1985 as a transport pilot.
- He is an alumnus of the Defence Services Staff College (DSSC) in Wellington, College of Defence Management and National Defence College.
- He is also a qualified flying instructor with more than 7700 hours of flying experience on various aircraft in the inventory of the Indian Air Force.

### TVS Motor appoints Sudarshan Venu as its new managing director

- TVS Motor, a **Chennai-based** automobile major company, has appointed Sudarshan Venu as its Managing Director. He is the son of TVS Motor's Chairman Emeritus, **Venu Srinivasan**.
- Sudarshan Venu has led TVS Motor's growth in India and markets in Asia, Africa and Europe. He was appointed TVS Motor's Joint Managing Director in September 2014.

### Pushp Kumar Joshi was appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited

- Pushp Kumar Joshi took over as the new Chairman and Managing Director of India's third-largest oil refining and fuel marketing company, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL).
- HPCL is a subsidiary of the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation, which is under the ownership of the Union Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. Its headquarters is in **Mumbai**, Maharashtra. On 24 October **2019**, the HPCL became a **Maharatna** public sector undertaking in India.

### Captain Rajesh Unni takes over as the Vice-Chairman of the Maritime Anti-Corruption Network

- Captain Rajesh Unni was appointed as the **Vice-Chairman** of the **Denmark-based** Maritime Anti-Corruption Network (MACN).
- MACN was established in **2011** and it consists of more than **165 member** companies that collectively represent 50 per cent of the world's tonnage.
- MACN's objective is to have a maritime industry that is free of corruption and it enables fair trade for the benefit of the society at large.

### Yoon Suk-Yeol was sworn in as the South Korean President

- Yoon Suk-Yeol was sworn in as the South Korean President in a huge ceremony at South Korea's National Assembly.
- Yoon made the remarks in his inauguration address at the National Assembly Plaza, outlining various challenges facing the country and the world from pandemics and rearrangements in global supply chains to record-low growth and rising unemployment here at home.
  - **Capital:** Seoul
  - **Currency:** South Korean Won

### Rodrigo Chaves was elected as the President of Costa Rica

- Rodrigo Chaves was sworn in as the new President of Costa Rica's on 8 May 2022.
- Costa Rica, with a population of around five million, is considered one of the most politically stable countries in **Central America**.
  - **Capital:** San Jose
  - **Currency:** Costa Rican Colon

### Ajay Kumar Mishra was appointed as the new Advocate General of Uttar Pradesh

- Uttar Pradesh Government has appointed Ajay Kumar Mishra as the Advocate General of Uttar Pradesh.
- He started practising at the Allahabad High Court in 1981 and has been practising at the Supreme Court for the past 10 years.
- In 1995, he became the **youngest Additional Advocate General** of Uttar Pradesh.

### Hungary elects Katalin Novak as its first female president

- Katalin Novak took charge as the **first female President** of Hungary.
- She was appointed as the State Secretary for Family and Youth Affairs in 2014, before becoming a full minister in October 2020. She is also the Vice-President of the Fidesz Party in charge of Foreign Affairs.

### Campbell Wilson was appointed as the CEO and MD of Air India

- **Tata Sons** announced the appointment of Campbell Wilson as the Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director (MD) of Air India.
- He is the CEO of Scoot, the wholly-owned low-cost subsidiary of Singapore Airlines.
- He has 26 years of aviation industry expertise across both full-service and low-cost airlines.

### American Express appoints Manoj Adlakha as its International Head of Customer Marketing

- American Express has appointed **Manoj Adlakha** as International Head of Customer Marketing. Sanjay Khanna, who is currently the Chief Operating Officer of the American Express Banking Corporation (AEBC) India, will take over as the Interim CEO.
- In his new role, Manoj Adlakha will be responsible for advancing the customer engagement strategy and contributing to revenue growth by driving the customer's share of wallet across American Express' key international markets.

### Ram Nath Kovind appoints Rajiv Kumar as the Chief Election Commissioner of India

- Indian President Ram Nath Kovind has appointed Rajiv Kumar as the Chief Election Commissioner in the Election Commission of India.
- Rajiv Kumar will assume the charge of office of the Chief Election Commissioner with effect from **15 May 2022**.
- The Chief Election Commissioner or an Election Commissioner can hold the office for **six years** or till he/she attains the age of **65 years**, whichever is earlier.

### Sanjiv Bajaj takes over as the President of CII

- Sanjiv Bajaj, Chairman and Managing Director of Bajaj Finserv Limited, assumed the office as the President of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) for **2022-23**.
- He has led CII National Committees on Insurance and Pensions and CII's Taskforce on Fintech.

### Ranil Wickremesinghe takes charge as the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka

- Ranil Wickremesinghe took charge as the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka.
- Sri Lankan President Gotabaya Rajapaksa administered the oath to Ranil Wickremesinghe, the leader of the **United National Party**, at a ceremony held in Colombo.
- Mahinda Rajapaksa resigned as the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka recently.
- Ranil Wickremesinghe has returned for a **sixth term** as the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka.

### [Aruna Singh takes additional charge as the Chairman and Managing Director of RailTel](#)

- Aruna Singh, currently working as an Additional Member (Telecom) in the Railway Board, took charge as the Chairman & Managing Director (additional charge) of **RailTel Corporation of India Limited (RCIL)**.
- RailTel Corporation, a **Mini Ratna (Category-I) PSU**, is one of the largest telecom infrastructure providers in India. It owns a pan-India optic fiber network on exclusive Right of Way (ROW) along railway tracks.

### [R. S. Dhillon gets an additional charge as the Chairman and Managing Director of Rural Electrification Corporation Limited](#)

- Ravinder Singh Dhillon, Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) of Power Finance Corporation Limited, was given additional charge as the CMD of REC Limited.
- He has been given this additional charge upon the elevation of S. K. G Rahate to the post of Secretary of the Union Ministry of Power, who was also holding the charge of CMD of REC Limited.

### [Ferdinand Marcos Jr. won the presidential election of the Philippines](#)

- Ferdinand 'Bongbong' Marcos Jr. has won a landslide victory in the recent presidential election in the Philippines.
- He garnered more than **31 million votes** in an unofficial vote count from polls.

#### Philippines:

- Capital: **Manila**
- Currency: **Peso**

### [Gram Unnati appoints former Chief Election Commissioner of India Sunil Arora as Non-executive Chairman](#)

- Gram Unnati, an Agritech startup, has appointed former Chief Election Commissioner of India **Sunil Arora** as the new Non-executive Chairman of its board.
- Sunil Arora is a retired IAS officer with a rich leadership experience spanning over 36 years.
- He has headed strategic departments while driving governance and policy reform initiatives both at the Indian and state government levels.

### [Manik Saha was appointed as the new Chief Minister of Tripura](#)

- Dr. Manik Saha was appointed as the new Chief Minister of Tripura.
- Biplab Kumar Deb resigned as the chief minister of Tripura in an unprecedented move.
- Manik Saha is a dentist by profession and was elected as a Rajya Sabha MP in April 2022.

### [Nidhi Chibber was appointed as the Chairperson of CBSE](#)

- **Nidhi Chibber** was appointed as the Chairperson of the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE).
- She was appointed as the chairperson of the CBSE in the rank and pay of Additional Secretary to the Government of India.
- Nidhi Chibber is a 1994 batch IAS officer of Chhattisgarh cadre and is currently the Additional Secretary of the Union Ministry of Heavy Industries.

