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FOUNDER - DIRECTOR OF **SMART LEADERS IAS**

TNPSC SANGAMAM

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SIVARAJAVEL IAS ACADEMY

FOUNDER - DIRECTOR OF SMART LEADERS IAS

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Model Schools

- The Greater Chennai Corporation - has planned to set up model schools to equip students to face competitive entrance exams of premier educational institutions in the country such as IITs.
- The idea of model schools is said to be the brainchild of principal secretary to chief minister T Udhayachandran.
- To begin with, the corporation school in Nungambakkam will be upgraded as a model with necessary facilities and labs to train students in biology, physics, chemistry and maths.

PE-VC Companies

- PE-VC companies invest \$156 mn in T.N. firms in 3rd quarter.
- Private equity and venture capital companies invested \$156 million across 10 deals in Tamil Nadu-based companies during the third quarter of 2022.

Konthagai Excavation Site

- An iron sword measuring 40 cm in length, the longest sword found so far, was unearthed at Konthagai, which is a part of the Keeladi cluster near Madurai, on Thursday.

Jal Jeevan Mission - TN

- Tamil Nadu - has emerged topper in the country in its performance under Union government's Jal Jeevan Mission.
- The Jal Jeevan mission aims to provide safe and adequate drinking water to all rural households.
- On October 2, state municipal administration minister K N Nehru and the department secretary Shiv Das Meena received the first prize in the functionality assessment for 2021-22 from President Droupadi Murmu at a function in Delhi.
- The state bagged the award in the category of states that have provided individual drinking water pipelines to less than 60 % of the households.

National Cooperative Consumers' Federation (NCCF)

- A new player in paddy procurement in non-delta region is gaining farmers' attention.
- The presence of relatively a new player in paddy procurement in Tamil Nadu is gaining the attention of farmers. For the 2022-23 procurement year (the Kharif marketing season), which began this year in September, the National Cooperative Consumers' Federation (NCCF), a body under the jurisdiction of the Department of Consumer Affairs at the Centre, has procured about 10.3% of paddy.

India's First 4.20-MW Wind Turbine Generator

- India's first 4.20-MW wind turbine generator ready for commissioning.
- The single unit with the largest wind power generation capacity has been installed at Vadaliivilai near Valliyoor in Tirunelveli district by Brazil-based WEG at a cost of 88 crore.
- The country's first 4.20-MW wind turbine generator, a single unit with the largest wind power generation capacity, has been installed at Vadaliivilai near Valliyoor in Tirunelveli district.

Tamil Nadu Prohibition of Online Gambling and Regulation of Online Games Ordinance, 2022

- Tamil Nadu government – has promulgated an ordinance banning online gambling and playing of online games of chance, rummy and poker with money or other stakes.
- Tamil Nadu governor R N Ravi gave assent to the ordinance on October 1, the day when the government forwarded the draft approved by the cabinet last month.
- Following his nod, the Tamil Nadu Prohibition of Online Gambling and Regulation of Online Games Ordinance, 2022 came into effect.

Daksha Unmanned Systems Private Limited

- The Director-General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) - has approved the country's first petrol-operated drones designed and manufactured by the students' start-up unit 'Daksha Unmanned Systems Private

Limited’.

- Daksha is developed by the MIT aerospace department initiated by the aerospace research students.
- Daksha is setting up an exclusive manufacturing unit of these drones at Ambattur. ➤ Parambikulam-Aliyar Project (PAP)
- Celebrations on Oct. 7 every year to mark launch of water project.
- Chief Minister M.K. Stalin has announced that October 7, which marks the launch of the Parambikulam-Aliyar Project (PAP), will be celebrated every year to help create awareness on water resources, water management and the need for creating the necessary infrastructure.

Liquefied Compressed Natural Gas (LCNG)

- CM launches first-of-its-kind liquefied compressed natural gas station in State.
- Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Monday inaugurated AG&P Pratham’s liquefied compressed natural gas (LCNG) station near Manthangal village at Walajah Taluk in Ranipet district.

Mobility Park

- SIPCOT signs MoU with British High Commission on mobility park.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the State Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu Ltd. (SIPCOT) and the British Deputy High Commission in Chennai on Monday to provide technical assistance on developing a master plan for a Future Mobility Park at Shoolagiri in Krishnagiri district.

Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)

- The Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), Mandapam - has released 1.2 million green tiger shrimp seeds into the sea at Maraikayarpattnam in the Gulf of Mannar on October 11.
- This is done as part of the sea ranching programme under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY).
- A total of 19.44 million green tiger shrimp seeds were sea ranched in Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar since the inception of the project in February this year.

Organ Donations

- Organ donations in State surpass 2021 figures within 10 months this year.
- Within 10 months, the number of organ

donations has exceeded the previous year’s figures in Tamil Nadu.

- From 60 deceased donors in 2021, the State has registered 115 donors so far this year, with August having the highest number of donations — 21 — in the last four years.

Slender Loris

- The Tamil Nadu government - has notified the first Indian sanctuary for the endangered Slender Loris in Karur and Dindigul districts.
- The announcement came after the approval of Chief Minister MK Stalin on October 12.
- A total of 11,806 hectares in the forest areas of the Karur and Dindigul districts will be merged to form the ‘Kadavur Slender Loris Sanctuary’.

Greenfield Universities

- The Tamil Nadu government - has approved the setting up of six Greenfield Universities in the state, which can offer any course and fix their own fees.
- This was announced by the higher education minister K Ponmudy on October 12.
- The greenfield university is a private university established under the Tamil Nadu Private Universities Act, 2019.
- A trust with 100 acres of land and Rs.50 crore deposit can apply to the government for establishing a Greenfield University.

Oonjal, Thensittu, and Kanavu Aasiriyar Magazines

- CM releases magazines for government school students and teachers.
- Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Wednesday released ‘Oonjal’, ‘Thensittu’ and ‘Kanavu Aasiriyar’ magazines from the School Education Department for encouraging the habit of reading and writing in Tamil and English among school students and teachers.
- ‘Oonjal’ and ‘Thensittu’, both bimonthly magazines, are for students in Class IV and V and those in Classes VI-IX respectively, while ‘Kanavu Aasiriyar’ monthly magazine is for teachers.

New Space Launch Port - Kulasekarapattinam

- The land acquisition for a new space

launch port at Kulasekarapattinam in Tamil Nadu - has been completed and work is commencing to build a state-of-the-art space launch port there.

- The new launch pad will help Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) save significant amounts of fuel and also act as a dedicated space for launching Small Satellite Launch Vehicles (SSLV).
- Once completed, Kulasekarapattinam will be the country's second spaceport after Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh.

Central Institute of Classical Tamil (CICT)

- Central Institute of Classical Tamil (CICT) - is planning to bring out 46 ancient Tamil epics including Silappatikaram, Manimekalai, Tolkappiyam and Natrinai in Braille script.
- The institute is planning to bring the Braille version by December 2022 and give it to the visually challenged students for free of cost.
- All these volumes will contain Tamil text and simple interpretations of poems.

Tamil Nadu's State-level Committee for Vulture Conservation

- The Tamil Nadu Government launched a State-Level Committee for Vulture Conservation (SLCVC) for coordination within the government for the implementation of the Action Plan for Vulture Conservation (APVC) 2020-2025.
- The formation of the State-Level Committee for Vulture Conservation (SLCVC) was proposed by the national action for the protection of vultures in India, which witnessed a 96 per cent decline between 1993 and 2003.
- In line with this proposal, the Tamil Nadu government has set up the SLCVC to create an institutional framework for the conservation of vultures in the state.

Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban (PMAY-U) Scheme

- Tamil Nadu - has been ranked the third best performing state in implementing the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban (PMAY-U) scheme that is aimed at providing housing for all in urban cities.
- Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh bagged the top two places under the scheme.
- Madurai Corporation won the third

place among the corporations.

RoadEase

- The Greater Chennai Traffic Police (GCTP) - have launched a new mobile app to provide real-time updates on traffic, estimated travel times and alternative routes in Chennai.
- Police commissioner Shankar Jiwala launched the new app 'roadEase' at the police commissionerate in Vepery on October 20 in association with Lepton, which developed the app.
- The app will help people get speedy updates in Google maps in identifying areas with traffic congestion, road closure, accidents, agitations or incomplete civic works, and plan their journey accordingly.

T.N. Forms Council on Climate Change

- The Tamil Nadu government has decided to establish the Tamil Nadu Governing Council on Climate Change, with Chief Minister M.K. Stalin as its head.
- Supriya Sahu, Secretary of the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Forests, said the State government was spearheading path-breaking initiatives in climate change and it had set up three key missions - Tamil Nadu Green Mission, Tamil Nadu Climate Change Mission and Tamil Nadu Wetlands Mission.
- It had also set up a special purpose vehicle, known as the Tamil Nadu Green Climate Company (TNGCC), to steer climate action effectively.

European Market via Czech Republic

- Soon, a memorandum of understanding (MoU) will be finalised to help start-ups in Tamil Nadu access Europe through the Czech Republic, said Ar Rm Arun, president, Southern India Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SICCI), on Saturday.
- SICCI, in association with the Tamil Nadu government earlier this month, took a high-powered business delegation of 33 members to The Czech Republic. The delegation was led by T.M. Anbarasan, Minister for MSMEs.
- Arun Roy, Principal Secretary, MSME Department, led a three-member IAS team.

Manjal Maanagaram

- 'Manjal Maanagaram' is the second largest turmeric market in India.
- Think of turmeric, and the first thing that would come to the mind in this part of the country is the bright yellow coloured Erode Manjal (turmeric).
- Erode is the second largest turmeric market in India, next to Nizamabad in Telangana.
- The city is nicknamed 'Manjal Maanagaram' (turmeric city).

GI tag

- India is the largest producer, consumer and exporter of turmeric and Erode accounts for over 40% of the total sales in the country.
- The Erode turmeric obtained the Geographical Indication (GI) tag from the Geographical Indication Registry in 2019 and accounts for 70%-75% of the turmeric grown in Erode and Coimbatore districts.

Mental Health Helpline 14416

- Health Minister Ma. Subramanian launched a helpline for tele-mental health assistance on Thursday. The round-the-clock service, Tele-MANAS, can be accessed by calling 14416.
- The initiative, Nattupudan Ungalodu Mananala Sevai, was aimed at providing mental health assistance through a tele-platform round-the-clock.
- Counselling services and video consultations with psychiatrists will be available through the service.

Tamil Nadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation (TNTESC)

- For the first time, the Tamil Nadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation (TNTESC) – to introduce medical textbooks in Tamil for the MBBS students joining college this year.
- A total of four textbooks have been translated by the Corporation and will be released before December.
- The move is aimed at giving better conceptual clarity and understanding of the subject for Tamil medium students.
- Overall, the TNTESC is planning to bring out 25 medical textbooks in Tamil.

First Ever Virtual Reality Library

- On October 29, school education minister Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozi - inaugurated the first ever virtual reality library in a government branch library at Lalgudi in Trichy district.
- Earlier, Chief Minister M K Stalin had announced in the assembly the decision to set up virtual reality libraries in 76 libraries across the state that would benefit around one lakh students every year.
- A virtual reality library presents a whole new experience of learning a subject in a 360-degree angle for easy grasping.

Cholas

- The Tamil Movie Ponniyin Selvan-1 puts focus on the Cholas
- The Chola kingdom stretched across present-day Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and parts of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. During the period of the Cholas' rise and fall (around 9th to 12th century AD), other powerful dynasties of the region would also come and go, such as the Rashtrakutas of the Deccan who defeated the Cholas, and the Chalukyas of the Andhra Pradesh region whom the Cholas frequently battled.
- The dynasty was founded by the king Vijayalaya, described as a "feudatory" of the Pallavas by historian Satish Chandra in the book 'The History of Medieval Era'.

Society under the Cholas

- One of the biggest achievements of the Chola dynasty was its naval power, allowing them to go as far as Malaysia and the Sumatra islands of Indonesia in their conquests.
- While the extent of this domination is disputed, the Cholas had strong ties with merchant groups and this allowed them to undertake impressive naval expeditions.
- Succession wars were natural which is set in the time after the Rashtrakutas defeated the Cholas.
- Another feature is how the practice of building grand temples. The grand Brihadeeswara temple of Thanjavur, built by the Cholas, was the largest building in India in that period.

Kashi-Tamil Sangamam

The Union Government recently announced a month-long programme to "strengthen" and "rekindle" the cultural and civilisational bond between Tamil Nadu and Varanasi.

About:

- 'Kashi-Tamil Sangamam' programme

would be held from November 16 to December 16.

- This programme, which would be a part of the 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' initiative which is aimed at rekindling the civilisational link between the new Kashi and Tamil Nadu — both deep centres of knowledge.
- Building a heritage bridge for the new generation was a key feature of the National Education Policy.
- As part of the programme, 2,500 people divided into 12 groups would be travelling to Varanasi by train during the period.
- The journey points in Tamil Nadu would be Chennai, Rameswaram and Coimbatore.
- The groups would include students, teachers, artisans and people from various walks of life.
- The tours would include seminars, lectures, group meetings and visits to the Kashi Vishwanath temple and centres of important Tamil cultural heritage in Varanasi.
- The knowledge partners for the programme would be IIT-Madras and the Banaras Hindu University, while the Uttar Pradesh government would be the host State.

Ministry of Education to organize 'Kashi Tamil Sangamam' programme

- Kashi Tamil Sangamam' will be organized by the Ministry of Education next month.
- The 'Kashi Tamil Sangamam' is a month-long program that will be held from the 16th of the next month.
- The 'Kashi Tamil Sangamam' aims to rediscover the centuries-old bond of knowledge and ancient civilizational linkage between Varanasi and Tamil Nadu.



NATIONAL NEWS

56 Million Indians may have turned Poor in 2020 due to pandemic: World Bank

About

- About 56 million Indians may have plunged into extreme poverty in 2020 as a result of the pandemic, increasing the global tally by 71 million
- “The global goal of ending extreme poverty by 2030 is likely to be missed: By then, about 600 million people will remain in abject poverty. A major course correction is needed,” Indermit Gill, chief economist at the World Bank, tweeted.
- The World Bank in its latest “Poverty and Shared Prosperity” made fresh estimates of poverty using a new extreme poverty line based on the purchasing power parity (PPP) of \$2.15, the earlier one being at \$1.9.

5th Assembly of International Solar Alliance:

- The curtain raiser for the 5th Assembly of International Solar Alliance and associated side activities, which will take place in New Delhi from October 17–20, 2022, was unveiled by Union Minister for Power and New and Renewable Energy RK Singh.
- According to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, India currently holds the position of President of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) Assembly.

Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik Launches ‘Football for All’

- Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has launched ‘Football for All’ in the state to take the culture of football to the grassroots.
- The Programme has been initiated by FIFA in Odisha in partnership with the Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT) & Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS).



Indian Roads Congress

- Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the 81st annual session of the Indian roads Congress in Lucknow.
- He was accompanied by the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Yogi Adityanath. On the occasion, he highlighted the aims and dreams of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to make the Indian economy number one in the world, for which good infrastructure is necessary.
- The new ideas and initiatives by the IRC will help India to achieve it.

Jharkhand and West Bengal topped in worst state list in terms of child marriage

- According to the latest demographic sample survey by the Union Home Ministry, the survey was brought out by the office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner, Ministry of Home Affairs.
- It was conducted in 2020 and the report was published late last month. The Sample Registration System (SRS) Statistical Report contains estimates of various demographic, fertility and mortality indicators based on the data collected through one of the largest demographic surveys in the world covering about 8.4 million sample population.

Space Economy To Touch 13 Billion \$ By 2025

- India’s space economy is likely to be worth nearly \$13 billion by 2025, with the satellite launch services segment set to witness the fastest growth due to increasing private participation, according to a report released

World Bank Extends Loan of \$250 million for SALT Project in Andhra Pradesh

- The World Bank has extended an unconditional loan of \$250 million to the Supporting Andhra’s Learning Transformation (SALT) project in appreciation of the path-breaking reforms implemented by the state government.

- The reforms initiated under the SALT project have brought about a paradigm shift in the way education was imparted and the outcomes had been encouraging according to Special Chief Secretary B. Rajasekhar (School Education).

India to Host SCO National Coordinators Meet

- India is set to host the Shanghai Coordinators Organization national coordinator meeting in Delhi.
- The SCO National Coordinators meeting will take place from the 17th to the 18th of October 2022.
- New Delhi took over the presidency of the nine-member grouping earlier this year at the Samarkand SCO summit.

India to host 90th General Assembly of INTERPOL

- The 90th General Assembly of Interpol is going to be held in New Delhi from 18th October to 21st October 2022.
- The 90th General Assembly of Interpol will have the world's largest police body with 195 members.
- The General Assembly is the International policing organization's top governing body and meets once a year to take important decisions.
- The General Assembly is taking place in India after 25 years.
- The last General Assembly held in India was in the year 1997.
- This was initiated by the Union Home Minister Amit Shah to Interpol Secretary General Jurgen Stock.
- The General Assembly is the supreme governing body of Interpol.

Justice DY Chandrachud named as 50th Chief Justice of India

- President Droupadi Murmu has appointed Dr Justice DY Chandrachud as the new Chief Justice of India.
- He will succeed the present Chief Justice of India Justice Uday Umesh Lalit. Justice Chandrachud's appointment will come into effect from the 9th of next month.
- Justice DY Chandrachud would be the 50th Chief Justice of India. While Justice Lalit has a tenure of 74 days, Justice Chandrachud will serve as the CJI for two years.
- Justice Chandrachud will demit office on November 10, 2024.

\$500 Million Accelerator Program to Strengthen Agri Startups to be launched by Centre

- \$500 Million Accelerator Program to Strengthen Agri Startups: Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar announced that the central government will launch a Rs 500 crore accelerator programme to support the productive ideas of agro businesses.
- On the second day of the PM Kisan Samman Sammelan, Tomar made numerous significant announcements regarding big policy efforts for agriculture entrepreneurs.

Hardeep Puri inaugurated Asia's largest Compressed Bio Gas plant

- Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Hardeep Singh Puri has inaugurated Asia's largest Compressed Bio Gas (CBG) plant in Lehra Ganga, in Sangrur, Punjab.
- The plant in Sangrur is just the beginning of India's master plan for a CBG-based rural economy and the government is taking all steps to promote the ecosystem around it.
- The plant has been commissioned with a foreign direct investment of approximately Rs. 220 crores by Verbio AG, one of Germany's leading bio-energy companies.
- Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann and senior management from Verbio India Private Limited were also present at the inaugural ceremony.

Mission LIFE movement

- Mission LIFE movement launched: Mission LIFE movement is launched by PM Modi in order to protect the environment.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi issued a stern warning.
- After the global launch of Mission LIFE at the Statue of Unity in Gujarat in the presence of UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, the PM addressed the crowd and asserted that lifestyle changes can help to mitigate climate change.

India's first 'Migration Monitoring System' inaugurated in Mumbai

- India's first 'Migration Monitoring Systems' was inaugurated by the Maharashtra Women and Children Development Minister Mangalprabhat Lodha in Mumbai.
- The website-based Migration Tracking System will track the movement of vulnerable seasonal migrant beneficiaries.

- The Migration Monitoring Systems aims to provide information about migrant pregnant women, lactating women, and children.

BPCL recognised as country's most sustainable oil & gas company

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) has once again achieved the No.1 rank in the Indian oil and gas sector for its sustainability performance in the 2022 edition of the S&P DJSI ranking.

- Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), 'Maharatna' and a Fortune Global 500 Company has once again achieved the No.1 rank in the Indian oil and gas sector for its sustainability performance in the 2022 edition of the S&P Dow Jones Sustainability Indices (DJSI) Corporate Sustainability Assessment (CSA) rankings.
- This is the 3rd consecutive year that BPCL is at the top of the DJSI Indices in India having achieved a score of 65 percentage points, against an industry average score of 31 which is far better than last year's score of 59 against an industry average score of 39 on DJSI platform.



BHARAT PETROLEUM CORP. LTD.

India's Second National Model Vedic School

- Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated India's second Rashtriya Adarsh Veda Vidyalaya (RAVV) in Puri.

About

- The Rashtriya Adarsh Veda Vidyalaya has been launched to spread knowledge of the Vedas among people. Rashtriya Adarsh Veda Vidyalaya which is also called the National Model Vedic School. Maharishi Sandipani Rashtriya Ved Vidya Pratisthan is the first such school in Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh.

National Statistical Office(NSO) Released the Employment Outlook of India

- The National Statistical Office (NSO),

under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, released a press note on Employment Outlook of the country covering the period September, 2017 to June, 2022.

- This data is based on the administrative records available with selected government agencies to assess the progress in certain dimensions, the release stated.

NIA to establish offices in every state by 2024: Amit Shah

- NIA to establish offices in every state: Amit Shah, the Union Minister of Housing and Cooperation, spoke today at the start of a two-day "Chintan Shivir" in Surajkund, Haryana.
- The Chintan Shivir is being attended by Chief Ministers of the States, Home Ministers of States, Lieutenant Governors, and Administrators of Union Territories.
- Utilizing all internal security resources to their fullest potential is necessary in order to combat the issues facing the country.

Project WAVE

- PSU lender Indian Bank has launched several digital initiatives under "Project WAVE" in a bid to enhance the customer experience through integrated services on its digital platform.
- Six digital initiatives were launched by the SL Jain, MD and CEO, Indian Bank, along with Sharad Mathur, MD & CEO, of Universal Sompo General Insurance Co.

Safal common credit portal for farmers

- Odisha Chief Minister, Naveen Patnaik has launched a common credit portal SAFAL (Simplified Application for Agricultural Loans) for the welfare of farmers.
- SAFAL is an abridged application for agricultural loans that will enable farmers and agri-entrepreneurs to access over 300 term loan products from more than 40 partner banks.

12th World Hindi Conference will take place in February 2023 in Nadi, Fiji

- 12th World Hindi Conference: According to P S Kartigeyan, the Indian High Commissioner to the South Pacific island, Fiji will host the famous World Hindi Conference for the first time next year as a new platform for the globalisation of Hindi.
- The governments of India and Fiji decided

together to host the World Hindi Conference in Fiji.

5 G

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently launched 5G services in India at the India Mobile Congress in Delhi.

COMPARISON BETWEEN 1G, 2G, 3G, 4G AND 5G					
Technology / Features	1G	2G	3G	4G	5G
Start/Deployment	1970/ 1984	1980/ 1999	1990/ 2002	2000/ 2010	2010/ 2015
Data Bandwidth	2 kbps	14.4-64 kbps	2 Mbps	200 Mbps to 1 Gbps for low mobility	1 Gbps and higher
Standards	AMPS	2G: TDMA, CDMA, GSM 2.5G: GPRS, EDGE, IxRTT	WCDMA, CDMA-2000	Single unified standard	Single unified standard
Technology	Analog cellular technology	Digital cellular technology	Broad bandwidth CDMA, IP technology	Unified IP and seamless combination of broadband, LAN/WAN/	Unified IP and seamless combination of broadband,

The Evolution of 5G



About:

- 5G is the next generation of mobile communication networks, which is supposed to offer much faster speeds and wider use cases than 4G.
- It is believed that the rollout of 5G will accelerate the adoption of cloud gaming, AR/VR technology, Internet of Things, etc. 5G also has several enterprise use cases.
- It enables a new kind of network that is designed to connect virtually everyone and everything together including machines, objects, and devices.
- 5G wireless technology is meant to deliver higher multi-Gbps peak data speeds, ultra-low latency, more reliability, massive network capacity, increased availability, and a more uniform user experience to more users.
- In 5G the latency will be ten times less than in 4G, being able to perform remote actions in real time.

Swachh Survekshan 2022



President Droupadi Murmu presents awards as part of Azadi@75 Swachh Survekshan 2022.

About:

- Indore has been adjudged the cleanest city of India for the sixth year in a row, while Madhya Pradesh is the cleanest state in the country.
- Surat is the second cleanest city and Navi Mumbai comes a close third in the category of cities with a population more than a lakh.
- Visakhapatnam was adjudged the fourth cleanest city in the country (In over 10 lakh population category).
- In the population category of less than one lakh, Panchgani and Karad from Maharashtra bagged the first and third positions respectively, while Patan from Chhattisgarh bagged the second position.
- Tirupati received the best city award in Safai Mitra Suraksha category, while Haridwar in Uttarakhand received the award for the best Ganga town in more than one lakh population cities.
- Bijnor ranked first among Ganga towns with less than one lakh population, followed by Kannauj and Garhmukteshwar.
- Maharashtra's Deolali was adjudged the country's cleanest Cantonment Board.
- Shivamogga in Karnataka received the fast mover city award.
- Tripura got the cleanest State award in the "less than 100 urban local bodies category".

Scheduled Tribe status

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has announced Scheduled Tribe (ST) status for the Pahari community in Jammu and Kashmir.

About:

- He said that Justice GD Sharma Commission has recommended reservation for Paharis, Gujjars and Bakerwals and after completion of the administrative process, these communities will get reservation benefits.

Who are Paharis?

- The Pahari community is a linguistic group mainly residing in the Pir Panjal valley. They constitute of Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs and make up around 10-11 per cent of the population in Jammu and Kashmir.
- Their mother tongue, Pahari, is an offshoot of Pothwari language with varying dialects and their own unique culture. They usually reside in rural areas and are majorly involved in agricultural and cattle activities.

Criteria for inclusion in ST List

- The criteria presently followed for

specification of a community as a Scheduled Tribe are : (i) indications of primitive traits, (ii) distinctive culture, (iii) geographical isolation, (iv) shyness of contact with the community at large, and (v) backwardness. However, these criteria are not spelt out in the Constitution.

Article 342

- Article 342 prescribes the procedure to be followed in the matter of specification of Scheduled Tribes.
- Under Clause (1) of Article 342, the President may, with respect to any State or Union Territory, and where it is a State, after consultation with the Governor thereof, notify tribes or tribal communities or parts of these as Scheduled Tribes. This confers on the tribe, or part of it, a Constitutional status invoking the safeguards provided for in the Constitution, to these communities in their respective states/UTs.
- Clause (2) of the Article 342 empowers the Parliament to pass a law to include in or exclude from the List of Scheduled Tribes, any tribe or tribal community or parts of these.
- The List of Scheduled Tribes is State/UT specific and a community declared as a Scheduled Tribe in a state need not be so in another state/UT.

herSTART' Platform



President Draupadi Murmu launches 'herSTART' - a start-up platform of Gujarat University for women entrepreneurs

About:

- herSTART' is the initiative of Gujarat University Startup and Entrepreneurship Council aims at supporting women-led startups.
- The platform has been launched with the aim that it will not only boost innovation and start-up efforts of women entrepreneurs but also help them connect with government as well as private enterprises.
- Through this platform, free resources and

training modules free will be provided to aspiring women entrepreneurs. It will build a digital community and also a digital publication to spread their success stories.

International Year of Millets (IYOM)- 2023

Agriculture Ministry, NAFED signed MoU to boost the initiative to promote millets towards the celebration of the international year of millets 2023.

About:

- The U.N. General Assembly recently adopted a resolution, sponsored by India and supported by more than 70 countries, declaring 2023 as the International Year of Millets.
- The resolution is intended to increase public awareness on the health benefits of millets and their suitability for cultivation under tough conditions marked by climate change.

What are millets?

- Millet is a cereal that belongs to the grass family.
- Majorly cultivated in the semiarid tropical regions of Africa and Asia, around 97 percent of world's overall millet production happens in these regions.
- Types of millets: Jowar (Sorghum), Ragi, Bajra (Pearl millet).

India emerges as largest producer of sugar in world

India emerges as the world's largest producer and consumer of sugar and world's 2nd largest exporter of sugar.

About

- In Sugar Season (Oct-Sep) 2021-22, a record of more than 5000 Lakh Metric Tons (LMT) sugarcane was produced in the country. Out of this, 35 LMT sugar was diverted to ethanol production and 359 LMT sugar was produced by sugar mills.
- Ethanol production capacity of molasses/sugar-based distilleries has increased to 605 crore litres per annum and the progress is still continuing to meet targets of 20% blending by 2025 under Ethanol Blending with Petrol (EBP) Programme.

Ethanol Blending with Petrol (EBP) Programme

- The EBP programme was launched by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas in 2003, to promote the use of alternative and environment friendly fuels.

- The Government has 10% blending target for mixing ethanol with petrol by 2022 & 20% blending target by 2030. However, considering the encouraging performance, due to various interventions made by the Government since 2014, the target of 20% ethanol blending was advanced from 2030 to 2025-26.

About Ethanol

- Ethanol is an agro-based product, produced from sugarcane, maize, wheat, etc which are having high starch content. In India, ethanol is mainly produced from sugarcane molasses by fermentation process
- Ethanol can be mixed with gasoline to form different blends. As the ethanol molecule contains oxygen, it allows the engine to more completely combust the fuel, resulting in fewer emissions and thereby reducing the occurrence of environmental pollution.
- Since ethanol is produced from plants that harness the power of the sun, ethanol is also considered as renewable fuel.

Quality Council of India (QCI)

The Quality Council of India is set to celebrate its Silver Jubilee at the Ambedkar International Centre in New Delhi



Quality Council of India

About:

- Quality Council of India was set up in 1997, jointly by the Government of India and the Indian Industry represented by the three premier industry associations i.e. Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM), Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), with Mr Ratan Tata as its first Chairman.
- QCI was established as a National body for Accreditation. It is a non-profit organization registered under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860.
- QCI has launched a marquee campaign—Guvatta Se Atmanirbharta: India's quality movement. The campaign aims to celebrate India's quality hubs, create awareness about

India's landmark achievements and inform people about the many initiatives that India is embracing with an aim to enhance the quality of lives of all our citizens.

India registers decline in female IMR

The country's female Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) dropped to same level as males

About:

- India has registered a decline in female infant mortality rate.
- In sixteen states, IMR remained higher for female babies than male but the gap had reduced since 2011. According to Sample Registration System Statistical Report 2020, Chhattisgarh had the highest gap in 2020, with a male infant mortality rate of 35 compared to female infant mortality rate of 41.

Infant Mortality

- Infant mortality is the death of an infant before his or her first birthday.
- The infant mortality rate is the number of infant deaths for every 1,000 live births.
- In addition to giving us key information about maternal and infant health, the infant mortality rate is an important marker of the overall health of a society.

Interventions for improving Infant Mortality Rate (IMR):

- Mothers' Absolute Affection (MAA): Early initiation and exclusive breastfeeding for first six months and appropriate Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices are promoted under Mothers' Absolute Affection (MAA).
- Social Awareness and Actions to Neutralize Pneumonia Successfully (SAANS) initiative implemented since 2019 for reduction of Childhood morbidity and mortality due to Pneumonia.
- Universal Immunization Programme (UIP) is implemented to provide vaccination to children against life threatening diseases such as Tuberculosis, Diphtheria, Pertussis, Polio, Tetanus, Hepatitis B, Measles, Rubella, Pneumonia and Meningitis caused by Haemophilus Influenzae B.
- Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakaram (RBSK): Children from 0 to 18 years of age are screened for 30 health conditions (i.e. Diseases, Deficiencies, Defects and Developmental delay) under Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakaram (RBSK) to improve child survival

Competition Commission of India

Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurates Competition Commission of India's Regional Office (West) in Mumbai.



About:

- Status: A statutory body established under the provisions of The Competition Act, 2002.
- Established in: 2003.
- Composition: A Chairperson and 6 Members appointed by the Central Government.
- Headquarters: New Delhi.
- Preceding agency: Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission.
- Mandate: To implement provisions of The Competition Act, 2002 which –
- prohibits anti-competitive agreements and abuse of dominant position by enterprises
- regulates mergers and acquisition (M&A) which can have an adverse effect on competition within India. Thus, deals beyond a certain threshold are required to get clearance from CCI.

National Lok Adalat

National Lok Adalat will be held on 12 November across the country to dispose off pending cases through settlement.

About:

- What is it? Lok Adalat is one of the alternative dispute redressal mechanisms, it is a forum where disputes/cases pending in the court of law or at pre-litigation stage are settled/ compromised amicably.
- Who conducts? National Legal Services Authority of India (NALSA) along with other Legal Services Institutions conducts Lok Adalats.
- Status: Lok Adalats have been given statutory status under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.

Modhera

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be declaring Modhera in Gujarat as a 24 x 7 solar-powered village on October 9.

About:

- Modhera will be India's first village to become a net renewable energy generator.
- It will be the first modern village to have a solar-based ultra-modern electric vehicle charging station.
- It is India's first grid-connected megawatt-hours (MWh) scale battery energy storage system.
- People in Modhera would be saving 60% to 100 % on electricity bills.
- The heritage lighting and 3-D projection at the Sun Temple would operate on solar energy.
- The 3-D projection will inform visitors about the history of Modhera.

Modhera Sun Temple

- The Modhera Sun Temple was made by King Bhima I of the Chalukya dynasty in the early 11th century.
- It is a temple made to honour the Sun God in Modhera village of Mehsana district on the bank of River Pushpavati.
- The temple is designed in such a way that during every equinox, the first ray of the rising sun would fall on a diamond placed on the head of the Sun God. This would also light up the shrine with a golden glow.
- The Sabha Mandap stands on 52 pillars, signifying the 52 weeks in a year. There are carvings of the sun on the walls to show its unity with air, water, earth and space.
- In 2014, Modhera Sun Temple entered the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites.
- It enjoys the same significance as other two well-known sun-temples in Kashmir (Martand) and Orissa (Konark).
- The Gujarat Tourism hosts a three-day dance festival every year, known as the Uttarardha Mahotsav, at the temple every January after Makar Sankranti festival.

Collegium System

During Justice Chandrachud's two-year tenure, the collegium he will head will potentially make as many as 18 recommendations for appointment of judges to the Supreme Court. It will be an unusual collegium: instead of five members, it will have six.

About:

- The collegium system of appointing judges evolved through three significant verdicts of the Supreme Court, known as the First, Second, and Third Judges Cases.
- The Constitution of India does not mention the collegium system; however, these three cases established that the collegium headed by the Chief Justice of India will have

primacy in the appointment of judges to the higher judiciary.

- The Supreme Court collegium is headed by the CJI and comprises four other senior-most judges of the court.
- This collegium makes recommendations to the government for appointment of judges to the SC and of Chief Justices of High Courts, and the transfers of HC judges.
- A separate three-member collegium, headed by the CJI and comprising the two senior-most judges of the SC makes recommendations for appointment of judges to HCs.

