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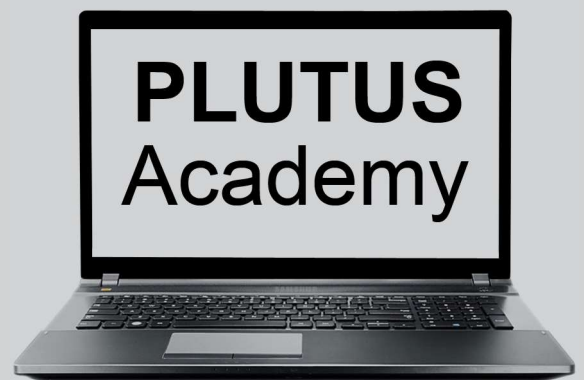
MONTHLY

CURRENT AFFAIRS

AUGUST 2022



2022



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PLUTUS ACADEMY WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS

1/08/2022 to 29/08/2022

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CURRENT AFFAIRS

AUGUST 2022

National News

1. Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw inaugurates Badi Sadri-Mavli gauge converted rail section



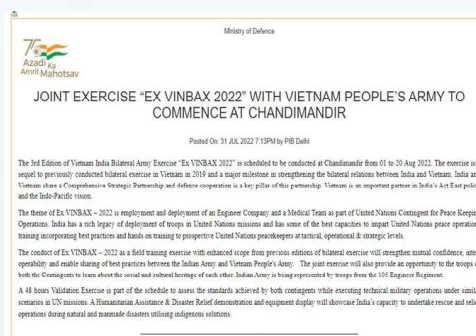
- Union Rail Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw inaugurated the Badi Sadri-Mavli gauge converted rail section yesterday.
- He flagged off Badi Sadri-Udaipur City daily special and Rewa-Udaipur City weekly special and Siuri-Sealdah MEMU train virtually in the program organized at Badi Sadri in Chittorgarh Rajasthan.
- On the occasion, Rail Minister said that Indian Railways is moving towards a new direction under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- He said the stations are being built with a plan for the next 50 years. He said that the work of making Udaipur City Railway world class would be started soon.
- Shri Ashwini Vaishnav announced to make Chittorgarh station a world class station.

2. Indo-Oman joint military exercise commences in Rajasthan

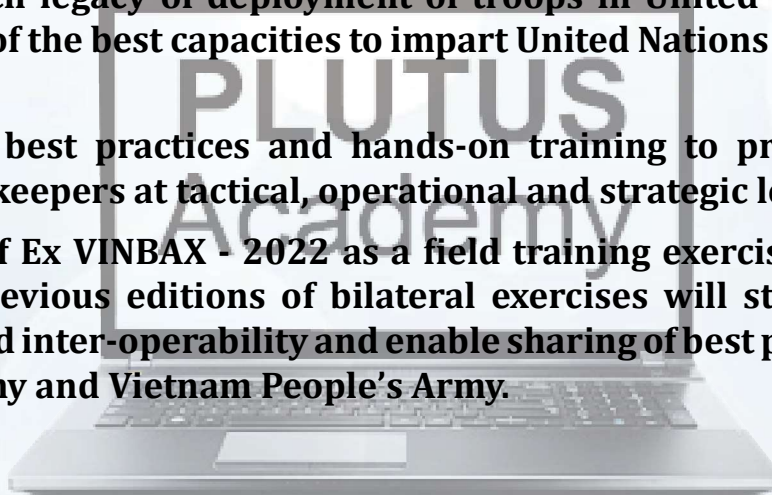


- The joint military Exercise AL NAJAH -IV between contingents of Indian Army and the Royal Army of Oman is starting from today at the Foreign Training Node of Mahajan Field Firing Range in Bikaner, Rajasthan. It would conclude on August 13.
- The Royal Army of Oman contingent comprising 60 personnel from the Sultan of Oman Parachute Regiment have already arrived at the exercise location.
- The Indian Army is represented by troops from the 18 Mechanised Infantry Battalion.
- The previous edition of Ex AL NAJAH IV was organised at Muscat from 12 to 25 March 2019.
- The joint exercise would focus on Counter Terrorism Operations, Regional Security Operations and Peace
- Keeping Operations under United Nations charter apart from organising joint physical training schedules, tactical drills, techniques and procedures.
- Joint military exercise aims to enhance the level of defence co-operation between Indian Army and Royal Army of Oman and will further manifest in enhancing the bilateral relations between the two nations.

3. 3rd edition of Vietnam-India Bilateral Army exercise to begin tomorrow at Chandimandir



- The 3rd Edition of Vietnam-India Bilateral Army Exercise “Ex VINBAX 2022” will begin tomorrow at Chandimandir. It will continue till 20th August.
- The exercise is a sequel to a previously conducted bilateral exercise in Vietnam in 2019 and a major milestone in strengthening the bilateral relations between India and Vietnam. India and Vietnam share a Comprehensive
- Strategic Partnership and defence cooperation is a key pillar of this partnership.
- Vietnam is an important partner in India’s Act East policy and the Indo-Pacific vision.
- The theme of Ex VINBAX - 2022 is the employment and deployment of an Engineer Company and a Medical Team as part of the United Nations Contingent for Peace Keeping Operations.
- India has a rich legacy of deployment of troops in United Nations missions and has some of the best capacities to impart United Nations peace operations training
- incorporating best practices and hands-on training to prospective United Nations peacekeepers at tactical, operational and strategic levels.
- The conduct of Ex VINBAX - 2022 as a field training exercise with enhanced scope from previous editions of bilateral exercises will strengthen mutual confidence, and inter-operability and enable sharing of best practices between the Indian Army and Vietnam People’s Army.



4. Vice President Venkaiah Naidu presents President’s colour to Tamil Nadu Police



- Vice President Venkaiah Naidu today presented the
- President’s colour to the Tamil Nadu Police and released a Special Cover to honour the occasion.
- The President’s Colour is the highest honour given to the military, paramilitary and police forces of States and Union Territories. Delivering his speech on the

Occasion, Mr.