### [Elisabeth Borne was appointed as the new Prime Minister of France](#)

- Elisabeth Borne was appointed as the new Prime Minister of France. She became the **second woman** to hold the post of prime minister in France.
- She was the Labour Minister in French President Emmanuel Macron's previous government.
- She succeeds Jean Castex.

### [Indian environmental scientist Kamal Bawa was elected to the United States National Academy of Sciences](#)

- Indian conservation biologist Kamal Bawa was elected to the United States National Academy of Sciences.
- He is the president of the Bengaluru-based Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and Environment (ATREE) as well as an elected fellow of the Royal Society (London) and the American Philosophical Society.

### Sanjiv Bajaj was elected as the President of the Confederation of Indian Industry

- Sanjiv Bajaj, Chairman and Managing Director of Bajaj Finserv Limited, took charge as the President of the **Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)** for 2022–23.
- CII is a **non-governmental** trade association and advocacy group. It is headquartered in New Delhi and was founded in 1895.

### Naveen Srivastava was appointed as India's Ambassador to Nepal

- India has appointed Naveen Srivastava as its new Ambassador to Nepal.
- He is an Additional Secretary, handling the East Asia desk at the Union Ministry of External Affairs.
- He succeeds Vinay Kumar Kwatra, who completed his Nepal assignment in April after he was appointed India's Foreign Secretary.

### Bharti Airtel appoints former Cabinet Secretary P. K. Sinha as an independent director

- Bharti Airtel has named former Cabinet Secretary **P. K. Sinha** and former PwC India head **Shyamal Mukherjee** as independent directors on its board.
- P. K. Sinha served as the **Cabinet Secretary** for more than four years before moving to the Indian Prime Minister's Office. He retired in March 2021.

### Bombay Stock Exchange appoints ex-RBI Deputy Governor S. S. Mundra as its Chairman

- Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) has approved the appointment of **S. S. Mundra** as the Chairman of the board of directors of the company.
- He retired as **the Deputy Governor of Reserve Bank** of India in July 2017 after a stint of three years.
- Prior to that, he was the Chairman and Managing Director of Bank of Baroda, from where he superannuated in July 2014.

### IndiGo appoints Pieter Elbers as its new CEO

- InterGlobe Aviation, the parent company of low-cost carrier IndiGo, has appointed Pieter Elbers as its new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) effective from 1 October 2022.
- He succeeds Ronojoy Dutta, who has decided to retire on 30 September 2022 after guiding IndiGo through the turbulent COVID-19 period.

## Ranks and Indices

### Serum Institute of India's founder Cyrus Poonawalla becomes the world's richest healthcare billionaire

- According to the **Hurun Global Healthcare Rich List** of 2022, the founder of the Indian COVID-19 vaccine Covishield's maker Serum Institute of India (SII), **Cyrus Poonawalla** was ranked as the world's richest billionaire in the healthcare sector in 2022. The second richest healthcare billionaire in the world was Thomas Frist Jr, the owner of HCA Healthcare. The third and fourth billionaires on the Hurun Global Healthcare Rich List are **Li Xiting** and **Xu Hang** of Mindray from China.

### Suman K. Bery was appointed as the new Vice- Chairman of NITI Aayog

- **Suman K. Bery** was appointed the new **Vice-Chairman** of the **NITI (National Institution for Transforming India) Aayog**. He succeeded **Rajiv Kumar**, who has been serving as the Vice-Chairman of the NITI Aayog since **2017**.
- He previously served as a member of India's **Statistical Commission**, Reserve Bank of India's **Technical Advisory Committee** on Monetary Policy, as well as the Prime Minister's **Economic Advisory Council**.
  - NITI Aayog Headquarters: **New Delhi**
  - CEO: **Amitabh Kant**
  - Vice Chairperson: **Suman K. Bery**

### Mathias Boe was re-appointed as Indian badminton doubles coach for Commonwealth Games and Asian Games

- **Mathias Boe** was re-appointed as Indian badminton doubles coach for **Commonwealth Games** and **Asian Games**. He previously coached India's badminton doubles team.

- The **Sports Authority of India's (SAI)** Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) approved monthly a financial assistance of ₹ 7 lakhs to re-hire Mathias Boe until the end of the Asian Games.
- The Mission Olympic Cell (MOC) approved key proposals from the **Badminton Association of India (BAI)** in addition to Mathias Boe's appointment.

#### India becomes the third-largest military spender in the world after the United States and China: SIPRI Data

- **India** became the **third-largest** military spender (\$ 76.6 billion) in the world according to the latest data released by the global think-tank **Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)**. This list was topped by the United States, China, India, the United Kingdom and Russia.

#### India ranks 21<sup>st</sup> in the 2021 estimated crypto gains: Chainalysis Report

- According to the data released by crypto analytics firm **Chainalysis**, **India** ranked **21<sup>st</sup>** in the 2021 estimated crypto gains.
- This report was topped by the **United States**, the **United Kingdom**, **Germany**, **Japan** and **China**.

#### India slips to the 150<sup>th</sup> position in 2022 the World Press Freedom Index 2022

- India's has fallen down to the 150<sup>th</sup> position from last year's 142<sup>nd</sup> rank out of 180 countries in the World Press Freedom Index 2022 according to the report released by the **Reporters Without Borders**.
- Norway (1<sup>st</sup>) Denmark (2<sup>nd</sup>), Sweden (3<sup>rd</sup>), Estonia (4<sup>th</sup>) and Finland (5<sup>th</sup>) grabbed the top positions, while North Korea remained at the bottom of this index.

#### Calcutta University ranks first in the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2022

- The Times Higher Education (THE) has released the 2022 edition of its Impact Rankings, in which India was featured as the **fourth** most-represented nation, along with Turkey, with 64 universities.
- **Calcutta University** was ranked first among all the central and state-aided public universities in India in the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings 2022.
- Times Higher Education Impact Rankings assess the university's impact on society through its contributions toward the **United Nations sustainable development goals**.

## Awards and Recognitions

#### Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy gets the John F. Kennedy Award for defending democracy

- **Ukrainian** President **Volodymyr Zelenskyy** is among the five people named as recipients of the **John F. Kennedy** Profile in Courage Award for acting to **protect democracy**.
- He was chosen because of the way he has marshalled the spirit, **patriotism** and untiring sacrifice of the Ukrainian people in a life-or-death fight for Ukraine.

#### Babita Singh was named as the new Global Peace Ambassador 2022

- **Babita Singh** was named as a **Global Peace Ambassador** for promoting peace through education, sports, art, culture and diplomacy at the India International Conclave 2022 held in collaboration with the **Asia-Africa Consortium (AAC)**.
- She is a global business professional who has been in this business for **20 years** with her previous ventures, from hospitality, sports management and cyber security.

#### UNEP names David Attenborough for the Champions of The Earth Lifetime Achievement Award 2021

- **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)** has named wildlife filmmaker and zoologist, **David Attenborough** as the recipient of the **Champions of the Earth Award 2021**.
- He was awarded under the **Lifetime Achievement category** for his dedication to **research, documentation** and **advocacy** for the protection of nature and its restoration.

### Raghav Chadha and Ukrainian minister Fedorov were listed in WEF's Young Global Leaders List 2022

- Indian Member of Parliament **Raghav Chadha**, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Edelweiss Mutual Fund **Radhika Gupta** and **Ukrainian** Vice-Prime Minister and Minister of Digital Transformation **Mykhailo Fedorov** are listed among the World Economic Forum (WEF)'s Young Global Leaders Class of 2022. The 2022 Class of **Young Global Leaders (YGLs)** include researchers, innovative entrepreneurs, activists and promising political leaders between the ages of **30** and **40**.