First Judges Case (1982)

- SC held that “consultation” of judges does not mean concurrence
- Hence, it gave the primacy in appointment of judges to the Executive.

Second Judges Case (1993)

- Court reversed its earlier ruling by changing the meaning of “consultation” to concurrence.
- With this, the advice tendered by CJI became binding. However, the CJI would have to take into account the views of two of his senior most colleagues.

Third Judges Case (1998)

- Court gave primacy to the opinion of CJI in the matter of appointment of Judges.
- However, Chief Justice must consult four seniormost judges of SC.
- Opinion of all members of the collegium should be in writing.
- Even if two judges in the collegium give an adverse opinion of a person for appointment as the SC judge, the CJI should not send the recommendation to the government.

What is a 5+1 collegium?

- Given the order of seniority, a potential CJI will enter the Chandrachud collegium only in May 2023. However, Justice Khanna will be the sixth member of the collegium from November 9, 2022 itself.
- This happened earlier in 2007 — when then CJI K G Balakrishnan took the top office, the collegium he headed did not have a potential CJI candidate. Justice S H Kapadia, who was next in line to be CJI, was invited to the collegium as the sixth member.

Automatic Exchange Of Information (AEOI)

India has received the fourth set of Swiss bank account details of its nationals and organisations

as part of an annual information exchange, under which Switzerland has shared particulars of nearly 34 lakh financial accounts with 101 countries.

About:

- This is the fourth tranche of information that India has received from Switzerland since the two countries entered into an Automatic Exchange Of Information (AEOI) agreement in January 2018.
- The first such exchange with India took place in 2019.

Automatic Exchange Of Information (AEOI):

- AEOI 2022 exchange exercise aims to bring in transparency and restrict money laundering.
- Some countries which have been added to the Swiss AEOI list for the first time are Turkey, Peru and Nigeria.
- The guidelines and parameters for the AEOI are set by the Paris-based international body, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).
- The annual exercise of AEOI exchange, such as the current Swiss bonanza of banking details, is strictly meant for “tax only” purposes and in India, kept in the custody of and for action by the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT).
- Under the OECD’s guidelines, no details of the quantum of funds or the names of account holders are to be publicised.
- In 2014, the OECD developed the Common Reporting Standard (CRS) which allows every country to obtain data from Financial Institutions (FIs) and “automatically” exchange it with countries with which AEOI agreements are in order every year.
- Under the OECD umbrella of AEOI, India presently shares bulk financial and banking information with 78 countries and receives the same from 107 countries.

4th Heli-India Summit 2022

Minister of Civil Aviation, Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia recently inaugurated 4th Heli-India Summit 2022.



About:

- During the summit the Minister announced 3 new projects for enhancing the helicopter sector in the country which includes HEMS and fractional ownership.

Helicopter Emergency Medical Services (HEMS)

- It is called Project Sanjeevani by deploying a helicopter in the next few weeks to provide emergency medical services at AIIMS Rishikesh.
- The helicopter will be based at the hospital at 20 minute notice and will have a service cover to an area of 150 km radius.

Fractional Ownership Model

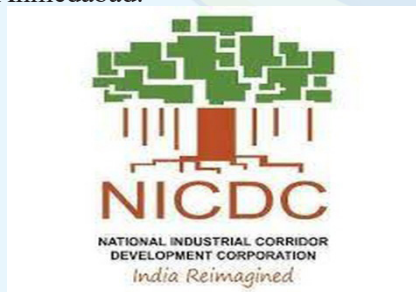
- It helps to grow the non-scheduled operations.
- It will lower the barrier on the cost of acquisition of helicopters and airplanes through pooled capital by multiple owners.
- This will allow companies and individuals to minimize their capital outflow by sharing the purchase cost, reducing their exposure to risks and making it financially easier to run a NSOP business.
- Theme: 'Helicopters for Last Mile Connectivity'.

National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation (NICDC)

4th NICDC Investors' Roundtable Conference to be held in Mumbai on October 10.

About:

- The 4th NICDC Investors' Roundtable Conference organized by Maharashtra Industrial Township Limited (MITL).
- The Investors Roundtable Conference has previously been hosted in Delhi, Kochi, and Ahmedabad.



- The 4th edition of the conference will showcase the development of upcoming greenfield industrial cities across India, which have been planned by National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation Limited.

- Currently, four such greenfield smart industrial cities are being developed in Maharashtra in the districts of Aurangabad, Raigad, Satara and Nagpur.

National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation (NICDC):

- National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation (NICDC) is a Special Purpose Vehicle aiming to develop new industrial cities as "Smart Cities" and converging next generation technologies across infrastructure sectors.
- The programme is aimed at providing impetus to planned urbanization in India with manufacturing as the key driver.

Committee of Parliament on Official Language

The 11th volume of the Report of the Official Language Committee headed by Union Home Minister was submitted to the President of India.

About:



- The Committee of Parliament on Official Language was set up in 1976 under Section 4 of The Official Languages Act, 1963.
- Section 4 of the Act says "there shall be constituted a Committee on Official language, on a resolution to that effect being moved in either House of Parliament with the previous sanction of the President and passed by both Houses".
- Under the provisions of the 1963 Act, the panel submits its report to the President, who "shall [then] cause the report to be laid before each House of Parliament, and sent to all the State Governments".
- The Committee is chaired by the Union Home Minister, and has, in accordance with the provisions of the 1963 Act, 30 members — 20 MPs from Lok Sabha and 10 MPs from Rajya Sabha.
- The mandate of the Committee is to review the progress made in the use of Hindi for official purposes, and to make recommendations to increase the use of Hindi in official communications.
- The first Report of the Committee was submitted in 1987.

Armed Forces Battle Casualties Welfare Fund (AFBCWF)

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh to launch website enabling citizens to contribute for Armed Forces Battle Casualties Welfare Fund.

About:

- It is a Tri service fund, utilised for grant of immediate financial assistance of ex-gratia, to the Next of Kin and dependents of Battle Casualties.
- It has been set up under Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare (ESW), Ministry of Defence.
- The fund has been created under the Charitable Endowments Act, 1890.
- Bollywood actor Amitabh Bachchan to be the 'Goodwill Ambassador'.

Legal rights to non-humans

As the world fights climate change and the exploitation of nature, countries like Ecuador and New Zealand have taken some significant steps in bringing laws into the natural world.

About:

- Ecuador, in 2008, approved a Constitution that grants tropical forests, islands, rivers and air, legal rights to "exist, flourish and evolve". In April 2022 Ecuador became the first country to grant legal rights to individual wild animals.
- Bolivia granted all nature rights equal to that of humans in 2011.
- New Zealand in 2017, passed the Whanganui River Claims Settlement Bill, which granted legal personhood to river Whanganui and its surrounding ecosystem.

Where does India stand?

- Article 51-A (g) of the Constitution of India lays down that it is the fundamental duty of every citizen to protect wildlife and have compassion for all living creatures. However, such duties are not enforceable by law.
- The Uttarakhand High Court in 2017, granted the river Ganga and its longest tributary Yamuna the legal right to be protected and not be harmed.
- While other legal acts such as the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972 and the Cruelty to Animals Act of 1960 exist, they do not recognize animals as individual living entities.

Bio age

- The increased integration of biotechnology in human life will bring in the bio age.
- Integration of life sciences with modern

technology through the production of genetically modified organisms (GMOs), engineering of genes to enhance disease resistance, gene editing, and more, indicate that biotechnology is most likely to pervade our lives in the future.

- It will mark the end of the digital Information Age and this era will require legal intervention to hold researchers accountable for the impact of their work on the environment.

Iodine tablets

The war in Ukraine has heightened fears about nuclear exposure and interest in iodine pills that can help protect the body from some radiation.

About:

- Potassium iodide, or KI, offers specific protection against one kind exposure. It prevents the thyroid — a hormone-producing gland in the neck — from picking up radioactive iodine, which can be released into the atmosphere in a nuclear accident.
- Iodine tablets work by filling up the thyroid with a stable version of iodine so that the radioactive kind can't get in.
- If the thyroid is already packed with potassium iodide, it won't be able to pick up the harmful iodine that's left after a nuclear accident.
- But potassium iodide doesn't protect against other kinds of radioactive threats. A nuclear bomb, for example, can release many different kinds of radiation and radioactive material that can harm many parts of the body.

Fish Production

Union Minister of State for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying has recently said that India stands third in the world in terms of fish production.

About:

- India is the 3rd largest fish producing and 2nd largest aquaculture nation in the world after China.
- In the recent past, Indian fisheries has witnessed a shift from marine dominated fisheries to inland fisheries, with the latter emerging as a major contributor of fish production from 36% in the mid-1980 to 70% in the recent past.

Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY):



- The vision is to bring about Blue Revolution through sustainable and responsible development of fisheries sector.
- The main motto of PMMSY is 'Reform, Perform and Transform' in the fisheries sector.
- Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying is the implementing agency.
- The PMMSY is an umbrella scheme with two separate components – Central Sector Scheme and Centrally Sponsored Scheme.
- The Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) Component is further segregated into non-beneficiary oriented and beneficiary orientated sub-components/activities under the following three broad heads:

Mock' meat

Recently meat and seafood retailer Licious forayed into the marketing of "mock" chicken and mutton under a new 'UnCrave' brand.

About:

Plant-based meat & dairy

- "Plant-based" refers to products that bio-mimic or replicate meat, seafood, eggs, and milk derived from animals — by looking, smelling, and tasting like them.
- Plant-based dairy products include ice-cream that isn't simply frozen dessert that replaces milk fat with vegetable oil.
- Even the proteins and other solids-not-fat ingredients are sourced from plants.
- As for plant-based dairy, the main products are milk from oats, almond, soyabean, coconut, and rice. Among these, oat milk is considered the closest to regular milk in taste and texture.

How are these made?

- Animal meat contains protein, fat, vitamins, minerals, and water, just like plants.
- This biochemical similarity allows for finding analogues in the plant kingdom or making them through mechanical, chemical, or biological treatment of such ingredients.
- The challenge lies in replicating muscle tissue that plants don't have. The unique spatial arrangement of proteins in these tissues is what creates the distinct texture of animal meat.
- That's why plant-based mutton samosas, kebabs or keema, having a simpler texture, are easier to make than larger whole cuts of animal meat.

Bhasha Kendras



The government has decided to set up language centres to prepare study material and courses for each of the 22 languages in the eighth schedule of the Constitution.

About:

- The centres, called bhasha kendras, will be established under the Union ministry of education's Indian Knowledge System (IKS) initiative.
- These language centres will be in line with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, that emphasises on promoting regional languages.
- The centres will be given three broad responsibilities.
- First, they will prepare small booklets of 100-200 pages of the IKS-related literature and manuscripts available in their designated languages.
- The centres will also be translating these works into Sanskrit and English.
- Second, these centres will be to enrich their designated Indian languages with modern science and social models.
- They will be asked to translate 1,000 pages of material in other languages into their designated language.
- Third, they will develop courses at the undergraduate level.

National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC)

In the past three and-half months, consumer commissions across the country have disposed of 68,587 cases, bringing down pendency by nearly 11%.

About:

- Status: It is a quasi-judicial commission.
- Origin: It was set up in 1988 under the Consumer Protection Act of 1986.
- Head Office: New Delhi.
- Governance: It is headed by a sitting or retired judge of the Supreme Court of India.
- Powers: Under Section 21 of Consumer Protection Act, 1986, NCDRC will have

jurisdiction to entertain a complaint valued more than one crore.

- Appeal: Any person aggrieved by an order of NCDRC, may Appeal against such order to Supreme Court of India within a period of 30 days.

Omicron BF.7

The Gujarat Biotechnology Research Centre has recently detected the first case of the Omicron sub-variant BF.7 in India.

About:

- Omicron BF. 7 is the latest sub-variant of the Omicron variant, first detected in Northwest China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region.
- It is also known as the 'Omicron spawn'.
- This new variant is fast spreading to several other countries including the United States, UK, Australia and Belgium.
- Being a sub-variant of Omicron BA.5, BF.7 reportedly has enhanced immunity evasion in comparison to its parental strain.
- This means that people who have been infected before or have taken the COVID-19 vaccines can get infected with BF.7.

Symptoms:

- The symptoms associated with the BF.7 sub-variant is similar to other sub-variants of Omicron.
- This includes headache, persistent cough, changes in sense of smell, chest pain, hearing loss and shaking, abdominal pain, diarrhoea, runny nose, sore throat and fatigue.

National Highways Infra Trust (NHAI InvIT)

According to the Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, National Highways Infra Trust (NHAI InvIT) is looking to raise additional ₹3,800 crore and around Rs 1,500 crore were being garnered through an issue of non-convertible debentures (NCDs) with a long-dated maturity of 24 years.

About:

- These InvIT bonds will be listed on BSE and NSE, providing an opportunity for investors to invest and trade.

NHAI InvIT:

- NHAI InvIT is the infrastructure investment trust sponsored by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) to support the government's National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP).
- NHAI's InvIT is a Trust established by NHAI under the Indian Trusts Act, 1882

and SEBI (Security and Exchange Board of India) regulations.

- The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi had approved the NHAI's Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT) in December 2019.

InvITs:

- Infrastructure investment trusts are institutions similar to mutual funds, which pool investments from various categories of investors and invest them into completed and revenue-generating infrastructure projects, thereby creating returns for the investor.
- The capital market regulator notified the SEBI (Infrastructure Investment Trusts) Regulations, 2014 on September 26, 2014, and these trusts are likely to help facilitate investment in the infrastructure sector.
- Structured like mutual funds, they have a trustee, sponsor(s), investment manager and project manager.
- While the trustee (certified by Sebi) has the responsibility of inspecting the performance of an InvIT, sponsor(s) are promoters of the company that set up the InvIT.

One Nation, One Fertilizer

Prime Minister of India recently launched Pradhan Mantri Bharatiya Jan Urvarak Pariyojana, also known as 'One Nation One Fertiliser' during the two-day event PM Kisan Samman Sammelan 2022. He also launched Indian Edge, an e-magazine on fertilisers.

About:

- All subsidised soil nutrients - urea, diammonium phosphate (DAP), Muriate of Potash (MoP), and NPK - will be marketed under the single brand Bharat across the nation.
- With the launch of this scheme, India will have a common bag design across the country like Bharat urea, Bharat DAP, Bharat MOP, Bharat NPK, and so on.
- The rationale is that since fertilizers of a particular category must meet the nutrient-content specifications of the Fertilizer Control Order (FCO), there is no product differentiation among different brands for each type of fertilizer. For example, all DAP fertilizer brands must have 18% nitrogen and 46% phosphorus.
- The One Nation One Fertiliser scheme will also prevent the criss-cross movement of fertilisers and reduce high freight subsidies.

PM- Kisan Samruddhi Kendras (PM-KSK):

- The Union government also intends to

convert more than 3.3 lakh fertiliser retail shops in the country into PM- Kisan Samruddhi Kendras (PM-KSK) in a phased manner.

- The PM-KSK will supply agri-inputs like seeds, fertilisers, and farm implements. It will also provide testing facilities for soil, seeds and fertilisers.
- Information about government schemes will also be provided.

Single Integrated Pensioners' Portal

Union Minister of state for Science and Technology recently launched the Single Integrated Pensioners' Portal.

About:

- Single Integrated Pensioners' Portal developed in collaboration with State Bank of India and aimed at "Ease of Living" for the Central Government Pensioners.
- All the remaining 16 Pension disbursing banks shall now begin their integration with BHAVISHYA.
- Bhavishya 9.0 version was being released recently with its integration with the Pension Disbursing Banks.

BHAVISHYA:

- BHAVISHYA is a Portal for Pension Payment and Tracking System is being integrated with Pension Seva portal of SBI and will enable Pensioners to get all information and services at one place with single login.
- On completion of all phases of this integration the retirees can choose a Bank and Branch for opening an online Pension Account, check their monthly pension slips, Form 16, Status of Life Certificate as well as change their Pension Disbursing Bank through BHAVISHYA.
- 'Bhavishya' platform was made mandatory for all central government departments since 01.01.2017.
- BHAVISHYA has recently been rated as the 3rd best portal among all Government of India service portals by National e-Governance Service Delivery Assessment (NeSDA).
- The following portals have now been merged with BHAVISHYA window: CPENGRAMS, ANUBHAV, ANUDAAN, SANKALP & Pension DASHBOARD.

National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC)

The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi recently reviewed the progress work of the Project of

National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC) developing at Lothal in Gujarat, by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW) in collaboration with Government of Gujarat

About:

- The Rs.3500 crore project is being built at the historic Indus Valley Civilization region of Lothal in Gujarat under the Sagarmala Scheme of the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.
- NMHC is to be developed as a first of its kind in the country dedicated to the legacy of Maritime Heritage of India, to showcase India's rich and diverse maritime glory.

Lothal:

- Lothal was one among the prominent cities of the traditional Harappan civilization dating to 2400 BC, located in Gujarat, a crucial western state of India.
- It is located along the Bhogava river, a tributary of Sabarmati, in the Gulf of Khambhat.
- Archaeological excavations have discovered the oldest man-made dockyard, over 5000 years old, in Lothal.

National Investigation Agency (NIA)

Union Home and Cooperation Minister recently said that National Investigation Agency (NIA) agency to have offices in all states by 2024.

About:

- National Investigation Agency (NIA) is the Central Counter Terrorism Law Enforcement Agency of India.
- Parent agency: Union Ministry of Home Affairs.
- Establishment: NIA was created after the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks with the enactment of the National Investigation Agency Act 2008.
- Jurisdiction:
- The agency is empowered to deal with terror related crimes across states without special permission from the states.
- A State Government may request the Central Government to hand over the investigation of a case to the NIA, provided the case has been registered for the offences as contained in the schedule to the NIA Act.

NIA special courts:

- Various Special Courts have been notified by the Govt. of India for trial of the cases arising out of offences committed in various states of the Union.
- These are presided over by a judge appointed by the Central Government on the recommendation of the Chief Justice

of the High Court with jurisdiction in that region.

Offices:

- It is headquartered in Delhi.
- Branches: Hyderabad, Guwahati, Kochi, Lucknow, Mumbai, Kolkata, Raipur, Jammu, Chandigarh, Ranchi, Chennai and Imphal.

News Broadcasting & Digital Standards Authority (NBDSA)

The News Broadcasting & Digital Standards Authority (NBDSA) has recently fined the Hindi TV channel News18 India Rs 50,000 for turning a news debate on hijab into a “communal issue” and not adhering to guidelines.

About:

- It is an independent body set up by the News Broadcasters & Digital Association (NBDA).
- It serves as a representative of private television news, current affairs and digital broadcasters.
- Funded entirely by its members, the NBDA has 26 news and current affairs broadcasters (comprising 119 news and current affairs channels) as its members.
- Various senior members of Indian media organisations serve on its Board of Directors.
- It carries out activities “to promote, protect and secure the interests including the right of freedom of speech and expression of the news broadcasters, digital news media and other related entities”.



Composition:

- The body includes a Chairperson who is to be an eminent jurist, and other members such as news editors, and those experienced in the field of law, education, literature, public administration, etc. nominated by a majority of the Board.
- Former Supreme Court judge and jurist AK Sikri is currently serving as the Chairperson.

Function:

- The Authority may initiate proceedings on its own and issue notice or take action in respect to any matter which falls within its

regulations.

- This can also be through complaints referred to the Authority by the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting or any other governmental body, or by anyone else via its website.

One nation, one police uniform'

Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently mooted the idea of ‘

About:

- His suggestion “One Nation, One Uniform” is in line with his broader attempt to introduce a uniform set of policies across the country.
- Currently, there is a ‘one nation, one ration’ card; ‘one nation, one mobility’ card; ‘one nation, one grid’ and a ‘one nation, one sign language’.

Law and order:

- The Indian Constitution puts police forces under the jurisdiction of state governments, and each of the 28 states have their own police force.
- Both ‘public order’ and the ‘police’ are placed in List II (State List) of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution, which deals with the division of powers between the Union and States.
- While police personnel in India are often associated with the colour khaki, their uniforms do differ in varying degrees in different regions.
- Since state governments and even an individual force can decide the uniform their personnel wear, there are at times inconsistencies in their official attire. For example:
 - The Kolkata Police wear white uniforms.
 - Puducherry Police constables wear a bright red cap with their khaki uniforms.
 - Delhi Traffic Police personnel wear white and blue uniforms.

New Uniform:

- The Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPRD), under the ministry of home affairs (MHA), had designed a new all-weather friendly 'smart uniform' for Indian police in 2017 in association with the National Institute of Design (NID) and sent a report to all the states and UTs.



Uniform Civil Code (UCC)

The Gujarat government recently moved a proposal to constitute a committee to evaluate all aspects of implementing the Uniform Civil Code (UCC).

About:



- A Uniform Civil Code is one that would provide for one law for the entire country, applicable to all religious communities in their personal matters such as marriage, divorce, inheritance, adoption etc.
- Article 44 of the Constitution lays down that the state shall endeavour to secure a Uniform Civil Code for the citizens throughout the territory of India.

Directive Principles of State Policy:

- Article 44 is one of the Directive Principles of State Policy.
- These, as defined in Article 37, are not justiciable (not enforceable by any court) but the principles laid down therein are fundamental in governance.
- While Article 44 uses the words "state shall endeavour", other Articles in the 'Directive Principles' chapter use words such as "in particular strive"; "shall in particular direct its policy"; "shall be obligation of the state" etc.

Uniform Civil Code (Goa):

- Goa, a former Portuguese colony, was incorporated into the Union of India in 1961. In 1987, Goa was made a separate state.
- The Uniform Civil Code (UCC) was introduced in Goa in the year 1870 by the erstwhile Portuguese rulers.
- It was retained even after the territory was merged with India in the year 1961.

Goa Maritime Symposium (GMS) 2022

The fourth edition of the Goa Maritime Symposium (GMS) is being conducted by the Naval War College (NWC) at Goa from 31 October to 01 November 2022.

About:

- The theme of GMS-2022 is "Maritime Security Challenges in the Indian Ocean Region: Converting Common Maritime Priorities into Collaborative Mitigation Frameworks".
- The theme is underpinned by the idea of 'Security and Growth for All in the Region' (SAGAR) and five principles of Maritime Security enunciated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.
- The participants of the Symposium comprise Captains/ Commanders and equivalent-rank officers from Navies/ Maritime forces from friendly foreign countries viz., Bangladesh, Comoros, Indonesia, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Myanmar, Seychelles, Singapore, Sri Lanka, and Thailand, besides India.

Goa Maritime Symposium (GMS):

- It was conceptualised and instituted by the Indian Navy in 2016.
- It is a forum for fostering collaborative thinking, cooperation and mutual understanding between India and key maritime nations of the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).
- The symposium is conducted biennially by the Naval War College (NWC), Goa, and three editions of the event have been organised thus far.

Windergy 2023

- The 5th edition of India's only comprehensive International Trade Fair and Conference, Windergy India 2023 will be held from 4th October to 6th October 2023.
- The Windergy India 2023 will be organized by the Indian Wind Turbine Manufacturers Association (IWTMA) and PDA Ventures Pvt Ltd, the three-day trade fairs and

conference will provide a vibrant platform to meet and interact with policymakers, regulatory authority, international and domestic technology, solution and services providers from the wind power industries.

About IWTMA

- Indian Wind Turbine Manufacturers Association (IWTMA) was established in 1998 and is the apex business association and voice of the Indian wind Industry.
- IWTMA has been at the forefront of the policy framework and regulatory intervention with proactive engagement with Central and State policymakers, Investors, and Stakeholders.





China withdraws its IAEA anti AUKUS resolution sighting no support

- At the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) general session in Vienna, China withdrew a draught resolution criticising the AUKUS alliance after determining that it would not be supported by a majority of the attendees.
- In order to prevent the draught resolution that claimed the AUKUS proposal breached Australia's, the UK's, and the US' obligations under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), India collaborated closely with numerous IAEA member nations.

The OPEC+

- The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) is a permanent, Intergovernmental Organization, created at the Baghdad Conference held at Iraq in 1960 by Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela.

About

- It initially had its headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland which was then moved to Vienna, Austria in 1965.
- It accounts for an estimated 44 percent of global oil production and 81.5 percent of the world's "proven" oil reserves.
- Its Objective:
- Coordinate and unify petroleum policies among Member Countries
- In order to secure fair and stable prices for petroleum producers
- The efficient, economic and regular supply of petroleum to consuming nations
- A fair return on capital to those investing in the industry

PM Narendra Modi addresses UN World Geospatial International Congress

- Addressing the Second United Nations World Geospatial International Congress via video message, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that steps taken by India over the past few years has been of empowering the "last person at the last mile", reflecting the theme of this year's conference — 'Geo-Enabling the Global Village: No one should be left behind

EU parliament approved adoption of world's first single charger rule

- According to a new law passed by the European Union parliament, all new smartphones, tablets and cameras will have a single standard charger from late 2024.
- The law was adopted with a vote of 602 in favour, and 13 against. It mandates smartphone, laptop and camera manufacturing companies to adopt a standard charger, at least in Europe.
- Makers of laptops will have extra time, from early 2026, to also follow suit.

India hosts SCO joint anti-terror drill to enhance operational capabilities

- The National Security Guard (NSG) is hosting the Multinational Joint Anti-Terror Exercise (JATE) under the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) at NSG Manesar Garrison.
- Stage 1 of the exercise was conducted from 27th July to 1st August 2022 by the National Terrorist Forces of SCO Members Countries in their respective territories.
- The Exercise aims to exchange expertise, and best practices, and build synergies between counter Terrorism Forces of the SCO RATS member countries.

India Opposes G7's Just Energy Transition Plan

- The G7 nations' plan of persuading India to start negotiations on a Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP), an initiative of the rich nations to accelerate phasing out of coal and reducing emissions has hit a road-block.
- JETP makes various funding options available for this purpose in identified developing countries.
- The Power Ministry has refused to give its consent to the negotiations so far, as it argues that coal cannot be singled out as a polluting fuel, and energy transition talks need to take place on equal terms.

Indus Waters Treaty: World Bank Appoints Chairman of Court of Arbitration

- The World Bank has appointed a “neutral expert” and a chairman of the Court of Arbitration regarding the Kishenganga and Ratle hydroelectric power plants, in view of disagreements and differences between India and Pakistan over the 1960 Indus Water Treaty.



Indus Water Treaty:

- The Indus Waters Treaty was signed in Karachi on September 19, 1960, by then Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and then Pakistani President Ayub Khan, negotiated by the World Bank.
- The treaty establishes a cooperative mechanism for exchanging information between the two countries regarding the use of the western rivers (Indus, Jhelum, Chenab) allocated to Pakistan and the eastern rivers (Ravi, Beas, Sutlej) allocated to India.
- The treaty also underlines provisions allowing each country to use the rivers allocated to the other for certain purposes such as irrigation and hydroelectricity.
- The Permanent Indus Commission, which has a commissioner from each country, oversees the cooperative mechanism and ensures that the two countries meet annually (alternately in India and Pakistan) to discuss myriad issues emerging from the treaty.

One Health Joint Plan of Action: WHO, UNEP, and FAO lay a plan

- One Health Joint Plan of Action: The One Health Joint Plan of Action would develop a framework and integrate systems and capability to enable improved collaborative prevention, prediction, detection, and response to health hazards.

- This will support sustainable development while enhancing the health of people, animals, plants, and the environment.

About

- A sustainable balance and optimization of the health of people, animals, plants, and ecosystems are the goals of the comprehensive, unified approach known as “One Health.”
- It is the main strategy for solving the numerous health issues that our civilization is currently confronting, including ecosystem degradation, problems with the food system, infectious diseases, and antimicrobial resistance (AMR)

India, France Re-Elected as President and Co-President of International Solar Alliance

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



World Spice Congress

- World Spice Congress 14th edition: The 14th World Spice Congress will take place in the CIDCO Exhibition and Convention Centre in Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra, from February 16 to 18, 2023.
- Spices Board India in conjunction with a number of trade and export forums is

hosting the World Spice Congress during India's G20 presidency.

Russia annexes 4 regions in Ukraine

Russian President Vladimir Putin presided over a ceremony to formally annex four Ukrainian regions.

About



- Eight years following the Russian annexation of Crimea, Moscow has captured four more Ukrainian territories – Donetsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia and Kherson regions.
- Earlier, Russia organized a referendum on Russia's administration of these regions.
- Kremlin claimed that residents of these regions overwhelmingly supported their regions formally becoming part of Russia.

G20 Sherpa

India recently participates at 3rd G20 Sherpa meeting in Indonesia.

About:



- A Sherpa is a personal representative of the leader of a member country at an international Summit meeting such as the G8, G20, the Nuclear Security Summit etc.
- The Sherpa engages in planning, negotiation and implementation tasks through the Summit.
- They coordinate the agenda, seek consensus at the highest political levels, and participate

in a series of pre-Summit consultations to help negotiate their leaders' positions.

- Sherpas are career diplomats or senior government officials appointed by the leaders of their countries.
- The term is derived from the Nepalese Sherpa people, who serve as guides for mountaineers in the Himalayas.
- There is only one Sherpa per Summit for each member country; he/she is assisted by several sous Sherpas.

India – Ethiopia relations



The 4th Round of Foreign Office Consultations between India and Ethiopia were held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia recently

About:

- During the consultation, both sides reviewed the entire spectrum of bilateral relations, including political engagements, trade and economic matters, development partnership projects and cooperation in higher education.
- They also agreed to work to expand engagement in fields such as defence, Science and Technology, education, agriculture and allied sectors and civil aviation.
- India and Ethiopia have also agreed to continue high-level political exchanges and regular meetings of the joint institutional mechanisms to keep the relationship vibrant and mutually beneficial.
- The next round of Consultations will be held in New Delhi.

Global News Forum 2022

Union Minister of State Dr L Murugan delivers keynote address at Global News Forum 2022

About:



- Global News Forum 2022 is the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU)'s flagship three days annual NEWS event hosting around 80 foreign participants from the field of Media & Journalism from different broadcasting organizations.
- The topic of the Global News Forum 'Truth and Trust at times of Crisis'.

Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU)

- ABU was established in 1964 as a non-profit, non-governmental, non-political, professional association with mandate to assist the development of broadcasting organisations in the region currently Headquartered at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- ABU promotes the collective interests of television and radio broadcasters as well as key industry players and also facilitate regional and international media cooperation for members.
- It has over 253 members in over 67 countries in Pacific region, Asia (South east, North, South, Central), Middle East, Europe, North Africa and North America, reaching a potential audience of about 2 billion people.
- Doordarshan (DD) & All India Radio (AIR) both are Full Members of ABU. All India Radio was a founding member of the ABU in the year 1964 while Doordarshan joined ABU in the year 1976.

India- Ukraine Relations

PM Modi talks to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy; conveys India's readiness to contribute to any peace efforts.

About:

- Both the leaders discussed the ongoing conflict in Ukraine. Mr Modi reiterated his call for an early cessation of hostilities and

the need to pursue the path of dialogue and diplomacy.

- The Prime Minister expressed his firm conviction that there can be no military solution to the conflict and conveyed India's readiness to contribute to any peace efforts.
- He emphasized the importance India attaches to the safety and security of nuclear installations, including in Ukraine. Mr Modi underlined that endangerment of nuclear facilities could have far-reaching and catastrophic consequences on public health and the environment.

Political Relations- Background

- India was one of the first countries to recognize Ukraine. Government of India recognized the Republic of Ukraine as a sovereign country in December 1991 and established diplomatic relations in January 1992.
- The Embassy of India in Kyiv was opened in May 1992. Ukraine opened its Mission in Delhi in February 1993 – its first in Asia.

US-India Strategic Clean Energy Partnership (USISCEP)

Ministerial dialogue of US-India Strategic Clean Energy Partnership (USISCEP) to be held on 7th October 2022.

About:



- The revamped USISCEP was launched in accordance with U.S.-India Climate and Clean Energy Agenda 2030 Partnership announced by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and President Joe Biden at the Leaders' Summit on Climate held in April 2021.

Features

- The SCEP organizes inter-governmental engagement across five pillars of cooperation: (1) Power and Energy Efficiency; (2); Responsible Oil and Gas; (3) Renewable Energy; (4) Sustainable Growth and (5) Emerging Fuels.
- India-US Task Force on Biofuels: A new India-US Task Force on Biofuels was also announced to build on the scope of work on cooperation in biofuels sector.

- **Renewable Energy:** Strengthen the electric grid in India to support large-scale integration of renewables, including through smart grids, energy storage, flexible resources etc.
- **Gas Task Force:** Rechristening of Gas Task Force to India-US Low Emissions Gas Task Force, which would continue to forge collaboration between U.S. and Indian companies on innovative projects to support India's vision of gas-based economy.
- **India Energy Modeling Forum:** Institutionalization of India Energy Modeling Forum with the constitution of Six Task Forces for carrying out research and modelling in different areas. Joint Committees have been set up to deliberate on Energy Data Management, Low Carbon Technologies and Just Transition in Coal Sector.
- **(PACE)-R initiative:** Include smart grid and grid storage as part of the second phase of the Partnership to Advance Clean Energy (PACE)-R initiative anchored on the Indian side by the Department of Science & Technology.

Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)

The grouping of the world's largest oil-producing countries, the OPEC and its allies, together known as OPEC+, decided to cut oil production by 2 million barrels per day (bpd).

About:

- Opec's de-facto leader Saudi Arabia said the cut of 2 million barrels per day (bpd) of output — equal to 2% of global supply — was necessary to respond to rising interest rates in the West and a weaker global economy.
- It is the biggest cut since the height of the Covid pandemic in 2020. The move would reinforce the perception that Russia and Saudi Arabia are working closely together to manage oil markets.

What is OPEC+?

- Established in 1960 by founding members Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela, OPEC has since expanded and now has 13 member states. With the addition of another 11 allied major oil-producing countries that include Russia, the grouping is known as OPEC+.
- Previously controlled by western-dominated multinational oil companies known as the "Seven Sisters," OPEC sought to give the oil-producing nations greater influence over the global petroleum market.