- Naidu appreciated the Tamil Nadu state Police for receiving the prestigious colour as the first in Southern India.
- He said that the State ranks second in the list of more women in the police force and observed that the State was the first to create a women commando force.
- He said, the police force needs to be updated and ready to handle modern crimes in cyberspace.
- The Vice President appreciated the formation of the State Marine Police Force to prevent crimes and protect the 1076 km long coastline of Tamil Nadu.
- Mr. Naidu said that Tamil Nadu is the only State to have a police unit to investigate smuggling of idols and statues

5. Chahabar Day conference begins in Mumbai



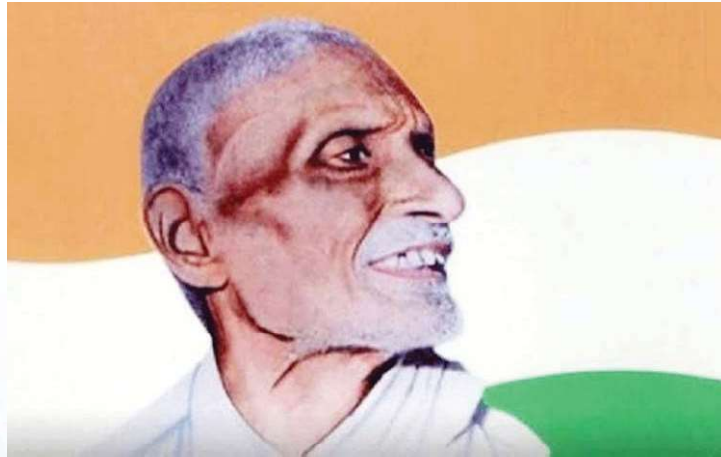
- Union Shipping Minister Sarban and Sonowal and Minister of State for Shipping Shripad Naik inaugurated the Chabahar Day conference in Mumbai today.
- Dignitaries from Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Afghanistan were present on the occasion.
- The Chabahar port is a key pillar of India's Indo-Pacific vision to connect with Eurasia with Indian Ocean Region.
- The port will also be part of the International North South Transport Corridor network connecting India.
- Deputy Head of Iran's Ports and Maritime Organization, Jalil Eslami said that Chabahar port play a significant role in economic development of India and Iran.

- This trade route will open new a venues for India and Eurasi an countries.
 - He said that Iran has given special incentives to increase trade cooperation activities between India and Iran through Chabahar port.
- 6. Common wealth Games: Mirabai Chanu strikes first gold for India; Bindyarani Devi bags silver in Weight lifting**



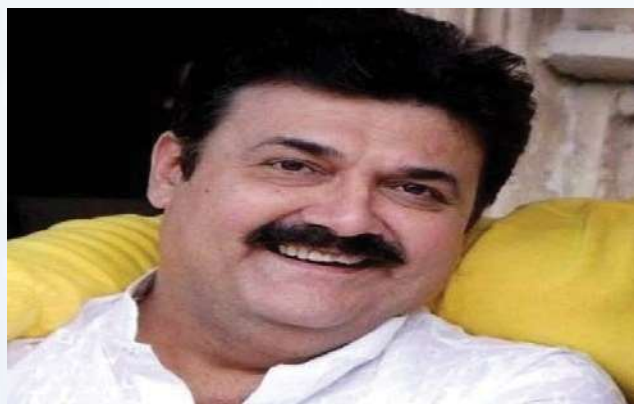
- At the on going Common wealth Games, Tokyo Olympic silver medallist weightlifter Saikhom Mirabai Chanu claimed India's first gold medal in the Women's 49kilogram event at Birmingham yesterday.
- The 2017 World champion lifted a total of 201 kilogram in snatch and clean and jerk category to give India their third medal at the games.
- Another weightlifter Bindyarani Devi Sorokhaibam won second Silver medal for India in the prestigious games in Women's 55Kg category.
- Bidyaranilifted a total of 202Kg in snatch and clean and jerk category.
- Earlier, Indian weightlifter Sanket Sargar clinched a silver medal in the Men's 55 kilogram category while Guru raja Poojary bagged bronze medal in the Men's 61 kilogram finals.
- President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated winners at the Common wealth Games.
- Union Sports Minister Anurag Thakur has also congratulated winners So far, India has won four medals in the prestigious sporting event. All these medals are in weightlifting.

7. National Flag designer Pingali Venkayya birth centenary celebrations in Delhi on Aug2



- Union Minister for Culture and Tourism G Kishan Reddy has said that on the occasion of the birth centenary celebrations of the designer of the national flag, Pingali Venkaiah, a large-scale program will be organized in Delhi on Tuesday.
- Speaking to media in Vijayawada yesterday, Kishan Reddy said the original flag designed by Pingali will be displayed on that day.
- He said he will visit the hometown of Pingali Venkaiah and invite family members on behalf of the Prime Minister for the centenary celebrations to be held in New Delhi.
- He said a postage stamp will also be released in the name of Pingali and Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Amit Shah will honour the members of Pingali's family.

8. Actor Rasik Dave passes away after prolonged illness



- Actor Rasik Dave, known for appearing in Hindi and Gujarati films and shows,

passed away following a prolonged illness.

- He was 65. His mother-in-law and veteran actor Sarita Joshi informed that Dave, who had been suffering from kidney ailments for the past four years, breathed his last on Friday evening.
- Dave's last rites were held yesterday in presence of family members and close friends.
- Rasik Dave began his career in 1982 with a Gujarat film, titled Putra Vadhu.
- In Hindi films and TV shows, the actor is best known for his work in Hrishikesh Mukherjee - directed movie 'Jhoothi', TV shows like 'EkMahal Ho Sapno Ka', 'Maha bharat' and 'Sanskaar- Dharohar Apnon Ki'.
- The actor along with his wife- popular artist Ketki Dave had also formed a theater company.

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National News

By Sameer Singhal

1. Asia Has New Richest Woman - India's Savitri Jindal



- Savitri Jindal, the Chairperson Emeritus of OP Jindal Group, has surpassed China's Yang Huiyan to become Asia's richest woman, as per the real-time Bloomberg Billionaires Index.
- The 72-year-old Savitri Jindal who also holds the position of the richest woman in India has a total fortune of \$11.3 billion.

- Jindal's net worth has fluctuated wildly in recent years. It fell to \$3.2 billion in April 2020 at the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, then to \$15.6 billion in April 2022 due to a rise in commodity prices following Russia's invasion of Ukraine.
- The fortune of Yang Huiyan, owner of China's largest real estate developer 'Country Garden Holdings', dropped by more than half in 2022, from \$ 24 billion to \$11 billion. She had been Asia's richest woman for the past five years.
- Jindal, 72, is India's richest woman and the 10th-richest person in the country.
- She became the chairwoman of the Jindal Group shortly after her husband died in a helicopter crash in 2005.
- Savitri also boasts of a career in politics. In 2009, she was re-elected and was appointed as the cabinet minister in the Haryana government.