### Meghalaya Planning Department's e-proposal system wins the coveted United Nations WSIS 2022 Award

- **Meghalaya** Planning Department's key initiative of the e-proposal system, which is a part of **Meghalaya Enterprise Architecture (MeghEA)**, has won the coveted United Nations **Award — World Summit on the Information Society Forum (WSIS) Prizes 2022**.
- This e-proposal system automates sanctions and administrative approvals of all the departments and directorates in **Meghalaya**.

### Bangladesh's Kishore Das was selected for the 223rd Commonwealth Points of Light Award

- **Kishore Kumar Das**, the founder of the educational charity '**Bidyanando**' from **Bangladesh**, was chosen for the **223rd Commonwealth Points of Light Award** for his exceptional work in improving access to education for children from marginalised backgrounds.
- The **Commonwealth 'Points of Light' Award** is awarded to outstanding **individual volunteers** who are making a change in their communities.

### Atal Tunnel receives the award for the 'Best Infrastructure Project'

- **Atal Tunnel** has received the **Indian Building Congress' (IBC)** award for the '**Best Infrastructure Project**'.
- The Atal Tunnel was built in Rohtang in **Himachal Pradesh** by the **Border Roads Organisation (BRO)**.
- The 9.02-km-long Atal Tunnel is the longest highway tunnel in the world and its connects Manali to the Lahaul-Spiti Valley.

### Ardeshir B. K. Dubash was conferred the highest diplomatic distinction named the 'Order of Merit in the Diplomatic Service of Peru Jose Gregorio Paz Soldan' by the Government of Peru

- Ardeshir B. K. Dubash, former Honorary Consul of Peru in Mumbai, received the Order of 'Merit in the Diplomatic Service of Peru José Gregorio Paz Soldán', which is the highest distinction conferred by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Peru.
- This honour is normally reserved for career **diplomats**, who have excelled in their work to promote the **democratic, historical** and **institutional values** of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Peru, and who have made outstanding contributions to **Peru's foreign policy**.

#### Peru

- Capital: **Lima**
- Currency: **Peruvian Sol**
- President: **Jose Pedro Castillo Terrones**
- Prime Minister: **Walter Roger Martos Ruiz**

### Snow leopard expert Charudutt Mishra wins the Whitley Gold Award

- Snow leopard expert and **wildlife conservationist**, Charudutt Mishra has won the prestigious Whitley Gold Award for his contribution to involving indigenous communities in the conservation and recovery of big cat species in Asia's high mountain ecosystems.
- He is also the co-founder of Bengaluru-based Nature Conservation Foundation, which established India's first community scheme to save snow leopards.

### Cynthia Rosenzweig was awarded the World Food Prize 2022

- Cynthia Rosenzweig, an agronomist and climatologist, was awarded the **\$ 250,000** World Food Prize in 2022 in recognition of her innovative modeling of the impact of climate change on food production.
- The World Food Prize is an international award that recognises the achievements of individuals who have advanced human development by improving the quality, quantity or availability of food in the world.

### Late Indian photojournalist Danish Siddiqui wins his second Pulitzer Prize

- **Indian photojournalist** Danish Siddiqui, who lost his life in 2021 after a sudden ambush while reporting in Afghanistan, was honoured with the **Pulitzer Prize for Feature Photography** for his **coverage of the COVID-19 situation in India**.
- Reuters journalists — Adnan Abidi, Sanna Irshad Mattoo and Amit Dave — were also felicitated with the prestigious award in 2022.
- The Pulitzer Prize, awarded annually, are the most prestigious awards in **journalism**, with special attention often paid to the public service award.

### The Bengali translation of the French novel 'Meursault Contre-Enquête' wins the Romain Rolland Guide Prize 2022

- The **Bengali translation** of the French novel 'Meursault Contre-Enquête' (The Meursault Investigation) won the **fifth Romain Rolland Guide Prize** in 2022.
- The Romain Rolland Guide Prize, awarded from **2017**, aims to award the most efficient translation of a French novel into any Indian language, together with English.

### Mamata Banerjee was honoured with the Bangla Academy Award

- West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee received the Bangla Academy Award for her relentless literary pursuit.
- This award, introduced in 2022 by the Sahitya Akademi, was presented to Mamata Banerjee for her book '**Kabita Bitan**', which pays tribute to the best writers of West Bengal.
- This award will be awarded to those who constantly pursue literature even after working tirelessly in various other fields.

### Guruswamy Krishnamoorthy is set to receive the Member of the Royal Order of British Empire recognition

- Guruswamy Krishnamoorthy, CEO of Penlon, is likely to receive the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (Civil Division) Award 2022 – Honorary **Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE)** recognition from the British Queen at the Buckingham Palace in London.
- Guruswamy Krishnamoorthy hails from Madurai, India.
- The British Honorary Awards are awarded twice a year, first during the new year and again in June, on the date of the British Queen's official birthday.

### Dr. Frank Wilczek receives the Templeton Prize for 2022

- Dr. Frank Wilczek, a Nobel Prize-winning theoretical **physicist** and author, was announced as the winner of the Templeton Prize for 2022.
- His boundary-pushing investigations into the fundamental laws of nature have transformed the understanding of the forces that govern the universe.
- The Templeton Prize was established in **1972** and is one of the world's largest annual individual awards.
- It is given to honour individuals whose exemplary achievements advance **Sir John Templeton's** philanthropic vision — harnessing the power of the sciences to explore the deepest questions of the universe and humankind's place and purpose within it.

### B. V. Doshi was conferred with the Royal Gold Medal 2022

- Noted Indian **architect** Balkrishna Vithaldas Doshi was conferred with the prestigious Royal Gold Medal 2022, which is considered as the world's highest honour for architecture.
- B. V. Doshi is among a few people to have been awarded both the Royal Gold Medal and the Pritzker Architecture Prize in their lifetime.

### Cameroonian activist Cécile Ndjebet wins the Wangari Maathai Forest Champions Award 2022

- Cameroonian activist **Cécile Ndjebet** won the Wangari Maathai Forest Champions Award 2022 in recognition of her outstanding contribution to preserving forests and improving the lives of people who depend on the forests.
- This award is presented by the **Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF)**, which is chaired by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).
- This award was conferred at a ceremony during the XV World Forestry Congress in **Seoul, South Korea**.

## Books and Authors

### Indian Vice President Venkaiah Naidu releases a book titled 'Modi@20: Dreams Meeting Delivery'

- Vice President of India Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu released a book titled 'Modi @ 20 : Dreams Meet Delivery', a compilation of **21 articles** by **22 domain experts** bringing out various aspects of the thinking and performance of Indian Prime Minister Modi in various domains as the Chief Minister of Gujarat and the Indian Prime Minister.

### Vice President Venkaiah Naidu releases a book titled 'The Struggle for Police Reforms in India'

- Vice President Venkaiah Naidu released the book titled - 'The Struggle for Police Reforms in India' written by former IPS officer, Prakash Singh in New Delhi.
- The Vice President specifically highlighted issues that need to be addressed on a war footing, including filling up of the huge number of vacancies in police departments and strengthening the police infrastructure in tune with the requirements of modern age policing.

## Obituary

### Former Chief Minister of Meghalaya J. D. Rymbai passed away at 83

- Former Chief Minister of **Meghalaya J. D. Rymbai** passed away at the age of 83.
- He was elected as the Speaker of the **Meghalaya** Legislative Assembly in 1993.
- He replaced **D. D. Lapang** as the **Chief Minister** of Meghalaya in **2006** for a year.