- They account for roughly 40 per cent of the world's crude oil and 80 per cent of the globe's oil reserves, according to estimates from 2018. They usually meet every month to determine how much oil the member states will produce.

Why are they slashing production?

- Oil prices skyrocketed after Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February, and have since begun to soften over the past few months, before dropping sharply to under \$90 in September due to fears of a recession in Europe and reduced demands from China because of its lockdown measures.
- OPEC+ members are concerned that a faltering global economy would reduce the demand for oil, and the cuts are seen as a way to protect profits.

International Solar Alliance's Fifth Assembly

International Solar Alliance's Fifth Assembly to be held in New Delhi from 17th to 20th October, 2022

About:



- The Assembly is the apex decision-making body of ISA, in which each Member Country is represented. This body makes decisions concerning the implementation of the ISA's Framework Agreement and coordinated actions to be taken to achieve its objective.
- India holds the office of the President of the ISA Assembly. Ministers, missions and delegates from 109 Member and Signatory Countries are set to participate in this meeting.

International Solar Alliance (ISA)

- It is an international organisation with 109 member and signatory countries.
- It works with governments to improve energy access and security worldwide and promote solar power as a sustainable way to transition to a carbon-neutral future.
- ISA's mission is to unlock US\$ 1 trillion of investments in solar by 2030 while reducing

- the cost of the technology and its financing.
- With the signing and ratification of the ISA Framework Agreement by 15 countries in 2017, ISA became the first international intergovernmental organization to be headquartered in India.

Kazakhstan changes capital's name from Nur-Sultan back to Astana

Kazakhstan's president is to restore the former name of the country's capital, Astana, just three years after he renamed it in honour of his predecessor.

About

- The name was changed to Nur-Sultan in March 2019, in honour of outgoing president Nursultan Nazarbayev. President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev signed a bill on 24 Sept limiting presidential mandates to a single seven-year term, a day after parliament approved the measure.

2nd United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress



PM Narendra Modi recently addressed 2nd UN World Geospatial International Congress. It is being held in Hyderabad.

About:

- The goal of this year's UNWGIC is to promote a broad dialogue on global geospatial information management with all relevant governments, non-governmental organisations, academia, and the private sector.
- Theme: The theme of UNWGIC 2022 is 'Geo-Enabling the Global Village: No one should be left behind'.
- It was hosted by the ministry of science and technology of the government of India.

United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress (UNWGIC)

- The United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) convened the conference on UNWGIC 2022 and was organised by the United

Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

- It is conducted every four years with the objectives of enhancing international collaboration among the Member States and relevant stakeholders in Geospatial information management and capacities.
- The first UNWGIC was organized by China in October 2018.

Conference on B20 Indonesia Global Dialogue

Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) recently hosted Conference on B20 Indonesia Global Dialogue in partnership with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in New Delhi.

About:

- The aim is to align the perspectives of Indian industry with the policy recommendations of B20 Indonesia.
- This conference would set tone for the deliberations to ensure that the Indian perspectives are well represented in the policy recommendation of B20 Indonesia.

Business 20 (B20):

- Business 20 (B20), formed in 2010, is the official G20 dialogue forum with the global business community.
- B20 aims to deliver concrete actionable policy recommendations on the priorities by each rotating presidency to spur economic growth and development.

East Asia Summit

India participated at the 6th East Asia Summit Education Minister's Meeting held recently in Hanoi, Vietnam.

About:

- The East Asia Summit (EAS) is the Indo-Pacific's premier forum for strategic dialogue.
- It was established in 2005.
- The EAS has 18 members:
- The ten ASEAN countries (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam) along with Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, Russia and the United States.
- The EAS membership represents around 54% of the world's population and accounts for 58% of global GDP.

Six priority areas of regional cooperation within the framework of the EAS

- Environment and Energy,
- Education,
- Finance,
- Global Health Issues and Pandemic Diseases,
- Natural Disaster Management, and
- ASEAN Connectivity

India-Africa Defence Dialogue

India-Africa Defence Dialogue to be held on October 18 on the sidelines of DefExpo 2022 in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

About:



- The broad theme of the dialogue is 'India-Africa: Adopting Strategy for Synergising and Strengthening Defence and Security Cooperation'.
- India's approach towards Africa is guided by the Kampala Principles enunciated by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in 2018.
- The Kampala Principles promote ownership of private sector engagement (PSE) through development co-operation by partner countries and ensure the alignment of PSE projects and programmes with national sustainable development priorities.
- The first-ever India-Africa Defence Ministers Conclave was held in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh in conjunction with DefExpo on February 06, 2020.

International Monetary and Finance Committee (IMFC)

Union Finance Minister recently attended the International Monetary and Financial Committee in Washington DC.

About



- What is it? The IMF Board of Governors is advised by two ministerial committees, the International Monetary and Financial Committee (IMFC) and the Development Committee.
- Composition: The IMFC has 24 members, drawn from the pool of 190 governors. Its structure mirrors that of the Executive Board and its 24 constituencies. As such, the IMFC represents all the member countries of the Fund.
- Working: The IMFC meets twice a year, during the Spring and Annual Meetings. The Committee discusses matters of common concern affecting the global economy and also advises the IMF on the direction its work.

The Development Committee

- It is a joint committee, tasked with advising the Boards of Governors of the IMF and the World Bank on issues related to economic development in emerging and developing countries.
- The committee has 24 members (usually ministers of finance or development).
- It represents the full membership of the IMF and the World Bank and mainly serves as a forum for building intergovernmental consensus on critical development issues.

Wolf Warrior' Diplomacy

'Wolf Warrior' Diplomacy is a term that gained popularity, especially after Xi Jinping became the President of China.

About:

- It is a tactic for the Chinese government to extend its ideology beyond China and counter the West and defend itself.
- It is an unofficial term for the more aggressive and confrontational style of communication that Chinese diplomats have taken to in the last decade.
- It confronts head-on any criticism of China in the public sphere.
- A 2015 Chinese action film, titled 'Wolf Warrior', and its sequel have served as the inspiration for the term.

Need for wolf warrior diplomacy:

- The change in strategy has been attributed to many reasons, such as Xi Jinping's more

authoritarian tendencies as compared to earlier leaders, deteriorating US-China relations under former US President Donald Trump, the coronavirus pandemic-related accusations on China, etc.

United Nations Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee

The UNSC's counter-terrorism meeting will be hosted in Mumbai and Delhi on 28 and 29 October, respectively.

About:

- This will be the first such meeting of the UNSC-CTC in India since its establishment in 2001.
- The Permanent Representative of India to the UN serves as the Chair of the CTC for 2022.



- The overarching theme of the meeting would be 'countering the use of new and emerging technologies for terrorist purposes'.

Counter-Terrorism Committee:

- The Counter-Terrorism Committee was established by Security Council resolution 1373 adopted unanimously on 28 September 2001 in the wake of the 9/11 terror attacks in the US.
- The Committee was tasked with monitoring implementation of resolution 1373 which requested countries to implement a number of measures aimed at enhancing their legal and institutional ability to counter terrorist activities at home and around the world.
- This includes taking steps to criminalize the financing of terrorism, freezing any funds related to persons involved in acts of terrorism, deny all forms of financial support for terrorist groups, suppress the provision of safe haven, sustenance or support for terrorists and share information with other governments on any groups practicing or planning terrorist acts.
- Besides, the Committee monitors steps taken to cooperate with other governments in the investigation, detection, arrest, extradition and prosecution of those involved in terror acts and criminalizes active and passive assistance for terrorism.

India-U.K. Defence Industry Joint Working Group (JWG)

India-U.K. decided to form joint group to enhance defence cooperation.

About:

- Defence industry organisations from India and the U.K. have decided to create a new Defence Industry Joint Working Group (JWG) for more effective cooperation.
- It was decided on the sidelines of DefExpo 2022 in Gandhinagar on October 18, 2022. DefExpo-2022 has representation from 20 U.K. defence companies.
- The JWG is part of an ongoing initiative between the two countries to strengthen the defence and security partnership.
- The U.K. recently issued its first Open General Export License in the Indo-Pacific region to India, shortening delivery times for defence procurement.
- The U.K. industry is already integrating Indian defence suppliers into their global supply chain.
- The Royal Air Force (RAF) recently conducted a subject matter expertise exchange with Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) during the visit of Eurofighter Typhoon, Voyager and A-400 in New Delhi and also held joint-flying exercises with the Indian Air Force (IAF).

Like Minded Developing Countries (LMDC) Group

Union Minister for Environment Forest and Climate change recently participated in Ministerial Meeting of Like Minded Developing Countries (LMDC).

About:

- It comprises of around 18 developing countries from Asia and other regions.
- India is part of the LMDC grouping along with Egypt, Indonesia, Malaysia, Iran, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, the Philippines and others.
- It represents about 50 per cent of the world's population.
- It usually presents a common front at climate negotiations.

ASEAN-India Ministerial Meeting

7th ASEAN-India Ministerial Meeting held on Agro-Forestry under the co-chairmanship of Union Agriculture Minister.

About:



- In the meeting, the progress in implementation of various programs and activities under the Medium Term Action Plan of ASEAN-India Cooperation (Year 2021-2025) was reviewed.
- The meeting also welcomed the 30th anniversary of ASEAN-India relations.

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)

- It was established on 8 August 1967 in Bangkok, Thailand, with the signing of the ASEAN Declaration (Bangkok Declaration) by the Founding Fathers of ASEAN: Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.
- Brunei Darussalam joined ASEAN in 1984, followed by Viet Nam in 1995, Lao PDR and Myanmar in 1997, and Cambodia in 1999, making up what is today the ten Member States of ASEAN.
- India's relationship with ASEAN has emerged as a key cornerstone of our foreign policy. The relationship has evolved from the 'Look East Policy' enunciated in early 1990s which led India to become a Sectoral Partner of ASEAN in 1992, a Dialogue Partner in 1996 and a Summit-level Partner in 2002.

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)

Union Minister of Finance & Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman recently attended the 7th Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of AIIB via video conference.

About

- The theme of this year's Annual Meeting was "Sustainable Infrastructure Toward a Connected World".
- What is AIIB? AIIB is a multilateral development bank that aims to improve economic and social outcomes in Asia.
- Headquarters: Beijing, China.
- Board of Governors: All powers of the Bank are vested in our Board of Governors, which is the highest decision-making body under our Articles of Agreement.

- Membership: AIIB has 105 members. China is the AIIB's largest shareholder with a 26.5% voting share. India is the second-largest, with 7.5%, followed by Russia, which has a 5.97% voting share.
- India is a Founding Member of AIIB. India also has the largest project portfolio within AIIB.



International Conference by Election Commission of India (ECI)

The Election Commission of India is hosting a two day international conference at New Delhi. The ECI leads the Cohort on Election Integrity – which was established as a follow on to the 'Summit for Democracy' held in December, 2021.

About:

- Theme is 'Role, Framework & Capacity of Election Management Bodies'.
- It will have discussions on the current & future challenges being faced by the Election Management Bodies' with respect to their role and framework to ensure 'election integrity'.

'Summit for Democracy':

- It was an initiative of US President and hosted in December 2021.
- Following this Summit, a "Year of Action" was proposed with events and dialogues on themes related to Democracy and to host an in-person 'Leaders' Summit for Democracy' subsequently.
- The Summit also developed two platforms - 'Focal Groups' and 'Democracy Cohorts' to facilitate participation in the Year of Action.
- As part of the 'Summit for Democracy' Year of Action, India through the ECI, is leading the 'Democracy Cohort on Election Integrity' to share its knowledge, technical expertise and experiences with other democracies of the world.
- ECI, as its lead, has proposed to also provide training and capacity building programmes to Election Management Bodies (EMBs) across the world and provide technical consultancy as per needs of other EMBs.



India's Unemployment Rate drops to 6.43 per cent in September: CMIE

About

- India's unemployment rate has drastically dropped to 6.43 per cent in September due to an increase in labour participation in the rural and urban areas, according to data from the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE).
- During August, India's unemployment rate surged to a one-year high of 8.3 per cent as employment sequentially fell by 2 million to 394.6 million.

India to achieve USD 2 trillion export target by 2030

- Piyush Goyal Predicts the Growth of Economy and Exports: Piyush Goyal, the minister of commerce and industry, expressed confidence that the nation will reach its goal of 2 trillion USD in products and services exported by 2030.
- The Union Commerce and Industry minister was addressing at the Chennai-based Exporters Conclave.

China's Total Trade Surplus With India Exceeded 1 Trillion \$ Mark

- The favourable trade balance that China has enjoyed with India, since bilateral commerce began to boom in the early 2000s, has cumulatively exceeded \$1 trillion, according to estimates.
- The trade gap has particularly widened in the past decade. In 2021, annual two-way trade crossed \$100 billion for the first time, reaching \$125.6 billion, with India's imports accounting for \$97.5 billion, pegging the imbalance at close to \$70 billion.

Netherlands Beats China, Becomes India's 3rd-Largest Export Market

- The Netherlands has emerged as India's third-largest export destination, ahead of China and Bangladesh.
- It has moved up two spots in the list of India's top ten export destinations since FY22, thanks to a 106% surge in dispatches until August this fiscal from a year before to \$7.5 billion.

Core Infrastructure Sectors

Output growth in India's eight core infrastructure sectors slowed to 3.3% in August 2022 from 4.5% in the previous month.

About:

- This is the slowest pace seen since November 2021, with crude oil and natural gas continuing to report contractions while electricity and steel production clocked sharply lower expansions than in the previous month.
- Overall output levels in the eight sectors were 1.5% lower than in July 2022, marking the third successive month of sequential contraction.

Core Industries

- The core sector is an aggregate of 8 core sectors that are fundamental to the Indian economy.
- These are Coal, Crude oil, Natural gas, Refinery products, Fertilisers, Steel, Cement and Electricity.
- These 8 sectors constituting the core sector are important because they account for nearly 40.27% of the overall IIP and hence have long term repercussions for corporate profit growth as well as for the overall GDP growth.
- The growth of the country's eight core sectors is a lead indicator of the monthly industrial performance.
- The Office of Economic Adviser, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) in the Commerce and Industry Ministry releases the Index of Eight Core Industries.

Purchasing Managers' Index

The Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index, compiled by S&P Global, fell to 55.1 in September from 56.2 in August 2022.

About:

- It was the 15th straight month the figure was above the 50-mark separating growth from contraction.
- The survey pointed out that Indian

businesses become more confident in the outlook as inflation worries were tamed.

- The overall level of positive sentiment seen in September was the best in over seven-and-a-half years, according to the survey.

Purchasing Managers' Index

- Purchasing Managers' Index or PMI is an economic indicator, which is derived after monthly surveys of different companies.
- The index shows trends in both the manufacturing and services sector.
- The index helps in determining whether the market conditions, as seen by purchasing managers, is expanding, contracting or staying the same.
- It is used to provide information regarding the current and future business conditions.
- PMI is one of the closely watched indicators of business activity and helps in predicting the economic health of a country.
- There are two types of PMI—Manufacturing PMI and Services PMI. A combined index is also made using both manufacturing PMI and services PMI.
- A PMI number greater than 50 indicates expansion in business activity. A number less than 50 shows contraction. The rate of expansion is also judged by the difference from the mid-point (50) and also by previous month's data.

Windfall tax

The government recently cut the windfall tax on domestically-produced crude oil to Rs 8,000 per tonne from Rs 10,500, and halved the levy on export of diesel to Rs 5 per litre.

About:

- The taxes were introduced on July 1, as the Centre felt that elevated crude prices were allowing oil companies to make windfall profits, and that the exchequer must get a share of such gains.
- The reduction in tax rates follows the easing of crude oil prices in international markets.

Windfall tax

- A windfall tax is a tax levied by governments against certain industries when economic conditions allow those industries to experience above-average profits.
- The idea is to target firms that were lucky enough to benefit from something they were not responsible for - in other words, a windfall.
- In other words, windfall tax is imposed on companies that have seen their profits extraordinarily not because of any clever investment decision or an increase in

efficiency or innovation, but simply because of favourable market conditions.

e-Rupee

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will soon commence pilot launches of Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC), referred to as Digital Rupee (e₹), for specific use cases.

About:

- The RBI in its concept note detailed various aspects including the technological measures to operationalise its electronic currency, its underlying digital infrastructure and various technological options the central bank is exploring.

E-Rupee

- e-RUPI is a cashless and contactless instrument for digital payment.
- It is a QR code or SMS string-based e-Voucher, which is delivered to the mobile of the beneficiaries.
- The users of this seamless one-time payment mechanism will be able to redeem the voucher without a card, digital payments app or internet banking access, at the service provider.
- It has been developed by National Payments Corporation of India on its UPI platform, in collaboration with the Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and National Health Authority

Direct tax

According to Union Finance Ministry, India's net direct tax collections till October 8 in the financial year 2022-23 have risen to ₹7.45 lakh crore, more than half of the Budget targets.

About:

- It is an increase of 16.3% over the tax inflows during the corresponding period a year ago.
- Based on provisional data, net personal income tax collections grew 17.35%, rising faster than corporate income tax collections that were up 16.29% net of refunds.
- Securities Transaction Tax (STT) collections combined with personal income tax receipts, grew at a more moderate 16.25%.
- Underlining that direct tax collections continue to register a steady growth, the Ministry said tax refunds had jumped 81% over the preceding year to touch ₹1.53 lakh crore.
- Net direct tax collections had crossed ₹7 lakh crore by September 17, 2022 and were

23.3% higher at the time, so there appears to have been a moderation in tax inflows in the intervening three weeks.

- Gross revenues from direct taxes were at ₹8,36,225 crore on September 17, reflecting a 30.2% growth.

Inflation

According to the data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO), retail inflation accelerated to a five-month high of 7.41% in September, 2022 from 7% in August, 2022 as food inflation surged sharply to 8.41% last month — the steepest level in 22 months.

About:

- September's retail inflation was the highest since April, when price rise quickened to an almost eight-year high of 7.79%.
- This is the ninth month in a row that inflation has exceeded the 6% upper tolerance threshold mandated for the RBI and would require it to send an explanation to the government on its inability to achieve the price stability target.
- Rural inflation picked up further steam, from 7.15% in August, to touch 7.56% in September, while urban consumers also experienced a resurgence in price rise at 7.27%, from 6.72% a month earlier.
- Inflation in cereals quickened to 11.5%, with rural India facing almost 12% price gains, up sharply from 9.6% in August and almost doubling from July's 6.9% pace.
- Vegetables' inflation almost virtually doubled over two months, from 10.9% in July to 18.1% in September, with urban consumers facing a sharper 20.1% rise.

Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)

IMF terms India's Direct Benefit Transfer scheme, as a 'logistical marvel'.

About:



The aim of DBT (Direct Benefit Transfer) is to transfer the benefits and subsidies of various social welfare schemes directly in the bank account of the beneficiary on time by bringing efficiency, effectiveness, transparency and also to eliminate the intermediary body.

- It was started on 1st January, 2013.
- It was created in the Planning Commission to act as the nodal point for the implementation of the DBT programmes.
- The Mission was transferred to the Department of Expenditure in July, 2013 and continue to function till 14.9.2015.
- To give more impetus, DBT Mission and matters related thereto has been placed in Cabinet Secretariat under Secretary (Co-ordination & PG) w.e.f. 14.9.2015.
- According to the government data, more than Rs 24.8 lakh crore has been transferred through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode since 2013.

Digital Banking Units (DBU)

Prime Minister of India will dedicate 75 Digital Banking Units across 75 districts to the Nation on 16th October

About:

- As part of the Union budget speech for 2022-23, the Finance Minister had announced the setting up of the 75 DBUs in 75 districts of the country to commemorate the 75 years of independence of our country.
- 11 Public Sector Banks, 12 Private Sector Banks and one Small Finance Bank are participating in the endeavour.

Digital Banking Unit

- A digital banking unit is a specialised fixed point business unit or hub housing certain minimum digital infrastructure for delivering digital banking products and services as well as servicing existing financial products and services digitally in self-service mode at any time.
- The objective is to ensure benefits of digital banking reach every nook and corner of the country and will cover all the States and Union territories.
- DBUs will be brick and mortar outlets which will provide a variety of digital banking facilities to people such as opening of savings account, balance-check, print passbook, transfer of funds etc.
- They will spread Digital Financial Literacy and special emphasis will be given to customer education on cyber security awareness and safeguards.

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)

According to EY- Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) report, India to attract FDI worth \$475 billion in 5 years.

About:

- The report titled 'Vision—Developed India: Opportunities and Expectations of MNCs', added that 71% of MNCs working in India consider the country an important destination for their global expansion. The optimism is driven by both short-term as well as long-term prospects.
- FDI in India has seen a consistent rise in the last decade, with FY 2021-22 receiving FDI inflow of \$84.8 billion despite the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and geopolitical developments on investment sentiment.
- India is seen as an emerging manufacturing hub in global value chains, as a growing consumer market and as a hub for ongoing digital transformation.
- Over 60% of MNCs in the report stated improvement in the business environment in the last three years.
- According to the survey, top expectations from the government include enhanced effectiveness of the national single window for approval / clearances; greater tax certainty, and stronger contract enforcement mechanism, among other measures.

Section 45ZN of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Act, 1934

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) recently said that it would hold an additional Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting on November 3, 2022.

About:

- This meeting has been called as the RBI has failed to maintain the consumer price index (CPI) inflation target within the 2-6 per cent band for three consecutive quarters, or nine straight months — January to September 2022.
- This is the first time since the RBI adopted an inflation-targeting monetary policy regime in 2016 that an MPC meeting has been called under the provisions of Section 45ZN of the Act.

Section 45ZN of the RBI Act:

- This section says that in case the RBI fails to meet the inflation target, it has to present a report to the government explaining the reasons for the failure.
- In the report, the central bank will have to mention the remedial actions it proposes to take, and an estimated time within which the inflation target will be achieved following

the timely implementation of the proposed remedial actions.

- The report is required to be sent to the government within one month from the date on which the RBI failed to meet the inflation target.

Regulation 7 of the RBI MPC and Monetary Policy Process Regulations, 2016:

- It states that a separate meeting is required to be scheduled as part of the normal policy process to discuss and draft the report to be sent to the government.

Note

- Currently, the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meets six times in a financial year, which is every two months.
- The schedule of the MPC meetings for the entire financial year is announced in advance.



PROGRAMS AND YOJANAS

National Conference on Skilling in NTL for Girls 'Betian Bane Kushal'

- The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) is set to organize a National Conference on skilling in Non-traditional Livelihood (NTL) for girls.
- The program is named "Betian Bane Kushal", under the banner of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao on the occasion of the International Day of the Girl Child on 11th October 2022.

About



PM Kisan Samman Sammelan 2022

- The PM Kisan Samman Sammelan 2022 will be launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute in New Delhi.

About

- More than 13,500 farmers from all around the country and about 1,500 agri entrepreneurs are expected to attend the two-day event.

Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Urvarak Pariyojana

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Urvarak Pariyojana-One Nation One Fertiliser.
- Under the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Urvarak Pariyojana, companies must market all subsidized fertilizers under a single brand, 'Bharat'.

About One Nation One Fertiliser

- The One Nation One Fertiliser aims to give farmers quality crop nutrients at low costs under the 'One Nation, One Fertiliser'.
- The farmers will be introduced to nano urea to ease the farming process. Only one nano urea bottle can replace a sackful of urea.
- The scheme is introduced to prevent the Criss-cross movement of Fertilisers brand

reduce high freight subsidies.

- All subsidized soil nutrients including urea, di-ammonium phosphate (DAP), Muriate of Potash (MoP), and NPK will be marketed under the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Urvarak Pariyojana scheme and single brand 'Bharat'.

Prime Minister Launches the 1st Phase of "Rozgar Mela" to Provide Jobs to 10 lakh Youths in Central Government

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on October 22 launched the Rozgar Mela recruitment drive to hire 10 lakh personnel.
- In the first tranche, 75,000 new appointees will be given jobs.
- The new recruits, selected from across the country, will join 38 government ministries and departments.
- They will be appointed across various levels viz. Group A, Group B (Gazetted), Group B (Non-Gazetted) and Group C.

SAMRIDDI

- Delhi Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena has launched a one-time property tax amnesty scheme "SAMRIDDI 2022-23", which will provide a major relief to lakhs of residential and commercial property owners in the city.

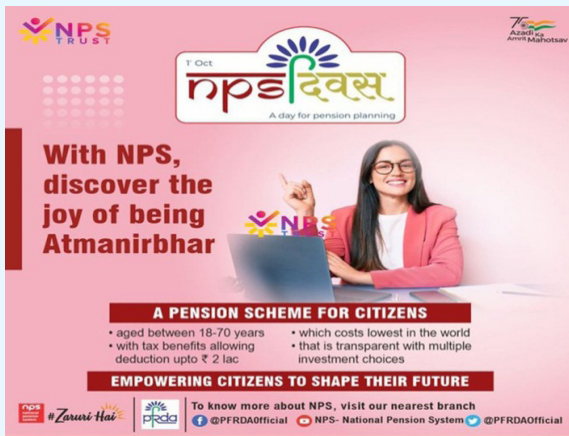
About

- SAMRIDDI, an acronym for Strengthening and Augmentation of Municipal Revenue for Infrastructure Development in Delhi, will start on October 26 and end on March 31, 2023, with no further extensions

National Pension System Diwas

Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority, PFRDA will observe 1st of October as the National Pension System Diwas (NPS Diwas).

About:



- It aims to promote pension and retirement planning among the citizens. PFRDA is organising this campaign under 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'.
- The pension regulator aims to encourage every citizen, whether working professionals or self-employed professionals, to plan towards creating a pension corpus to ensure a financially sound future after retirement.
- NPS subscribers will enjoy the benefits of tax deduction on contribution, power of compounding and reap the benefits of regular income after retirement.

Telecom Technology Development Fund scheme

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

About:

- Telecom Technology Development Fund (TTDF) aims to fund R&D in rural-specific communication technology applications and form synergies among academia, start-ups, research institutes, and the industry to build and develop the telecom ecosystem.
- Additionally, the Scheme aims to promote technology ownership and indigenous manufacturing, create a culture of technology co-innovation, reduce imports, boost export opportunities and creation of Intellectual Property.
- Under the scheme, USOF is also targeting to develop standards to meet countrywide requirements and create the ecosystem for research, design, prototyping, use cases, pilots, and proof of concept testing, among others.
- The scheme entails grants to Indian entities to encourage and induct indigenous technologies tailor-made to meet domestic needs.

YUVA (Young, Upcoming and Versatile Authors) 2.0 scheme

Prime Minister's Scheme for Mentoring Young Authors - YUVA 2.0 was launched recently.

About:



- It is a Prime Minister's scheme for mentoring young authors, and a programme to train young and budding authors below the age of 30 to promote reading, writing, and book culture in the country, and project India and Indian writings globally.
- The ministry of education (MoE) launched the YUVA 2.0 scheme in view of the significant impact of the first edition of the YUVA.
- The first edition witnessed a large-scale participation from young authors in 22 different Indian languages including English.
- It is in tune with the Prime Minister's vision to encourage the youth to understand and appreciate India's democracy.
- It will help to develop a stream of writers who can write on a spectrum of subjects to promote the Indian heritage, culture, and knowledge system.
- The National Book Trust, India, as the implementing agency under MoE will ensure the phase-wise execution of the scheme under well-defined stages of mentorship.
- The young authors will be trained by eminent authors and mentors from 1st March to 31st August 2023.

Matadata Junction program



Election Commission to launch Matadata Junction on All India Radio.

About:

- It is a year-long voter awareness program.
- The Matadata Junction program will be broadcast in 23 languages across the country.
- The weekly program covers all aspects of the Voter ecosystem and shall be broadcast every Friday on the All India Radio network.
- Each Program will be based on a particular Theme on the Electoral process.
- All the 52 Themes are aimed at encouraging all eligible citizens and especially the young and first time voters to vote and make an informed decision during the elections.
- The program includes a Citizen's Corner where any citizen can ask a query or suggest any aspects of the voting.

National Means cum Merit Scholarship scheme

The last date for submission of application for 'National Means cum Merit Scholarship scheme for the year 2022-23 extended till 15th October, 2022'.

About:

- It is a Central Sector Scheme that was launched in 2008.
- Objective: Award scholarships to meritorious students of economically weaker sections to arrest their drop out at class VIII and encourage them to continue their education at secondary stage.
- Features: One lakh fresh scholarships are awarded to selected students of class IX every year and their continuation / renewal in classes X to XII for study in State Government, Government-aided and Local body schools under the scheme. The amount of scholarship is Rs. 12000/- per annum from 1st April 2017 (earlier it was Rs. 6000/- per annum).
- The Cabinet has approved continuation of the Scheme from FY 2021-22 to FY 2025-26 with total allocation of Rs.1827 crores.



Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Gramin)

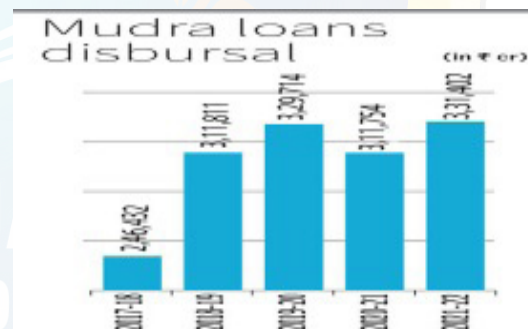
According to the government data, 69% houses under PMAY in rural India are owned by women.

About:

- Over 69% of houses constructed under the Prime Minister's special housing scheme are either wholly or jointly owned by women in rural areas.
- As on September 29, 2022, a total of two crore houses had been constructed out of the 2.46 crore houses that were sanctioned.
- The Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Gramin) was launched by the Prime Minister in 2016 with the aim of constructing 2.95 crore houses.
- Beneficiaries are identified using parameters from Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC) 2011 data and verified by Gram Sabhas.
- Concerned Ministry: Ministry of Rural Development.

Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY)

The disbursement of small business loans under Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) logged a record 30 per cent growth in the first half of the current fiscal ended September compared to the same period last year



About:

- It is a flagship scheme of the Ministry of Finance, Government of India, launched on 8th April, 2015.
- It is a Financial Inclusion (FI) programme in the country based on three pillars - Banking the Unbanked, Securing the Unsecured and Funding the Unfunded.

Types of loans:

- Shishu - Covering loans up to Rs 50,000;
- Kishor - Covering loans above Rs 50,000 and up to Rs 5 lakh;
- Tarun - Covering loans above Rs 5 lakh and up to Rs 10 lakh.

Eligibility:

- Any Indian Citizen who has a business plan for a non-farm sector income generating activities such as manufacturing,

processing, trading or service sector.

- They can avail from all Public Sector Banks, Regional Rural Banks and Cooperative Banks, Private Sector Banks, Foreign Banks, Micro Finance Institutions (MFI) and Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFC) up to Rs 10 lakhs Micro Units Development & Refinance Agency Ltd. (MUDRA) loans under PMMY.

Ayushman Bharat

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has shared a citizen's response to Ayushman Bharat Scheme highlighting the health insurance cover of 5 lakh rupees for all Indian citizens.

About:

- The Prime Minister remarked that the benefits of the scheme can be availed all over India.
- Ayushman Bharat is National Health Protection Scheme, which will cover over 10 crore poor and vulnerable families (providing coverage upto 5 lakh rupees per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization).
- Benefits of the scheme are portable across the country and a beneficiary covered under the scheme will be allowed to take cashless benefits from any public/private empanelled hospitals across the country.
- It will be an entitlement-based scheme with entitlement decided on the basis of deprivation criteria in the SECC database.
- States would need to have State Health Agency (SHA) to implement the scheme.

One District One Product scheme (ODOP)

PM Modi calls for giving boost to One District One Product scheme & further develop Aspirational Districts.



About:

- ODOP was launched by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries, to help districts reach their full potential, foster economic

and socio-cultural growth, and create employment opportunities, especially, in rural areas.

- This initiative is carried out with the 'Districts as Exports Hub' initiative by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), Department of Commerce.
- There may be more than one cluster of ODOP products in one district. The States would identify the food product for a district, keeping in perspective the focus of the scheme on perishables.
- The ODOP product could be a perishable Agri produce, cereal-based product, or a food product widely produced in a district and their allied sectors.
- The ODOP launch date is January 24, 2018, by the Uttar Pradesh Government, and due to its success, was later adopted by the Central Government.

Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP)

- Launched by the Hon'ble PM in January 2018, it aims to quickly and effectively transform 112 most under-developed districts across the country.
- The ranking is based on the incremental progress made across 49 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) under 5 broad socio-economic themes - Health & Nutrition, Education, Agriculture & Water Resources, Financial Inclusion & Skill Development and Infrastructure.

Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar

Last date for the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar extended to 31st October, 2022.

About:

- The National Child Award for Exceptional Achievement was instituted in 1996 to give recognition to children with exceptional abilities and outstanding achievements in the fields of innovation, scholastic achievements, social service, arts & culture and sports.
- A medal and a cash prize are given to each awardee.
- From the year 2018, the award has been renamed as the Bal Shakti Puraskar and achievements of children in the field of bravery are also acknowledged.
- It is administered by the Ministry of Women and Child Development.

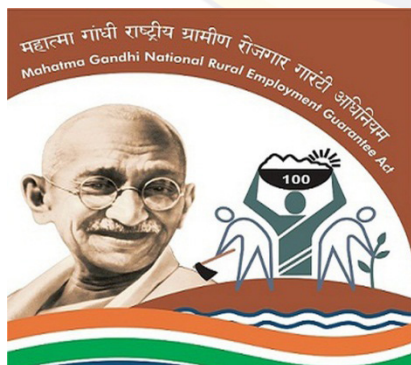
Credit Guarantee Scheme for Startups (CGSS)

The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry has notified the establishment of the Credit Guarantee Scheme for Startups (CGSS).

About:

- CGSS is aimed at providing credit guarantee up to a specified limit against loans extended by Member Institutions (MIs) to finance eligible borrowers viz. Startups. This scheme would help provide collateral-free debt funding to startups
- The credit guarantee cover under the Scheme would be transaction-based and umbrella based.
- In transaction-based guarantee cover, the guarantee cover is obtained by the MIs on single eligible borrower basis. It will promote lending by Banks/ NBFCs to eligible startups.
- The umbrella-based guarantee cover will provide guarantee to Venture Debt Funds (VDF) registered under AIF regulations of SEBI.
- The exposure to individual cases would be capped at Rs. 10 crore per case or the actual outstanding credit amount, whichever is less.
- DPIIT will be constituting a Management Committee (MC) and a Risk Evaluation Committee (REC) for reviewing, supervising and operational oversight of the Scheme.
- The National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company Limited (NCGTC) will be operating the Scheme.