2. Director General of SSB takes additional charge of ITBP



- Director General of Sashastra Seema Bal, SSB Dr. Sujoy Lal Thaosen today took over the additional charge of Director General of Indo-Tibetan Border Police in New Delhi.
- Dr. Thaosen is an IPS Officer of the 1988 batch, Madhya Pradesh Cadre. IPS Sanjay Arora handed over the charge and customary baton to Dr. Thaosen.
- Raised in 1962, the ITBP guards Indo-China borders. It is also deployed in various internal security duties including anti-Naxal operations in Chhattisgarh.

3. World Wide Web Day: 1st August 2022



- World Wide Web Day is observed on 1st of August every year. The day is marked in honor of the ability of people to browse information freely using the Web.
- The Web is the tool that billions across the globe use every moment to interact with the global system of interconnected computer systems that is the Internet.
- The WWW was created by English computer scientist Tim Berners-Lee in 1989, while he was working for the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) in Switzerland.
- Berners-Lee developed the essentials of the web - HTTP, HTML, the World Wide Web browser, a server, and the first website - while working at the organization.
- The day aims to highlight the importance of the web in improving people's lives by facilitating communication, access to information and resources, education and empowerment.
- The significance of the world wide web is huge in everyday life. Not a day goes by when people across the world don't use the world wide web in some way or the other.

4. World Lung Cancer Day 2022



- Every year, World Lung Cancer Day is observed on 01st August to raise aware-

ness about the causes and treatment of lung cancer and highlight the issues of lack of sufficient research funding for the ailment.

- Lung cancer is one of the leading causes of cancer deaths among men and women.
- The campaign was first organised in 2012 by the Forum of International Respiratory Societies (FIRS), in collaboration with the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (IASLC) and also the American College of Chest Physicians.
- The IASLC is the largest organisation in the world of its kind that only deals with lung cancer.

5. Monkeypox | Center forms task force to monitor virus situation



- The Central Government has constituted a task force in the wake of monkeypox cases in India to monitor and provide guidance on the expansion of diagnostic facilities and to explore vaccination for the infection in the country.
- The decision was taken during a meeting attended by senior officials recently.
- The team will be headed by Dr. V.K. Paul, member (Health), NITI Aayog. Until Monday, India confirmed four monkeypox cases — three in Kerala and one in Delhi.
- Last week, a youth in Kerala presenting monkeypox-like symptoms died, following which State Health Minister Veena George had initiated a high-level inquiry.
- Dr. Paul earlier reassured the general public, saying there is no need for any panic about the monkeypox virus as the government has taken significant measures to keep the disease in check.

6. Zimbabwe debuts gold coin as legal tender to stem inflation,boost currency



- Zimbabwe has launched gold coins to be sold to the public in a bid to tame runaway inflation that has further eroded the country's unstable currency.
- The unprecedented move was announced on Monday by the country's central bank, the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, to boost confidence in the local currency.
- Trust in Zimbabwe's currency is low after people saw their savings wiped out by hyperinflation in 2008 which reached 5 billion, according to the IMF.
- With strong memories of that disastrous inflation, many Zimbabweans today prefer to scramble on the illegal market for scarce US dollars to keep at home as savings or for daily transactions.

7. Muslim Women Rights Day on August 1



- Muslim Women's Rights Day is observed every year on the 01st of August to celebrate the enforcement of the law against the 'Triple Talaq' rule among Muslims.
- According to the Shariat or Muslim Personal Law, Muslim men were given the privilege to end their marriage anytime by uttering the word Talaq three times in a row.
- But the law was repealed by the Indian Government in 2019.

- The Central Government of India on 01 August 2019, enacted a law against the Triple Talaq according to which Instant or Triple Talaq was declared a criminal offence.
- The new law was welcomed by all the women in India, especially the Muslim women and since then 01 August is observed as Muslim Women's Rights Day.
- This year marks the second anniversary of Muslim Women's Rights Day in India.

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. Lok Sabha passes Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Bill, 2021



- The Lok Sabha today passed the Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Bill, 2021, seeking to increase the species protected under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, and implement the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, CITES.
- Replying to the discussion in Lok Sabha, Environment and Forests Minister Bhupender Yadav said that the unique ecosystem in the country must be preserved.
- He said, the Government has given equal importance to the development and environment.
- The Minister said, in the last eight years protected areas in the country have increased from 693 to 987, which includes fifty two tiger reserves.
- Noting that, the government works on the principle of Vasudhaiva Kutum-

bakam, he said, the center is working towards the betterment of all wildlife species alongside humans.

- Mr Yadav said a special chapter has been added to conform to the international treaty Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

2. Khulna-Mongla railway line to open by December: Bangladesh Railway Minister



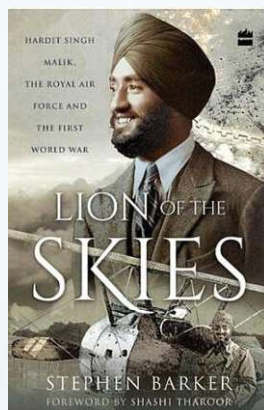
- Bangladesh Railway Minister Md. Nurul Islam Sujan has said that the Khulna-Mongla railway line will become operational by the end of this year.
- Minister Sujan said most of the work of around 45 kilometres railway line has been completed.
- The Mongla-Khulna railway line is funded by the government of India Line of Credit (LOC). The project is scheduled to be over by the end of this year.
- The Khulna-Mongla railway project is part of the first Line of Credit extended by India to Bangladesh in 2010.
- According to the IRCON International Ltd, a total 31 bridges and 108 culverts have been built for the train link.
- The Rupsha bridge was completed on 25 June this year.
- The Minister said that the main challenge in the project was the construction of the Rupsha bridge which has been completed now. Railway track will be laid over it, said the Minister.
- Outlining the benefit of the Khulna-Mongla line, Nurul Islam Sujan said that it will lead to enhanced trade through the Mongla port to foreign destinations.

3. India scripts history at Commonwealth Games as Women's team secures first ever Gold medal in Lawn Bowls



- In the Commonwealth Games, in a major first for India, the women's fours lawn bowls team of Nayanmoni Saikia, Pinki, Lovely Choubey and Rupa Rani Tirkey, scripted history as they won a gold medal by defeating South Africa 17-10 in the finals. This is India's first medal in the sport.
- Lawn Bowls Association President Madhukant Pathak expressed his happiness over the first ever win in the Lawn Bowl sport.
- The Men's Table Tennis team defeated Singapore 3-1 in the gold medal match to give the country its fifth gold medal.
- Weightlifter Vikas Thakur won the silver medal in men's 96-kilogram category. Thakur lifted a total weight of 346 kilograms.
- In Athletics, Murali Sreeshankar and Muhammed Anees Yahya have qualified for the men's long jump final.
- Star shot-putter Manpreet Kaur has qualified for the final too. Swimmers Kushagra Rawat and Advait Page qualify for men's 1500 meter freestyle final.