### Former Kenyan President Mwai Kibaki passed away at 90

- Former President of Kenya **Mwai Kibaki** passed away at the age of 90.
- He served two terms as the President of **Kenya** from **2002** to **2013**.

### Legendary Odia writer Binapani Mohanty passed away at 85

- Legendary Odia writer **Binapani Mohanty** passed away at the age of 85 due to age-related complications. She received the **Padma Shri** in 2020.
- She has more than **100 books** to her credit. She is well-known for '**Patadei**', '**Kasturi Mriga O Sabuja Aranya**', '**Khela Ghara**', '**Naiku Rasta**', '**Bastraharana**' and '**Andhakarara**'.

### Actor Salim Ghouse passed away at 70

- Film and television actor Salim Ghouse passed away at the age of 70 in Mumbai. He started his acting journey in **1978** with the movie **Swarg Narak**, following which he featured in films like **Chakra** (1981), **Saaransh** (1984), **Mohan Joshi Hazir Ho!** (1984) and several others.

### Structural biologist Mamannamana Vijayan passed away at the age of 80

- **Mamannamana Vijayan**, a molecular biophysicist and structural biologist professor, passed away at the age of 80. He became a Fellow of the **Indian National Science Academy** in 1987 and was also a Fellow of other major academies, including The **World Academy of Sciences** (TWAS).

### Former Indian women's hockey team captain Elvera Britto passed away at the age of 81

- Former Indian **women's hockey team** captain **Elvera Britto** passed away at the age of 81 due to old age-related problems.
- She became only the **second Indian woman hockey player** to be conferred with the **Arjuna Award** in **1965**, after **Anne Lumsden** (1961).

### Former Bangladesh Finance Minister Abul Maal Abdul Muhith passed away

- Abul Maal Abdul Muhith, former Bangladesh finance minister, passed away in Dhaka after a brief illness. He was 88.
- He was widely acclaimed as an economist, diplomat and a bureaucrat.

### Formula One pioneer Tony Brooks passed away at the age of 90

- Motorsport pioneer Tony Brooks, who won six Formula One Grandprix races in the 1950s and was nicknamed the 'Racing Dentist', passed away at the age of 90.

### Writer Rajat Kar passed away at 88

- Noted writer, columnist and popular radio & TV commentator Rajat Kar passed away at the age of 88.
- He has contributed immensely to **Odia literature**. He had deep knowledge of Upendra Bhanja literature.

### Santoor maestro Pandit Shivkumar Sharma passed away

- Pandit Shivkumar Sharma, Indian music composer and santoor player, passed away in Mumbai. He was **84**. He was suffering from kidney-related issues and passed away due to cardiac arrest.

### Sanskrit grammarian Bhagirath Prasad Tripathi passed away

- Sanskrit grammarian, Professor **Bhagirath Prasad Tripathi** known as 'Vagish Shastri' passed away.
- He made priceless contributions in making Sanskrit more popular among the Indian youth using modern scientific methods.

### Former Australian cricketer Andrew Symonds passed away

- Former Australian cricketer Andrew Symonds passed away following an accident near Townsville in Northeast Australia. He was 46 years old.
- He played 26 test matches for Australia and posted two centuries. He was better known as a limited-overs specialist and played 198 one-day international for Australia and won two ICC World Cups with the Australian men's cricket team.

### International Cricket Council

- Headquarters – Dubai

### UAE President Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan passed away at 73

- UAE's Ministry of Presidential Affairs has announced a 40-day mourning period.
- Sheik Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan was born in 1948 in Abu Dhabi, 23 years before the establishment of the UAE in 1971. He was the oldest son of Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan, UAE's founder. He took charge as the President of UAE in 2004 after his father passed away.
- **Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed Al Nahyan** was appointed as the new President of UAE.

#### United Arab Emirates

- Capital: **Abu Dhabi**
- Currency: **Dirham**

## Sports News

### West Indies cricketer Kieron Pollard announces retirement from international cricket

- West Indies all-rounder **Kieron Pollard** announced his retirement from international cricket. He was the captain of West Indies' limited-overs teams and played a total of **123 ODIs** and **101 T20Is**.
- He scored **2706 runs** and took **55 wickets** in One-day International cricket. He racked up **1569 runs** at a strike rate of 135.14, while also picking up **42 wickets** with his handy medium pace in T20 International.

### Rohit Sharma and Jasprit Bumrah among Wisden's five 'Cricketers of the Year'

- India captain **Rohit Sharma** and Indian fast bowler **Jasprit Bumrah** were named among the '**Five Cricketers of the Year**' in the 2022 edition of the **Wisden Almanack**.
- England fast bowler **Ollie Robinson**, South African player **Dane van Niekerk** and New Zealand opener **Devon Conway** were named among the '**Five Cricketers of the Year**' in the 2022 edition of the **Wisden Almanack**.

- Former England captain **Joe Root** was named the Leading Men Cricketer in the World, South Africa's **Lizelle Lee** was named as the Leading Woman Cricketer in the World and Pakistan's **Mohammad Rizwan** was named as the Leading T20 Cricketer in the World.

#### FINA Suspends Olympic champion Evgeny Rylov for nine months

- Swimming's world governing body, **Federation Internationale de Natation (FINA)** had suspended **Russian** Olympic gold medallist **Evgeny Rylov** for nine months after he attended a rally in Moscow in support of **Russia's military campaign in Ukraine**.
- He won gold medals in **100** and **200 metres** backstroke events at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

#### Ravi Dahiya wins the gold medal at the Asian Wrestling Championships 2022

- **Ravi Kumar Dahiya** (57 kg) won his **third** successive **gold medal** at the **Asian Wrestling Championships**. He became the first-ever Indian freestyle wrestler to win a **hat-trick** of gold medals at the Asian Wrestling Championships.
- **Bajrang Punia** won the silver medal in the 65 kg category. **Gourav Baliyan** (79 kg) also bagged the silver medal, while **Naveen** (70 kg) and **Satywart Kadian** (97 kg) took the bronze medals.

#### Max Verstappen named as the Laureus World Sportsman of the Year 2022

- Formula 1 2021 world champion **Max Verstappen** was named the **Laureus World Sportsman of the Year 2022** at a digital ceremony hosted in **Seville, Spain**.
- **Jamaican** Olympic athlete **Elaine Thompson-Herah** was named the **Laureus World Sportswoman of the Year 2022**.
  1. Laureus World Sports Awards 2022 Winners: World Sportsman of the Year Award: **Max Verstappen**
  2. World Sportswoman of the Year Award: **Elaine Thompson-Herah**
  3. World Team of the Year Award: **Italy Men's Football Team**
  4. World Breakthrough of the Year Award: **Emma Raducanu**
  5. World Comeback of the Year Award: **Sky Brown**
  6. World Sportsperson of the Year with a Disability Award: **Marcel Hug**
  7. World Action Sports person of the Year Award: **Bethany Shriever**
  8. Lifetime Achievement Award: **Tom Brady**
  9. Academy Exceptional Achievement Award: **Robert Lewandowski**
  10. Sporting Icon Award: **Valentino Rossi**
  11. Sport for Good Award: **Lost Boyz Inc**
  12. Sport for Good Society Award: **Real Madrid Foundation**
  13. Athlete Advocate of the Year Award: **Gerald Asamoah and the Black Eagles**

#### Max Verstappen wins the Emilia Romagna Grand Prix 2022

- Red Bull's driver **Max Verstappen** (Belgium) has won the **third edition** of the **Emilia Romagna Grand Prix 2022**.
- Red Bull's driver **Sergio Pérez** (Mexico) came in the second position and Mercedes' driver **Lando Norris** (British-Belgian) came in the third position.