National Mobile Monitoring System (NMMS)



The usage of the National Mobile Monitoring System (NMMS) is 50% or less in many states even after the Union government's order making it mandatory to record attendance of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS).

About:

- National Mobile Monitoring Software (NMMS) App was launched by the Minister of Rural Development on May, 21 2021.
- This app is aimed at bringing more transparency and ensure proper monitoring of the schemes.
- The NMMS App permits taking real time attendance of workers at Mahatma Gandhi NREGA worksites along with geo-tagged photograph.
- The app helps in increasing citizen oversight of the programme.
- The National Mobile Monitoring App is applicable for the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA workers for all the States/ Union Territories.

Beti Bachao Beti Padhao

Union Minister Smriti Irani recently released an operations manual of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao.

About:

- The Central government recently announced the inclusion of skilling of girls in non-traditional livelihood (NTL) options in Beti Bachao Beti Padhao programme.
- The scheme will now also focus on increasing the enrolment of girls in secondary education, particularly in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) subjects.
- A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Ministries of Women and Child Development, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, and Minority Affairs.
- It emphasises convergence between Ministries and Departments to ensure adolescents complete their education, build skills, and enter the workforce in a diverse range of professions, including in STEM fields.
- A national committee headed by the Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development will be the apex committee to review the implementation of the scheme at regular intervals with State governments and Union Territory administrations.



Pradhan Mantri National Apprenticeship Mela

Central Government to organise PM-National Apprenticeship Melas on October 10.

About:

- It is being organised by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, as part of the Skill India Mission to boost career opportunities and practical training among the youth.
- Every month, the apprenticeship mela will be hosted wherein selected individuals will receive a monthly stipend in accordance with government criteria for gaining new skill.
- To be eligible to apply, the students must have a 5th-12th grade pass certificate, a skill training certificate, an ITI Diploma, or a graduate degree to participate.
- Candidates will also earn National Council for Vocational Education and Training (NCVT)-recognized certifications, improving their employability after the training.

National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS):

- The National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS), launched in 2016, aims to promote apprenticeship training in the country by providing stipend support to the apprentices, undertake capacity building of the apprenticeship ecosystem and provide advocacy assistance to support rapid growth.

Objectives:

- To develop skilled manpower for the industry by promotion of on-the-job experiential training.
- To encourage establishments to enrol apprentices by sharing partial stipend support to the apprentices.
- To provide up-skilling opportunities for candidates who have undergone short-term skill training.
- To encourage enrolment of apprentices in small establishments (MSMEs), and those located in under served areas like in aspirational districts and in North-East region.

Suposhit Bharat initiative

According to the Ministry of Women and Child Development, more than 15 crore activities were conducted on various themes across the country during the 5th Rashtriya Poshan Maah from 1st to 30th of September contributing to the Prime

Minister's vision for a Suposhit Bharat.

About:

- Through the Suposhit Bharat initiative, the government intend to conceptualize, develop, pilot and scale up food-based nutrition interventions through food services at institutional food services' level, and street foods, school & college canteens.
- This will therapeutically address malnutrition and non-communicable diseases in the general population.
- POSHAN Abhiyaan is a multi-ministerial convergence mission with the vision to ensure attainment of malnutrition free India.
- POSHAN Abhiyaan provides a platform to converge the activities of various stakeholders towards attaining the goal of 'Suposhit Bharat'.

Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North East Region (PM-DevINE)

Union Cabinet recently approved a new Scheme "Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North East Region (PM-DevINE) for the remaining four years of the 15th Finance Commission from 2022-23 to 2025-26.



About:

- It is a Central Sector Scheme with 100% central funding.
- It will be implemented by Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER).
- It will have an outlay of Rs.6,600 crore for the four year period from 2022-23 to 2025-26.
- The infrastructure projects will be funded in line with the priorities laid down under the PM Gati Shakti program.
- The objectives of PM-DevINE are to:
- Fund infrastructure convergently, in the spirit of PM Gati Shakti;
- Support social development projects based on felt needs of the NER;
- Enable livelihood activities for youth and women;
- Fill the development gaps in various sectors.

PM GatiShakti

According to the Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and Textiles, the PM GatiShakti National Master Plan has the potential to save over Rs. 10 Lakh Crore annually by improving logistics efficiency.

About:

- The PM GatiShakti National Master Plan was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on October 13, 2021.
- It is a digital platform to bring 16 Ministries including Railways and Roadways together for integrated planning and coordinated implementation of infrastructure connectivity projects.
- It will facilitate the last mile connectivity of infrastructure and reduce logistics costs.
- It will incorporate the infrastructure schemes of various Ministries and State Governments like Bharatmala, Sagarmala, inland waterways, dry/land ports, UDAN etc.
- Economic Zones like textile clusters, pharmaceutical clusters, defence corridors, electronic parks, industrial corridors, fishing clusters, agri zones will be covered to improve connectivity & make Indian businesses more competitive.

National Conference on Tourist Police Scheme

Union Ministry of Tourism in co-ordination with Ministry of Home Affairs and the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) is organising the national conference of director generals/inspector generals of police department of all states and Union territories “in connection with implementation of uniform Tourist Police Scheme at pan India level.

About:

- The agenda of the Conference is implementation of uniform Tourist Police Scheme at pan-India level for developing the tourist specific policing.
- It also aim to provide safer ecosystem to the foreign and domestic tourists in and around tourist destinations.

Tourist Police Scheme:

- Under the scheme, a pool of trained policemen would be made available to render policing service to the tourists and would control the crimes at the places of tourist interest.
- The rules of the district police of the concerned state shall be applicable to the Tourist Police, unless the contrary appears

from the content or from rules in this scheme.

- Tourist Police Station will work under the jurisdiction of district police (Superintendent of Police) for all policing purpose.

Tribal Youth exchange Programme

Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in collaboration with Ministry of Home Affairs recently organised 14th Tribal Youth Exchange Programme for the development of Tribal Youth in New Delhi.

About:

- Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan has been organizing Tribal Youth Exchange Programme since 2006 for the development and main streaming of Tribal Youth in collaboration and financial support from Department of Left Wing Extremism (LWE), Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India.
- During this financial year 2022-23, 26 Tribal Youth Exchange Programmes are being organized by NYKS across the country.
- The aim of this programme is to sensitize LWE Tribal Youth to Rich Cultural Heritage of India.
- It also aims to enable them to appreciate the concept of unity in diversity, expose them to development activities and industrial advancement and at help the tribal youth to develop emotional linkages with their peer groups in other part of the country and enhance their self-esteem.

People's Plan Campaign-2022

Ministry of Panchayati Raj is organising a two-day National Training Workshop on People's Plan Campaign-2022 during 19th – 20th October, 2022 in New Delhi.

About:

- Ministry of Panchayati Raj organises People's Plan Campaign (PPC) every year (Sabki Yojana Sabka Vikas) from 2nd October to 31st December.
- This year also PPC-2022 was launched on 2nd October, 2022 to prepare District/ Block/ Gram Panchayat Development Plans for the year 2023-2024.
- The Ministry of Panchayati Raj has evolved thematic approach aggregating 17 Sustainable goals into 9 broad themes of Localised Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs) at grassroots level.
- In this PPC 2022, Panchayats will prepare

Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) on these 9 themes by adopting Whole-of- Government and Whole-of-Society approach.

- The Panchayat Development Plan aims to strengthen the role of elected representatives of Panchayats and SHG Women under DAY-NRLM in effective Gram Sabha.
- The Ministry's Plan document terms GPDP as a catalyst for transforming rural India and describes it as a comprehensive participatory process which involves full convergence with schemes of all related Central Ministries, line departments related to 29 subjects listed in the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution.

Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM):

- DAY-NRLM aims at mobilizing rural poor households into Self Help Groups (SHGs) in a phased manner and provide them long-term support to diversify their livelihoods, improve their incomes and quality of life.
- Most of Mission's interventions are being implemented and scaled up by the SHG women themselves who are trained as community resource persons (CRPs) – Krishi Sakhis, Pashu Sakhis, Bank Sakhis, Bima Sakhis, Banking Correspondent Sakhis etc.
- The Mission is also working on empowering the SHG women through awareness generation and behaviour change communication on issues like domestic violence, women's education and other gender related concerns, nutrition, sanitation, health etc.

Swadesh Darshan Scheme

The Union Government to launch Swadesh Darshan 2 with chosen destinations from 15 States.

About:

- Fifteen States are part of the first phase which include Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, and Maharashtra.
- The initiative is being taken as part of the first phase of the 'Swadesh Darshan 2'.
- Some of the prominent places identified are Jhansi and Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh, Gwalior, Chitrakoot and Khajuraho in Madhya Pradesh and Ajanta and Ellora in Maharashtra.
- It is promoted as part of India's new domestic tourism policy which moves away from theme-based tourist circuits and focuses on revving up destination tourism.

Swadesh Darshan Scheme:

- The Swadesh Darshan Scheme was launched by the Centre in 2014-15 for the integrated development of theme-based tourist circuits.
- Under the scheme, the Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance to State governments, Union Territory Administrations or Central Agencies for development of tourism infrastructure in the country.
- The Swadesh Darshan scheme is 100% centrally funded.

Tourism Sector:

- According to the third Tourism Satellite Account for 2017-18, 2018-19, and 2019-20, the contribution of tourism to the employment of the country is 14.78%, 14.87 % and 15.34 % respectively.
- The total jobs generated by the by tourism are 72.69 million (2017-18), 75.85 million (2018-19) and 79.86 million (2019-20).

Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP)

According to the Union Health Minister Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana has significantly reduced patients' out-of-pocket expenditure.

About:

- Objective:
- To make available quality medicines, consumables and surgical items at affordable prices for all and reduce out of pocket expenditure of consumers/patients.
- To popularize generic medicines among the masses and eliminate the notion that low priced generic medicines are of inferior quality or are less effective.
- Generate employment by engaging individual entrepreneurs in the opening of Janaushadhi Kendras.

Implementing Agency:

- Pharmaceuticals & Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI) is the implementing agency of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP).
- PMBI was established in December, 2008 under the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Government of India.

History:

- Jan Aushadhi Scheme was launched by the Department of Pharmaceuticals in 2008 across the country.
- In 2015, the Jan Aushadhi Scheme was revamped as Pradhan Mantri Jan Aushadhi

Yojana (PMJAY).

- In 2016, it was again renamed as Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP).



Nal Means cum Merit Scholarship Scheme (NMMSS)

Last date to submit applications for National Means cum Merit Scholarship Scheme (NMMSS) is 31st October, 2022 on National Scholarship Portal (NSP).

About:

- What it is? Under the Scheme, scholarships are awarded to meritorious students of economically weaker sections to arrest their drop out at class VIII and encourage them to continue their education at secondary stage.
- This is a 100% centrally sponsored scheme.
- NMMSS is boarded on the National Scholarship Portal (NSP) - a one stop platform for scholarship schemes given to students.
- Features:
- The scholarships are disbursed directly into the bank accounts of selected students by electronic transfer through Public Financial Management System (PFMS) following DBT mode.
- One lakh fresh scholarships are awarded to selected students from class IX every year and their continuation / renewal in classes X to XII for students studying in State Government, Government-aided and local body schools. The amount of scholarship is Rs. 12000/- per annum

Eligibility

- Students whose parental income from all sources is not more than Rs. 3,50,000/- per annum.
- The students must have minimum of 55% marks or equivalent grade in Class VII examination for appearing in the selection test for award of scholarship (relaxable by 5% for SC/ST students).

UDAN scheme

The Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) and the Airport Authority of India (AAI), recently signed an Operation and Management (O & M) agreement to facilitate commercial operations at Rourkela Airport under the RCS UDAN scheme.

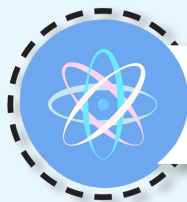
About:

Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)-UDAN

- UDAN (UdeDeshkaAamNaagrik) is a regional airport development and “Regional Connectivity Scheme” (RCS) of the Union Government.
- The scheme UDAN envisages providing connectivity to un-served and under-served airports of the country through revival of existing air-strips and airports.
- Implementing Ministry: Ministry of Civil Aviation
- This is first-of-its-kind scheme globally to create economically viable flights on regional routes so that flying becomes affordable to the common man even in small towns.
- It is a key component of the National Civil Aviation Policy (NCAP) which was released by the Ministry of Civil Aviation (India) in 2016.
- The scheme is jointly funded by the central government and state governments.

Two components of UDAN:

- Airports: The first component is to develop new airports and enhance the existing regional airports to increase the number of operational airports for scheduled civilian flights.
- Flight routes: The second component is to add several hundred financially-viable, capped-airfare, new regional flight routes to connect more than 100 under-served and un-served airports in smaller towns by using “Viability Gap Funding” (VGF) where needed.



SCIENCE AND TECH

Optimus robot

- Elon Musk unveils Optimus robot's prototype: Elon Musk, the CEO of Tesla, unveiled a model of the humanoid "Optimus" robot, which uses some of the same Artificial Intelligence (AI) software and sensors as the Autopilot driving assistance system in Tesla vehicles.
- At Tesla AI Day 2022, which was held to show off how far the company's research into autonomous robots and vehicles had progressed, Optimus was unveiled.

Indian Mars Orbiter Mission: Mangalyaan

- Mars Orbiter Mission: Mangalyaan, the Indian Mars Orbiter Craft runs out of fuel and battery after completing 8 years. Mangalyaan was a huge achievement for the Indian Space Research Organization.
- It helped to study the Martian landscape including surface geology, morphology, atmospheric processes, surface temperature, and atmospheric escape process.

About

- Mangalyaan used five major instruments to study geology and morphology. These five instruments included Mars Color Camera (MCC), Thermal Infrared Imaging Spectrometer (TIS), Methane Sensor for Mars (MSM), Mars Exospheric Neutral Competition Analyser (MENCA), and Lyman Alpha Photometer (LAP).

Mars Orbiter Mission: About

- The Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM) is also known as Mangalyaan. It was a space probe orbiting Mars on 24th September 2014.
- The Indian Space Research Organization launched the MOM on 5th November 2013.
- It is India's first interplanetary mission and the fourth space agency to achieve Mars orbit.
- India became the first Asian nation to reach Martian orbit and the first nation in the world to reach Mars on a Maiden attempt.

ISRO's Chandrayaan-2 spectrometer

- Chandrayaan-2 Orbiter's X-ray spectrometer 'CLASS' has mapped an

abundance of sodium on the moon for the first time, as per the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

- As Chandrayaan-1's X-ray Fluorescence Spectrometer (C1XS) detected sodium from its characteristic line in X-rays, this opened up the possibility of mapping the amount of sodium on the Moon.

PARAM KAMRUPA'

- President of India, Droupadi Murmu has inaugurated a supercomputer facility at the Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati and launched several other projects during her maiden visit to Assam since assuming office.
- This supercomputer facility called "Param-Kamrupa", the facility will be able to conduct advanced research in various scientific fields..

About the Param-Kamrupa:

- Param-Kamrupa is a state-of-the-art supercomputer set up under the National Supercomputing Mission (NSM). With this facility, IIT Guwahati will be able to carry out research on weather and climate, bioinformatics, computational chemistry, molecular dynamics, artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning, data science, etc.
- The SAMEER laboratory will be used design and development of high-power microwave passive and active components. This facility will provide a platform for scientists to carry out research and development activities in different areas of high-power microwave engineering.

Heaviest rocket of ISRO, LVM3 successfully places 36 satellites in orbit



- LVM3 successfully places 36 satellites in orbit: OneWeb's 36 satellites were successfully orbited by the biggest rocket ever launched by the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), the Launch Vehicle Mark 3 (LVM3 or GSLV Mark 3), which lifted off from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre SHAR, Sriharikota.
- With this 14th launch, OneWeb will have 462 satellites in its constellation.

WHO Releases First-Ever List of Fungal Infection, Flags Global Health Threat

- The World Health Organisation (WHO) released the first-ever list of fungal infections — “priority pathogens”.
- The fungal priority pathogens list (FPPL) includes 19 fungi that represent the greatest threat to human health.
- The UN body warned that some strains are increasingly drug-resistant and are growing at an alarming rate.

Zhurong rover

- China's Zhurong rover has peered under the surface of Mars and has found evidence of two huge floods that shaped the landscape.
- Since May 2021, Zhurong has been exploring Utopia Planitia, in Mars's northern hemisphere.
- Since then, the rover has been studying local geology, chemical composition of rocks, and local weather conditions using its six scientific instruments.
- Zhurong has already completed its primary mission of 90 sols. But the rover is continuing its way to the south of its landing site, collecting data as it goes.

Dengue

- Last week, a total of 412 Dengue cases were reported in the capital – more than twice the figure recorded last year in September with 217 cases
- Dengue is a mosquito-borne viral infection, found in tropical and sub-tropical climates worldwide, mostly in urban and semi-urban areas.
- Dengue infections are caused by four Antigenically distinct serotypes, DENV-1, DENV-2, DENV-3 & DENV-4. Dengue serotype 2 is considered the most virulent strain and may produce serious illness.
- A very typical feature of dengue infection is that till the patient is in the febrile phase (running fever) he/she doesn't develop serious complications usually.

Vyommitra



- ISRO's humanoid Vyommitra's skills get a lift-off with digital grey matter.
- 'Vyommitra', is a humanoid designed and developed by the ISRO to fly aboard unmanned test missions ahead of the Gaganyaan human space-flight mission, is undergoing pre-flight ground tests.

Next-Gen Launch Vehicle

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is developing a rocket named Next Generation Launch Vehicle (NGLV) to replace the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV).
- NGLV will feature semi-cryogenic propulsion (refined kerosene as fuel with liquid oxygen (LOX) as oxidiser) for the booster stages which is cheaper and efficient.
- According to ISRO the NGLV should be a cost-efficient, three-stage, reusable heavy-lift vehicle with a payload capability of 10 tonnes to Geostationary Transfer Orbit.
- NGLV will feature a simple, robust design which allows bulk manufacturing, modularity in systems, sub-systems and stages and minimal turnaround time.
- Potential uses will be in the areas of launching communication satellites, deep space missions, future human spaceflight and cargo missions.

PSLV (Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle):

- It is an indigenously-developed expendable launch system of the ISRO (Indian Space Research Organization). It was developed in the 1980s.
- It comes in the category of medium-lift launchers with a reach up to various orbits, including the Geo Synchronous Transfer Orbit, Lower Earth Orbit, and Polar Sun Synchronous Orbit.
- All the operations of PSLV are controlled from the Satish Dhawan Space Center,

Sriharikota, east coast, India.

- It has a four-stage system comprising a combination of solid and liquid-fuelled rocket stages.
 - The first stage at the very bottom is solid fuelled having six strap-on solid rocket boosters wrapped around it.
 - Second stage is liquid fuelled whereas the third stage has a solid fuelled rocket motor.
 - At the fourth stage, the launcher uses a liquid propellant to boost in the outer space.

Avian Influenza

- Viral TikTok star Emmanuel has reportedly fallen sick with avian influenza. It has been affecting poultry and wild birds in the US since January 2022.
- Avian influenza is a disease caused by an influenza A virus, affecting birds across many species.
- It can have significant consequences for the poultry industry, due to its potential impact on bird health, production and even international trade.
- Pathogenic means disease-causing, so if highly pathogenic avian influenza gets into a poultry farm, it can cause sudden and significant mortality.

Symptoms:

- Avian influenza infections in humans can cause a range of clinical symptoms, from mild upper respiratory symptoms to severe pneumonia.
- Some strains of avian influenza, such as highly pathogenic H5N1 and H7N9, can cause significant disease in humans, and in some instances even death.

Treatment:

- Recommended standard treatment for humans is with antiviral drugs, and will depend on individual circumstances and severity of the symptoms.

Classification of Influenza:

- The influenza virus, which causes illness, is classified by WHO into four types: A, B, C, and D.
- According to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), only the influenza A and B viruses are known to cause epidemics.
- The C type virus usually causes mild respiratory illness, while the D type virus typically affects cattle and is not known to infect humans.

- Only the influenza A virus is divided into subtypes and the subtype is based on two proteins on the surface of the virus, hemagglutinin (H) and neuraminidase (N).

Impact of influenza:

- Humans can be infected with avian, swine and other zoonotic influenza viruses, such as
- Avian influenza virus subtypes A (H5N1), A (H7N9), and A (H9N2)
- Swine influenza virus subtypes A (H1N1), A (H1N2) and A (H3N2)
- According to the WHO, influenza is known to affect 5-10% of adults and 20-30% of children across the world every year.

Neanderthals



- Nobel laureate Svante Paabo and his team have recently published one of the biggest genetic studies yet of Neanderthals, providing clues about their community life and structure.
- Neanderthals are a hominin species that existed for at least 200,000 years throughout Europe and western Asia, and disappeared about 27,000 years ago.
- During this time, they witnessed some of the coldest climatic conditions ever known in these regions.
- Many of their physical features suggest that they were adapted for the cold, such as their barrel-shaped chests, shorter limbs, and larger brains, all of which suggest a body shape adapted for retaining heat.
- Their face was also distinctive. The central part of the face protruded forward and was dominated by a very big, wide nose.
- They excelled at hunting animals and making complex stone tools
- They were first discovered in 1856.
- Many Europeans and Asians have between 1 per cent and 4 per cent Neanderthal DNA while African people south of the Sahara have almost zero.

Myositis

- It is a rare condition that causes muscles to become weak, painful and tired. Myo means muscle, itis means inflammation. When muscles are inflamed, they may be swollen and susceptible to pain.
- Causes: It is usually caused by a problem with the immune system, where it mistakenly attacks healthy tissue. In most cases, the exact cause of myositis is unknown and therefore considered idiopathic.
- Prevalence: Around 4-22 cases per one lakh population. Myositis can affect both children and adults. With the exception of one type of myositis, women are more likely to be affected by this disease than men.

Types of myositis:

- Dermatomyositis
- Inclusion-body myositis
- Juvenile myositis
- Polymyositis
- Toxic myositis

Symptoms

- The general symptoms may include muscle pain and soreness, fatigue, trouble swallowing, and difficulty breathing.

Treatment:

- Since there is no one medical treatment that fits all, immunosuppressant drugs are recommended along with physical therapy, exercise, stretching, and yoga which can help keep muscles strong and flexible and prevent muscle atrophy.

GM mustard

- Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) recently approved commercial cultivation of genetically modified mustard variety DMH (Dhara Mustard Hybrid)-1
- The approval will make GM mustard only the second approved transgenic crop in India after Bt cotton, and the first such food crop that can be commercially cultivated by farmers. The GEAC approval is valid for the next four years.

Hybrid mustard

- Hybridisation involves crossing two genetically dissimilar plant varieties that can even be from the same species. The first-generation (F1) offspring from such crosses tend to have higher yields than what either parent can individually give.
- Scientists at Delhi University's Centre for Genetic Manipulation of Crop Plants (CGMCP) have developed the hybrid

mustard DMH-11 containing two alien genes isolated from a soil bacterium called *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens*.

The Navigation with Indian Constellation (NaVIC)

- India plans to expand its regional satellite navigation system NaVIC in a bid to increase its use in the civilian sector and also by ships and aircraft travelling far from the country's borders.
- NaVIC or the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS) uses seven satellites to provide real-time positioning and timing services in India and an area extending up to 1,500 km from the country's borders.
- Of the seven satellites used by NaVIC at present, three are in the geostationary orbit and four in the geosynchronous orbit.

Overhauser Magnetometer

- Indian scientists developed an indigenous Overhauser Magnetometer, one of the most accurate Magnetometers extensively used in all magnetic observatories around the world.
- The Overhauser Magnetometer will make way for reducing the cost of sampling, according to the Ministry of Science & Technology.
- The sensor installed at Alibag Magnetic Observatory (MO) can reduce dependence of India on commercial OVH Magnetometers for performing geomagnetic field measurements.

Tuberculosis (TB)

- Around 10.6 million people across the world were diagnosed with tuberculosis (TB) in 2021, an increase of 4.5% from 2020, while 1.6 million patients died of the bacterial disease, according to the World Health Organization's 2022 Global TB report
- With 28% cases, India was among the eight countries accounting for more than two-third (or 68.3%) of the total TB patients' count.
- The burden of drug-resistant TB (DR-TB) also increased by 3% globally between 2020 and 2021.
- India was among the three countries — others being Indonesia and the Philippines — that accounted for most of the reduction

in 2020 (67% of the global total).

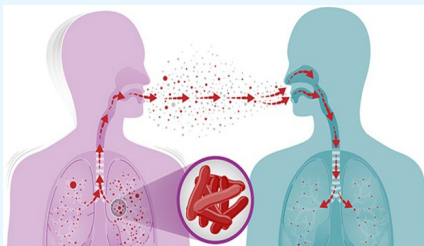
- They made partial recoveries in 2021, but still accounted for 60% of the global reduction compared with 2019, according to the report.

Tuberculosis (TB):

- Tuberculosis (TB) is caused by bacteria (*Mycobacterium tuberculosis*) that most often affect the lungs.
- It is curable and preventable disease.
- Two kinds of tuberculosis infection:
- Latent TB- The bacteria remain in the body in an inactive state. They cause no symptoms and are not contagious, but they can become active.
- Active TB - The bacteria do cause symptoms and can be transmitted to others.
- About one-quarter of the world's population has latent TB.
- People infected with TB bacteria have a 5–15% lifetime risk of falling ill with TB.
- However, persons with compromised immune systems, such as people living with HIV, malnutrition or diabetes, or people who use tobacco, have a much higher risk of falling ill.
- Transmission:
- TB is spread from person to person through the air.
- When people with lung TB cough, sneeze or spit, they propel the TB germs into the air.
- Even after inhaling a few drops of these germ, a person can get infected.

Multidrug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB)

- Drug resistance emerges when anti-TB medicines are used inappropriately, through incorrect prescription by health care providers, poor quality drugs, and patients stopping treatment prematurely.
- Multidrug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB) is a form of TB caused by bacteria that do not respond to first-line anti-TB drugs.
- MDR-TB is treatable and curable by using second-line drugs.



Salmonella typhimurium DT104

- According to a recent study published in the Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy, the emergence of multi-drug resistant *Salmonella typhimurium* DT104 that causes

infections in humans and cattle.

- The rapid and unselective use of traditional antibiotics gives rise to the emergence of drug resistant phenotype in typhoidal and non-typhoidal *Salmonella* serovars.

Salmonella infection:

- It is a disease caused by the bacteria *Salmonella*.
- *Salmonella Typhimurium* and *salmonella typhi* are two types of *salmonella* bacteria.
- It is usually characterized by acute onset of fever, abdominal pain, diarrhoea, nausea and sometimes vomiting.
- *Salmonella* is 1 of 4 key global causes of diarrhoeal diseases.

Sandalwood Spike Disease (SSD)

- Sandalwood spike disease (SSD) has recently started spreading to private fields where the cultivation of sandalwood has been taken up on a commercial basis
- It is caused by phytoplasma — bacterial parasites of plant tissues — which are transmitted by insect vectors.
- The disease was first reported in Kodagu in 1899.
- It is being classified as “vulnerable” by the International Union for Conservation of Nature in 1998.

Agni Prime

The Agni Prime new generation ballistic missile was successfully test fired off the coast of Odisha.

About:

- The ‘Agni Prime’ is a two-stage canisterised solid-propellant missile with dual redundant navigation and guidance system.
- The nuclear-capable missile has been designed and developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- The surface-to-surface ballistic missile has a range of 1000 to 2000 km.
- The Agni Prime missile, the smallest and lightest among the entire Agni series of ballistic missiles.
- It weighs 50 per cent less than the Agni 3 missile and has new guidance and propulsion systems.
- In addition, since it is canisterised, it can be launched from rail or road, be stored for longer periods and can be transported as per operational requirements.

List of Agni missiles:

- Agni-I
- The Agni-I is a short to medium-range

- ballistic missile.
- Range: 700-800 Km
Agni-II
- The Agni-II is a medium-range ballistic missile equipped with two solid fuel stages.
- Range: 2000 Km
Agni-III
- The Agni-III is an intermediate-range ballistic missile equipped with two solid fuel stages.
- Range: 3000 Km
Agni-IV
- The Agni-IV is an intermediate-range ballistic missile equipped with two solid fuel stages.
- Range: 4000 Km
Agni-V
- The Agni-V is an intercontinental range ballistic missile with three solid fuel stages.
- Range: 5000 Km

Red Mud

CSIR- Advanced Materials and Processes Research Institute (AMPRI) has recently converted red mud into X-ray shielding tiles.

About:

- It has converted red mud into X-ray shielding tiles in a green and economically viable manner through a ceramic route by adding a certain weight percentage of high Z material and binder with it.
- These tiles can be used to build radiation shielding structures in diagnostic X-rays, CT scanner rooms, Cath labs, bone mineral density, dental X-rays, etc., instead of the toxic lead sheet to protect the public from radiation hazards.

Red Mud:

- Red Mud is the waste generated in the Bayer process of alumina production from bauxite.
- It is also known as bauxite residue.
- Red Mud is defined as a “High Volume Low Effect Waste”.
- It is considered to be toxic due to its extreme alkalinity and heavy element leaching.
- Annually about 175 million tonnes of red mud have been generated globally and stored in a specially designed clay-lined pond.
- Red mud is one of the underutilized industrial wastes and getting accumulated over the years due to an increase in alumina production as well as inadequate technologies for its large-scale utilization.
- The red mud contains 30 – 55% of Fe_2O_3 , which is suitable for attenuating high-energy ionizing radiations like X- and gamma rays.



ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Durgavati Tiger Reserve

- The Durgavati Tiger Reserve is a 2,339 square kilometers new tiger reserve that will spread across Narsinghpur, Damoh, and Sagar districts.
- Madhya Pradesh Wildlife Board has approved the making of a new tiger reserve of Panna Tiger Reserve (PTP), one-fourth of which will get submerged due to the Linkin of the Ken-Betwa rivers.

About

- The new tiger reserve will be known as Durgavati Tiger Reserve and it will spread across Narsinghpur, Damoh, and Sagar districts.
- A green corridor linking PTR with Durgavati will be developed for the natural movement of the tiger to the new reserve.

UNESCO: Mawmluh Cave in Meghalaya first Indian Geoheritage Site



- The International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS), one of the largest scientific organisations of UNESCO, has recognised the Mawmluh Cave, located in the East Khasi Hills district of Meghalaya, as one of the first 100 IUGS geological heritage sites.
- The full list will be presented at the IUGS's 60th-anniversary event, which will take place in Zumaia, Spain.

Blue Beaches

- Two more Indian beaches have made it to the list of Blue Beaches.
- Minicoy, Thundi Beach and Kadmat Beach, in Lakshadweep are the proud entrants in

the coveted list of Blue Beaches, an eco-label given to the cleanest beaches in the world.

- Now the tally of total blue flag-endorsed beaches in India stands at 12.

Blue Beaches: Thundi and Kadmat beaches

- Thundi Beach is one of the most scenic beaches in the Lakshadweep archipelago with hues of white sand mixed with turquoise & blue shade water by the lagoon, a paradise for swimmers and tourists.
- While the Kadmat Beach is popular with cruise tourists who visit the island for water sports. It is a paradise for nature lovers with its pearl white sand, blue lagoon waters, its moderate climate and friendly locals.

The other Indian beaches in the blue list are

- Kappad: Kerala,
- Shivrajpur: Gujarat,
- Ghoghla: Diu,
- Kasarkod and Padubidri: Karnataka,
- Rushikonda: Andhra Pradesh,
- Golden: Odisha,
- Radhanagar: Andaman and Nicobar,
- Eden in Puducherry and
- Kovalam in Tamil Nadu.

Blue Flag Tag

- The Blue Flag tag certification or tag is one of the world's most prominent voluntary eco-labels for beaches, marinas, and sustainable boating tourism operators.
- In order to qualify for the Blue Flag Tag, a series of stringent environmental, educational, safety, and accessibility criteria must be met and maintained.
- The Denmark-based non-profit Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) awards the certification.
- It is awarded annually to beaches and marinas. Presently, there are 48 countries currently participating in the program.

India's Per Capita Greenhouse Gas Emissions Below World Average: UNEP

- At 2.4 tCO₂e (tonne carbon dioxide equivalent), India's per capita greenhouse gas emissions were far below the world average of 6.3 tCO₂e in 2020, according to a new report released by the United Nations Environment Programme October 27.

- The “Emissions Gap Report 2022: The Closing Window”, released ahead of the UN Climate Change conference (COP27) in Egypt next month, also said the international community is still falling far short of the Paris goals, with no credible pathway to limiting global temperature rise to 1.5 degree Celsius in place.
- To address climate change, countries adopted the Paris Agreement in 2015 to limit global temperature rise in this century to well below 2 degrees Celsius, preferably to 1.5 degrees Celsius, compared to pre-industrial levels.

Terai Elephant Reserve

- The Centre has approved the setting up of the Terai Elephant Reserve (TER) at Dudhwa-Pilibhit in Uttar Pradesh.
- The Terai Elephant Reserve is the 3rd Elephant Reserve in India which is spread over 3,049 sq km.
- The Terai Elephant Reserve includes protected areas, forest areas, and corridors for the conservation of wild elephants.
- The Terai Elephant Reserve will be developed in the joint forest areas of Dudhwa and Pilibhit tiger reserve.
- This will cover the conservation of four wild species including tiger, Asian elephant, swamp deer, and one-horned rhinoceros.

Snow Leopard

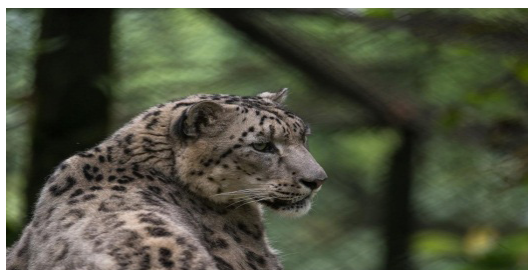
Wildlife officials in Arunachal Pradesh await results of a survey to ascertain the presence of the elusive snow leopard in the Namdapha National Park and Tiger Reserve

About:

- The snow leopard has never been spotted nor recorded in the Namdapha National Park and Tiger Reserve in Changlang district of Arunachal Pradesh.
- The belief that the national park is also the habitat of the snow leopard is based on the claim of a hunter from the Lisu ethnic community that he possessed the skin of the snow leopard.