4. Lion of the Skies: by Stephen Barker



- Hardit was a courageous Sikh, Westernised in thought but deep-rooted in Indian philosophy, a proud patriot who fought constantly for the dignity of Indian.
- **Lion of the Skies: Hardit Singh Malik, the Royal Air Force and the First World War** is not just another book – it is a powerful story of an “Indian fighter pilot” who claimed “two kills” long before the Indian Air Force was born, if that can raise some curiosity.
- A book titled “**Lion of the Skies: Hardit Singh Malik, the Royal Air Force and the First World War**” is all about an “India’s first fighter pilot” who participated in the World War, long before the Indian Air Force was born.
- The book has been written by author Stephen Barker, who describes in great detail, how challenging it was for an Indian to serve in the British armed forces, fighting racial discrimination – both institutional and interpersonal.
- Author Stephen Barker describes in great detail, how challenging it was for an Indian to serve in the British armed forces, fighting racial discrimination – both institutional and interpersonal.

5. Veteran singer Nirmala Mishra passes away



- Renowned Bengali singer Nirmala Mishra has passed away. She was 81. She was born in 1938 in West Bengal’s South 24 Parganas district.
- She sang various songs in Bengali, Odia, and Assamese films. Her melodies in the Bengali language include ‘Eamon Ekta Jhinuk’, ‘Bolo to Arshi’ and ‘Eai Banglar MatiTe’.
- The West Bengal government has also awarded her ‘Sangeet Samman’, ‘Sangeet Mahasamman’ and ‘Bangabhibhushan’ awards.
- She has been conferred with the Sangeet Sudhakar Balakrushna Das Award for her lifetime contribution to Odia music.

6. Zee Entertainment's Merger with Sony Pictures Networks Gets NSE, BSE Approval

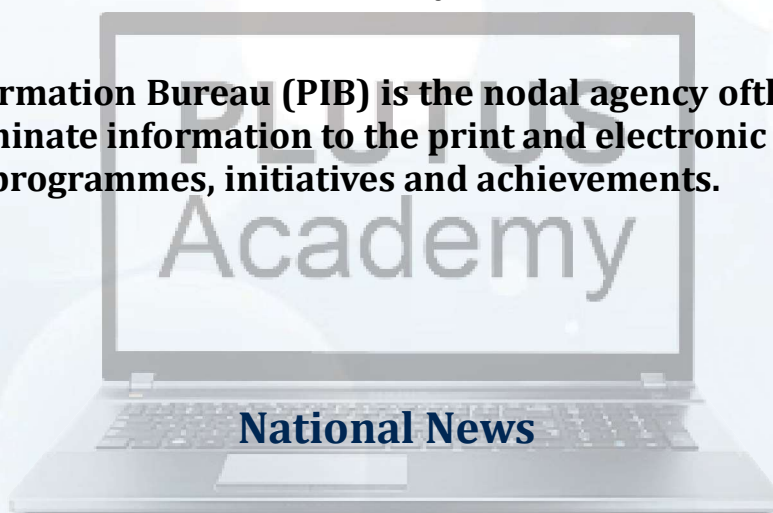


- Zee Entertainment on Friday said it has received approval from stock exchanges BSE and NSE for its proposed merger with Sony Pictures Networks India.
- The proposed merger with Culver Max Entertainment Private Limited (formerly Sony Pictures Networks India) has been approved by Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) and National Stock Exchange (NSE), said a statement from Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd (ZEEL) "The approval from the stock exchanges marks a firm and positive step in the overall merger approval process."
- The clearances allow ZEEL to move forward with the general merger process' upcoming steps, it was said.
- The composite plan of organisation must still receive all necessary governmental and other approvals, nevertheless.
- Following the conclusion of an exclusive negotiation period during which both parties engaged in reciprocal due diligence, the two media organisations had signed final agreements for the merger of ZEEL with SPNI in December of the previous year.
- According to the announcement, the acquisition is subject to a number of standard closing conditions, including shareholder, regulatory, and third-party clearances.

7. Satyendra Prakash assumes charge as Principal DG of PIB



- Senior Indian Information Service officer, Satyendra Prakash has been appointed as the Principal Director General of the Press Information Bureau (PIB).
- A 1988 batch Indian Information Service (IIS) officer, Prakash, the Principal Director General of the Central Bureau of Communication, will succeed Jaideep Bhatnagar, who superannuated.
- The Press Information Bureau was established in June 1919.
- In 1941, J. Natrajan became the first Indian to be head the Bureau as Principal Information Officer.
- The organization's name was changed to the Press Information Bureau in 1946. The Bureau has been reconstituted many times since the independence of India in 1947.
- The Press Information Bureau (PIB) is the nodal agency of the Government of India to disseminate information to the print and electronic media on government policies, programmes, initiatives and achievements.



By Sameer Singhal

1. Center announces free entry for visitors at all protected monuments from 5th to 15th August



- Government has made free entry for the visitors and tourists to all its protected monuments and sites across the country from 5th to 15th August.
- In a tweet, Tourism Minister G. Kishan Reddy said, the decision has been taken under the aegis of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav and 75th Independence Day cele-

brations.

- The Director General of Archeological Survey of India has said that no fee will be charged at all the ticketed centrally protected monuments and Archaeological sites from 5th to 15th August this year.

2. Lok Sabha passes Central Universities (Amendment) Bill 2022



- The Lok Sabha today passed the Central Universities (Amendment) Bill 2022, which provides for establishing central universities in various states by amending the Central Universities Act of 2009.
- The Bill, introduced by Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan in the Lower House, seeks to convert the Vadodra-based National Rail and Transportation Institute, a deemed university to Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya which will be a central university.
- The Vishwavidyalaya will be sponsored and funded by the central government through the Ministry of Railways.
- Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya will take measures to provide quality teaching, research, and skill development in disciplines related to transportation, technology, and management.
- It will address the need for trained talent in the transportation sector.
- Opposition parties including the AITC, Congress, and the DMK boycotted the discussion on the Bill in protest against the raid by central agencies, which they termed were targeted at opposition leaders.
- Persistent sloganeering by the opposition members forced the chair to adjourn the House for about an hour till 4 pm.