#### Indian Grandmaster D. Gukesh wins the Menorca Open chess tournament 2022

- Indian Grandmaster **D. Gukesh** won the **Menorca Open chess tournament 2022** that was held at **Ciudadella De Menorca, Spain**.
- Indian Grandmaster **Aryan Chopra** came in the second position and Armenian Grandmaster **Shant Sargsyan** came in the third position.

#### Bengaluru City University won the men's hockey event at the Khelo India University Games 2022

- Bengaluru City University defended its title by defeating Guru Nanak Dev University in the men's hockey final event with 3–0 at the second Khelo India University Games. The event was held at five venues in Bengaluru.
- The Khelo India University Games 2022 will serve as a qualifier for the **World University Games**, which is scheduled to be held in **Chengdu, China**, from 26 June 2022.

### Kerala beat West Bengal on penalties to win its seventh Santosh Trophy title

- Kerala beat West Bengal with 5-4 in a penalty shootout in the finals of the Santosh Trophy 2022 at the Payyanad Stadium in Malappuram. This is Kerala's **seventh** Santosh Trophy title.
- The Santosh Trophy is an association football knock-out competition contested by the regional state associations and government institutions under the All India Football Federation (AIFF), the football governing body in India.

### Harshada Sharad Garud wins India's first-ever gold medal in the IWF Junior Weightlifting World Championships 2022

- Harshada Sharad Garud scripted history to become the first Indian to win a gold medal at the International Weightlifting Federation's (IWF) Junior Weightlifting World Championships 2022 in Heraklion, Greece.
- She lifted **153 kg** in the **45-kg** weight category, which included 70 kg in Snatch and 83 kg in Clean and Jerk, to finish on top of the podium.

### International Weightlifting Federation:

- The International Weightlifting Federation (IWF) is the international governing body for the sport of Olympic weightlifting.
- Headquarters: **Lausanne**

### Ronnie O'Sullivan wins the World Snooker Championship 2022 title

- Ronnie O'Sullivan, an English professional snooker player, won a **record seventh** World Snooker Championship title, after he beat Judd Trump 18-13 in the finals.
- With this title, Ronnie O'Sullivan has equalled **Stephen Hendry's** modern-day record of **seven World Snooker Championship titles**.

### A stadium is set to be built in Neeraj Chopra's native village in Haryana

- Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar announced that a stadium will be built in Olympic gold-medallist Neeraj Chopra's native village in **Panipat, Haryana**. Indian javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra's native village, **Khandra**, is in Panipat.
- Neeraj Chopra became the **first Indian** to win an Olympic gold medal in the track and field category.

### Dhanush Srikanth wins the medal gold and Shourya Saini bags the bronze medals at the Deaflympics 2022

- Dhanush Srikanth won the gold medal in the men's **10 m air rifle** event at the ongoing 24<sup>th</sup> Deaflympics in 2022 at Caxias Do Sul in Brazil, ensuring a golden start to India's campaign.
- He shot **247.5**, a finals world record score, to emerge triumphant as Kim fell short with 246.6, while Shourya finished third with 224.3.
- Shourya Saini put the icing on India's cake with a bronze, finishing behind Korea's Kim Woo Rim in the eight-man

### India remains on the top in T20 in the Annual ICC Rankings 2022

- India, under new captain Rohit Sharma, finished the 2021–22 season as the world's number one ranked T20 cricket team after a string of impressive performances in the recently released Annual ICC T20 Rankings 2022.
- In the updated ODI rankings, New Zealand remain on top but their lead over England is reduced from three to one point.
- In the updated Test rankings, Australia remain on top.

### International Cricket Council

- The International Cricket Council (ICC) is the world governing body of cricket. It has its headquarters in **Dubai, the United Arab Emirates**.

### Olympic Council of Asia postpones the Asian Games 2022 to be held in China

- The Olympic Council of Asia has postponed the nineteenth Asian Games, originally scheduled to be held in Hangzhou, China, from 10 September 2022 to 25 September 2022.
- The **Asian Youth Games 2022**, scheduled to be held in December 2022 in Shantou, has been cancelled altogether. **Tashkent** will host the next edition of the Asian Youth Games in **2025**.

### Abhinav Deshwal wins the gold medal in the men's 10 m air pistol event at the Deaflympics 2022

- India won its second **gold medal** at the ongoing 24<sup>th</sup> Deaflympics in Caxias do Sul, **Brazil**, with Abhinav Deshwal claiming the men's **10 m** air pistol title.
- India now has four medals from the shooting competition at the ongoing 24<sup>th</sup> Deaflympics in 2022.

### Max Verstappen wins the Miami Grand Prix 2022

- Reigning Formula 1 champion, **Red Bull's** Max Verstappen won the **first-ever** Miami Grand Prix in 2022 after sprinting past Ferrari's Charles Leclerc, who started at the pole position.
- This is Max Verstappen's third victory of the 2022 Formula 1 season.

### Alyssa Healy and Keshav Maharaj win the ICC Player Of Month Awards for April 2022

- **Australia's** Alyssa Healy and **South Africa's** Keshav Maharaj have been voted as the ICC Women's Player of the Month and ICC Men's Player of the Month for **April 2022**.
- Alyssa Healy was selected as the stand-out female cricketer in April 2022 following her match-winning innings of 170 in the ICC Women's World Cup finals in 2022.
- South African spinner Keshav Maharaj received the award for his prolific performance with the ball during their recent ICC World Test Championship series victory over Bangladesh held in South Africa.

### India beats Indonesia to win the Thomas Cup for the first time ever

- India has created history by defeating **14-time**-Thomas-Cup-winner Indonesia 3-0 to lift their first ever Thomas Cup.
- Thomas Cup is an international **badminton** competition. Sixteen teams compete for the Thomas Cup. These sixteen teams represent the member nations of the Badminton World Federation (BWF).
- The Thomas Cup was started by a legendary badminton player of England named **Sir George Alan Thomas**, who was inspired by Tennis's Davis Cup and Football's World Cup.

### Badminton World Federation

- Headquarters: **Kuala Lumpur**

### Lionel Messi tops Forbes' highest-paid athlete list for 2022

- Lionel Messi was the world's highest-paid athlete over the last year, according to the annual Forbes list in 2022.
- He earned **\$ 130 million**, which includes **\$ 55 million** of endorsements. Forbes calculates the estimates based on prize money, salaries and bonuses, as well as estimations of sponsorship deals and other off-field revenue streams.

### Liverpool beat Chelsea to win the FA Cup 2022

- Liverpool defeated Chelsea on penalties and won the FA Cup 2022.
- This is Liverpool's **eighth FA Cup title**.
- Liverpool is now the most successful club as Manchester United after this FA Cup title.
- Liverpool's haul now consists of 19 league titles, eight FA Cups and nine League Cups.

### Nikhat Zareen becomes the fifth Indian woman to win the gold medal at the Women's World Boxing Championships

- Nikhat Zareen beat **Thailand's** Jitpong Jutamas in the **52 kg** flyweight category at the Women's World Boxing Championships held in Istanbul.
- She thus became only the **fifth Indian women's boxer** after Mary Kom, Sarita Devi, Jennyand Lekha KC to win a gold medal at the World Boxing Championships.