Snow leopards:

- Snow leopards are native to the alpine regions of Central Asia.



The 12 snow-leopard range countries are – Afghanistan, Bhutan, China, India, Mongolia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal, Tajikistan, Pakistan, Russia and Uzbekistan.

- In India, snow leopards inhabit the higher Himalayan and trans-Himalayan region at an altitude between 3,000-5,400 metres.
- Snow leopard states are Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, and Arunachal Pradesh.

Conservation:

- It is listed as ‘Vulnerable’ on the IUCN red list of threatened species.
- It is protected under Schedule I of Wildlife Protection Act, 1972
- Also, it is listed on Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES).

Slender Loris

India’s first ever sanctuary for the endangered Slender Loris will be set up in Karur & Dindigul districts of Tamil Nadu.



About:

- The state government notified ‘Kadavur slender loris sanctuary’ under Section 26 (A)(1)(b) of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

Slender Loris:

- Slender Loris is a small nocturnal mammal that spends most of its life on trees.
- They are native to India and Sri Lanka and are also amongst the world’s top 25 endangered primates.
- They are listed under endangered species as per the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).
- They are also protected under Schedule 1 of the Indian legislation of the Wildlife (Protection) Act (WPA), 1972.
- They act as biological predators of pests that harm agricultural crops and help farmers.

- As per reports, there are 14,000 Slender Loris in the Dindigul and Karur forests in Tamil Nadu.

Eco-Sensitive Zones

Supreme Court recently indicated it may consider taking up Kerala's review of the Supreme Court's judgment to have a one-km eco-sensitive zone ringing protected forests, national parks and wildlife sanctuaries.

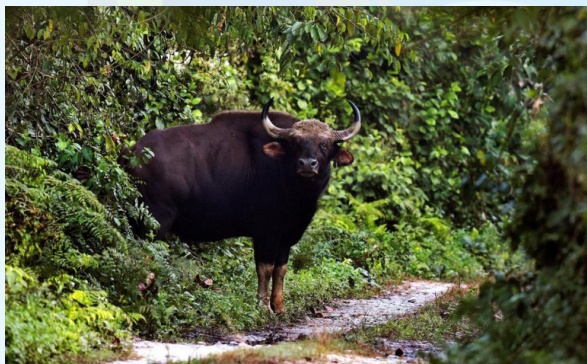
About:

- Land within 10 km of the boundaries of national parks and wildlife sanctuaries are to be notified as eco-fragile zones or Eco-Sensitive Zones (ESZ).
- While the 10-km rule is implemented as a general principle, the extent of its application can vary.
- Areas beyond 10-km can also be notified by the Union government as ESZs, if they hold larger ecologically important "sensitive corridors".

Indian Bisons

Sri Lanka recently asks India to translocate 6 Indian bisons or gaurs to reintroduce them in the island after three centuries.

About:



- Indian Bisons are one of the largest extant bovines. It is one of the largest species among the wild cattle, reaching a shoulder height of up to 220 cm.

Habitat:

- They are found on the forested hills and grassy areas of south to south east Asia.
- Distribution:
- There are about 13,000 to 30,000 gaurs in the world with approximately 85% of the population present in India. It is also found in Burma and Thailand.
- The Western Ghats in southern India constitute one of the most extensive extant strongholds of gaur, in particular in the Wayanad – Nagarhole – Mudumalai – Bandipur complex.

- The first-ever population estimation exercise of the Indian gaur carried out in the Nilgiris Forest Division in February 2020 estimated around 2,000 Indian gaurs to be inhabiting the division.
- The gaur is the State Animal of Goa and Bihar.

Conservation:

- It is a protected species and included in Schedule I of the Wild Life Protection Act, 1972
- Listed as "vulnerable" in the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List.
- It is listed in CITES Appendix I.

Wildlife or Zoological Diplomacy

- It means the translocation and reintroduction of a species, particularly between neighbouring countries with similar eco-systems. It is considered as a potent tool in engaging different nations.

Examples:

- Recently India translocated cheetahs from Namibia.
- American bison herds were supplemented with animals from Canada after the U.S. herds were almost all wiped out.
- The U.K. has recently introduced the European bison (Wisent) after an estimated 10,000 years in June 2022.
- Israel has for decades pursued reintroductions, including of Persian fallow deer. Arabian oryx and other species have been released into the Negev desert.
- South Africa has recently used the export of cheetahs to other African countries as a diplomatic tool during the post-apartheid era.

Secure Himalaya' project

The Union Environment ministry in association with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has been implementing 'Secure Himalaya' project to conserve the habitats of snow leopards

About:

- The 'Secure Himalaya' project is funded by the Global Environment Facility.
- It supports the government's efforts for conservation of snow leopard and its habitat by developing and implementing a landscape-based approach for Himalayan ecosystems, and addresses key issues of habitat degradation, threatened livelihoods and illegal trade in wildlife.
- It was launched in 2017.

Project Landscapes:

- Changthang, Ladakh Landscape, Jammu & Kashmir
- Lahaul-Pangi and Kinnaur Landscapes,
- Gangotri-Govind and Darma-Byans Landscapes,
- Khangchendzonga-upper Teesta Valley.

Spider Species

Arachnologists from the Centre for Animal Taxonomy and Ecology (CATE), Christ College, Irinjalakuda in Kerala have recently discovered six new species of spiders from across the country

About:

- The new species of spiders were found from the Garo hills in Meghalaya, the Thar desert of Rajasthan, Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary, Kottappara hills near Kothamangalam, Thumboormuzhi butterfly garden near Athirappilly, and the University of Calicut campus.

Soil Carbon Stability

A study carried out by researchers at the Centre for Ecological Sciences (CES) and the Divecha Centre for Climate Change (DCCC), IISc, has revealed that grazing animals hold the key to long-term soil carbon stability.

About:

- The 16-year-long study carried out by CES and DCCC researchers states that large mammalian herbivores like the Yak and Ibex play a crucial role in stabilising the pool of soil carbon in grazing ecosystems such as the Spiti region in the Himalayas.
- Experimental removal of grazing by herbivores from such ecosystems was found to increase the fluctuations in the level of soil carbon, which can have negative consequences for the global carbon cycle.
- According to the study, since soil contains more carbon than all plants and the atmosphere combined, it is important to ensure its persistence.
- When plants and animals die, dead organic matter remains in the soil for a long duration before microbes break it down and release carbon into the atmosphere as carbon dioxide.
- “The soil pool is a reliable sink for trapping carbon. Maintaining stable levels of carbon in the soil is therefore key to offsetting the effects of climate change”.
- A key factor underlying the carbon level fluctuations was nitrogen.
- Depending on the soil conditions, nitrogen

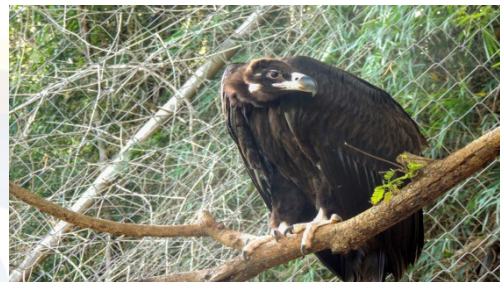
can either stabilise or destabilise the carbon pool.

- Grazing by herbivores, however, changes their interactions in ways that tip the balance in favour of the former.

Vultures

Tamil Nadu recently launched mission to save critically endangered vultures.

About:



Tamil Nadu- State level committee:

- The committee, which has a two-year tenure, will take steps for monitoring the conservation and recovery of existing vulture sites and mapping of vulture populations across the State for creating safe zones.
- It will work to eliminate the use of toxic veterinary drugs (Diclofenac), the main reason for vulture fatalities.
- Prevention of poisoning of cattle carcasses, the principal food of vultures, is also one of the responsibilities of the newly formed committee.

In Tamil Nadu, four species of vultures are found —

- the Oriental white-backed vulture,
- the long-billed vulture,
- the red-headed vulture, and
- the Egyptian vulture.
- The first three are residents and can be found in the landscapes of the Nilgiris and Sathyamangalam.
- There is evidence of Egyptian vulture breeding only at one site in Dharmapuri.

Vulture population:

- 96% of India's vulture population declined between 1993 and 2003.
- Therefore, the Central government put into place two action plans to protect the species at the national level — the first in 2006 and the second, ongoing plan for 2020-2025.

- One of the important action points in this nationwide plan is the formation of State-level committees to save the critically endangered population of vultures.

Vulture species in India:

- 9 species of vultures are found in India.
- Of these nine species, 4 are listed as Critically Endangered species of Vultures and one as endangered species in IUCN red list of endangered species.

Species of Vultures found in India and their Conservation Status:

- Indian Vulture or Long-billed vulture (*Gyps indicus*)-Critically Endangered
- Indian White-backed Vulture (*Gyps bengalensis*)-Critically Endangered
- Red-headed Vulture (*Sarcogyps calvus*)-Critically Endangered
- Slender-billed Vulture (*Gyps tenuirostris*)-Critically Endangered
- Egyptian Vulture (*Neophron percnopterus*)-Endangered
- Cinerous Vulture (*Aegypius monachus*)-Near Threatened
- Bearded Vulture (*Gypaetus barbatus*)-Near Threatened
- Himalayan Vulture (*Gyps himalayensis*)-Near Threatened
- Griffon Vulture (*Gyps fulvus*)-Least Concern

Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently launched Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment), in the presence of the UN Secretary General António Guterres, at the Statue of Unity, Ekta Nagar, Gujarat

About:



- It was first proposed by the Prime Minister at COP 26, Mission LiFE.
- It envisioned as an India-led global mass movement that will nudge individual and collective action to protect and preserve the environment.
- The global movement will showcase

sustainable goals and climate actions taken by countries and individuals around the world.

- It makes the fight against climate change democratic, in which everyone can contribute with their respective capacities.
- It emboldens the spirit of the P3 model, i.e. Pro Planet People.
- It functions on the basic principles of 'Lifestyle of the planet, for the planet and by the planet'.
- It aims at following a three-pronged strategy for changing people's collective approach towards sustainability.
- This includes nudging individuals to practice simple yet effective environment-friendly actions in their daily lives (demand), enabling industries and markets to respond swiftly to the changing demand (supply), and to influence government and industrial policy to support both sustainable consumption and production (policy).

Single Use Plastics

Nearly 46 tonnes of banned single-use plastic items seized recently during special drive.

About:

- In a bid to reduce plastic pollution, India from July 1, 2022 banned 19 SUP items.
- Plastic carry bags of thickness less than 75 microns are also prohibited under the Plastic Waste Management Rules. Their thickness will have to be increased to 120 microns from December 31, 2022.
- Plastic wrapping material less than 50 microns in thickness and plastic sachets used for selling and storing tobacco, pan masala and gutkha are also not allowed.

Single-use plastics:

- Single-use plastics, often also referred to as disposable plastics, are commonly used for plastic packaging and include items intended to be used only once before they are thrown away or recycled.
- Application: These include, among other items, grocery bags, food packaging, bottles, straws, containers, cups and cutlery
- Benefits: Single-use plastic bags are widely used because they are strong, cheap and hygienic ways to transport goods.
- Environmental impact: They can take up to thousands of years to decompose, contaminating soil and water, and posing significant ingestion, choking and entanglement hazards to wildlife on land and in the ocean.

September 2022 tied as Earth's 5th warmest on record

The US-based National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) confirmed that 2022 could feature among the 10 warmest years ever recorded on Earth.

About:

- According to NOAA latest report, this year's September was the fifth warmest in 143 years, with the recorded global average temperature rising by 0.88 degree Celsius over the 20th century average.
- September 2022 marked the 46th-consecutive September and the 453rd-consecutive month with temperatures above the 20th-century average.
- Higher than normal temperatures were recorded over Africa, north America, southern Asia, Atlantic, and northern South America regions.
- Near normal or cooler temperatures were recorded over Europe, northern Asia, most parts of India, and south-eastern Pacific Ocean.
- This was mainly due to above average rainfall over northern and southern Asia, Australia, central Europe, Caribbean islands and south-eastern US.
- In September 2022, the sea-ice extent coverage dropped to the eighth lowest ever.
- The Arctic sea ice now cover 5.95 lakh square miles below the 1981-2010 average, whereas the Antarctica sea ice is 1.90 lakh square miles below average.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA):

- The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is a U.S. government agency that was formed in 1970 as a combination of several different organizations.
- The purpose of NOAA is to study and report on the ocean, atmosphere, and coastal regions of Earth.

Great Indian Bustards (GIBs)

The recent sighting of three Great Indian Bustards (GIBs) deep in Pakistan's Cholistan desert has given rise to speculation that the endangered birds might have flown across the international border from India's Desert National Park (DNP).

About:



- The Great Indian Bustard, found mainly in the Indian subcontinent, is the flagship grassland species of India.
- It is one of the largest flying birds in the world, and India's heaviest flying bird.
- The male bird weighs upto 12-15 kg and female bird up to 5-8 kg.

Physical description:

- Black crown on the forehead contrasting with the pale neck and head.
- The body is brownish and the wings are marked with black, brown and grey.

Diet:

- They feed on grass seeds, insects like grasshoppers and beetles, and sometimes even small rodents and reptiles. The species primarily feed on meswak, sewan grass.
- Distribution:
- Its population of about 150 in Rajasthan accounts for 95% of its total world population.
- They are mainly in Jaisalmer district of Rajasthan, including the Desert National Park which is the natural habitat of the species.
- Grasslands of Kutch in Gujarat which is home to second-largest bustard population in India.
- Arid regions of Maharashtra (Solapur), Karnataka (Bellary and Haveri) and Andhra Pradesh (Kurnool)
- It is the State bird of Rajasthan.
- Conservation status:
- Listed in Schedule I of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972,
- Listed in Appendix I of CITES,
- Listed as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List.
- Breeding season:
- The breeding season spans from March to October.
- Captive breeding:
- The captive breeding of GIBs was taken up in the DNP through a project executed by the Dehradun-based Wildlife Institute of India in 2019.
- As many as 24 GIB chicks are being reared in DNP by a team supported by the International Fund for Houbara

Conservation of United Arab Emirates.

Threats:

- Occasional poaching outside Protected Areas,
- Habitat loss due to widespread agricultural expansion, infrastructural development such as irrigation, roads, electric poles, as well as mining and industrialization,
- Bustards, with their poor frontal vision and heavy bodies, have also died due to collision with high tension electric wires.

Jim Corbett National Park

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) recently told the forest officials of Uttarakhand that it would direct the Union government to form a committee to initiate an investigation into “illegal tree cutting” in Jim Corbett National Park.

About:

- The NGT’s move came after reports on the felling of trees in the Corbett Tiger Reserve (CTR).
- The report had quoted a Forest Survey of India (FSI) report stating that over 6,000 trees were illegally cut to pave the way for the Pakhro tiger safari project at the tiger reserve.

Jim Corbett National Park:

- Jim Corbett National Park is a part of the larger Corbett Tiger Reserve
- It is located in Nainital district of Uttarakhand.
- The park encompasses the Patli Dun valley formed by the Ramganga river.
- The national park was established in 1936 as Hailey National Park to protect the endangered Bengal tiger.
- It is named after Jim Corbett who played a key role in its establishment.
- Key facts:
- It is the oldest national park in India.
- It was the first area to come under the Project Tiger initiative in 1973.

Allmania multiflora

A new species of the genus *Allmania* has been recently identified on the granite hillocks of Palakkad, Kerala. The discovery has come 188 years after the genus and the first species were described by botanists.

About:

- It is named *Allmania multiflora*.
- The species is quite special from both the botanical and conservation points of view.
- *Allmania multiflora* is only the second

species of this genus identified so far anywhere.

- It is an annual herb that grows to a height of about 60 cm, erect, with branches arising from the base.
- The stem is red to violet at the base and green above.
- Found at heights ranging between 1,000 to 1,250 metres.
- Shorter tepals and wider gynoecium (parts of the flower), shorter bracts and in the diameter of the seeds are among the characteristics that distinguishes it from *Allmania nodiflora*.
- Flowering and fruiting occurs from May to September.
- *Allmania multiflora* has been so named for having a higher number of florets within an inflorescence.
- Given its small population, the researchers have assessed it as Critically Endangered, applying IUCN Red List criteria.

Kalanamak Rice

Indian Agriculture Research Institute has successfully tested two new dwarf varieties in Uttar Pradesh that give double the yield of traditional variety of Kalanamak rice.

About:

- Kalanamak is a traditional variety of paddy with black husk and strong fragrance.
- It is considered a gift from Lord Buddha to the people of Sravasti when he visited the region after enlightenment.
- Grown in 11 districts of the Terai region of north-eastern Uttar Pradesh and in Nepal, the traditional variety has been prone to ‘lodging’, a reason for its low yield.
- Its yield is barely two to 2.5 tonnes per hectare.

Lodging:

- Lodging is a condition in which the top of the plant becomes heavy because of grain formation, the stem becomes weak, and the plant falls on the ground.

Geographical Indication (GI) tag:

- The traditional Kalanamak rice is protected under the Geographical Indication (GI) tag system.
- It’s recorded in the GI application that Lord Buddha gifted Kalanamak paddy to the people of Sravasti so that they remembered him by its fragrance.

New varieties:

- Addressing the problem, the Indian Agriculture Research Institute (IARI) has successfully developed two dwarf varieties

of Kalanamak rice.



- They have been named
- Pusa Narendra Kalanamak 1638 and
- Pusa Narendra Kalanamak 1652.
- The IARI says the new name is in recognition of its association with the Acharya Narendra Dev University of Agriculture and Technology in Ayodhya, for testing the two varieties.
- The yield of the new varieties is double that of the traditional variety. The IARI and the Uttar Pradesh Council of Agriculture are working together to make the seeds available to farmers at the earliest.

Miyawaki Forest

Recently, The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi dedicated Maze Garden and Miyawaki Forest in Ekta Nagar, Gujarat.

About:

- The Miyawaki Forest is named after the technique developed by Japanese botanist Dr Akira Miyawaki to plant saplings of various species close to each other to develop a dense urban forest.
- Through the Miyawaki method, a forest can be developed in just two to three years while it takes at least 20 to 30 years through the traditional method.
- The growth of plants is ten times faster using this method and as a result, the forest developed is thirty times denser.
- The Miyawaki Forest will include a Native Floral Garden, Timber Garden, Fruit Garden, Medicinal Garden and a Digital Orientation Centre.
- Maze garden: Sprawling over three acres with a pathway of 2,100 metres, this is the largest maze garden in the country. It has been designed in the shape of a 'Shriyantra', which is believed to bring positive energy to the place.

Amur falcons

Amur falcons, the world's longest travelling raptors, began to arrive in Manipur's Tamenglong district as part of its annual routine migration

About:



Migration Journey:

- Locally known as Akhuipuina, the bird arrives mainly in Manipur and Nagaland on its southbound migration from breeding grounds in North China, Eastern Mongolia and far-east Russia en-route to its wintering grounds in South Africa.
- The one-way journey via India is about 20,000 km long and the birds do this twice a year.
- Conservation efforts:
- Amur falcon is protected under the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 and included under its Schedule IV.
- In 2018, the forest department started a conservation programme by radio-tagging the birds to study their migratory route.
- IUCN status is Least Concern.



REPORTS AND INDICES

Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra topped destinations for foreign tourists 2021

Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu had the highest numbers of foreign tourist visits, with 1.26 million and 1.23 million, respectively in 2021.

About

- As per a report by Union Tourism Ministry, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu had the highest numbers of foreign tourist visits, with 1.26 million and 1.23 million, respectively in 2021.
- The over 280-page report titled 'India Tourism Statistics 2022' was released by Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar on World Tourism Day at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi. India received 677.63 million domestic tourist visits in 2021, an increase of 11.05 per cent from 610.22 million in 2020, the report said.

China More Self-Reliant in Defence Production, Outranks India by Massive Margin

- India stands at fourth position among 12 countries of the Indo-Pacific in self-reliant defence production, says a study by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) that assessed self-reliance in arms production. China dominated the list leaving others behind by a long margin

Education 4.0 Report' 2022, released by the World Economic Forum (WEF)

- Titled Education 4.0 Report', the report explains how technology can address learning gaps and make education accessible to all.
- The information was published under Education 4.0 India initiative, launched in May 2020 and has convened over 40 partners from the education technology, government, academic and start-up communities.

CRII: India up six places for reducing inequality, ranks 123 globally

- According to the latest Commitment to Reducing Inequality Index (CRII), India has moved up six places to rank 123 out of 161 countries for reducing inequality.

- Norway leads the CRII followed by Germany and Australia.

Haryana topped the Public Affairs Index 2022 in big states

- Haryana has bagged the top position in the category of big states in the Public Affairs Index-2022.
- The state has emerged at the forefront in social, economic and political justice themes.
- It has topped among the major states with a score of 0.6948, followed by Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Chhattisgarh, Punjab and Karnataka among many other states.
- In PAI-2022, Sikkim has retained its position as the best-governed small state in India.
- The index, prepared by a Bengaluru-based non-profit think tank Public Affairs Centre (PAC), was released.
- In the report, economic justice was measured on indicators such as labour productivity, assurance of standard of living to wage workers, public expenditure on development, coverage of social safety net, and employment opportunities.

Times Higher Education Rankings 2023: IISc tops among Indian Universities

- Times Higher Education Rankings 2023 has been announced.
- This year, the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore has secured the top place among Indian universities.
- Five Indian universities made it into the world's top 500 varsities. IISc has been placed under the 251-300 bracket.
- The complete list of the top 10 Indian Universities is enlisted below.

India Lifted 415 Million out of Poverty in 15 Years: UN

- The number of people living below the poverty line in India decreased by 415 million between 2005-06 and 2019-21, according to a new Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) released jointly by the United Nations Development Programme

(UNDP) and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) at the University of Oxford.

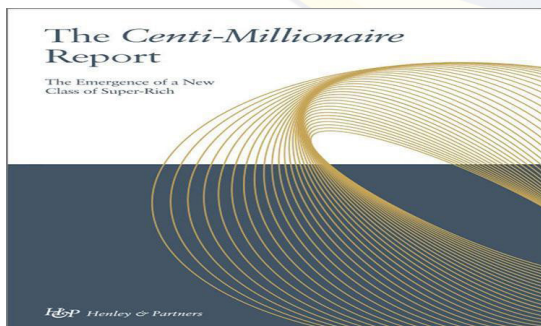
- The index has stated that India still has the world's highest number of poor at 228.9 million, followed by Nigeria (96.7 million projected in 2020).
- The report found that across 111 countries which were assessed using the most recent comparable data available, 1.2 billion people (19.1 per cent) live in acute poverty and almost half of these people (593 million) are children under the age of 18 years.
- The developing region with the largest number of poor people is Sub-Saharan Africa (nearly 579 million), followed by South Asia (385 million), the report highlighted.

UIDAI topped Grievance Redressal Index for second consecutive month

- The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), which oversees Aadhaar, has once again topped the September rankings report published by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG), for resolving most public grievances among all government ministries and government departments.
- This is the second consecutive month UIDAI has topped the rankings.

India Ranks 3rd in list of Centi-millionaires, to Overtake China by 2032

- With levels of poverty, inflation and hunger notwithstanding, India ranks third in the world's first-ever global study on the rise of centi-millionaires — individuals with assets of more than Rs 830 crore (\$100 million), a new report has revealed.



India Ranks 41st Among 44 Nations In Pension Index

- As compared to 40th out of 43 countries in 2021, India ranked 41 out of 44 countries in the Mercer CFS Global Pension Index.
- The MCGPI is a comprehensive study of 44

global pension systems, accounting for 65 percent of the world's population.

- The survey pointed out that the country needs to strengthen its regulatory framework and boost the coverage under private pension arrangements



Drones can help raise \$100-bn GDP boost, lakhs of jobs in India: WEF Report

- Drones can help raise \$100-bn GDP boost: The World Economic Forum (WEF) said in a new report that putting drones at the centre of a technology-led transformation of Indian agriculture can enhance the nation's GDP by 1–1.5% and create at least five lakh employment in the next few years.

Living Planet Report 2022

According to Living Planet Report 2022, Wildlife populations decline by 69% in 50 years.

About:

- The highest decline (94 per cent) was in the Latin America and the Caribbean region.
- Africa recorded a 66 per cent fall in its wildlife populations from 1970-2018 and the Asia Pacific 55 per cent.
- Freshwater species populations globally reduced by 83 per cent. Habitat loss and barriers to migration routes were responsible for about half of the threats to monitored migratory fish species.
- It identified six key threats to biodiversity — agriculture, hunting, logging, pollution, invasive species and climate change — to highlight 'threat hotspots' for terrestrial vertebrates.
- Mangroves continue to be lost to aquaculture, agriculture and coastal development at a rate of 0.13 per cent per year.
- Around 137 square kilometres of the Sundarbans mangrove forest in India and Bangladesh has been eroded since 1985.

Living Planet Report:

- It is published biennially by World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF).

- It is a comprehensive study of trends in global biodiversity and the health of the planet.
- The Living Planet Report 2022 is the 14th edition of the report.

Logistics Ease Across Different States (LEADS) 2022 survey report

Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and Textiles recently launched Logistics Ease Across Different States (LEADS) 2022 survey report

About:

- The LEADS is an indigenous data-driven index to assess logistics infrastructure, services, and human resources across all 36 States and UTs.
- The index is an indicator of the efficiency of logistical services necessary for promoting exports and economic growth.
- The index aims at enhancing the focus on improving logistics performance across states which is essential for improving the country's trade and reducing transaction cost.
- Unlike the previous versions of LEADS which were based on ranking systems for all states, LEADS 2022 has adopted a classification-based grading, states have been now classified under four categories viz coastal states, hinterland/landlocked states, north-eastern states, and Union Territories.
- Three performance categories namely,
- Achievers: States/UTs achieving 90% or more percentage,
- Andhra Pradesh, Assam and Gujarat are among the 15 States and UTs categorised as achievers.
- Fast Movers: States/UTs achieving percentage scores between 80% to 90%,
- Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Puducherry, Sikkim and Tripura are the other States categorised as fast movers.
- Aspirers: States/UTs achieving percentage scores below 80% have been made.
- The 15 States and UTs ranked in the aspirers category include Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Mizoram, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Ladakh, Nagaland, Jammu and Kashmir, and Arunachal Pradesh.
- The LEADS 2022 survey report would assist PM GatiShakti National Master Plan (PMGS-NMP) and National Logistics Policy (NLP).

Global Hunger Index (GHI)

India has ranked 107 on the Global Hunger Index (GHI), 2022, out of 121 countries, lagging behind most south Asian countries.

About:

- The Global Hunger Index (GHI) is a tool for comprehensively measuring and tracking hunger at global, regional, and national levels.
- It is prepared jointly by Irish aid agency Concern Worldwide and German organisation Welt Hunger Hilfe.
- GHI scores are based on the values of four component indicators:
- Undernourishment (share of the population with insufficient caloric intake),
- child stunting (the share of children under age five who have low height for their age, reflecting chronic under-nutrition),
- child wasting (acute under-nutrition in children under age five with low weight for their height),
- child mortality (the mortality rate of children under the age of five).
- The GHI score is calculated on a 100-point scale reflecting the severity of hunger, where zero is the best score (no hunger) and 100 is the worst.

Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2022:

- India's score of 29.1 places it in the 'serious' category.
- India's GHI score has decelerated - from 38.8 in 2000 to the range of 28.2 - 29.1 between 2014 and 2022.
- India also ranks below Sri Lanka (64), Nepal (81), Bangladesh (84), and Pakistan (99). Afghanistan (109) is the only country in South Asia that performs worse than India on the index.
- Seventeen countries, including China, Turkey, and Kuwait, shared the top rank with GHI score of less than five.

Global Multidimensional Poverty Index 2022

According to the Global Multidimensional Poverty Index 2022, number of poor people in India fell by about 415 million between 2005-06 and 2019-21.

About:

- About 41.5 crore people exited poverty in India during the 15-year period between 2005-06 and 2019-21, out of which two-third exited in the first 10 years, and one-third in the next five years.
- The incidence of poverty fell from 55.1% in 2005-06 to 16.4% in 2019-21 in the country.

- The deprivations in all 10 MPI indicators saw significant reductions as a result of which the MPI value and incidence of poverty more than halved.
- Improvement in MPI for India has significantly contributed to the decline in poverty in South Asia.
- It is for the first time that it is not the region with the highest number of poor people, at 38.5 crore, compared with 57.9 crore in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- The report doesn't fully assess the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on poverty in India as 71% of the data from the National Family Health Survey-5 (2019-2021) relied upon for MPI were collected before the pandemic.
- Bihar is the poorest State in 2015-2016, saw the fastest reduction in MPI value in absolute terms. The incidence of poverty there fell from 77.4% in 2005-2006 to 34.7% in 2019-2021.

Ending Poverty a Challenge:

- India has by far the largest number of poor people worldwide at 22.8 crore, followed by Nigeria at 9.6 crore.
- Two-third of these people live in a household in which at least one person is deprived in nutrition.
- There were also 9.7 crore poor children in India in 2019-2021
- About 4.2% of the population in the country still live in severe poverty.
- Rural areas account for nearly 90% of poor people.



National Games 2022: U20 World Champion Antim Panghal wins wrestling gold

- Antim Panghal, the World under-20 champion, made an impressive debut at the National Games 2022 as she won the gold medal in women's 53kg wrestling.
- Haryana's Antim Panghal, who made history in August by becoming the first Indian to become U20 world champion in women's wrestling, beat Priyanshi Prajapati of Madhya Pradesh by fall in the final.

About the National Games 2022:

- The National Games 2022 is being held across six cities, Ahmedabad, Gandhinagar, Surat, Vadodara, Rajkot and Bhavnagar, in Gujarat. The National Games 2022 will conclude on the 12th of October.

37th National Games: Goa to host Games in October 2023

- The Indian Olympic Association has confirmed that Goa will host the 37th edition of the National Games in October next year.
- The state government of Goa also conveyed its in-principle approval to IOA to host the National Games in 2023.
- The Goa delegation may receive the IOA flag at the Closing Ceremony of the 36th National Games on 12th October 2022 in Surat, Gujarat.

PR Sreejesh, Savita Punia voted FIH Men's and Women's Goalkeeper of the Year



Sreejesh and Savita Punia have been voted FIH Men's and Women's Goalkeeper of the Year for the second year in a row.

- Savita Punia, the captain of the Indian women's hockey team, and veteran

goalkeeper PR Sreejesh both received the FIH goalkeeper of the year title in the men's and women's categories on the strength of their performances beneath the bar.

- Savita is just the third athlete to win Goalkeeper of the Year (Women) for three years in a row since the award's debut in 2014

India's first Green Technology incubation facility opened at NIT Srinagar

- India's first Green Technology incubation facility: At the National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar, a technology company incubator centred on green technology (Green Technology incubation facility) called the "Greenovator Incubation Foundation" will soon open.
- The Department of Science and Technology (DST) is supporting a three-year initiative known as Inclusive TBI (i-TBI) for educational institutions, idea generators, innovators, and entrepreneurs to support innovative ideas, startup initiatives, and promote self-employment and job creation through incubation.

36th National Games: Pooja Patel becomes first athlete to win Gold in Yogasana

- At the 36th National Games, Pooja Patel of Gujarat has become the first athlete to win gold in Yogasana. Yogasana is one of the five sports to be played at the National Games this year for the first time. This Indian indigenous sport made its debut at the Khelo India University Games earlier this year.

Novak Djokovic wins Astana Open, takes 90th Career Title

- Novak Djokovic wins Astana Open: With a convincing straight-sets win over Stefanos Tsitsipas in the ATP final in Astana Open, Novak Djokovic won his 90th career championship and fourth in 2022.
- In 75 minutes, the 35-year-old Novak Djokovic prevailed 6-3, 6-4 to add this trophy to those he has already won this year

in Israel, Rome, and Wimbledon.

- The fourth seed, Novak Djokovic won his ninth straight match, and as a consequence of the victory, he secured a place at the 2022 ATP Finals.

Mallakhamb competitions begin at National Games

- Mallakhamb is an Indian indigenous sport that is a part of the 36th National Games.
- Mallakhamb is the display of aerial yoga and wrestling grips with vertical stationary or hanging wooden poles performed by gymnasts.
- It is one of the five new games which is added to the 36th National Games this year.
- The sport made its debut at the Khelo India University Games in which Madhya Pradesh bagged 12 medals including 5 golds, 5 silver, and 2 bronze.

D Gukesh becomes youngest to beat World Chess Champion Magnus Carlsen

- India teenager Donnarumma Gukesh scripted history in the ongoing Aimchess Rapid online tournament as he defeated Magnus Carlsen, thereby becoming the youngest player ever to beat him as world champion.
- The 16-year-old Donnarumma defeated Carlsen with white in the 9th round and hence he defeated the Norwegian during his reign as world champion.

Jyothi Yarraji becomes first Indian woman to run sub-13s hurdles

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

Qatar to host AFC Asian Cup 2023

- The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Executive Committee has confirmed the Qatar Football Association (QFA) as the host association for the AFC Asian Cup 2023.

- The 11th AFC Executive Committee meeting was chaired by AFC President Shaikh Bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa.

Magnus Carlsen wins Meltwater Champions Chess Tour 2022

- Magnus Carlsen claimed the Meltwater Champions Chess Tour 2022 title with a tournament defeating Arjun Erigaisi in the quarter-finals of the 8th and penultimate event of the Meltwater Champions Chess Tour with a convincing 2.5-1.5 result, Carlsen secured the title of the tour champion and a \$50,000 prize on top of his overall winnings (so far) of \$192,000.
- The 31-year-old had to work in the opening game of his quarter-final match as Erigaisi played some of his best chess against the champ to go three pawns up and set up a seemingly easy win

5th Khelo India Youth Games to be held in Madhya Pradesh

- The 5th edition of the Khelo India Youth Games will be held in Madhya Pradesh from 31st January to 11th February 2023.
- The event was felicitated by Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Thakur, and Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh Shivraj Singh Chouhan.
- Indigenous games will be a part of the upcoming Khelo India Youth Games.
- Madhya Pradesh has made the sport of Mallakhamb their state sport for supporting the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to support Olympics sports and indigenous sports in the same manner.