3. Suresh N Patel sworn in as Central Vigilance Commissioner



- Suresh N. Patel was today sworn in as the Central Vigilance Commissioner. He made and subscribed the oath of his office before President Droupadi Murmu at a ceremony held at Rashtrapati Bhavan.
- Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Law Minister Kiren Rijiju, Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge and other dignitaries were present on the occasion.
- Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) is an apex Indian governmental body created in 1964 to address governmental corruption.
- In 2003, the Parliament enacted a law conferring statutory status on the CVC.

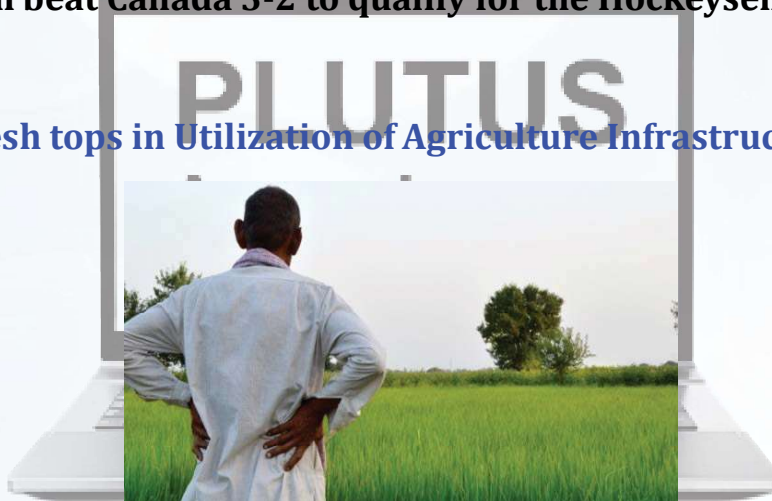
4. Commonwealth Games: Indian Judoka Tulika Maan claims Silver; Tejaswin Shankar bags bronze in Men's high jump



- Indian Judoka Tulika Maan claimed Silver medal in women's 78 kg category after suffering a defeat against Scotland's Sarah Adlington at the ongoing Commonwealth Games 2022 in Birmingham.
- Indian weightlifter Gurdeep Singh bagged the bronze medal in the men's 109-plus kg final with a combined weight of 390kg.
- India's Saurav Ghosal clinched the bronze medal in squash men's singles by beating James Willstrop of England 11-6, 11-1, 11-4.

- Ghosal, who had won the silver medal in the mixed doubles event in Gold Coast in 2018, gave the Englishman no chance whatsoever in one of the most one-sided medal matches of CWG.
- This was Ghosal's first medal at the Commonwealth Games in men's singles.
- India's Tejaswin Shankar won India's first medal in athletics at the Commonwealth games 2022, by clinching a historic bronze in the men's high jump final.
- Tejaswin, competing for India for the first time in four years, nailed a landing of 2.22m to secure a podium finish.
- Lovepreet Singh bagged a bronze medal in men's 109kg weightlifting while setting a national record in the clean and jerk round.
- Indian Women beat Canada 3-2 to qualify for the Hockey semi-final.

5. Andhra Pradesh tops in Utilization of Agriculture Infrastructure funds



- When it comes to using cash for agricultural infrastructure, Andhra Pradesh comes out on top (Agri Infra Fund).
- By placing a strong emphasis on infrastructure development at the farm gate, it has become the best state.
- At a ceremony in New Delhi, Union Minister of Agriculture and Family Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar presented B.
- Srinivasa Rao, CEO of State Rythu Bazaars, with the award for the best state in the nation in terms of utilising Agri Funds in the fiscal year 2021-22.
- Many states are falling behind in using agri-infra funding, according to Union Minister Narendra Singh Tomar, but Andhra Pradesh has surpassed all others by doing so and building extensive infrastructure at the rural level.
- The state government is building extensive infrastructure at the farm through multi-sponsored centres with the goal of tripling farmers' revenue.

- PACS has installed 4,277 godowns, including 2,977 dryers, 101 yellow polishers, 60 buffer godowns for the AP Civil Supplies Corporation, 830 cleaners for primary processing, and 4,277 drying platforms at RBK level.
- In addition to RBKs for horticulture goods, the government has supplied infrastructure to 945 collection centres, 344 cool rooms, 10,678 assaying devices, and 10,678 procurement centres.

6. Indian and French Navies Exercise in The Atlantic



- The Indian Navy guided-missile frigate INS Tarkash, while on her long-range overseas deployment, conducted a Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) with French naval ships in the North Atlantic Ocean on July 29 and 30.
- INS Tarkash and French Fleet Tanker FNS Somme carried out a replenishment at sea, followed by cooperative air operations with the maritime surveillance aircraft Falcon 50, taking part in several mock missile engagements and air defence drills.
- The successful conduct of these surface and aerial exercises symbolise the high degree of professionalism and interoperability that exists between the two navies.
- India and France are maritime nations with dynamic maritime economy sectors like marine technology and scientific research, fisheries, port and shipping, to name a few.
- Possessing vast exclusive economic zones, their fate is closely linked to the sea and the ocean.

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. Indian Navy's all-women crew creates history by completing first independent maritime surveillance mission over Arabian Sea



- Indian Navy's women officers have created history after they completed the first-ever all-women independent maritime reconnaissance and surveillance mission in the North Arabian Sea onboard a Dornier 228 aircraft.
- The mission was carried out by five officers of the Indian Navy Air Squadron (INAS) 314 based at Naval Air Enclave at Gujarat's Porbandar.
- The aircraft was captained by the Mission Commander, LtCdr Aanchal Sharma, who had pilots, Lt Shivangi and Lt Apurva Gite, and Tactical and Sensor Officers, Lt Pooja Panda and SLt Pooja Shekhawat in her team.
- For this, the women officers received months of ground training and comprehensive mission briefings in the run-up to this historical sortie, the Ministry of Defence said in a statement.
- The INAS 314 is a frontline Naval Air Squadron based at Porbandar, Gujarat.

2. Polling to elect new Vice President will be held tomorrow



- The polling to elect the new Vice President will be held tomorrow.