## Important Days

Date	Day	Theme/Other Information's
01 May	International Workers' Day or Labour Day	-
01 May	World Laughter Day	-
03 May	World Press Freedom Day	-
03 May	World Asthma Day	-
04 May	International Firefighters' Day	-
05 May	World Hand Hygiene Day	-
07 May	World Athletics Day	-
07 May	Raising Day of Border Roads Organisation	-
08 May	World Red Cross Day	Be human kind
08 May	World Thalassaemia Day	Be aware. Share. Care: Working with the global community as one to improve thalassaemia knowledge
11 May	National Technology Day	Integrated approach in science and technology for a sustainable future
12 May	International Nurses Day	Nurses: A voice to lead - Invest in nursing and respect rights to secure global health
12 May	International Day of Plant Health	-
16 May	National Dengue Day	-
17 May	World Hypertension Day	Measure your blood pressure accurately, control it, live longer
17 May	World Telecommunication Day	Digital technologies for older persons and healthy ageing
18 May	International Museum Day	-
18 May	World AIDS Vaccine Day	-
20 May	World Metrology Day	Metrology in the digital era
20 May	National Endangered Species Day	-
20 May	World Bee Day	-
21 May	National Anti-Terrorism Day	-
22 May	International Day for Biological Diversity	Building a shared future for all life
23 May	World Turtle Day	Shellebrate
31 May	World No Tobacco Day	Tobacco: Threat to our environment