FIFA World Cup

- Spain, defending champions won the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup against the first-time finalists Colombia.

About

- Spain won the match after an own goal in the 82nd minute of the finals by Colombian defender Ana María Guzmán Zapata.
- The final match of the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup was played between Spain and Colombia in the Patil Sports Stadium. Spain won by 1-0 in the finals of the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup against Colombia.

Third Sultan of Johor Cup

Sultan of Johor Cup 2022:

- Indian junior men's hockey team defeated Australia to win the Sultan of Johor Cup 2022 in a shootout 5-4 after a 1-1 draw at

the Taman Daya Hockey Stadium in Johor Bahru, Malaysia.

- This is the third time India has won the Sultan of Johor Cup.
- India scored the first goal with Sudeep Chirmako's field goal in the 14th minute. However, Australia came back in the second quarter as Jack Holland equalised with India.

Akanksha Vyavahare creates three new national records at Khelo India weightlifting meet

- Akanksha Vyavahare, who is a Maharashtra-based weightlifter has created three new national records in the 40kg weight category at the Khelo India National Ranking Women's Weightlifting Tournament.
- Akanksha Vyavahare was also a part of the Target Olympics Podium Scheme and created records in snatch, clean and jerk, and total.

BCCI Decides To End Discrimination; Offer Equal Pay To Men & Women Cricketers

- In a historic decision, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) announced a "pay equity policy", saying that its centrally-contracted men and women players would get the same match fees.
- BCCI secretary Jay Shah took to Twitter to announce the significant development.

Women's Asia Cup

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has congratulated the Indian women cricket team for winning the 7th Women's Asia Cup.

About:



- The Asian Cricket Council Women's Asia Cup is a women's One Day International and Twenty20 International cricket tournament.
- It was established in 2004 and is a biennial tournament. The tournament is contested by cricket teams from Asia.
- The first Women's Asia Cup was held in 2004 on Colombo and Kandy in the Sri Lanka.
- The ICC has ruled that all the matches

played in the Women's Asia Cup has ODI or T20I status.

- The 2012 Women's Asia Cup was the first event to be played in the T20 format.



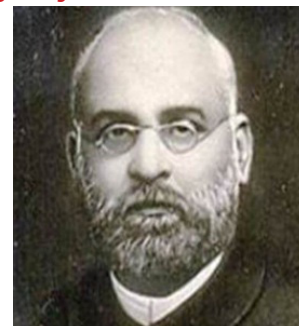
Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

- He was born on 31st October 1875 in Nadiad, Gujarat.
- He was the first Home Minister and Deputy Prime Minister of independent India.
- He played an important role in the integration of many Indian princely states to make an Indian federation.
- At the time of independence, he played a key role in convincing several princely states to align with the Indian Union. He also worked hard as a social leader for the independence of India.
- After the signing of the Gandhi–Irwin Pact, Patel was elected president of Congress for its 1931 session (Karachi).
- Women of Bardoli bestowed the title ‘Sardar’ on Vallabhbhai Patel, which means ‘a Chief or a Leader’.
- He is recognized as the real unifier of India for his colossal contribution to integrating and making India a united (Ek Bharat) and an independent nation.
- He requested the people of India to live together by uniting in order to create Shreshth Bharat (Foremost India).
- He is also remembered as the ‘Patron saint of India’s civil servants as he established the modern all-India services system.
- The Statue of Unity at Kevadiya in the Narmada district of Gujarat (2018) was built in his honour

Nation celebrates 113th Birth anniversary of Homi Jehangir Bhabha

- 113th Birth anniversary of Indian nuclear physicist Homi Jehangir Bhabha who is also known as the father of the Indian nuclear program.
- He was born on 30 October 1909 in Bombay, Bombay Presidency, British India (now Mumbai, Maharashtra, India).
- His invaluable contributions to the field of science continue to inspire generations of young minds in the country.
- Homi J Bhabha was born into a prominent wealthy Parsi family.

Shyamji Krishna Varma



Prime Minister Narendra Modi pays tribute to Shyamji Krishna Varma on his birth anniversary, October 4.

- Shyamji Krishna Varma (1857 – 1930) was an Indian freedom fighter, lawyer and journalist.
- Indian Home Rule Society (IHRS): It was an Indian organisation founded in London in 1905 that sought to promote the cause of self-rule in British India. The organisation was founded by Shyamji Krishna Varma, with support from Bhikaji Cama, Dadabhai Naoroji and S.R. Rana.
- India House: He founded India House in London. It was a student residence that existed between 1905 and 1910 which was opened to promote nationalist views among Indian students in Britain.
- Indian Sociologist: He founded Indian Sociologist in London. The monthly Indian Sociologist became an outlet for nationalist ideas.

Jayaprakash Narayan

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah unveiled a 15-foot statue of Jayaprakash Narayan or JP on his 120th birth anniversary on October 11, at his birthplace, Sitab Diara village in Bihar’s Saran district.



- He was born on October 11, 1902, in Bihar's Sitab Diara.
- He quit college to join the non-cooperation movement, before going to study at the University of California, Berkeley, where he was influenced by the ideas of Karl Marx.
- He returned to India in 1929 and joined the freedom struggle and the Indian National Congress, upon the invitation of Jawaharlal Nehru and drawn by a speech by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.
- He is one of the founding members of the Congress Socialist Party (CSP).
- He is credited for galvanising popular opinion against Indira Gandhi government, through his call for Sampoorna Kranti (Total Revolution). It led to the formation of the first non-Congress government (Janata Party government, 1977) in the country.
- In 1999, he was posthumously awarded the Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian award, in recognition of his social service.
- Other awards include the Magsaysay award for Public Service in 1965.

Rishi Sunak

- Rishi Sunak became the United Kingdom's first Indian-origin British Prime Minister.
- Since the Conservative party has a majority in the current U.K. parliament, the winner of the party leadership contest will automatically become prime minister.

Lal Bahadur Shastri

- India celebrates the 118th birth anniversary of Lal Bahadur Shastri, the nation's second Prime Minister.

about

- Shastri, who succeeded Jawaharlal Nehru, was respected for his forthrightness and honesty, and after his passing, he was awarded the Bharat Ratna, making him the first posthumous laureate of this prestigious award.
- Shastri has the same birthday (2 October) as Mahatma Gandhi even though he was born in 1904, 35 years later.
- He is also remembered for composing the slogan of "Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan".
- Shastri died on January 11, 1966, in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, just a day after the peace treaty was signed for the end of the 1965 Indo-Pakistan War.
- The cause of death was reported as a cardiac arrest but the Shastri family claimed it to be poisoned

Mulayam Singh Yadav: Founder of SP and Former Chief Minister of U.P passes away

- **Mulayam Singh Yadav Passes Away:** Mulayam Singh Yadav, the Samajwadi Party (SP) founder and former chief minister of Uttar Pradesh, passed away on October 10 at a Gurugram private hospital.
- Mulayam Singh Yadav, 82, was receiving treatment for multiple medical conditions. The Samajwadi Party's official Twitter account acknowledged the news of Mulayam Singh Yadav's passing.

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Birth Anniversary: Biography, Quotes, Achievement, Awards

- Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam born on 15th October 1931 was an Indian aerospace scientist and the 11th president of India.
- He served as the President of India from 2002 to 2007.
- He was known as the Missile Man of India for his works and development of ballistic missiles and launch vehicle technology.
- He has spent more than four decades serving as a scientist and science administrator at Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) and Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO).
- He was constantly involved in the civil space program of India and military missile development.
- He was also the recipient of several prestigious awards which includes Bharat Ratna.



AWARDS

Dada Saheb Phalke award

President Droupadi Murmu recently gave away the National Film Awards for the year 2020 under various categories at the 68th edition of the ceremony

About:



- The Dadasaheb Phalke Award was conferred on veteran actor Asha Parekh, an accomplished Indian classical dancer who has also been a director and producer.
- The Dadasaheb Phalke Award is India's highest award in the field of cinema.
- It is presented annually at the National Film Awards ceremony by the Directorate of Film Festivals, an organisation set up by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.
- The recipient is honoured for their "outstanding contribution to the growth and development of Indian cinema".
- The award prize consists of a golden lotus, a cash prize of ₹10 lakh and a shawl.
- The award was introduced by the Government of India to commemorate Dadasaheb Phalke's contribution to Indian cinema, who is popularly known as and often regarded as "the father of Indian cinema".
- It was first presented in 1969. The first recipient of the award was actress Devika Rani, "the first lady of Indian cinema".

Nobel Prize in Physiology, 2022

Swedish scientist Svante Pääbo has been awarded the Nobel Prize for Physiology for the year 2022 "for his discoveries concerning the genomes of extinct hominins and human evolution".



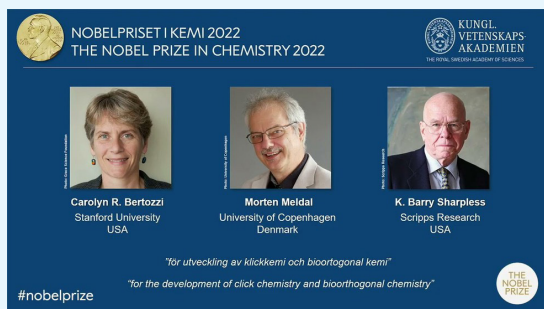
About:

- He has spearheaded the development of new techniques that allowed researchers to compare the genome of modern humans and that of other hominins — the Neanderthals and Denisovans.
- He spent decades trying to extract DNA from 40,000-year-old bones, culminating in the unveiling of the Neanderthal genome in 2010.
- The research helped establish that modern humans and Neanderthals share a common ancestor that lived some 600,000 years ago. Paabo and his team also found genetic evidence that, during periods of coexistence, modern humans and Neanderthals had children together.
- His seminal research gave rise to an entirely new scientific discipline; paleogenomics.
- His research led to the understanding that archaic gene sequences from our extinct relatives influence the physiology of present-day humans.
- One such example is the Denisovan version of the gene EPAS1, which confers an advantage for survival at high altitude and is common among present-day Tibetans.
- Other examples are Neanderthal genes that affect our immune response to different types of infections.

Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2022

The 2022 Nobel Prize in chemistry was awarded to Carolyn R Bertozzi, Morten Meldal and K Barry Sharpless "for the development of click chemistry and bioorthogonal chemistry"

About:



- Sharpless was the first scientist to work on ‘click chemistry’ – a branch of science that explores the assembly of molecules.
- Meldal and Dr. Sharpless – independently of each other – presented the copper-catalysed azide-alkyne cycloaddition (CuAAC), a reaction that is now widely used in fields like medicinal chemistry. The CuAAC reaction is an improved form of the azide-alkyne Huisgen cycloaddition.
- Bertozzi improved the field further by developing click reactions that work inside living organisms. These bioorthogonal reactions do not disrupt the normal chemistry of the cell.

What is click chemistry?

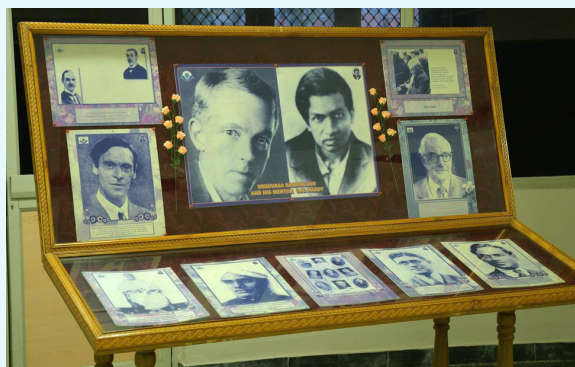
- Click chemistry is a functional field where molecules snap together quickly and efficiently – literally like a click. It is defined as a “set of powerful, highly reliable, and selective reactions for the rapid synthesis of useful new compounds and combinatorial libraries through heteroatom links”.

Need of Click Chemistry

- Replicating reactions that involve bonds between carbon atoms – that are vital to the existence of life – is expensive and often leads to side reactions and loss of material.
- Instead of trying to make carbon atoms react with each other, Dr. Sharpless’s research focuses on using smaller molecules that already have a complete carbon frame. These molecules can further be linked using oxygen or nitrogen atoms as bridges.
- Simpler reactions, “where there is a strong intrinsic drive for the molecules to bond together”, may avoid the loss of material as well as the unwanted side reactions.

SASTRA Ramanujan Prize for 2022

The SASTRA Ramanujan Prize for 2022 will be awarded to Yunqing Tang



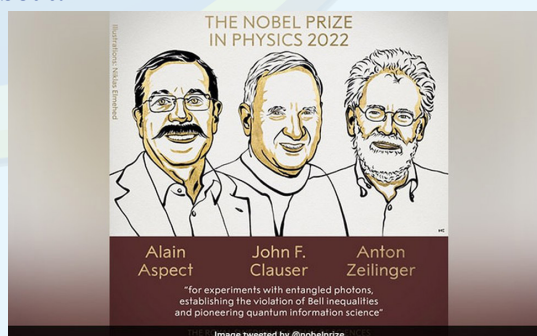
About:

- Yunqing Tang is an Assistant Professor with the University of California, Berkeley, U.S.A.
- According to SASTRA Ramanujan Prize Committee Ms. Yunqing’s works display a remarkable combination of sophisticated techniques, in which the arithmetic and geometry of modular curves and of Shimura varieties play a central role, and her results and methods are bound to have major impact on future research in this area.
- The award, instituted by the Shanmugha Arts, Science, Technology & Research Academy (SASTRA) in 2005 with a cash prize of \$10,000, is presented annually to individuals aged 32 and below, who made outstanding contributions in the field of mathematics, influenced by Srinivasa Ramanujan in a broad sense.

Nobel Prize in Physics 2022

Alain Aspect, John F. Clauser and Anton Zeilinger have jointly won the Nobel Prize in Physics “for experiments with entangled photons, establishing the violation of Bell inequalities and pioneering quantum information science”

About:



- Two of the laureates—John Clauser and Alain Aspect—worked on firming up the concept of quantum entanglement and developing more complex experiments that demonstrated this phenomenon, especially creating, processing and measuring what are called Bell pairs. The third laureate, Anton Zeilinger, has been chosen for his innovative use of entanglement and Bell

pairs both in research and application such as quantum cryptography.

Significance:

- Quantum information science has a broad range of potential implications in areas such as secure information transfer, quantum computing and sensing technology.
- One of the most mature applications of quantum technology is quantum cryptography, which takes advantage of the fact that changes made to one particle in an entangled system affect the other.

Quantum entanglement

- It is a phenomenon by which a pair of particles, say photons, are allowed to exist in a shared state where they have complementary properties, such that by measuring the properties of one particle, you automatically know the properties of the other particle. This is true regardless of how far apart the two particles are transported.

Nobel Prize in Literature 2022

The 2022 Nobel Prize in Literature is awarded to the French author Annie Ernaux.

About:

- Ernaux, was honoured “for the courage and clinical acuity with which she uncovers the roots, estrangements and collective restraints of personal memory”.
- Her more than 20 books, many of which have been school texts in France for decades, offer one of the most subtle, insightful windows into the social life of modern France.
- Personal experiences are the source for all of Ms. Ernaux’s work and she is the pioneer of France’s “autofiction” genre, which gives narrative form to real-life experience.



Nobel Peace Prize 2022

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

About



Ales Bialiatski of Belarus

- Ales Bialiatski, who is in jail since 2021, is a vocal critic of Putin’s ally, President Alexander Lukashenko of Belarus. In 1995, Bialiatski founded the Belarus human rights group Viasna (Spring).
- He was first jailed in 2011 for evading taxes. He was released in 2014, before being arrested again in 2021 during mass public protests in Minsk against elections that opposition activists said had kept Lukashenko in power the previous year.

Memorial group of Russia

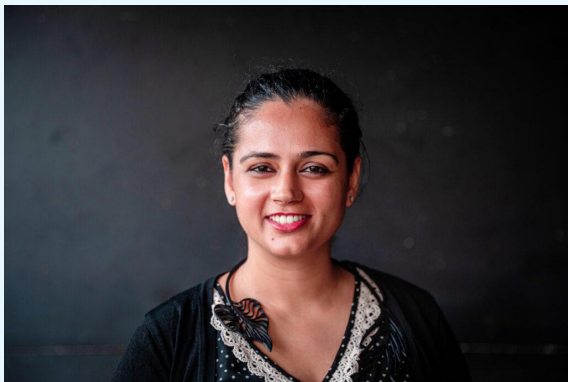
- It was established by human rights activists in the former Soviet Union during the Gorbachev years of glasnost and perestroika, and among its founders were 1975 Nobel Peace Prize laureate Andrei Sakharov and Russian mathematician Svetlana Gannushkina.
- Its objective was to record atrocities committed during the communist regime, especially under Joseph Stalin. After the collapse of the Soviet Union, Memorial grew to become the largest human rights organisation in Russia.

Center for Civil Liberties, Ukraine

- It is a Ukrainian rights organisation that is documenting alleged war crimes by Russia in Ukraine.
- The Center was founded in Kyiv in 2007 with the aim of advancing human rights and democracy in Ukraine.

Indian Women’s rights activist Srishti Bakshi wins ‘Changemaker’ award

- Srishti Bakshi has won the ‘Changemaker’ award at the UN SDG (United Nations Sustainable Development Goals) Action Awards.



- A women's rights activist from India, Srishti Bakshi has won the 'Changemaker' award at the UN SDG (United Nations Sustainable Development Goals) Action Awards held at a ceremony in Bonn, Germany. The award is given to recognise the efforts of Srishti Bakshi to raise awareness of gender-based violence and inequality.

Nobel Prize in Economics 2022

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences awarded the 2022 Nobel Prize in Economics to Ben S. Bernanke, Douglas W. Diamond and Philip H. Dybvig.

About:

- Ben S. Bernanke, Douglas W. Diamond and Philip H. Dybvig won the 2022 Nobel Prize in Economics for research on banks and financial crises.
- According to Nobel committee, the three laureates have significantly improved our understanding of the role of banks in the economy, particularly during financial crises, and an important finding in their research is why avoiding bank collapses is vital.

Douglas W Diamond and Philip H Dybvi

- Both Diamond and Dybvig worked together to develop theoretical models explaining why banks exist, how their role in society makes them vulnerable to rumours about their impending collapse, and how society can lessen this vulnerability.
- These insights form the foundation of modern bank regulation.

Ben S. Bernanke

- Former Federal Reserve chairman Ben Bernanke analysed the Great Depression of the 1930s, the worst economic crisis in

modern history. Among other things, he showed how bank runs were a decisive factor in the crisis becoming so deep and prolonged.

- Using historical sources and statistical methods, Bernanke's analysis showed which factors were important in the drop in gross domestic product.

Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences

- The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences is awarded in memory of Alfred Nobel.
- While Alfred Nobel did not mention the economics prize in his will, the Sveriges Riksbank established the award in 1968 and the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences was given the task of selecting the Laureates in Economic Sciences, starting in 1969.

National Metallurgists Day Awards

The Ministry of Steel has recently extended the last date of receiving applications under National Metallurgist Award - 2022 to 31st October 2022.

About:



- National Metallurgists Day Awards, was instituted in 1962 by the then Ministry of Steel & Mines.
- It aims to recognize and honor outstanding contributions of Metallurgists in the metallurgical field covering operation, research, design, education, waste management, energy conservation and their specific contribution to achieve objectives of ATMA NIRBHAR BHARAT.
- The awards are given on an annual basis, only to Indian nationals.
- Nominations for the award shall be invited online on the Ministry of Steel's Portal or the centralized portal being developed by Ministry of Home Affairs. Nominations will be through companies/ organizations or from the public through self-nomination.
- The first award was given in 1963 and subsequently every year thereafter.

Women Involvement in Science and Engineering Research (WISER)

The first 11 awardees of the Women Involvement in Science and Engineering Research (WISER) programme were recently felicitated.

About:

- It was launched by Indo-German Science & Technology Centre (IGSTC) for encouraging women researchers in joint R&D projects.
- WISER will enable gender equality and women's participation in Science and Technology through IGSTC's program.
- This programme will be in addition to the ongoing flagship 2+2 program of the Centre.
- This program by IGSTC, a joint initiative of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India and the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Government of Germany, will support women scientists holding regular/long term research positions in academia or research institutes/industry.



Booker Prize

Sri Lankan author Shehan Karunatilaka has been named the winner of the 2022 Booker Prize for his second novel *The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida*.

About:

- The Booker Prize for Fiction, formerly known as the Booker–McConnell Prize and the Man Booker Prize, is a literary prize.
- It was established in

Objective:

- To promote the finest in fiction by rewarding the best novel of the year written in English.

Eligibility:

- The Booker Prize awards any novel originally written in English and published in the UK and Ireland in the year of the prize, regardless of the nationality of their

author.

- The novel must be an original work in English (not a translation)
- It must be published by a registered UK or Irish imprint; self-published novels are not eligible.

Prize Money:

- The winner receives £50,000 as well as the £2,500 awarded to each of the shortlisted authors. In this case, thanks to the award being shared, the prize money would be split between the two winners.

Organizations involved:

- Man Group: Man Group is an active investment management firm founded in 1783. It has sponsored the Man Booker Prize since 2002
- The Booker Prize Foundation: It is a registered charity established in 2002. Since then it has been responsible for the award of the Man Booker Prize for Fiction, and for the Man Booker International Prize since its inauguration in 2005.





DEFENCE NEWS

IBSAMAR VII

- INS Tarkash reached Port Grequhrea which is also known as Port Elizabeth in South Africa.
- INS Tarkash will participate in the seventh edition of IBSAMAR, a joint multinational maritime exercise among Indian, Brazilian, and South African Navies.
- The harbor phase of IBSAMAR VII includes professional exchanges such as damage control and fire-fighting drill and interaction among special forces.

About IBSAMAR

- IBSAMAR is the abbreviation of India-Brazil-South Africa Maritime.
- It is a series of naval exercises between the navies of India, Brazil, and South Africa.
- The previous edition which is IBSAMAR VI was held in Simons Town, South Africa in which INS Tarkash, INS Kolkata, BNS Barroso, SAS Amatola, SAS Protea, and SAS Manthatisi participated.

Exercise, 'Prasthan'

- 'Prasthan' an Offshore Security Exercise was conducted by the Eastern Naval Command in the Offshore Development Area (ODA) off Kakinada.
- 'Prasthan' is a half-yearly exercise that was conducted in the KG basin to validate SOPs, address various contingencies and strengthen the command and control organization toward Maritime security.

Goa to host 9th World Ayurveda Congress & Arogya Expo

- The 9th World Ayurveda Congress (WAC) and Arogya Expo, will be held in Panaji, Goa from 8th to 11th December 2022.
- The 9th World Ayurveda Congress aims to transformationally push Ayurveda to bring it into global focus.
- The 9th World Ayurveda Congress (WAC) is going to be hosted in Goa and it aims to create an accessible and affordable healthcare system that is in harmony with modern medical practices.

PowerEX-2022"

- PowerEx-2022: 193 invited Power Sector Utilities to participate in the Cyber Security Exercise "PowerEX" that was successfully

designed and carried out by the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-IN) and Power-CSIRTs.

- On the exercise day, the CERT-In team collaborated with the Power-CSIRT authorities' Exercise Planner Team as Exercise Coordinators.

About CERT-IN

- The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology of the Government of India houses the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-IN or ICERT).
- It is the central organisation for handling risks to cyber security like phishing and hacking.
- It strengthens the Indian Internet domain's security-related defence.

Mission DefSpace

- Mission DefSpace launched: Mission DefSpace was inaugurated at DefExpo2022 in Gandhinagar, Gujarat by the prime minister Narendra Modi (PM Modi).
- The project's goal is to create cutting-edge defence forces in the space industry.
- 75 space industry challenges have been highlighted for private companies to work on under Mission DefSpace

Indian, US Militaries Conduct 'Tiger Triumph' Exercise

- The Indian and US militaries carried out a three-day joint humanitarian assistance exercise in Vishakhapatnam in line with the growing strategic cooperation between the two countries.
- The Tiger Triumph exercise was the second collaboration between the Indian and US Militaries to coordinate disaster relief in the region.

Indian Navy & Drone Federation tie-up to promote indigenous drone technology

- The Technology Development and Acceleration Cell of the Naval Innovation Indigenisation Organization (NIIO) under the Indian Navy and Drone Federation

of India (DFI) have come together to collaborate towards promoting indigenous development, manufacturing, and testing of drones, counter-drone, and associated technologies for the Indian Navy.

Shaurya Diwas

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh celebrated Shaurya Diwas at Old Air Field, Srinagar.
- The Shaurya Diwas marks the 75th year of induction of the Indian Army to save the state of Jammu and Kashmir from Pakistan's invasion in 1947.
- The Shaurya Diwas is celebrated as a part of celebrations for Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav and the 75th year of Air landed operations of the Indian Army at Budgam Airport.

Garuda VII

- Garuda VII air exercise: At Air Force Station Jodhpur, the Indian Air Force (IAF) and the French Air and Space Force (FASF) are taking part in the bilateral exercise "Garuda VII" from October 26 to November 12, 2022.
- FASF is taking part in this exercise with a troop of 220 people, one A-330 Multi Role Tanker Transport (MRTT) aircraft, and four Rafale fighter aircraft.

SIMBEX 2022

- SIMBEX 2022 maritime exercise: From October 26 to October 30, 2022, Visakhapatnam will play home to the 29th Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX).
- The two phases of SIMBEX-2022 are the Harbour Phase at Visakhapatnam and the Sea Phase in the Bay of Bengal.
- On October 25, 2022, RSS Stalwart (a Formidable Class Frigate) and RSS Vigilance (a Victory Class Corvette), two ships from the Republic of Singapore Navy, arrived at Visakhapatnam to take part in the exercise.

Yudh Abhyas

- Indian and US militaries to conduct the battalion-level "Yudh Abhyas" exercise between 15th November 2022 to 2nd December 2022.
- The Yudh Abhyas will be held at Auli in Uttarakhand which is just 100 km from the Line of Actual Control (LAC).
- The member countries of the "Quad" will conduct the Malabar exercise off Yokosuka in Japan between 8th November 2022 to 18th November 2022.
- The "Quad" member countries include

India, Australia, Japan, and the US. The Quad has declared that it would "deter" any "coercion" in the Indo-Pacific. "Yudh Abhyas" will include high-altitude warfare drills.



Chief of Defence Staff (CDS)

General Anil Chauhan recently assumed charge as the country's second Chief of Defence Staff (CDS).

- General Anil Chauhan was commissioned into the 11 Gorkha Rifles of the Indian Army in 1981 and has served a range of staff and operational appointments including that of Director General of Military Operations.
- The CDS post has been vacant for over nine months since the death of the first CDS Gen Bipin Rawat in a chopper crash in December 2021.
- The Chief of Defence Staff is the highest-ranking uniformed officer on active duty in the Indian military and chief military adviser to the Minister of Defence.
- The Chief also heads the Department of Military Affairs.

M777 Ultra Light Howitzer

- The Indian Army is inducting the M777 Ultra Light Howitzer on the northern borders
- The M777s are a key component of the army's field artillery rationalisation plan (FARP), cleared in 1999.
- The 155 mm/39-caliber M777 howitzers have a range of up to 30km, but it is capable of striking targets at ranges of more than 40 km in some areas where the geography allows the shells to fly in rarefied air.
- Built with titanium and aluminum alloys, the howitzers weigh 4,218 kg.
- In contrast, 155mm towed guns weigh twice as much.
- The Indian Air Force's CH-47F Chinook helicopters can carry the howitzers as underslung load for swift deployment in high-altitude areas.

Light Combat Helicopter

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is set to induct its first batch of indigenously-developed Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) in a major boost to its combat prowess.

About:

- The indigenous Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) is set to be formally inducted into the Indian Air Force (IAF) at the Jodhpur air base.
- It is the only attack helicopter in the world which can land and take off at an altitude of 5,000 meters with a considerable load of weapons and fuel, meeting the specific requirements laid out by the Indian Armed Forces.
- It has the maximum take-off weight of 5.8 tonnes, maximum speed of 268 kilometers per hour, range of 550 kilometers, endurance of over three hours and service ceiling — the maximum density altitude to which it can fly — of 6.5 kilometres.
- The helicopter uses radar-absorbing material to lower radar signature and has a significantly crash-proof structure and landing gear.

Manesar Anti-terror 2022

India is currently hosting the multilateral anti-terror exercise 'Manesar Anti-terror 2022' scheduled from October 8 to 13.

About:

- It is under the framework of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS).
- The exercise is aimed at exchanging expertise, best practices and build synergy between the Counter Terrorism Forces of the SCO RATS Member Countries to enhance capabilities for conducting Anti-Terrorist operations and countering other security threats collectively.

Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS):

- Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) one of the permanent organ of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation and has its headquarters in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.
- The objective of SCO RATS is to facilitate cooperation and coordination against Terrorism, Extremism and Separatism.
- India assumed the chairmanship of the Council of SCO RATS in Oct 2021.
- Joint Anti-Terror Exercise (JATE) is an annual Counter Terrorist Exercise held within the framework of the SCO RATS.

Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO):

- The SCO is an eight-member economic and security bloc that India and Pakistan joined

as full-time members back in 2017.

- The founding members of this group include China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan.

Aatmanirbhar in defence production

India ranks fourth among 12 Indo-Pacific nations in self-reliant arms production capabilities, according to a study released this month by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI).

About:

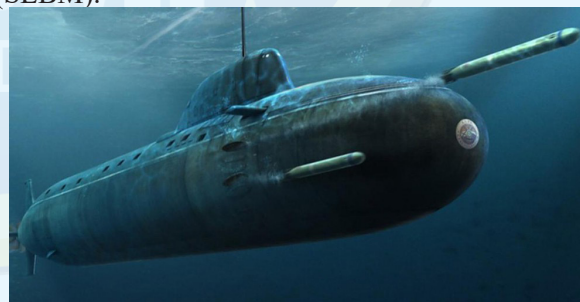
- The 12 countries in the study were selected because they have the highest military spending in the region — Australia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam.
- The study, which measures self-reliance until 2020, is based on three indicators of self-reliance in each country:
 - Arms procurement
 - Arms industry
 - Uncrewed maritime vehicles

India

- India is ranked as the second largest importer of arms for its armed forces in 2016-20. India is highly dependent on imports of complete foreign major arms, including many produced under licence or as components for its domestic production.

INS Arihant

India's first ballistic missile nuclear submarine (SSMN) INS Arihant carried out a successful launch of a Submarine Launched Ballistic Missile (SLBM).



About:

- The capability of being able to launch nuclear weapons from submarines has great strategic importance in the context of achieving a nuclear triad, especially in the light of the 'no first use' policy of India.
- INS Arihant is India's nuclear-powered ballistic missile capable submarine, classified under the SSBN programme.
- It was commissioned in 2016.
- INS Arihant is presently armed with K-15 SLBM with a range of 750 km.
- The next in the class, INS Arighat is

reported to have been launched in 2017 and is said to have been undergoing sea trials.

SSBN:

- The SSBN is a hull classification symbol for nuclear-powered ballistic missile carrying submarines.
- Operations of the SLBMs from the SSBN are under the purview of Strategic Forces Command which is part of India's Nuclear Command Authority.

Submarine Launched Ballistic Missiles (SLBMs):

- The family of indigenously developed Submarine Launched Ballistic Missiles (SLBMs), sometimes referred to as K-family missiles are codenamed after Dr APJ Abdul Kalam.
- Under the SLBM family, missiles of various ranges have been developed including K-15 also called Sagarika, which has a range of at least 750 km.
- India has also developed and tested the K-4 missiles from the same family, which have a range of 3,500 km.
-

Rustom-2

The indigenous medium altitude long endurance (MALE) unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) is expected to complete all user trials by August 2023

About:

- Rustom-2 is also known as Tapas-BH (Tactical Airborne Platform for Aerial Surveillance-Beyond Horizon 201).
- It has been designed and developed by the Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE), Bengaluru, with the production partners being Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. (HAL) and Bharat Electronics Ltd.
- It is powered by a small turbofan engine. The engine is Russian TRDD-50MT originally designed for cruise missiles.
- It is being developed to carry out surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR) roles and is capable of carrying different combinations of advanced payload and capable of auto landing, among others.
- Its navigation was done using GAGAN satellites through the onboard SATCOM system.
- High endurance UAVs are a priority requirement for the Indian armed forces especially in view of the stand-off with China in eastern Ladakh.

AK-203 Assault Rifles

The Indo-Russian joint venture at Korwa in Uttar Pradesh will start manufacturing AK-203 assault rifles by 2022 end

About:

- Under an over ₹5,000 crore contract, over 6.1 lakh AK-203 assault rifles will be manufactured in India with technology transfer from Russia.
- The Indo-Russia Rifles Private Limited was set up in 2019 to produce the Russian-origin Kalashnikov assault rifles in Korwa Ordnance Factory in Amethi district.
- AK203 is the advanced version of the Kalashnikov assault rifle family, the first of which was the AK-47.
- The AK-203 assault rifles will replace the INSAS rifles that have been in service for over three decades.
- The weapon fires 7.62×39 cartridges and weighs 3.8 kg without ammo.
- The modern version of the Russian-origin rifle has an effective range of 300 metres or more than three football fields, is lightweight and robust.

India-Russia Defence cooperation:

- As per a report by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, India figures amongst the key arms importing destination globally.
- India has for decades been Russia's largest arms importer, with Russian weapons accounting for nearly 70% of India's military arsenal.
- The two nations have earlier collaborated to manufacture the BrahMos missiles, which are a key component of India's missile defence systems.
- Furthermore, the defence trade between India and Russia has crossed \$15 billion since 2018, in the backdrop of some big deals including the \$5.43 billion S-400 long range air defence systems.

Mission DefSpace'

Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi recently launched Mission DefSpace in Gandhinagar.

About:

- The space programme aims to develop innovative solutions for the Defence Forces through industry & startups.
- Importantly, the initiative will prepare India for future possibilities in space domain and will also increase the country's preparation further.
- Under Mission DefSpace, 75 challenges are being opened to get innovative solutions, based on the defence requirements in the

space domain.

