



## CURRENT AFFAIRS 15th July 2022

### National News

1. Nasscom, Google set up call center to help rural women entrepreneurs scale up business

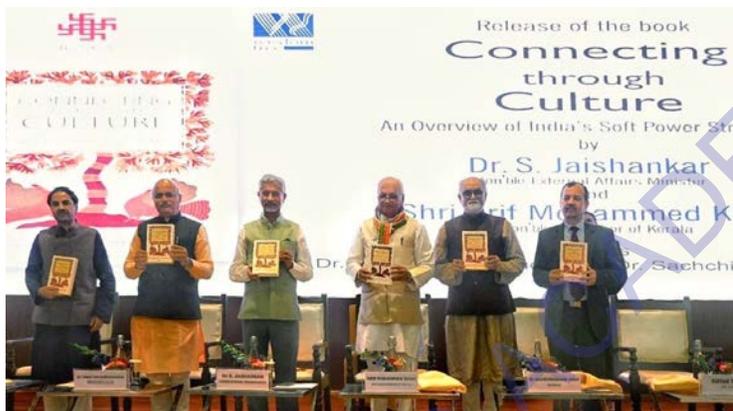


- Nasscom Foundation and Google have announced setting up a call center in collaboration with a not-for-profit body Indian Society of Agribusiness Professionals (ISAP) to help women farmers scale up their business.
- The “DigiVanni Call Center” project is being run on a pilot basis and initially around 20,000 rural women entrepreneurs shall be covered across six states, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Haryana and Rajasthan.
- DigiVaani will be one place where rural women entrepreneurs will be able to call and get information around various schemes available for them, which can help

them scale up their business, be it government schemes or any other information that can be of help for them.

- A DigiVaani call centre has been set up at the Delhi and Lucknow offices of ISAP. The project is funded by Google, through its philanthropic arm Google.org.

## 2. Jaishankar launches 'Connecting through Culture' a first of its kind book on Indian soft power



- External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar launched 'Connecting through Culture', an anthology of essays on various aspects of India's soft power strengths, at Sushma Swaraj Bhavan in New Delhi, India.
- The Minister described the book as the "good cop" in diplomacy and said that it can be used to encourage others to work with India because "it creates a comfort about India.
- It takes different aspects of India and to some degree, it brings out the familiarity with different facets of India."
- The anthology in many ways is a very notable contribution to understanding India, appreciating India, and in many ways valuing India.

### **3. PM Modi at First I2U2 Summit: Agreed on Joint Investment in Food, Health, Energy Sectors; Roadmap Ready**



- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the first virtual I2U2 Summit. The I2U2 is a four-nation grouping, where “I” stands for India and Israel, and “U” for the US and the UAE.**
- **PM Modi was joined by United States President Joe Biden, Israeli PM Yair Lapid and UAE President Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.**
- **The main focus of the virtual meeting was on the food security crisis and clean energy.**
- **The United Arab Emirates (UAE) also announced an investment of USD 2 billion to develop a series of integrated food parks across India to help tackle food insecurity in South Asia and the Middle East.**

- This I2U2 grouping was conceptualised during the meeting of the foreign ministers of the four countries held on October 18 2021.
- I2U2 will bring together countries, governments and the private sector to tackle challenges.
- India will provide “appropriate land” for “food parks” across the country that will be built in collaboration with Israel, the United States and the United Arab Emirates.

#### 4. FSIB recommends former Union Bank of India MD for post of NaBFID MD



- Rajkiran Rai G, a former managing director of the Union Bank of India, has been recommended by the Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB) to lead the newly established NaBFID, which will cost Rs 20,000 crore.
- After conducting interviews with the five finalists, the headhunter for state-owned banks and financial institutions chose the managing director for the National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID).
- In May of this year, Rai finished his extended stint as managing director of the state-owned Union Bank of India.
- The FSIB has made this decision as its first decision after its incorporation. The former Banks Board Bureau (BBB) was transformed into the FSIB with some changes to its mandate.

- The institution will have one MD and no more than three DMDs, in accordance with the National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID) Act of 2021.
- In addition to the equity capital of Rs 20,000 crore, the government has pledged a grant of Rs 5000 crore.
- The government nominated senior banker KV Kamath to lead the NaBFID for three years in October 2021.

#### 5. Cricketer Shikhar Dhawan collaborates with Web3 startups, Bliv.Club and WIOM to launch the first sports city in the metaverse



- Shikhar Dhawan, an Indian cricketer, announced a partnership with Web3 metaverse startup WIOM and financial firm Bliv.Club to build the first sports city in the metaverse.
- It is planned to have a launch in September.
- The global sports market is anticipated to expand at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 41.3 percent, from \$354.96 billion in 2021 to \$501.43 billion in 2022.
- At a CAGR of 9%, the sports market is anticipated to reach \$707.84 billion in 2026.

## 6. Rohit Sharma Becomes First Captain in History to Win 13 T20Is in a Row



- Rohit Sharma, the captain of India, became the first captain in cricket history to win 13 straight T20Is.
- This accomplishment was made by Rohit in Southampton's first T20I of a three-match series against England.
- Rohit Sharma led the Men in Blue to victories over New Zealand, the West Indies, Sri Lanka, and now England after taking over as captain from Virat Kohli.

## 7. New policy for defence manufacturing targets Rs 1.75 lakh crore in five years



- Hoping that indigenous defence manufacturing sector will act as a driver for the economy, the government has come out with a draft policy for production and export with an aim to achieve a turnover of Rs. 1.75 lakh crore by 2025.
- The Defence Ministry released the Defence Production and Export Promotion Policy 2020 seeking feedback from stakeholders.
- “In order to provide impetus to self-reliance in defence manufacturing, multiple announcements were made under ‘Atmanirbhar Bharat Package’,” the Defence Ministry said in a statement on Monday.

## 8. NRTI re-named as Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya; Gets nod for becoming a Central University



- National Rail and Transportation Institute upgraded as Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya, the deemed to be university will be upgraded to a central university.
- The university has been renamed as Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya.
- The Union Cabinet gave its approval to introduce a Bill in Parliament, namely, the Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2022 to amend the Central Universities Act, 2009 for setting up of Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya (GSV).
- The amendment would help in converting the National Rail and Transportation Institute (NRTI), a Deemed-to-be university into Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya, a Central University.

- The NRTI offers BSc in transportation technology, BBA in transportation management courses, and MSc in railway system engineering and integration.

**By Sameer Singhal**

PLUTUS ACADEMY