## English Vocabulary

### 1. Conflict

**Meaning:** an active disagreement between people with opposing opinions or principles

**Synonyms:** combat, attack, counter

**Antonyms:** harmony, peace, amity

**Usage:** Some soldiers were shot down in the **conflict** between the two countries.

### 2. Pliable

**Meaning:** easily influenced or controlled by others

**Synonyms:** agreeable, amenable, docile

**Antonyms:** uncooperative, stubborn

**Usage:** The new employees are more **pliable** than the old.

### 3. Dynamic

**Meaning:** continuously changing or developing

**Synonyms:** energetic, proactive, motivated

**Antonyms:** idle, dull, lethargic

**Usage:** Employers must take a **dynamic** approach to improve their performance.

### 4. Enchant

**Meaning:** to attract or please someone very much

**Synonyms:** captivate, charm, delight, dazzle

**Usage:** The audience was clearly **enchanted** by her performance.

### 5. Overhaul

**Meaning:** to completely change a system so that it works more effectively

**Synonyms:** clean, revamp, refurbish

**Antonyms:** break, damage, destroy

**Usage:** The government has recently **overhauled** the healthcare system.

**6. Daring**

**Meaning:** brave and taking risks

**Synonyms:** adventurous, fearless

**Antonyms:** bore, timid, cowardly

**Usage:** Ram loved doing **daring** and thrill-seeking activities on his vacation.

**7. Dignified**

**Meaning:** controlled, serious, calm and therefore deserving respect

**Synonyms:** staid, composed, earnest

**Antonyms:** indecorous, frivolous, hilarious

**Usage:** The defeated candidate gave a **dignified** speech in which he congratulated his rival.

**8. Undeniable**

**Meaning:** so obviously true that it cannot be doubted

**Synonyms:** unquestionable, incontrovertible, irrefutable

**Antonyms:** unreliable, refutable, deniable

**Usage:** I had to admit her argument as she had an **undeniable** logic to it.

**9. Admire**

**Meaning:** to find someone or something attractive and pleasant to look at

**Synonyms:** respect, revere, cherish

**Antonyms:** blaspheme, desecrate, profane

**Usage:** If you want to achieve any goal, **admire** the process and success will follow.

**10. Valorous**

**Meaning:** showing great courage

**Synonyms:** brave, fearless, courageous

**Antonyms:** cowardly, irresolute

**Usage:** Firemen are **valorous** individuals who put their lives at risk to save others.

**11. Euphonious**

**Meaning:** having a pleasant sound

**Synonyms:** dulcet, mellow, melodious

**Antonyms:** rugged,, gruff

**Usage:** His **euphonious** voice and his qualitative speech made everyone applaud him.

**12. Sweltering**

**Meaning:** very hot, dry

**Synonyms:** hot, torrid

**Antonyms:** cold, cool, wet

**Usage:** The Sahara desert is a **sweltering** zone.

**13. Dubious**

**Meaning:** not completely true or not able to be trusted

**Synonyms:** sceptical, doubtful, unconvinced

**Antonyms:** certain, convinced, optimistic

**Usage:** He has been associated with some **dubious** characters.

**14. Curious**

**Meaning:** exciting attention as strange, novel, or unexpected

**Synonyms:** unusual, abnormal

**Antonyms:** common, general, indefinite, ordinary

**Usage:** A **curious** thing happened to me yesterday.

**15. Petulant**

**Meaning:** easily angered or annoyed

**Synonyms:** sullen, surly, pouting, sulky

**Antonyms:** cheerful, amiable

**Usage:** He plays the part of a **petulant** young man in the film.

**16. Sagacity**

**Meaning:** the quality of having or showing understanding and the ability to make good judgments

**Synonyms:** wisdom, judgment, prudence, shrewdness

**Antonyms:** folly, recklessness

**Usage:** The quality of having or showing understanding and the ability to make good judgments

**17. Dismiss**

**Meaning:** to remove someone from their job

**Synonyms:** bounce, discharge, terminate

**Antonyms:** recruit, employ, engage, hire

**Usage:** He has been **dismissed** from his job for incompetence.

**18. Indefinite**

**Meaning:** not exact, not clear, without clear limits

**Synonyms:** indistinct, unknown, indeterminate

**Antonyms:** clear, certain,

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

**19. Perturbation**

**Meaning:** a small change in the regular movement of an object

**Synonyms:** agitation, disquiet

**Antonyms:** calmness, relaxation

**Usage:** **Perturbations** in the orbit of the planet Uranus led to the discovery of Neptune.

**20. Imitate**

**Meaning:** to behave in a similar way to someone or something else

**Synonyms:** emulate, reecho, repeat, follow

**Antonyms:** natural, oppose, differ

**Usage:** Josh is trying to **imitate** the success of his well-accomplished mother.

**21. Waggish**

**Meaning:** using or expressing humour in a clever way

**Synonyms:** flippant, glib

**Antonyms:** serious, practical, important

**Usage:** He uses **waggish** humor to great effect.

**22. Rigorous**

**Meaning:** not allowing for any exceptions or loosening of standards

**Synonyms:** brassbound, cast-iron, exacting, hardline, inflexible, rigid

**Antonyms:** flexible, lax, loose, relaxed, slack

**Usage:** There are **rigorous** rules against unauthorised persons being in our building.

**23. Confer**

**Meaning:** to exchange ideas on a particular subject, often in order to reach a decision

**Synonyms:** consult, negotiate

**Antonyms:** deny, withdraw

**Usage:** I need some time to confer the incidents with my lawyer.

**24. Utterly**

**Meaning:** completely, extremely

**Synonyms:** absolutely, totally, unconditionally

**Antonyms:** bluntly, explicitly, openly, clearly

**Usage:** Her features are **utterly** flawless.

**25. Commend**

**Meaning:** to formally praise someone or something

**Synonyms:** advocate, affirm, approve

**Antonyms:** attack, censure, criticise, deny, disagree

**Example:** In some cases, public employee unions even pushed private-sector unions to **commend** Republicans.

**26. Alacrity**

**Meaning:** cheerful readiness, promptness or willingness

**Synonyms:** alertness, avidity, briskness, cheerfulness, dispatch, eagerness

**Antonyms:** apathy, coolness, discouragement, indifference

**Usage:** She accepted the money with **alacrity**.

**27. Adverse**

**Meaning:** preventing success or development; harmful; unfavourable

**Synonyms:** disadvantageous, inauspicious, unpropitious

**Antonyms:** favourable, beneficial

**Usage:** Due to **adverse** weather, the train has been cancelled.

**28. Catastrophic**

**Meaning:** involving or causing sudden great damage or suffering

**Synonyms:** destructive, ruinous, disastrous

**Antonyms:** advantageous, successful

**Usage:** Officials say the flood could cause **catastrophic** damage.

**29. Underway**

**Meaning:** having started and in progress; being done or carried out

**Synonyms:** evolving, growing, developing

**Antonyms:** halted, stopped

**Usage:** Plans are **underway** to launch a new scheme.

**30. Elicit**

**Meaning:** evoke or draw out (a reaction, answer or fact) from someone

**Synonyms:** prompt, generate, engender

**Antonyms:** placate, repress, suppress

**Usage:** These are books **pertaining** to the country's architecture.

**31. Deliberate**

**Meaning:** done consciously and intentionally

**Synonyms:** meticulous, wilful, wanton

**Antonyms:** accidental, unintentional, hasty

**Usage:** Our **deliberate** choices will rule our lives.

**32. Contrary**

**Meaning:** opposite in nature, direction or meaning

**Synonyms:** contradictory, clashing, conflicting

**Antonyms:** compatible, cooperative

**Usage:** She is always good for a **contrary** point of view.

**33. Slump**

**Meaning:** fail or decline substantially

**Synonyms:** deteriorate, degenerate, worsen

**Antonyms:** improve, rise

**Usage:** The team **slumped** to three successive first-round defeats without scoring a goal.

**34. Volatile**

**Meaning:** liable to change rapidly and unpredictably, especially for the worse

**Synonyms:** changeable, variable, inconstant, inconsistent

**Antonyms:** stable, constant

**Usage:** Since this market is **volatile** and unpredictable, no guarantees are possible.

**35. Speculation**

**Meaning:** the forming of a theory or conjecture without firm evidence

**Synonyms:** theorising, hypothesising, supposition

**Antonyms:** truth, sure

**Usage:** There are many **speculations** about the formation of our planet.

**36. Inevitable**

**Meaning:** certain to happen; unavoidable

**Synonyms:** inescapable, inexorable, ineluctable

**Antonyms:** avoidable, preventable

**Usage:** Death is **inevitable**.

**37. Harness**

**Meaning:** control and make use of (natural resources), especially to produce energy

**Synonyms:** utilise, exploit

**Antonyms:** underuse

**Usage:** We can **harness** the power of the flowing water to make electricity.

**38. Substantial**

**Meaning:** of considerable importance, size or worth

**Synonyms:** significant, substantial, substantial

**Antonyms:** insubstantial, worthless, incorporeal

**Usage:** I had lost a **substantial** amount of money in the stock market.

**39. Diminish**

**Meaning:** make or become less

**Synonyms:** decline, reduce, lessen

**Antonyms:** increase, boost

**Usage:** Nothing could **diminish** our interest in the research.

**40. Dampen**

**Meaning:** make less strong or intense

**Synonyms:** decrease, diminish, reduce

**Antonyms:** heighten, enhance, intensify

**Usage:** Nothing seems to **dampen** his unwavering excitement.

**41. Revival**

**Meaning:** an instance of something becoming popular, active or important again

**Synonyms:** restoration, resurrection, rejuvenation

**Antonyms:** downturn, depression

**Usage:** His period saw a great **revival** in traditional dances.

**42. Alleged**

**Meaning:** claim or assert that someone has done something illegal or wrong, typically without proof

**Synonyms:** proclaim, accuse,

**Antonyms:** refute, deny, disprove

**Usage:** He is **alleged** to have stolen the bronze statue.

**43. Intimidate**

**Meaning:** frighten or overawe (someone), especially in order to make them do what one wants

**Synonyms:** menace, terrify, scare, alarm

**Antonyms:** comfort, hearten

**Usage:** The gang tried to **intimidate** the travellers using their weapons.

**44. Coalition**

**Meaning:** a temporary alliance for combined action, especially of political parties forming a government

**Synonyms:** partnership, association, alliance

**(Near) Antonyms:** detachment, disunion, separation

**Usage:** A multiparty **coalition** ruled the country.

**45. Surpass**

**Meaning:** exceed; be greater than

**Synonyms:** transcend, outdo, outshine

**Antonyms:** inferior, substandard

**Usage:** He is expected to **surpass** his last year's record.

**46. Unprecedented**

**Meaning:** never done or known before

**Synonyms:** exceptional, outstanding, extraordinary

**Antonyms:** normal, common

**Usage:** This is an era of technology on an **unprecedented** scale.

**47. Overhaul**

**Meaning:** analyse and improve (a system)

**Synonyms:** revise, update, refurbish

**Antonyms:** damage, destroy, ruin

**Usage:** They are going to have to **overhaul** the welfare system.

**48. Supersede**

**Meaning:** Take the place of (a person or thing previously in authority or use); supplant

**Synonyms:** replace, overthrow, succeed

**(Near) Antonym:** retain

**Usage:** New designs are made and they will **supersede** the existing ones.

**49. Exhaustive**

**Meaning:** including or considering all elements or aspects; fully comprehensive

**Synonyms:** **comprehensive**, extensive,

**Antonyms:** incomplete, deficient

**Usage:** The new book series is **exhaustive**.

**50. Breakthrough**

**Meaning:** an important discovery or event that helps to improve a situation or provide an answer to a problem

**Synonyms:** innovation, revolution, discovery

**Antonyms:** setback

**Usage:** Scientists are hoping for a **breakthrough** in their efforts to find a cure for COVID-19.

**D.51–55) 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.**

**51.** The Reserve Bank of India primarily (A) / tracks consumer inflation and wholesale prices (B) / do not directly guided (C) / its monetary policy (D) / No error (E)

a) B    b) C    c) E    d) A    e) D

Ans: b

Exp: Replace 'guided' with 'guide'.

Here 'do' is an auxiliary verb that should be followed by the main verb in the base form 'guide'.

**52.** Beside denting wheat production, (A) / they have caused power shortages and (B) / taken a toll in terms of (C) / productivity loss, illnesses and deaths (D) / No error (E)

a) A    b) B    c) C    d) D    e) E

Ans: a

Exp: Replace 'beside' with 'besides'.

The preposition 'beside' means 'nearby'.

The preposition 'besides' means 'in addition to/apart from'.

**53.** There is more debate about whether (A) / climate change mitigation should be added to (B) / the set of targets that modern (C) / central banks have to meet, along with inflation, growth and financial stability (D) / No error (E)

a) D    b) A    c) B    d) E    e) C

Ans: d

Exp: No error in the given sentence.

**54.** The information shared with (A) / outside brokers was used by seven entities (B) / whom traded (C) / on these tips in large numbers (D) / No error (E)

a) A    b) C    c) B    d) D    e) E

Ans: b

Exp: Replace 'whom' with 'who'.

Here, the pronoun 'who' is used to denote the subject (seven entities) of a verb (traded).

The pronoun 'whom' is used to denote the object of the verb.

**55.** Many of these firms were waiting (A) / for the initial public offering (B) / of Life Insurance Corporation of India to be completed before (C) / launching its own share sales (D) / No error (E)

a) A    b) B    c) C    d) D    e) E

Ans: d

Exp: Replace 'its' with 'their'.