- The polling will take place at the Parliament House between 10 am and 5 pm.
- Mr Jagdeep Dhankar is the NDA candidate, while Ms Margaret Alva is the Opposition candidate for the Vice President of the country.
- The Vice-President is elected by the members of the Electoral College consisting of the members of both Houses of Parliament in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote.
- The total number of electors are 788 Members of Parliament.
- It includes 543 elected Members of the Lok Sabha and 233 elected Members of the Rajya Sabha as well as 12 nominated members of the Rajya Sabha.
- The counting will take place at the Parliament House after the voting tomorrow.

3. Sudhir wins gold in men's heavyweight para powerlifting, sets record at Commonwealth Games 2022



- India bagged a sixth gold medal at the Commonwealth Games 2022 as para-powerlifter Sudhir finished on top in the men's heavyweight category final.
- Sudhir, an Asian Para Games bronze medallist in 2018, lifted 208kg in his first attempt before increasing it to 212kg in his second effort to gather 134.5 points and break the Games record. In his third lift, Sudhir attempted to lift 217kg, a personal best, but was not successful, but it did not matter.
- Sudhir is currently working as a Senior Coach (Weightlifting) for the Government of Haryana.
- He was also named "Strong Man of India" at the 17th Senior and 12th Junior National Para Powerlifting Championships in 2018.

4. Fintech platform BharatPe appoints Nalin Negi as new CFO amid IPO plans



- Nalin Negi has been appointed as the new chief financial officer (CFO) of Fintech startup BharatPe.
- Earlier he was the CFO of credit card issuer SBI Card.
- In his new role, Negi will be working towards making the company's EBITDA positive by March 2023 and leading the financial readiness for the company, which is getting ready for an initial public offering (IPO).
- Ebitda stands for earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization.
- He will report to Suhail Sameer, CEO, BharatPe and work closely with the Board of BharatPe.
- "BharatPe is a truly 'Indian' payments company serving offline retailers and businesses.
- We empower the merchants to accept UPI payments for 'FREE' through the BharatPe QR. Merchants can sign up instantly and start receiving the funds immediately in their bank account.

5. Former boxing world champion Johnny Famechon dies at the age of 77



- **Former Australian featherweight boxing world champion Johnny Famechon has passed away. He was 77.**
- **He was associated with professional boxing for more than 20 years and had a record of 56 wins, which includes 20 by knockout, six draws and five losses.**
- **The Australian boxer's most memorable world title victory was his WBC points decision win against Cuban Jose Legra at London's Albert Hall in 1969.**
- **Famechon boxed professionally for more than 20 years and had a record of 56 wins, 20 by knockout, six draws and five losses.**
- **Johnny Famechon was one of the most popular Australian boxers of all time.**
- **Johnny was our humble, skilful world champion, showing the essence of how we see our heroes. He was described as poetry in motion, a master craftsman.**

PLUTUS

6. Milk, eggs twice a week for all anganwadi children



- **Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan will inaugurate on Monday a project of the Women and Child Development (WCD) department to provide milk and eggs two days a week to preschool children in all anganwadis in the State to improve their nutrition levels.**
- **As of now, only a few local bodies provide milk and eggs to anganwadi children in the 3-6 age group using their own funds.**
- **Under this scheme, which is considered as a first in the country, each child will be given 125 ml of milk two days a week for 44 weeks (10 months) and an egg twice a week.**
- **Under this project, four lakh children in the age group of 3-6 from the 33,115 anganwadis of the state will receive eggs and milk twice a week.**
- **The introduction of milk and eggs for Anganwadi children is intended to im-**

prove their nutritional parameters and assumes significance as ending hunger is one of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) established by the United Nations.

7. IFS Officer Shweta Singh Appointed Director In PMO



- According to a Personnel Ministry, 2008 batch Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer, Shweta Singh was appointed as a director in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO).
- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) approved Singh's appointment for a period of three years from the date of her joining.
- The ACC has cancelled the appointment of Aniket Govind Mandavgane, a 2009-batch IFS officer, as the Deputy Secretary in the PMO. Mandavgane was on July 18 appointed as the Deputy Secretary.

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. 'Badhe Chalo' Movement under Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav begins



- 'Badhe Chalo' Movement under Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav has begun from today.
- With an objective to instill a deeper sense of patriotism among the youth, the Ministry of Culture, has decided to create a youth centric activation for greater outreach of Amrit Mahotsav named 'Badhe Chalo'.
- It is being held across 10 cities every day from today to the 11th of this month.
- 'Badhe Chalo' have begun at national level and these ten locations include Lal Chowk in Srinagar, Ashtley Hall in Dehra Dun, Akashdeep Market in Itanagar, Central Mall in Patna, Telibandha Talab in Raipur, CMR Mall in Vishakhapatnam, Gaurav Tower in Jaipur, the Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Alpha One Mall in Ahmedabad and Keshav Vatika in Kanpur.
- To connect and to bring the youth and people of the country at one platform, Badhe Chalo movement will feature Flash Dances across 75 cities, where dancers will perform on a specially created 'Youth Anthem'.
- Through these Flash Dances the Ministry of Culture aims at spreading the message and spirit of the Amrit Mahotsav in an entertaining and enthusiastic manner.
- The energetic foot-tapping anthem has been specially written and composed on the theme of 'Badhe Chalo' and it encourages everyone to come forward and hoist a Tiranga in their homes.

2. DRDO successfully test fires indigenously developed laser-guided ATGMs.



- The indigenously developed Laser-Guided Anti-Tank Guided Missiles ATGM were successfully test-fired from Main Battle Tank MBT Arjun by Defence Research and Development Organisation DRDO and Indian Army at KKRanges with support of Armoured Corps Centre and School Ahmednagar in Maharashtra today.
- The missiles hit with precision and successfully destroyed the targets at two different ranges. Telemetry systems have recorded the satisfactory flight per-

formance of the missiles.

- The all-indigenous Laser Guided ATGM employs a tandem High Explosive Anti-Tank HEAT warhead to defeat Explosive Reactive Armour ERA protected armoured vehicles.
- The ATGM has been developed with multi-platform launch capability and is currently undergoing technical evaluation trials from the 120 mm rifled gun of MBT Arjun.
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has complimented DRDO and the Indian Army for the successful performance of the Laser Guided ATGMs.