- The programme will focus on various challenges in this area that have been reviewed and identified by the three defence services.

Space diplomacy:

- There are more than 60 developing countries with whom India is sharing its space science. Many African countries and many other small countries are benefiting from this.
- The 'South Asia satellite' is an effective example of this. By next year, ten ASEAN countries will also get real-time access to India's satellite data.

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)'s heaviest rocket LVM3-M2

- Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)'s heaviest rocket LVM3-M2 lifts-off from a launch pad at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, in Sriharikota, recently. The rocket successfully placed 36 broadband communication satellites of OneWeb, on ISRO's maiden commercial mission.

About

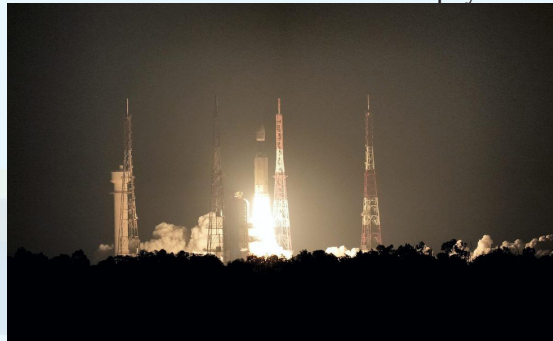
- This mission is being undertaken as part of the commercial arrangement between New Space India Limited (NSIL) and m/s Network Access Associates Limited (m/s OneWeb Ltd), a U.K. based company.
- OneWeb is a joint venture between India's Bharti Enterprises and the U.K. government.
- This is OneWeb's 14th launch, bringing the constellation to 462 satellites. This launch represents more than 70% of its planned 648 Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellite fleet that will deliver high-speed, low-latency connectivity worldwide.
- The 43.5 metre LVM3 weighing around 644 tonne carried 36 satellites weighing 5,796 kg or about 5.7 tonne.

Launch Vehicle Mark III (LVM3) -M2:

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has renamed the Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) Mark -III as Launch Vehicle Mark-III, mainly to identify its task of placing satellites into a variety of orbits.
- Launch Vehicle Mark III (LVM3) -M2 is the dedicated commercial satellite mission of New Space India Limited (NSIL), a Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) under the Department of Space, Government of India.
- The LVM3 rocket (earlier called the Geosynchronous Launch Vehicle Mark III or GSLV-MK3) can carry up to 8 tonnes into low earth orbit (LEO-up to 1,200 km

above the Earth).

- The rocket is a three-stage launch vehicle consisting of two solid propellant S200 strap-ons on its sides and core stage comprising L110 liquid stage and C25 cryogenic stage.
- The PSLV is much lighter and can carry between 1.4 and 1.75-tonne payloads



HAWK Air Defense Equipment

The United States is considering sending older HAWK air defense equipment from storage to Ukraine to help it defend against Russian drone and cruise missile attacks.



About:

- HAWK, short for 'Homing All the Way Killer', entered service with the US Army in 1959, during the Vietnam War.
- It is a mobile air defense system.
- It is a medium-range surface to air missile.
- It underwent upgrades over the decades that followed, including a major one in 1971 that produced the so-called I-HAWK (or improved HAWK), with a kill probability of 85%.
- The first versions of the system had a range of 25 km for aerial targets, and an altitude of 14 km. After modernization: the maximum target interception range increased to 40 km with a maximum interception altitude of 18 km.
- The HAWK system was the predecessor to the PATRIOT missile defence system that Raytheon built in the 1990s.
- US forces largely stopped using HAWK from the early years of the new century.

C-295MW Transport Aircraft

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will lay the foundation stone of the Vadodara transport aircraft manufacturing facility on October 30.

About:

- This is the first project of its kind in which a military aircraft will be manufactured in India by a private company.
- 16 aircraft will be delivered in flyaway condition and 40 will be manufactured in India by the Indian Aircraft Contractor, TATA Consortium of Tata Advanced Systems Limited and Tata Consultancy Services.
- In September 2021, Cabinet Committee on Security had approved the procurement of 56 C-295MW transport aircraft from Airbus Defence and Space S.A.
- The first 16 fly-away aircraft are scheduled to be received between September 2023 and August 2025.
- The first Made in India aircraft is expected in September 2026.
- The aircraft can be used for civilian purposes also.
- All 56 aircraft will be fitted with indigenous Electronic Warfare suite of Indian DPSUs – Bharat Electronics Ltd and Bharat Dynamics Limited.
- After completion of delivery of 56 aircraft to IAF, M/s Airbus Defence & Space will be allowed to sell the aircraft manufactured in India to civil operators and export to countries which are cleared by the Government of India.

C-295MW:

- C-295MW is a transport aircraft of 5-10 tonne capacity with contemporary technology that will replace the ageing Avro aircraft of IAF.
- It has a rear ramp door for quick reaction and para dropping of troops and cargo.

IMT TRILAT

The first edition of India-Mozambique-Tanzania Trilateral Exercise (IMT TRILAT), a joint maritime exercise among the Indian, Mozambique and Tanzanian navies commenced at Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania on 27 October 2022

About:

- Indian Navy is represented by the guided missile frigate, INS Tarkash, a Chetak helicopter and MARCOS (Special Forces).
- The exercise has three broad objectives:
 - capability development to address common threats through training

- and sharing of best practices,
- enhancing interoperability, and
- Strengthening maritime cooperation.
- These exercises reflect India's and the Indian Navy's commitment to enhancing maritime security and cooperation with maritime neighbours in the Indian Ocean Region and promoting SAGAR, Safety and Growth for All in the Region.

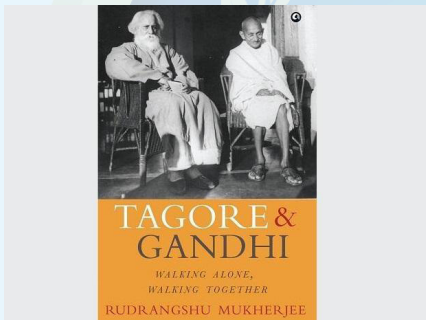


BOOKS AND AUTHORS

Valley of Words Book Awards: 'Tagore & Gandhi' wins in English non-fiction

About

- Anees Salim's The Odd Book of Baby Names (English fiction) and Rudrangshu Mukherjee's Tagore & Gandhi: Walking Alone, Walking Together (English non-fiction) were among the eight that were adjudged the best books of the year at the 'Valley of Words Book Awards'.
- The PFC-VoW Book Awards, currently in its sixth edition, is considered one of the most comprehensive independent literary award programmes in India.



Kerala's Pullampara named first fully digital literate panchayat

- The Pullumpara village panchayat in the Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala achieved the distinction of becoming the first totally digitally literate panchayat in the country.
- The announcement was made by chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan at a public event.
- The mission to achieve total digital literacy was aimed at empowering the residents to get access to over 800 government services available through the online mode.
- The residents were also trained to use social media platforms and basic banking services during the training.

EAM S Jaishankar launches book "Modi@20: Dreams Meet Delivery" in Auckland

- External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar participated in the New Zealand launch of the Book "Modi@20: Dreams Meet Delivery".
- Jaishankar has authored one of the chapters of the book Modi@20: Dreams Meet

Delivery which was launched on 11th May 2022.

- He also participated in the Kiwi Indian Hall of Fame Awards 2022.

Global Youth Climate Summit Begins in Bangladesh

- Global Youth Leadership Center, an international non-profit organisation, is all set to embark on its journey from Bangladesh on October 20 with the inauguration of its first programme — the Global Youth Climate Summit.
- The three-day summit will be held at Ava Center in Khulna, one of Bangladesh's most climate vulnerable regions, bringing together 650 youths from 70 countries to explore how today's youth can lead the fight against climate change.

Dr Bimal Jalan authored a book titled "From dependence to SelfReliance"

- Economist Dr Bimal Jalan authored the book "From dependence to Self-Reliance: Mapping India's Rise as a Global Superpower", a stocktaking of India's growth trajectory, benefits from Bimal Jalan's deep insights.
- The book is written lucidly, with the general reader in mind. Bimal Jalan breaks his book into 3 parts: 4 chapters on the economy, and 3 each on governance and politics.
- The primary focus shared by Bimal Jalan is to promote India's national interests, irrespective of any party's political agenda announced during elections.



APPOINTMENT

ICAS Bharati Das named as the new Controller General of Accounts

About

- The government of India has appointed Bharati Das, an officer of the Indian Civil Accounts Service of the 1988 batch, as the Controller General of Accounts (CGA), Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance.
- She is the 27th Controller General of Accounts, Ministry of Finance.

About the Controller General of Accounts:

- The Controller General of Accounts is the principal advisor on accounting matters of the Union Government.
- The CGA is responsible for establishing and managing a technically sound Management Accounting System and preparation and submission of the accounts of the Union Government.
- The CGA is also responsible for exchequer control and internal audits for the Centre.

Mallikarjun Kharge Elected As The New Congress President

- Veteran Karnataka leader Mallikarjun Kharge defeated his rival Shashi Tharoor to become the first non-Gandhi Congress president in 24 years, and the first Scheduled Caste chief of the grand old organization in four decades.
- Kharge polled 7897 of the 9385 votes cast while Tharoor garnered a meagre 1072. Sources said 416 votes were invalid.

Justice D.Y. Chandrachud

Chief Justice of India U.U. Lalit recommends Justice D.Y. Chandrachud as next Chief Justice of India.

About:

- Chief Justice Lalit's recommendation to the government would start the process for appointment of Justice Chandrachud as the 50th Chief Justice of India.
- If the government approval comes through, Justice Chandrachud would be the first second-generation CJI. His father, Justice Y.V. Chandrachud, was the 16th CJI and one of the longest serving.

- Chief Justice Lalit is scheduled to retire on November 8 at the end of a 74-day tenure as top judge.
- Justice Chandrachud is expected to be sworn in and assume charge as Chief Justice of India from November 9.
- He has a tenure of two years as Chief Justice until his retirement on November 11, 2024.

Dr. Sankarasubramanian K.

- The Indian Space Research Organisation has designated Dr. Sankarasubramanian K as the Principal Scientist of the Aditya-L1 mission.
- Aditya-L1 is the first observatory-class space-based solar mission from India. Sankarasubramanian has contributed to AstroSat, Chandrayaan-1 and Chandrayaan-2 missions of ISRO in several capacities.



IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day of Older Persons

October 1 is observed as the International Day of Older Persons across the globe.



About:

- This year, the theme for the International Day of Older Persons is “Resilience of Older Persons in a Changing World”
- The day was introduced by the United Nations General Assembly with an aim of honouring the contribution of older persons and looking into the problems that they face.
- The United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution on December 14, 1990, to establish October 1 as the International Day of Older Persons.
- The day came into being after the Vienna International Plan of Action on Ageing initiative, which was adopted by the World Assembly on Ageing in 1982.
- The UN General Assembly in 1991 approved the United Nations Principles for Older Persons. Later in 2002, the Second World Assembly on Ageing embraced the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing.
- It was done to address and understand the opportunities and challenges faced by the older generation in the 21st century and to promote the development of a society for

all ages.

World Habitat Day 2022

The United Nations observes the first Monday of October as World Habitat Day.



About:

- This year, World Habitat Day will be observed on October 3.
- Theme: “Mind the Gap. Leave No One and Place Behind”.
- It seeks to draw attention to the growing inequalities and vulnerabilities in cities and human settlements that have been exacerbated by the triple ‘C’ crises — COVID-19, climate and conflict.

History:

- The day came into existence with a resolution by the UN General Assembly in 1985.
- World Habitat Day was first celebrated in 1986 in Nairobi, Kenya, with the theme ‘Shelter is my right’.

World Vegetarian Day 2022 observed on 01st October

World Vegetarian Day is celebrated on the first day of October. It also kickstarts Vegetarian Awareness Month.



- World Vegetarian Day is celebrated on the first day of October.
- It also kickstarts Vegetarian Awareness Month.
- This global day of advocacy and awareness celebrates the benefits of vegetarianism and encourages people to reduce their consumption of animal products.
- The day is commemorated to create awareness about the benefits of vegetarianism like reducing the risks of heart diseases and other health complications.

International Day of Non-Violence 2022 observed on 2nd October

- The International Day of Non-Violence is observed on 2nd October, the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, leader of the Indian independence movement and pioneer of the philosophy and strategy of non-violence.

About

- The day is observed to spread the message of non-violence through public awareness and education.
- It is commemorated with the hope of building a culture of peace, tolerance, understanding and non-violence. "Say No to Violence" is the essence of this day.
- Mahatma Gandhi was born on October 2, 1869. This year, Gandhi Jayanti will mark the 153rd birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

World Day For Farmed Animals: 02nd October

World Day for Farmed Animals (WDFA) on October 2nd (Gandhi's birthday) has been offering people of conscience an opportunity to memorialize and mourn these innocent lives.

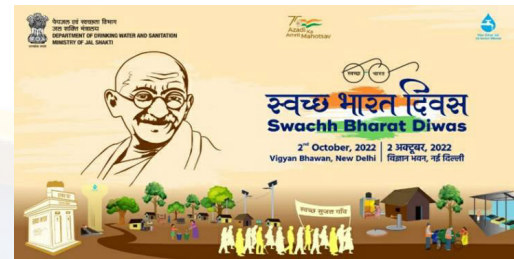
About

- Since 1983, the annual observance of World Day for Farmed Animals (WDFA) on October 2nd (Gandhi's birthday) has been offering people of conscience an opportunity to memorialize and mourn these innocent lives.
- The day is organised by the International animal welfare organization, World Animal Protection along with Asia for Animals coalition to show the importance and urgency of farm animal welfare.
- The day is dedicated to exposing the needless suffering and death of farmed

animals who are raised and slaughtered for food.

68th National Wildlife Week observed on 02 to 08 October 2022

- The celebration of 68th National Wildlife Week is observed all over India from 2nd to 8th October 2022.



About

- The main objective of this campaign is to promote the conservation and protection of animal life.
- It teaches people about animal life and encourages them to save a large number of animals by not killing them for their own food or for other purposes.

Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation Celebrates Swachh Bharat Diwas

- Department of Drinking water and sanitation (DDWS), Ministry of Jal Shakti celebrated Swachh Bharat Diwas (SBD) on 2nd October 2022.
- The Swachh Bharat Diwas is celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
- The Swachh Bharat Diwas is inspired by one of the quotes of the father of the nation, "Cleanliness is next to godliness".

World Space Week 2022 observed on 4-10 October



- World Space Week (WSW) is observed every year from October 4 to 10, to celebrate science and technology, and their contribution towards the betterment of the human condition.
- World Space Week aims to help people gain a wider knowledge about space outreach

and education.

- This helps people around the globe understand what benefits they can receive from space and how they can use space for sustainable economic development.
- It also aims to celebrate and show public support for space programs.

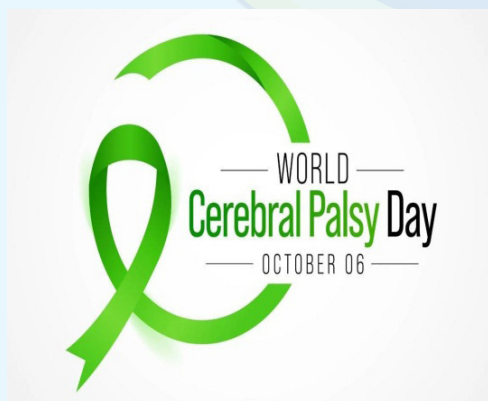
Breast Cancer Awareness Month 2022: 01st to 31st October

- Every year Breast Cancer Awareness Month (BCAM) is observed in the month of October, from 01 to 31.
- The annual international health campaign aims to increase awareness of the disease and to raise funds for research into its cause, prevention, diagnosis, treatment and cure.
- The pink ribbon is an international symbol of breast cancer awareness.

World Teachers' Day 2022: History, Significance and Theme

- World Teachers' Day or International Teachers' Day is observed every year on October 5.
- This is a day to celebrate, thank and honour teachers for their contributions to their students.
- On this day, many also come together and organise meetings, conferences and such to identify problems being faced by teachers of the country as well as globally and find solutions to those issues.
- This year marks the 28th anniversary of World Teachers' Day and the theme is "The Transformation of Education Begins with Teachers".

World Cerebral Palsy Day 2022: Theme, History & Significance



- World Cerebral Palsy Day is observed on October 6.
- Cerebral Palsy is a lifelong disability with no known cure.
- The day celebrates lives of 17 million people living with Cerebral Palsy, bringing people

living with cerebral palsy, their families, allies, supporters and organisations across more than 100 countries together.

- In 2012, Cerebral Palsy Alliance created World Cerebral Palsy Day on October 6.
- The day aims to ensure that children and adults with cerebral palsy have the same rights, access and opportunities as rest of the world.

World Cotton Day 2022 is celebrated on October 7

- October 7 is celebrated each year as World Cotton Day.
- Year 2022 marks the third-anniversary celebration of the international event. Below, we look at the theme of this year's celebration, its history and its significance.
- Cotton fibre and cottonseed are two of the most heavily used plant products globally.
- India is one of the largest cotton producers globally.
- It is a multipurpose plant chiefly used in the textile industry but also in the medical sector, edible oil industry, animal feeds, and bookbinding, among others.
- The theme for 2022's celebration of World Cotton Day appears to be "Weaving a better future for cotton,"

World Migratory Bird Day 2022 celebrates on 8th October

- Since its creation in 2006, World Migratory Bird Day has been commemorated twice a year.
- It is supposed to be celebrated on the second Saturday of May and the second Saturday of October.
- This year, it was previously celebrated on 14 May and for the second time, the world marks this day again today, 8 October.
- At least 4,000 different bird species travel long distances, making up about 40% of the world's bird population.

73rd Raising Day of Territorial Army

The 73rd Raising Day of Territorial Army was celebrated across the country on October 9.

About:

- It aims to commemorate its raising by the first Governor General C Rajagopalachari on this day in 1949.

History:

- The Territorial Army (TA) was raised by the Britishers in 1920 through Indian Territorial Act of 1920 and it was org into two wings namely - 'The Auxiliary Force' for Europeans & Anglo-Indians and 'The Indian Territorial Force' for Indian

Volunteers.

- After Independence Territorial Army Act was passed in 1948 and the Territorial Army was formally inaugurated by the first Indian Governor General Shri C Rajagopalachari on 09 Oct 1949.

World Mental Health Day 2022

Around the globe, October 10 is recognized as World Mental Health Day.

About:

- The day is observed around the world to raise awareness about the significance of mental wellness.
- According to the World Health Organization, the day offers an opportunity for all those working on mental health issues to speak about their work.

Theme:

- 'Make mental health and well-being for all a global priority'.

History:

- World Mental Health Day was observed for the first time on October 10, 1992.
- It was an initiative by the World Federation For Mental Health, a global organisation with over 150 member nations.

International Day of the Girl Child (IGD)

International Girl Child Day is celebrated on October 11.

About:

- The International Day of the Girl Child aims to raise awareness about the importance and potential girls hold as the future of our society.
- It focuses attention on the need to address the challenges girls face and to promote girls' empowerment and the fulfilment of their human rights.
- 2022 marks the 10th anniversary of International Day of the Girl Child.

Theme:



- This year's theme is "Our time is now—our

rights, our future".

History:

- First time in history, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in 1995, proposed an action plan to advance the rights of girls.
- In 2011, the United Nations General Assembly passed resolution 66/170 and adopted October 11 as the International Day of the Girl Child.
- It was an annual day commemorated to honour girls. Every year, a new theme is to be picked to focus on the most prevalent issue of the year.
- International Day of the Girl Child was first observed in 2012.

World Post Day

World Post Day is observed each year on October 9 across the world.

About:

- The day is celebrated to commemorate the date of the establishment of the Universal Postal Union (UPU).
- It was instituted at the 1969 UPU Congress in Tokyo, Japan.
- Theme: The theme for World Post Day 2022 is 'Post for Planet'.
- Universal Postal Union (UPU): The Universal Postal Union (UPU) was started in 1874 in Switzerland.

India:

- The world's first official airmail flight took place in India on February 18, 1911.
- The Indian Post Office Act 1898 was passed by the legislature on March 22, 1898. It became active on July 1, 1898.
- In Independent India, the first official postal stamp was issued on November 21, 1947. The new stamp depicted the Indian flag with the patriots' slogan 'Jai Hind'.



World Sloth Bear Day

The first World Sloth Bear Day was observed on October 12.

About:

- It aims to spread awareness about protection and conservation of sloth bears.
- A proposal for observing the World Sloth

Bear Day was mooted by Wildlife SOS India, an organisation involved in sloth bear conservation and protection for over two decades and the IUCN-Species Survival Commission sloth bear expert team accepted the proposal and declared the day to be celebrated worldwide.

Sloth bears (*Melursus ursinus*):

- Sloth bears are endemic to the Indian sub-continent with small populations in Nepal and Srilanka and 90% of the species population is found in India.
- They are classified as 'Vulnerable' on the IUCN Red List.
- They are identified by their very distinct long, shaggy dark brown or black fur, distinct white V-shaped chest patch and four-inch long ivory-coloured curved claws used for digging out termites and ants from rock-hard mounds. Listed under Schedule I of the (Wildlife Protection) Act of India, 1972 the species has the same level of protection as tigers, rhinos and elephants.
- They are found in all parts of the country except Jammu and Kashmir and north-eastern States.



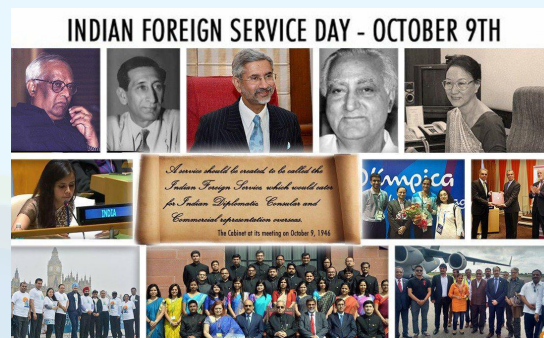
World Arthritis Day 2022 observed on 12th October

- World Arthritis day is observed on 12 October every year and it is a global health awareness event that helps create awareness about rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases.
- This day aims to bring people around the world on a single platform so that their voices are heard and more support is provided for better treatment options for the people affected with rheumatic and

musculoskeletal diseases (RMDs).

- The theme for World Arthritis day 2022 is "It's in your hands, take action".

Indian Foreign Service (IFS) Day celebrates on October 9



- October 9 is celebrated as Indian Foreign Service Day.
- On 9 October 1946, the Indian government established the Indian Foreign Service for India's diplomatic, consular and commercial representation overseas.
- Indian Foreign Service (IFS) will grow from strength to strength in the coming years and will help advance India's interests globally, said External Affairs Minister (EAM) S Jaishankar as he greeted the members of foreign service on the IFS Day 2022.
- The history of the Service and this day goes back to September 1946, when, on the eve of India's Independence, the Government of India decided to create a service called the Indian Foreign Service for India's diplomatic, consular and commercial representation overseas.

IREDA celebrates "Cyber Jaagrukta Diwas"

- To create cybersecurity awareness among all employees, Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd. (IREDA) observed the "Cyber Jaagrukta Diwas".
- On this occasion, Shri Alok Kumar, Information Security Consultant, AKS IT Services, shared his insights with IREDA employees on the practice of cyber hygiene.
- Cyber Jaagrukta Diwas is an initiative launched by the Ministry of Home Affairs that requires all government organizations to spread cybersecurity awareness.
- It is observed on first Wednesday of every month.
- The purpose is to create awareness and sensitize the Internet users on safeguarding against cyber frauds and cybercrimes.

World Post Day 2022 celebrates on 9th October

- World Post Day is celebrated each year on 9 October, the anniversary of the establishment of the Universal Postal Union in 1874 in the Swiss Capital, Bern.
- This day celebrates the role of the post in people's and businesses' everyday lives. It was declared World Post Day by the UPU Congress held in Tokyo, Japan in 1969.
- Since then, countries across the world participate annually in the celebrations. The Posts in many countries use the event to introduce or promote new postal products and services.

International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction 2022 observed on 13 October

- October 13 is designated as International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction with a focus on encouraging a global culture of risk awareness and catastrophe preparedness.
- The day is an opportunity to acknowledge the progress being made toward preventing and reducing disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods, economies and basic infrastructure in line with the international agreement for reducing global disaster risk and losses.

World Sight Day 2022 observed on 13 October



- World Sight Day is observed every year on the second Thursday of October to raise awareness about vision impairment, vision care and other issues related to eyes.
- This year, the day is being observed today i.e. on 13 October.
- This day is observed to increase awareness about the importance of eye health and to honour ophthalmologists – medical

professional who diagnoses and treats human eye and vision problems – who work tirelessly around the globe to combat the issue.

International E-Waste Day 2022 observed on 14 October

- Each year, International E-Waste Day is held on 14 October, an opportunity to reflect on the impacts of e-waste and the necessary actions to enhance circularity for e-products.
- International E-Waste Day was developed in 2018 by the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment recycling (WEEE) Forum to raise the public profile of waste electrical and electronic equipment recycling and encourage consumers to recycle. 2022 is the fifth edition of International E-Waste Day.
- This is why International E-Waste Day (#ewasteday) 2022 will be focusing on small items of e-waste, under the slogan “Recycle it all, no matter how small!”. #ewasteday will take place on 14 October 2022.

World Standards Day celebrates on 14th October

- World Standards Day is marked every year on October 14 to raise awareness about the importance of using standardised measurements, technologies, and industries.
- This day, also known as International Standards Day, strives to educate consumers, policymakers, and businesses about the value of standardisation.
- The day is also used to commemorate the achievements of scientists for developing voluntary universal standards that can be used for various measurements.
- The theme for World Standards Day 2022 is ‘Shared Vision for a Better World.’

International Day of Rural Women 2022 observed on 15 October

- October 15 is celebrated as the International Day of Rural women across the world.
- The day focuses to promote gender quality and highlight the important role played by women in rural areas.
- The International Day of Rural Women is a time to celebrate the important role that rural women play in society.
- It is also an opportunity to raise awareness about the challenges faced by rural women and to call for action to address these issues.

- We hope that this day will help empower rural women and give them the recognition they deserve.
- The theme for the International Day of Rural Women (15 October), “Rural Women Cultivating Good Food for All”,

World Student’s Day 2022 celebrates on 15 October

- October 15 is celebrated as World Students’ Day to commemorate the birth anniversary of Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, a celebrated Aerospace scientist and former President of India.
- The day is marked to acknowledge his efforts toward students and education. Dr Kalam was born on October 15, 1931.
- He served as an inspiration to many students to achieve and do something remarkable.
- After his tenure as the President came to an end, he became a visiting faculty at the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) in Shillong, IIM-Indore and IIM- Ahmedabad.



World Food Day 2022: Leave NO ONE behind

- World Food Day 2022: Every year on October 16 in observance of the date the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) of the United Nations was established in 1945, World Food Day is marked.
- The main objectives are to combat world hunger and work toward its eradication.
- The World Food Day 2022 will take place this year with more focus on moving forward together. Every UN member state, including India, observes the day.

17th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas to be held at Indore in January 2023

- The 17th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas Convention is to be held in Indore, Madhya Pradesh in January 2023.

- External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar launched the website of the 17th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas Convention with Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chauhan and Minister of State for External Affairs V Muraleedharan.

International Day for the Eradication of Poverty 2022 observed on 17 October

- International Day for the Eradication of Poverty is observed every year on October 17 globally.
- It is a day to raise awareness about the global issue of poverty and how it is a violation of human rights and of human dignity.
- The day also honours the courage of people living in poverty and their everyday struggles.
- This year’s theme for International Day for the Eradication of Poverty is “Dignity For All in Practice”.



Global Handwashing Day 2022: Unite for Universal Hand Hygiene

- October 15 is marked as Global Handwashing Day, with the aim of increasing awareness and understanding about the importance of handwashing with soap as an effective and affordable way to prevent diseases and save lives.
- Hand hygiene has become quite popular after the Covid-19 pandemic. And to make handwashing a habit, there is a day dedicated to it; global hand washing day.
- It is an initiative to unite universal hand hygiene habits of people across the world. This global advocacy day is celebrated on October 15 each year.
- This year’s theme, “Unite for Universal Hand Hygiene”, calls on all of society to work together to scale up hand hygiene.

World Trauma Day 2022:

- Every year, October 17 is celebrated as World Trauma Day.
- The day is observed with a view to prevent the increasing rate of accidents and injuries causing death and disability across the

world.

- The day was created in New Delhi, India, in 2011.
- This was a result of the high number of deaths caused by road accidents in the country, an estimate of over 400 people lost their lives each day to it.
- Road Traffic Accident (RTA) is the leading cause of trauma across the world.
- World Trauma Day was established in 2011 in New Delhi, India.

International Animation Day 2022 observed on 28th October

- International Animation Day is celebrated on 28 October every year.
- It was in this year when the International Animated Film Association (ASIFA) declared International Animation Day (IAD) as a worldwide occasion to commend the speciality of animation.
- This day is celebrated in more than 50 distinct nations throughout the world.
- IAD was started by ASIFA, an individual from UNESCO

World Osteoporosis Day 2022

- World osteoporosis day is a global healthcare event observed every year on 20 October.
- The day is observed to promote the early diagnosis of osteoporosis, its treatment and preventive tips for strong bones.
- The campaigns are mainly focused on encouraging people to take preventative measures for their bone health to avoid any risk of osteoporosis and associated complications in the future.
- This year 2022, the World Osteoporosis Day theme is “Step Up For Bone Health”,

World Statistics Day 2022 celebrates on 20 October

- World Statistics Day 2022 is celebrated annually on October 20th to recognize the importance of statistics in our daily lives. The United Nations Statistical Commission has been at the forefront of advocating for the use of statistics to track progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Good data and statistics are essential for effective planning, monitoring and evaluation of progress towards the SDGs.
- The theme of Statistics Day, 2022 is “Data for Sustainable Development”.

National Police Commemoration Day: 21 October



- October 21 commemorates the sacrifices of ten CRPF personnel who lost their lives in the line of duty.
- On October 21, 1959, ten Indian policemen were killed during an attack by Chinese troops in the Hot Springs region close to Ladakh after an argument between the troops.
- Since that day, 21 October has been observed as National Police Commemoration Day in honour of the martyrs.

National Solidarity Day 2022: Significance and History

- India observes National Solidarity Day on 20th October every year. This day is observed to honour the Armed Forces.
- In the wake of the mortifying military thrashing because of China, India had started observing National Solidarity Day on October 20—the date on which China began the assaults in 1962.
- The purpose of the day is to celebrate the memory of the solidarity, unity, and integrity of our people during the war in order to protect the nation.

Global Dignity Day 2022: 3rd Wednesday in October

- Global Dignity Day is observed every year on the 3rd Wednesday of October. This year Global Dignity Day is observed on the 19th of October.
- The day is an initiative to educate and inspire young people and help them to understand their self-worth and goals.
- It was established in 2008 and continues to grow in popularity.
- Dignity is an inherent part of the human condition.
- It is an initiative celebration day that educates and inspires young people.
- Global Dignity Day is celebrated to make

everyone living in this world realize that they have rights and deserve respect in every aspect.

International Stuttering Awareness Day observed on 22 October



- International Stuttering Awareness Day (ISAD) or International Stammering Awareness Day is celebrated on October 22.
- The day creates awareness about the speech disorder known as stuttering or stammering.
- Stuttering refers to disruptions in the fluency of speech. Its symptoms include involuntary repetition of words and temporary inability or difficulty to utter sounds or words, among others.
- The theme for 2022's International Stuttering Awareness Day is "Being seen, being heard: Representation and normalisation of stuttering in the mainstream,".

United Nations Day 2022 celebrates on 24th October

- United Nations Day, on 24 October, marks the anniversary of the entry into force in 1945 of the UN Charter.
- With the ratification of this founding document by the majority of its signatories, including the five permanent members of the Security Council, the United Nations officially came into being.
- In 1945, 50 governments gathered to draft the UN Charter.
- They have struggled and accomplished great feats to uphold peace, protect human rights, and play a key role in bringing international justice.

World Development Information Day observed on 24 October

- Every year the United Nations marks October 24 as World Development Information Day.
- This day is observed to create awareness towards the problems surrounding development in different nations and how to overcome them.

- The United Nations (UN) believes that such information and communications technologies also have the potential to provide solutions to various development challenges and can also foster various crucial goals, especially in developing countries.

Global Media and Information Literacy Week: 24-31 October

- Global Media and Information Literacy (MIL) Week 2022 is observed from October 24 to October 31.



- The Global MIL Week 2022 focuses on trust and solidarity as it relates to people, media, digital platforms, governments, the private sector, and non-governmental organizations.
- It highlights some promising actions in connection with media and information literacy in the last year and how media and information literacy helps with nurturing trust and countering mistrust.

World Polio Day 2022: History, Theme and Significance



- World Polio Day 2022 is observed every year on October 24 to raise awareness about the polio vaccination and eradication of polio from every corner of the world.
- The day is observed to commemorate the

progress made by the world towards polio eradication.

- The day to raise awareness of the importance of polio vaccination to protect every child from this devastating disease, and to celebrate the many parents, professionals and volunteers whose contributions make polio eradication achievable.

7th Ayurveda Day 2022 observed on 23rd October

- National Ayurveda Day 2022
- The 7th Ayurveda Day was celebrated on a magnificent scale in India and at the international level.
- The theme of this year's Ayurveda Day is "Har Din Har Ghar Ayurveda", with the motive to propagate the benefits of Ayurveda to masses and grass-root communities.
- In view with the 2022 theme, several events and activities were conducted under 3-Js i.e. Jan Sandesh, Jan Bhagidari and Jan Aandolan.
- The celebration also includes six-week-long events from 12th September 2022 to 23rd October 2022.

Disarmament Week 2022 celebrates on 24-30 October



- Disarmament Week is celebrated from October 24 to 30 each year. One of the key goals of the United Nations is to achieve world peace.
- To that end, the organisation marks October 24 to October 30 as Disarmament Week each year.
- Disarmament Week seeks to promote awareness and a better understanding of disarmament issues and their cross-cutting importance.

World Cities Day is observed on 31 October

- World Cities Day brings Urban October to an end on 31st October each year and was first celebrated in 2014.