Here 'their' agrees with the plural subject 'firms' in part A.

**D.56–65) Each sentence is divided into four parts. Rearrange them into meaningful sentences. If no rearrangement is required, then choose option 'e' as the answer.**

**56.** One of the biggest challenges that (A) / the Indian bamboo industry faces today (B) / is the extremely high input cost owing to (C) / inadequate utilisation of bamboo (D)

a) BADC    b) BDAC    c) CABD

d) DCAB    e) No rearrangement required

Ans: e

Exp: The given sentence is already correct. So, no rearrangement is required.

Correct sentence: One of the biggest challenges that the Indian bamboo industry faces today is the extremely high input cost owing to inadequate utilisation of bamboo.

57. Priority sector lending status for (A) / the money they get from banks (B) / financial companies have sought (C) / to give loans or to buy two-wheelers (D)

- a) ADCB      b) DABC      c) CABD  
d) DCAB      e) No rearrangement required

Ans: c

Exp: Correct sentence: Financial companies have sought priority sector lending status for the money they get from banks to give loans or to buy two-wheelers.

58. For transporting and delivering milk, vegetables, merchandise, etc. (A) / personal commute but it is also used (B) / the rural economy is not limited to (C) / the major use of two-wheelers in (D)

- a) DCBA      b) DACB      c) CABD  
d) CDAB      e) No rearrangement required

Ans: a

Exp: Correct sentence: The major use of two-wheelers in the rural economy is not limited to personal commute, but it is also used for transporting and delivering milk, vegetables, merchandise, etc.

59. The government is mulling on (A) / ways to ensure the anonymity of users (B) / paper- or metal-based fiat currency (C) / of the Central Bank Digital Currency just like (D)

- a) CBAD      b) DACB      c) CABD  
d) ABDC      e) No rearrangement required

Ans: d

Exp: Correct sentence: The government is mulling on ways to ensure the anonymity of users of the Central Bank Digital Currency just like paper- or metal-based fiat currency.

60. The Indian economy, in terms of both (A) / total economic activity and livelihoods (B) / has had a deep, searing impact on (C) / it is obvious that the COVID-19 pandemic (D)

- a) CBAD      b) DACB      c) CABD  
d) DCAB      e) No rearrangement required

Ans: d

Exp: Correct sentence: It is obvious that the COVID-19 pandemic has had a deep, searing impact on the Indian economy in terms of both total economic activity and livelihoods.

61. The volatility in equity and debt (A) / has impacted the growth (B) / markets over the last few months (C) / in the pace of pension assets this fiscal (D)

- a) BADC      b) DACB      c) ACBD  
d) DCAB      e) No rearrangement required

Ans: c

Exp: Correct sentence: The volatility in equity and debt markets over the last few months has impacted the growth in the pace of pension assets this fiscal.

62. A very nascent stage in India and (A) / hydrogen technology is still at (B) / hydrogen dispensing units (C) / there is limited infrastructure, especially (D)

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

Ans: a

Exp: Correct sentence: Hydrogen technology is still at a very nascent stage in India and there is limited infrastructure, especially hydrogen dispensing units.

63. Makers are holding back (A) / despite the fluctuation in crude (B) / prices due to geopolitical tensions, Indian paint (C) / on the price hike, at least for another quarter (D)

- a) CBAD      b) ACBD      c) BCAD  
d) CABD      e) No rearrangement required

Ans: c

Exp: Correct sentence: Despite the fluctuation in crude prices due to geopolitical tensions, Indian paint makers are holding back on the price hike, at least for another quarter.

64. Technology disruption plays a (A) / key role in lowering loan (B) / servicing costs, which enables (C) / lenders to service lower-value loans (D)

- a) CBAD      b) DACB      c) CABD  
d) DCAB      e) No rearrangement required

Ans: e

Exp: Correct sentence: Technology disruption plays a key role in lowering loan servicing costs, which enables lenders to service lower-value loans.

65. Endemic stage is the point (A) / transmission of the virus and (B) / it persists for an indefinite period (C) / at which there is less (D)

- a) ADCB      b) ADBC      c) CABD  
d) DCBA      e) No rearrangement required

Ans: b

Exp: Correct sentence: Endemic stage is the point at which there is less transmission of the virus and it persists for an indefinite period.

**D.66–70) 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.**

66. Early data suggests that India's new wave (A) / of infections may not be causing as many hospitalisations (B) / as the devastating second wave last year, even though (C) / it is spread more rapidly. (D) / No error (E)

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

Ans: d

Exp: Replace 'spread' with 'spreading'. After the helping verb 'is' in the present continuous tense, verb+ing should come, i.e. 'spreading'.

67. Green hydrogen is produce (A) / by splitting water using electricity (B) / generated from (C) / solar panels or through wind turbines. (D) / No error (E)

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

Ans: e

Exp: There is no error in the given sentence.

68. India's poor air quality (A) / not only stands out as a (B) / public health concern and an (C) / impediment to economic growth. (D) / No error (E)

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

Ans: c

Exp: Replace 'and' with 'but also'. The correlative conjunction 'not only..but also' should always come in pairs.

69. The gradual autonomy in business operations (A) / and digital thrust (B) / have empowered non-banking (C) / financial companies (NBFCs) significantly. (D) / No error (E)

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

Ans: c

Exp: Replace 'has' with 'have'. The verb agrees with the singular noun 'the gradual autonomy'.

**70.** Cryptocurrencies continue (A) / to fascinated Indians (B) / despite their high (C) / volatility and uncertain legal status. (D) / No error (E)

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

Ans: b

Exp: Replace 'to fascinated' with 'to fascinate'. The structure of infinitive is 'to + V<sub>1</sub>'.

**D.71–75) Choose the synonym of the following words.**

**71. Encompassing**

a) Informing b) Facing c) Waning  
d) Bring e) Including

Ans: e

Exp: Encompassing – include comprehensively

Waning – to become weaker in strength or influence

**72. Mandate**

a) Accelerate b) Provide c) Incite  
d) Obligate e) Merge

Ans: d

Exp: Mandate – an official order or commission to do something  
Obligate – require or compel (someone) to undertake a legal or moral duty

Incite – to encourage someone to do or feel something unpleasant or violent

**73. Standardisation**

a) Normalisation b) Deduction c) Finalisation  
d) Introduction e) Planning

Ans: a

Exp: Standardisation – the process of making something conform to a standard

Normalisation – the process of bringing or returning something to a normal condition or state

**74. Manipulation**

a) Influence b) Overloaded c) Unpleasant  
d) Despicable e) Reverse

Ans: a

Exp: Manipulation – the action of manipulating something in a skilful manner

Influence – a person or thing with the capacity to have an influence on someone or something

Despicable – very unpleasant or bad, causing strong feelings of dislike

**75. Vital**

a) Unimportant b) Having c) Mystery  
d) Essential e) Bonus

Ans: d

Exp: Vital – absolutely necessary; essential

Essential – necessary or needed

Mystery – something strange or not known that has not yet been explained or understood

## Banking Quiz

1. Who was elected to the Board of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York?

a) Arvind Kumar b) Ajith Kumar  
c) Arvind Krishna d) Deepak Krishnan  
e) Ashok Kumar

Ans: c

Exp:

The Federal Reserve Bank of New York announced that Aravind Krishna was elected as a Class B director, 'representing the public with due but not exclusive consideration to the interests of agriculture, commerce, industry, services, labour and consumers'.

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[May 1<sup>st</sup> Week Quiz.](#)



[May 2<sup>nd</sup> Week Quiz.](#)



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