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4. CWG: Wrestlers Bajrang Punia, Deepak Punia and Sakshi Malik clinch Gold medals



- In the Commonwealth Games, Bajrang Punia, Deepak Punia and Sakshi Malik clinched gold medals for India.
- In men's freestyle wrestling, Bajrang Punia won gold by defeating Canadian Lachlan Mcneil 9-2 in 65kg category while Deepak Punia clinched the gold by defeating Pakistan's Muhammad Inam 3-0 in 86kg category.
- Mohit Grewal won bronze by defeating Jamaican Aaron Johnson in 125kg category.
- In Women's Freestyle wrestling, Sakshi Malik bagged gold beating Canadian Godinez Gonzalez by fall in 62kg category while Anshu Malik settled for a silver after losing 3-7 to Nigeria's Folasade Adegunroye in 57 kg category.
- Divya Kakran won bronze medal by defeating Tiger Lily Cocker Lemalie of Tonga by fall in 68 kg category.

5. Lumpy Skin Disease, the viral infection killing cattle in Gujarat, Rajasthan



- Over the last few weeks, nearly 3,000 cattle have died in Rajasthan and Gujarat due to a viral infection called the Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) that has spread across the states.
- Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel visited the affected areas in Kutch to review the situation on Tuesday (August 3).

- According to a report by GAVI, the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisation, the Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) disease is caused by a virus called the Capripoxvirus and is “an emerging threat to livestock worldwide”.
- It is genetically related to the goatpox and sheeppox virus family.
- LSD infects cattle and water buffalo mainly through vectors such as blood-feeding insects.
- Signs of infection include the appearance of circular, firm nodes on the animal's hide or skin that look similar to lumps.

6. NRIs can now pay utility bills through Bharat Bill Payment System



- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) proposed to allow non-resident Indians (NRIs) to make utility, education and other bill payments on behalf of their family members living in India.
- The payments will be processed through Bharat Bill Payment System's (BBPS) cross-border inward bill payments facility.
- BBPS is a payments system conceptualized by RBI and run by National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) to help customers make bill payments both digitally and physically, say, through bank branches and business correspondents.
- Experts said the move will be convenient for NRIs who make regular payments in India.
- The move was announced by RBI governor Shaktikanta Das in his monetary policy statement.
- The central bank will soon be issuing instructions to put this into effect.

7. Ranjit Rath takes over as Oil India chairman



- Ranjit Rath has taken over as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of state-run Oil India Ltd (OIL). He replaces Sushil Chandra Mishra who retired on 30 June.
- The newly appointed OIL CMD has so far been associated with diverse roles spanning from strategy formulation, business development and upstream asset management to the application of geosciences and exploration geology in several important projects including the creation of strategic petroleum reserves (SPR).
- An alumnus of IIT Bombay and IIT Kharagpur and with an experience of more than 25 years in the field of geosciences, Rath, prior to his appointment as the Oil India CMD, Rath was the CMD Mineral Exploration & Consultancy Ltd.
- He has also held the positions of the CEO of Khanij Bidesh India Limited, Managing Director of Bharat Gold Mines Ltd and also held additional charge of the Director General of Geological Survey of India.
- The appointment of the new CMD comes at a crucial time as the company is diversifying into renewable energy businesses along with other energy majors.

8. IOCL signs MoU with Bangladesh for emergency supply of petroleum goods



- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the emergency delivery of petro-

leum products via Bangladeshi territory to India was signed by the Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) and the Bangladesh Roads and Highways department in Dhaka.

- The Indian High Commission stated in a tweet that this is an interim setup to help with the urgent supply of petroleum products due to damage caused by the flood in Assam this year.
- Oil tankers will enter from Meghalaya and travel into Bangladeshi territory on their way to Tripura.
- For use of Bangladeshi land, the IOCL shall be responsible for paying all administrative costs, fees, and local taxes, including the road usage fee.
- The MoU was signed to permit Indian cars to transfer petroleum from Assam to Tripura by road, which has been badly affected as a result of the recent floods in Assam and Tripura, according to a statement from Bangladesh's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA).



By Sameer Singhal



CURRENT AFFAIRS

AUGUST 2022

National News

1. ITU's Regional Standardization Forum for Asia and Oceania region to begin from August 9



- International Telecommunication Union's Regional Standardization Forum for Asia and Oceania region will begin in New Delhi from tomorrow.
- Communications Ministry will host the forum on the theme of- 'Regulatory and Policy aspects of Telecommunications'.
- Minister of State for Communications Devusinh Chauhan will inaugurate the Regional Standardization Forum.
- The Ministry said that over two hundred fifty delegates from twenty countries will participate in the Forum.
- It said, the panel discussion aims to provide an insight to Asia and Oceania Region's experience from policy and regulatory perspective under various sub-themes.
- The Ministry highlighted that the Regional Standardization Forum is a platform for constructive exchange of ideas, discussing standardization topics in various sectors of technology and the Role of ITU Standards, Harnessing Technologies for Digital and Financial Inclusion in Emerging Markets, Evolving Data Value Chain and Digital Health.
- The Department of Telecommunications will also organise an exhibition to showcase various innovative Digital products and services of the country.

2. ISRO launches small rocket from Sriharikota carrying EarthObservation Satellite & AzaadiSAT satellite

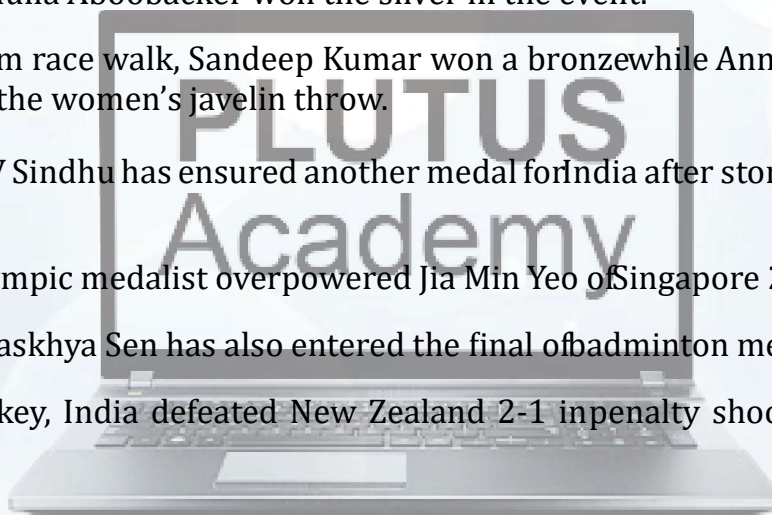


- Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) today launched its the Small Satellite Launch Vehicle SSLV-D1. It was launched from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh at 9:18 am.
- The SSLV-D1 rocket carried the Earth Observation Satellite EOS-02 and another small satellite AzaadiSAT, developed by the student team of Space Kidz India.
- AzaadiSAT' comprising 75 payloads has been built by 75 young girl students from 75 rural government schools across India.
- This project has been specially conceptualised for the 75th Independence Day year celebrations to encourage scientific temper and create opportunities for young girls to choose space research as their career.
- Speaking after the launch at Sriharikota, ISRO chairman S.Somanath said, the three stages of SSLV - D1 mission was completed.
- He said, SSLV-D1 performed as expected at all stages. He said that in the terminal phase of the mission, some data loss is occurring and they are analysing the data to conclude the final outcome of the mission with respect to achieving a stable orbit.
- The three staged SSLV DI is primarily powered by solid fuel and also has a velocity trimming module powered by 0.05 ton of liquid fuel for precise injection of satellites.
- The rocket flew to the space amid cloudy skies with rainy drizzles.