- As with World Habitat Day, a global observance is held in a different city each year and the day focuses on a specific theme.
- A different city hosts the event each year. This year's global observance is planned in Shanghai, China under the theme "Act Local to Go Global."

World Day for Audiovisual Heritage celebrates on 27 October

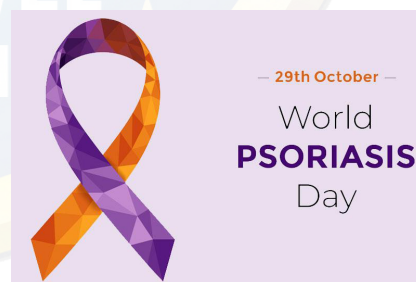
- World Day for Audiovisual Heritage (WDAH) is celebrated on October 27 every year to highlight and promote the importance of such preservation.

World Day for Audiovisual Heritage 2022: Theme

- "Enlisting documentary heritage to promote inclusive, just and peaceful societies" is the theme for WDAH this year.
- It refers to the importance of archiving visual and sonic information to preserve history for society's benefit and progress.

World Psoriasis Day is Observed On 29 October

- World Psoriasis Day is observed every year on October 29th to make the general public aware of the important facts related to psoriasis and this disease and its treatment.
- In the year 2022, World Psoriasis Day is being observed with the theme of "Unloading Psoriatic Disease".



International Internet Day

- International Internet Day is celebrated on October 29 every year across the world to celebrate the usage of the internet for the first time.
- The day marks the sending of the first electronic message which was transferred from one computer to another in 1969.
- At that time the Internet was known as ARPANET (Advanced Research Projects Agency Network).
- The Internet provides instant access to

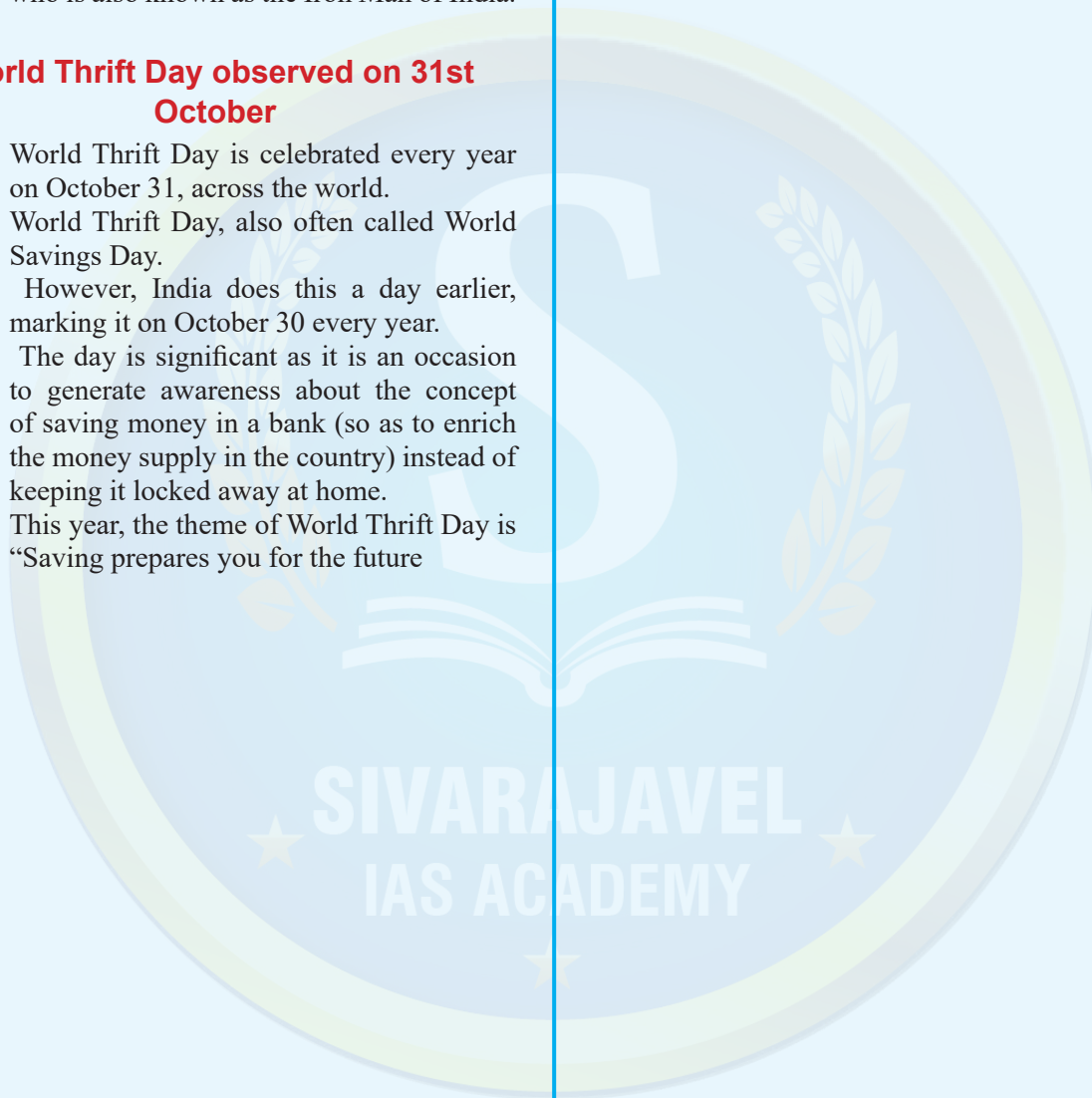
information.

Rashtriya Ekta Diwas or National Unity Day 2022:

- The National Unity Day or Rashtriya Ekta Diwas is celebrated every year on October 31st to commemorate the birth anniversary of India's first Home Minister, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.
- This year will mark the 147th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, who is also known as the Iron Man of India.

World Thrift Day observed on 31st October

- World Thrift Day is celebrated every year on October 31, across the world.
- World Thrift Day, also often called World Savings Day.
- However, India does this a day earlier, marking it on October 30 every year.
- The day is significant as it is an occasion to generate awareness about the concept of saving money in a bank (so as to enrich the money supply in the country) instead of keeping it locked away at home.
- This year, the theme of World Thrift Day is "Saving prepares you for the future"





22nd World Blockchain Summit Begins in Dubai

- World Blockchain Summit in Dubai is taking place on Oct. 17 and 18, 2022 at Atlantis, The Palm.
- It is one of the most elite gatherings of the global crypto and blockchain ecosystem.
- The 22nd global edition of the World Blockchain Summit will bring together some of the world's leading crypto influencers, policymakers, key government delegates, media, family offices, HNIs and other curated investors, among others, to foster the crypto and blockchain community across the globe.

United Nations Secretary General on India's Visit

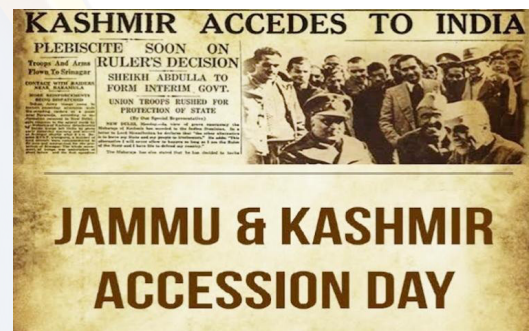
- United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres arrived in Mumbai, India on October 19 on a three-day official visit. This is his first visit to India, since he assumed his second term in office in January this year.
- On 20 October, in Gujarat (Ekta Nagar, Kevadiya), the UN chief will join Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the launch of the Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) booklet, logo and tagline on October 20 in Gujarat's Ekta Nagar, Kevadiya
- Mission LiFE will be India's signature initiative at the United Nations and other international platforms for showcasing climate action and early achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, the ministry said.

Telangana Hyderabad Haleem bags 'Most Popular GI' award

- Telangana's Hyderabad Haleem has won the 'Most Popular GI' award after beating other food items including Rasgulla, Bikaneri Bhujia, and Ratlami Sev.
- In a rigid competition with more than 15 food items across the country with Geographical Indication (GI) status, the famous Hyderabad Haleem has bagged the 'Most Popular GI' award.

Anna May Wong set to become first Asian American to feature on US currency

- Anna May Wong: Anna May Wong was born with the name Wong Liu-Tsong. Wong began her film career at the age of 14 as an extra in The Red Lantern.
- Anna May Wong was born in Los Angeles to second-generation Chinese immigrants (1919)



Union Territory of J&K celebrates its Accession Day on 26th October

- The Accession Day of Jammu and Kashmir on 26th October with the Union of India is being celebrated across the Union Territory.
- Accession Day carries great significance as it was on this day in 1947 that the then Maharaja of Jammu and Kashmir, Hari Singh signed the Instrument of Accession to become part of the greatest democracy of the world.
- Several functions are being organized to mark the day.
- Accession Day is a public holiday in the Union Territory.

World's largest safari park to be developed in Gurugram

- World's largest jungle safari park to be developed in Haryana. World's largest jungle safari park will be spread across an area of 10000 acres in the Aravalli Mountain Range of Gurugram.



ART AND CULTURE

Three-day Kuchipudi dance festival

- The third World Kuchipudi Natyotsavam was organized for three days in Vijayawada.
- The World Kuchipudi Natyotsavam starts on 14th October 2022. The Kuchipudi dance festival is being organized in commemoration of the 93rd birth anniversary of world-renowned Kuchipudi dance artist Vempati China Satyam.

Kati Bihu 2022

- The Kati Bihu is an auspicious festival of Assam which is a harvest festival.
- It is celebrated on 18th October 2022 and the day is marked on the first day of Kati month according to the Assamese Calendar.
- The Kati Bihu generally falls in October every day.
- Kati Bihu is also known as Kongali Bihu which marks the crucial phase in farmers' lives in Assam.
- It marks the fresh start of the harvest season and the relocation of the rice saplings.

Bestu Varas

- Gujarati New Year 2022: Gujarati New Year which is also known as Bestu Varas is celebrated a day after Diwali.
- The Gujarati New Year falls on Shukla Paksha Pratipada of the Kartik month.
- The Gujarati New Year is also called Varsha-Pratipada or Padwa.
- The Gujarati New Year is one of the major festivals in Gujarat.

Chhath Puja 2022

- Chhath Puja is an ancient Hindu festival dedicated to the Surya Dev and Shashthi Devi. Chhath Puja is celebrated after Diwali for four days.
- It is mainly celebrated in Bihar, Jharkhand, and eastern Uttar Pradesh in India and some parts of Nepal.
- Chhath Puja is also known as Surya Shashthi, Chhath Mahaparv, Chhath Parv, Dala Puja, Pratihara, and Dala Chhath.

Garba Dance

PM expresses happiness on Garba attaining popularity among National Games participants

About:



- Garba is a dance form native to the Indian state of Gujarat, performed in October to honour the Hindu Deity of Divinity, Goddess Durga
- It is a joyful style of dance, based on a circular pattern and characterized by a sweeping action from side to side.
- Garba performances often include singing and a musical accompaniment traditionally provided by dhol (double-headed drum) and the similar but smaller dholak; hand clapping; and assorted metallic idiophones, such as cymbals.
- Garba dances celebrate fertility, honour womanhood, and pay respect to any of an array of mother goddesses.
- In Gujarat the dances customarily mark a girl's first menstrual cycle and, later, her imminent marriage. Garba dancing also takes place during the nine-day Navratri festival.

Mahakaleshwar Temple

PM Modi to inaugurate first phase of Shri Mahakaleshwar Temple Extension project.

About



- Mahakaleshwar Jyotirlinga is a Hindu temple dedicated to Shiva and is one of the

twelve Jyotirlingas, shrines which are said to be the most sacred abodes of Shiva.

- It is located in the ancient city of Ujjain in the state of Madhya Pradesh, India. The temple is situated on the side of the holy river Shipra.
- The temple's Mahakal Lingam is believed to be Swayambhu (self-manifested) and unlike any other jyotirlingas in the country, the idol of Mahakaleshwar faces south.
- Mahakal temple complex expansion project was planned in the year 2017. This expansion project are being conducted in two phases. The second Phase will be completed in 2023-24.

12 Jyotirlingas in India

- The jyotirlinga shrines are places where Shiva appeared as a fiery column of light. A Jyotirlinga is a shrine where Lord Shiva is worshipped in the form of a Jyotirlingam.
- 12 Jyotirlingas In India are Somnath(Gujarat), Nageshwar (Gujarat), Bhimashankar (Maharashtra), Trimbakeshwar (Maharashtra), Grishneshwar (Maharashtra), Vaidyanath (Jharkhand), Mahakaleshwar (Madhya Pradesh), Omkareshwar (Madhya Pradesh), Kashi Vishwanath(Uttar Pradesh), Kedarnath (Uttarakhand), Rameshwaram (Tamil Nadu), Mallikarjuna (Andhra Pradesh).

UNESCO-MONDIACULT 2022

The Indian delegation headed by the Minister of State for Culture Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal represented at UNESCO-MONDIACULT 2022 World Conference held at Mexico City

About

- The Indian delegation headed by the Minister of State for Culture Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal represented at UNESCO-MONDIACULT 2022 World Conference held at Mexico City during 28th-30th September, 2022.
- The Minister addressed the conference on burning issues and concerns of the Cultural sector policies.
- In the conference, Culture Ministers of more than 100 countries participated on this multilateral forum to decide on the global cultural discourse.

Bhoota Kola

The recent Kannada movie Kantara opens up a controversy relates to the origins of Bhoota Kola,

an annual ritual performance where local spirits or deities are worshipped.

About:



- Bhoota Kola is an annual ritual performance where local spirits or deities are worshipped.
- It is believed that a person performing the ritual has temporarily become a god himself.
- This performer is both feared and respected in the community and is believed to give answers to people's problems, on behalf of the god.
- There are several 'Bhootas' who are worshipped in the Tulu-speaking belt of Dakshina Kannada, Uttara Kannada and Udupi districts of Karnataka.
- It is usually performed in small local communities and rural areas.

Golden Temple

The Vice President, Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar recently visited Sri Darbar Sahib (Golden Temple) at Amritsar

About



- Guru Ramdas Sahib, the 4th of 10 Sikh gurus, started the construction of the temple and its pool in the 1500s as a place of worship for all.
- The temple has been renovated many times, adding features such as the marble inlays along the floor.
- Maharaja Ranjit Singh, founder of the Sikh Empire of India (1799-1849) had the

temple's upper floors covered in 750 kilos of pure gold.

- The Sikh scripture, the Guru Granth Sahib, is housed within the golden temple of Harmandir Sahib.

Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya

Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya received 1,15,161 visitors upto 30th September, 2022. The Sangrahalaya was opened for public on 21st April 2022.

About:



- The Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya is a tribute to every Prime Minister of India since Independence, and a narrative record of how each one has contributed to the development of our nation over the last 75 years.
- The logo of the Sangrahalaya shows hands holding the dharma chakra, symbolising the nation and democracy.
- The Sangrahalaya will also include the Nehru Museum.
- It is located at the iconic Teen Murti complex.

Display:

- From the freedom struggle to the framing of the Constitution, the museum will have displays that showcase stories of how the respective Prime Ministers steered the nation.
- Personal items, gifts and memorabilia like medals, commemorative stamps, speeches of PMs and anecdotal representations of ideologies will be on display at the museum.

History

- The Teen Murti Bhawan, the site of the new museum, was the official residence of Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of India.
- The Nehru Memorial Museum and Library (NMML) was set up in his memory on its premises as an autonomous institution under the Union Culture Ministry.

2022 OCTOBER MONTH QUESTIONS

1) International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists is observed on

- a) November 1
- b) November 2
- c) November 3
- d) November 4

2) Central Vigilance Awareness Week is observed from _____

- a) 31st October to 6th November 2022
- b) 1st November to 7th November
- c) 8th November to 15th November
- d) 15th November to 21 st November

3) Consider the following statement

1) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will commence pilot launches of the digital rupee from November 1.

2) It has identified nine banks for participation in the pilot launch.

Which of the above statement is/ are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2 are correct
- d) Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

4) Arrange the following countries on the basis of the spending on the military

- 1) China
- 2) India
- 3) United States of America
- 4) Russia

Choose the correct answer

- a) 1-2-3-4
- b) 2-3-4-1
- c) 4-3-2-1
- d) 3-2-4-1

5) Performance Grading Index(PGI) is released by

- a) Ministry of Home affairs
- b) Ministry of education
- c) Ministry of Environment
- d) Ministry of science

6) Which state is planned to setup Cyber Intelligence Unit?

- a) Punjab
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Gujarat
- d) Tamil nadu

7) Ranipur Tiger Reserve is located in

- a) Uttar Pradesh
- b) Uttarakhand
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) Rajasthan
- e) Answer not known

8) Northeast's first fish museum is located in

- a) Arunachal Pradesh
- b) Assam
- c) Meghalaya
- d) Mizoram

9) National Tribal Dance Festival is celebrated in

- a) Tamil nadu
- b) Chattisgarh
- c) Jharkhand
- d) Andhra Pradesh

10) Who was the founder of the Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA)?

- a) Elaben Bhatt
- b) Annie besant
- c) Muthulakshmi reddy
- d) Margaret cousin

11) who has won the 'Changemaker' award at the UN SDG (United Nations Sustainable Development Goals) Action Awards?

- a) Srishti Bakshi
- b) Srishti Deshmukh
- c) Annie Ernaux
- d) Kalpana datt

12) Who has won the UNHCR's Nansen Refugee Award ?

- a) Angela Merkel
- b) Shaikh Hasina
- c) Narendra Modi
- d) Joe BidenAns a

13) 'World Green City award 2022 is won by

- a) Hyderabad
- b) Pune
- c) Mumbai
- d) New DelhiAns. A

14) Who has won Britain's Booker Prize 2022?

- a) Ruskin bond
- b) Shehan Karunatilaka

- c) Aruntathi Roy
- d) Surya mukharjee

15) National Intellectual Property Award won by

- a) IIT Madras
- b) IIT Bombay
- c) IIT Ahmedabad
- d) IIT Kolkata

16) International Day of Non-Violence 2022 observed on ____

- a) 1st October
- b) 2nd October
- c) 3rd October
- d) 4th October

17) Consider the following statement

1) The celebration of 68th National Wildlife Week is observed all over India from 2nd to 8th October 2022.

2) The main objective of this campaign is to promote the conservation and protection of animal life.

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2 are correct
- d) Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

18) Consider the following statement

1) Department of Drinking water and sanitation (DDWS), Ministry of Jal Shakti celebrated Swachh Bharat Diwas (SBD) on 2nd October 2022.

2) The Swachh Bharat Diwas is celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2 are correct
- d) Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

19) World Migratory Bird Day 2022 celebrates on

- a) 7th October
- b) 8th October
- c) 9th October
- d) 10th October

20) World Cotton Day 2022 is celebrated on

- a) 7th October
- b) 8th October
- c) 9th October
- d) 10th October

21) World Teachers' Day or International Teachers' Day is observed every year on ____

- a) October 5
- b) October 6
- c) October 7
- d) October 8

22) World Arthritis Day 2022 observed on ____

- a) 11th October
- b) 12th October
- c) 13th October
- d) 14th October

23) Indian Foreign Service (IFS) Day celebrates on

- A) October 6
- B) October 7
- C) October 8
- D) October 9

24) International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction 2022 observed on

- a) 11th October
- b) 12th October
- c) 13th October
- d) 14th October

25) International E-Waste Day 2022 observed on

- a) 11th October
- b) 12th October
- c) 13th October
- d) 14th October

26) World Food Day 2022 is observed on

- a) October 16
- b) October 17
- c) October 18
- d) October 19

27) The 17th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas Convention is to be held in ____

- a) Pune
- b) Indore
- c) Mumbai
- d) Agra

28) International Day of Rural Women 2022 observed on ____

- a) 15th October
- b) 16th October
- c) 17th October
- d) 18th October

29) International Day for the Eradication of Poverty 2022 observed on

- a) 15th October
- b) 16th October
- c) 17th October
- d) 18th October

30) Identify the personality associated with the given statement

1) He has the same birthday (2 October) as Mahatma Gandhi even though he was born in 1904, 35 years later.

2) He is also remembered for composing the slogan of "Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan"

Choose the correct answer

- a) Chandrasekhar
- b) Lal Bahadur Shastri
- c) M. K. Kamaraj
- d) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

31) World Statistics Day 2022 celebrates on _____

- a) 20 th October
- b) 21 st October
- c) 22nd October
- d) 23rd October

32) National Police Commemoration Day is observed on _____

- a) 20 th October
- b) 21 st October
- c) 22nd October
- d) 23rd October

33) United Nations Day 2022 celebrates on _____

- a) 21 st October
- b) 22nd October
- c) 23rd October
- d) 24th October

34) World Development Information Day observed on _____

- a) 21 st October
- b) 22nd October
- c) 23rd October
- d) 24th October

35) Polio is affected by

- a) Bacteria
- b) Virus
- c) Protozoa
- d) Fungi

36) International Internet Day is celebrated on _____

- a) October 28
- b) October 29
- c) October 30
- d) October 31

37) The National Unity Day or Rashtriya Ekta Diwas is celebrated every year on October 31st to commemorate the birth anniversary of _____

- a) Jawaharlal Nehru

b) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

c) Lal Bahadur Shastri

d) Narshimha rao

38) Identify the incorrect statement?

a) The Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM) is also known as Mangalyaan. It was a space probe orbiting Mars on 24th September 2014.

b) It is India's first interplanetary mission and the fourth space agency to achieve Mars orbit.

c) India became the first Asian nation to reach Martian orbit and the first nation in the world to reach Mars on a Maiden attempt

d) All are correct

39) consider the following statement

a) Param-Kamrupa is a state-of-the-art supercomputer set up under the National Supercomputing Mission (NSM).

b) With this facility, IIT Guwahati will be able to carry out research on weather and climate, bioinformatics, computational chemistry, molecular dynamics, artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning, data science, etc

1. Which of the above statement is/ are correct?

2. 1 only

3. 2 only

4. Both 1 and 2 are correct

5. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

40) _____ and had the highest numbers of foreign tourist visits.

a) Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu

b) Kerala and Tamil Nadu

c) Maharashtra and Telangana

d) Andhra Pradesh and Chhattisgarh

41) India stands at _____ position among 12 countries of the Indo-Pacific in self-reliant defence production

a) First

b) Second

c) Third

d) Fourth

42) Education 4.0 Report" 2022, released by the _____

a) World Bank

b) World Economic Forum

c) IMF

d) UNDP

43) Commitment to Reducing Inequality Index (CRII), India has moved up six places to rank _____ out of 161 countries for reducing inequality.

a) 123

b) 124

c) 125

d) 126

44) ____ topped the Public Affairs Index 2022 in big states

- a) Haryana
- b) Punjab
- c) Madhya Pradesh
- d) Maharashtra

45) India Ranks ____ among 44 Nations In Pension Index

- a) 41st
- b) 42nd
- c) 43rd
- d) 44 th

46) Consider the following statement

1) The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) is a permanent, Intergovernmental Organization, created at the Baghdad Conference held at Iraq in 1960 by Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela.

2) It initially had its headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland which was then moved to Vienna, Austria in 1965.

which of the above statement is/ are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2 are correct
- d) Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

47) The Indus Waters Treaty was signed in Karachi in the year ____

- a) 1962
- b) 1961
- c) 1960
- d) 1959

48) Consider the following statement

1) One Health Joint Plan of Action: The One Health Joint Plan of Action would develop a framework and integrate systems and capability to enable improved collaborative prevention, prediction, detection, and response to health hazards.

2) This will support sustainable development while enhancing the health of people, animals, plants, and the environment

Which of the above statement is are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2 are correct
- d) Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

49) The 14th World Spice Congress will take place in the CIDCO Exhibition and Convention Centre in ____

- a) Navi Mumbai
- b) Pune
- c) New delhi

d) Kolkata

50) Pullampara named first fully digital literate panchayat is located in

- a) Karnataka
- b) Kerala
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Tamil nadu

51) Global Youth Climate Summit Begins in ____

- a) Bangladesh
- b) India
- c) China
- d) Pakistan

52) Antim Panghal is associated with

- a) Wrestling
- b) Boxing
- c) Weightlifting
- d) Athletes

53) ____ to host National Games in October 2023

- a) Gujarat
- b) Goa
- c) Haryana
- d) Punjab

54) India's first Green Technology incubation facility opened at

- a) Kolkata
- b) Srinagar
- c) Chennai
- d) Trichy

55) ____ becomes first athlete to win Gold in Yogasana

- a) Pooja yadav
- b) Pooja Patel
- c) Pooja Singh
- d) Pooja Kulkarni

56) 36th National games are held at

- a) Gujarat
- b) Goa
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) Telangana

57) ____ wins Astana Open tennis

- a) Novak Djokovic
- b) Rafael Nadal
- c) Roger Federer
- d) Andy Murray

58) Consider the following statement

1) Mallakhamb is an Indian indigenous sport that is a part of the 36th National Games.

2) Mallakhamb is the display of aerial yoga and wrestling grips with vertical stationary or

hanging wooden poles performed by gymnasts.

Which of the above statement is are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2 are correct
- d) Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

59) 5th Khelo India Youth Games to be held in _____

- a) Madhya Pradesh
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) Tamil nadu

60) _____ topped in worst state list in terms of child marriage

- a) Jharkhand and West Bengal
- b) Chhattisgarh and Gujarat
- c) Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan
- d) Jharkhand and Punjab

61) India's space economy is likely to be worth nearly \$13 billion by _____

- a) 2025
- b) 2024
- c) 2030
- d) 2040

62) World Bank Extends Loan of \$250 million for SALT Project in _____

- a) Andhra Pradesh
- b) Madhya Pradesh
- c) Telangana
- d) Tamil nadu

63) _____ to Host SCO National Coordinators Meet

- a) India
- b) China
- c) Pakistan
- d) Russia

64) _____ to host 90th General Assembly of INTERPOL

- a) India
- b) China
- c) Pakistan
- d) Russia

65) Consider the following statement

1) The 90th General Assembly of Interpol will have the world's largest police body with 195 members.

2) The General Assembly is the International policing organization's top governing body and meets once a year to take important decisions.

Which of the above statement is are correct

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2 are correct

d) Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

66) Asia's largest Compressed BioGas (CBG) plant in _____

- a) Gujarat
- b) Punjab
- c) Tamil nadu
- d) Maharashtra

67) Consider the following statement

1) Mission LIFE movement launched: Mission LIFE movement is launched by PM Modi

2) Its aim is to protect the environment.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2 are correct
- d) Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

68) India's first 'Migration Monitoring System' inaugurated in _____

- a) Mumbai
- b) New delhi
- c) Kolkata
- d) Chennai

69) consider the following statement

1) The Rashtriya Adarsh Veda Vidyalaya has been launched to spread knowledge of the Vedas among people.

2) Rastriya Adarsh Veda Vidyalaya which is also called the National Model Vedic School

Which of the above statement is are correct

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2 are correct
- d) Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

70) Employment Outlook of India is released by

- a) National statistics office
- b) Niti aayog
- c) Ministry of labour
- d) Ministry of Home affairs

71) NIA to establish offices in every state by _____

- a) 2024
- b) 2025
- c) 2026
- d) 2027

72) SAFAL' (Simplified Application for Agricultural Loans) for the welfare of farmers is launched by

- a) Gujarat
- b) Odisha
- c) Punjab
- d) Haryana

73) 12th World Hindi Conference will take place in _____

- a) Fiji
- b) Mauritius
- c) Maldives
- d) India

74) Consider the following statement

- 1) IBSAMAR is the abbreviation of India-Brazil-South Africa Maritime.
- 2) It is a series of naval exercises between the navies of India, Brazil, and South Africa.

Which of the above statement is are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2 are correct
- d) Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

75) Consider the following statement

- 1) Prasthan' an Offshore Security Exercise was conducted by the Eastern Naval Command in the Offshore Development Area (ODA) off Kakinada.
- 2) 'Prasthan' is a half-yearly exercise that was conducted in the KG basin to validate SOPs, address various contingencies and strengthen the command and control organization toward Maritime security.

Which of the above statement is are correct

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2 are correct
- d) Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

76) ____ to host 9th World Ayurveda Congress & Arogya Expo

- a) Gujarat
- b) Goa
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Madhya Pradesh

77) Consider the following statement

- 1) The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology of the Government of India houses the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-IN or ICERT).
- 2) It is the central organisation for handling risks to cyber security like phishing and hacking

Which of the above statement is/ are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2 are correct
- d) Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

78) Mission DefSpace launched: Mission DefSpace was inaugurated at _____

- a) Gandhinagar
- b) Pune
- c) Allahabad
- d) Haryana

79) Consider the following statement

- 1) The Shaurya Diwas marks the 75th year of induction of the Indian Army to save the state of Jammu and Kashmir from Pakistan's invasion in 1947.
- 2) The Shaurya Diwas is celebrated as a part of celebrations for Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav and the 75th year of Air landed operations of the Indian Army at Budgam Airport

Which of the above statement is are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2 are correct
- d) Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

80) SIMBEX 2022 maritime exercise between _____

- a) Singapore and India
- b) Indonesia and india
- c) Bangladesh and india
- d) Australia and india

81) Yudh Abhyas is the military exercise between india and

- a) US
- b) Russia
- c) France
- d) Italy

82) Consider the following statement

- 1) The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) is set to organize a National Conference on skilling in Non-traditional Livelihood (NTL) for girls.
- 2) The program is named "Betiyen Bane Kushal", under the banner of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao on the occasion of the International Day of the Girl Child on 11th October 2022

which of the above statement is/ are correct

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2 are correct
- d) Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

83) Consider the following statement

- 1) Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Urvarak Pariyojana-One Nation One Fertiliser.
- 2) Under the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Urvarak Pariyojana, companies must market all subsidized fertilizers under a single brand, 'Bharat'

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2 are correct
- d) Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

84) Consider the following statement

1) The One Nation One Fertiliser aims to give farmers quality crop nutrients at low costs under the 'One Nation, One Fertiliser'.

2) The farmers will be introduced to nano urea to ease the farming process

Which of the above statement is/ are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2 are correct
- d) Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

85) The Kati Bihu is an auspicious festival held at

- a) Assam
- b) Arunachal Pradesh
- c) Tripura
- d) Mizoram

86) Chhath Puja is an ancient Hindu festival dedicated to the ____

- a) Surya Dev
- b) Varuna
- c) Krishna
- d) Shiva

87) ____ is the only State to achieve Jal Jeevan Mission target for 2022

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Andhra Pradesh
- c) Telangana
- d) Jharkhand

88) Consider the following statement

1) Indian Wind Turbine Manufacturers Association (IWTMA) was established in 1998

2) It is the apex business association and voice of the Indian wind Industry.

which of the above statement is are correct

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2 are correct
- d) Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

89) Consider the following statement

1) Kashi Tamil Sangamam' will be organized by the Ministry of Education next month.

2) The 'Kashi Tamil Sangamam' is a month-long program that will be held from the 16th of the next month

Which of the above statement is are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2 are correct

d) Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

90) Consider the following statement

1) The Controller General of Accounts is the principal advisor on accounting matters of the Union Government.

2) The CGA is also responsible for exchequer control and internal audits for the Centre.

Which of the above statement is are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2 are correct
- d) Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

91) 22nd World Blockchain Summit Begins in ____

- a) Dubai
- b) south Korea
- c) India
- d) Russia

92) __ Beats China, Becomes India's 3rd-Largest Export Market

- a) Iceland
- b) Netherlands
- c) Russia
- d) China

93) Durgavati Tiger Reserve is located in

- a) Andhra Pradesh
- b) Madhya Pradesh
- c) Maharashtra
- d) West Bengal

94) Mawmluh Cave is located in ____

- a) Meghalaya
- b) Madhy pradesh
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Andhra Pradesh

95) Thundi Beach is located in

- a) Lakshadweep
- b) Andaman and Nicobar Islands
- c) Kerala
- d) Karnataka

96) Identify the correct answer

- a) Kappad: Kerala,
- b) Shivrajpur: Gujarat,
- c) Ghoghla: Diu,
- d) All are correct

97) Consider the following statement

1) The Blue Flag tag certification or tag is one of the world's most prominent voluntary eco-labels for beaches, marinas, and sustainable boating tourism operators.

2) The Denmark-based non-profit Foundation

for Environmental Education (FEE) awards the certification.

Which of the above statement is are correct

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2 are correct
- d) Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

98) Terai Elephant Reserve is located in

- a) Uttar Pradesh
- b) Andaman and Nicobar Islands
- c) Lakshadweep
- d) Punjab

99) Identify the personality associated with the following statement

1) He was born on 31st October 1875 in Nadiad, Gujarat.

2) He was the first Home Minister and Deputy Prime Minister of independent India.

3) He played an important role in the integration of many Indian princely states to make an Indian federation

Choose the correct answer

- a) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
- b) Jawaharlal Nehru
- c) Lal Bahadur Shastri
- d) Radhakrishnan

100) Identify the personality associated with the following statement

1) He was born on 30 October 1909 in Bombay, Bombay Presidency, British India (now Mumbai, Maharashtra, India).

2) His invaluable contributions to the field of science continue to inspire generations of young minds in the country.

choose the correct answer

- a) Homi babha
- b) Mandal
- c) C v. Chandrasekhar
- d) Viswesvaraya

Answers:

1	b	21	a	41	d	61	a	81	a
2	a	22	b	42	b	62	a	82	c
3	c	23	d	43	a	63	a	83	c
4	a	24	c	44	a	64	a	84	c
5	b	25	d	45	a	65	c	85	a
6	b	26	a	46	c	66	b	86	a
7	a	27	b	47	c	67	c	87	a
8	a	28	a	48	c	68	a	88	c
9	b	29	c	49	a	69	c	89	c
10	a	30	b	50	b	70	a	90	c
11	a	31	a	51	a	71	a	91	a
12	a	32	b	52	a	72	b	92	b
13	a	33	d	53	b	73	a	93	b
14	b	34	d	54	b	74	c	94	a
15	a	35	b	55	b	75	c	95	a
16	b	36	b	56	a	76	b	96	d
17	c	37	b	57	a	77	c	97	c
18	c	38	d	58	c	78	a	98	a
19	b	39	c	59	a	79	c	99	a
20	a	40	a	60	a	80	a	100	a