3. India win four Gold medals at Commonwealth Games; moves to 4th place in medal tally



- At the Commonwealth Games, India's Nikhat Zareen beat Carly MC Naul of Northern Ireland 5-0 to win the gold medal in Women's 50kg category.
- It was India's fourth gold of the day and the 17th overall in Birmingham. India also leapfrogged New Zealand in the medal tally to the fourth position.
- With this, India's overall medal tally has risen to 48 which includes 17 gold, 12 silver and 19 bronze medals.
- Earlier, Pugilist Amit Panghal won gold in Men's 51 kilogram event and, Nitu Ghanghas secured gold in Women's 48 kilogram.
- Sagar Ahlawat will fight with England's Delicious Orie in 92plus kilogram event tonight.
- India's another gold came in the men's triple jump. Eldhose Paul won gold with 17.03 meter jump and Abdulla Aboobacker won the silver in the event.
- In the men's 10km race walk, Sandeep Kumar won a bronze while Annu Rani has bagged a bronze medal in the women's javelin throw.
- In Badminton, P.V Sindhu has ensured another medal for India after storming into the Women's Singles final.
- The two time Olympic medalist overpowered Jia Min Yeo of Singapore 21-19, 21-17.
- Indian shuttler Laskhya Sen has also entered the final of badminton men's singles.
- In Women's Hockey, India defeated New Zealand 2-1 in penalty shootout to win bronze medal.



4. US Navy Ship docks in India for first time for repairs and maintenance



- US Navy Ship has docked in India for the first time for repairs and maintenance.
- US naval ship Charles Drew arrived at L&T's Katupalli Shipyard at Ennore, near Chennai yesterday for undertaking repairs and maintenance.
- This will be the first time that a US Navy ship is being repaired in an Indian shipyard.
- The USNS Charles Drew will be at Kattupalli shipyard for 11 days and undergo repairs in various areas.

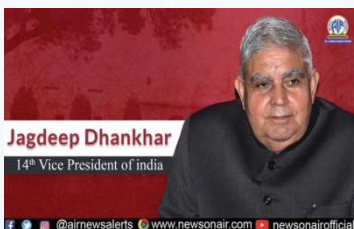
- The event signifies the capabilities of Indian shipyards in the global ship repairing market.
- Indian shipyards offer wide ranging and cost-effective ship repair and maintenance services, using advanced maritime technology platforms.

5. First Flight of Akasa Air from Mumbai to Ahmedabad inaugurated



- Union Minister of Civil Aviation Jyotiraditya Scindia and Minister of State for Civil Aviation Gen (Retd) V.K Singh today inaugurated the First Flight of Akasa Air from Mumbai to Ahmedabad virtually.
- Speaking at the event, Mr Scindia added that over the last eight years India's Civil Aviation industry has been completely transformed.
- Under Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik- UDAN scheme, there are 425 routes and the government aims at increasing it to 1000 routes and the number of airports will go up to 100 from 68 airports.
- Akasa Air is the 7th schedule airline with brand name of SNV Aviation having Corporate Headquarters at Mumbai with Boeing Max - 8 aircraft.
- Akasa Air plans to be a low-cost carrier with single fleet and all economy seats.
- Akasa Air is planning to expand its activities to 72 aircraft in next five years which will significantly enhance the domestic aviation services in India.

6. Jagdeep Dhankhar to take oath as 14th Vice President of India on Thursday



- National Democratic Alliance candidate Jagdeep Dhankhar has been elected as the 14th Vice President of India.
- He will take the oath of office on Thursday, a day after the term of the incumbent Vice Pres-

ident M Venkaiah Naidu ends.

- Mr Dhankhar will also be appointed the ex-officio Chairman of the Rajya Sabha.
- The Election Commission today issued a certificate announcing the election of Mr Dhankhar.
- Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar and Election Commissioner Anup Chandra Pandey signed the Certification of the Election of Mr Dhankhar.
- It will be read out at the time of the oath taking ceremony of the new vice president on August 11.
- Mr Dhankhar won with a huge vote share of 74.36 per cent, the highest in the last six vice-presidential elections, with 528 votes against Alva's 182 votes.

7. ISRO's Launch of SSLV fails to place satellites in intended orbit due to sensor anomaly



- The Indian Space Research Organisation Chairman S Somanath has said that the maiden launch of the Small Satellite Launch Vehicle, SSLV failed to place the satellites in the intended orbit due to sensor anomaly.
- SSLV-D1-EOS 02 launched from Sriharikota launch pad had placed the satellites into 356kmX76 kms elliptical orbit instead of 356 km circular orbit. Due to which the two satellites remained unstable and are no longer usable.
- The ISRO Chairman has said the launch vehicle took off majestically at the intended time from the launch pad at Sriharikota.
- Its propulsion stages, overall hardware, aerodynamic design and new generation electronics, the separation system used for the first time performed very well.
- However after reaching an altitude of 356 kms there was a failure of logic to identify sensor failure and go for the salvage motion. Hence the launch vehicle developed an anomaly.
- The ISRO Chairman has said that a team of experts will go deeper to find out the reason for this isolation.
- He emphasised that after a small correction and revalidation, SSLV-D2 will be launched very soon.

8. August 7: National Handloom Day



- In India, the National Handloom Day is observed annually on the 7th of August to honor the handloom weavers.
- Handlooms are a symbol of our glorious cultural heritage and an important source of livelihood.
- The day also highlights the contribution of the handloom industry to the socioeconomic development of the country and increased the income of the weavers.
- 2022 marks the 8th National Handloom Day.
- This year's theme of National Handloom Day 2022 is "Handloom, an Indian legacy".
- These initiatives include the Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CH-CDS), National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP), Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme (HWCWS), and Yarn Supply Scheme (YSS).

9. 2nd 'Javelin Throw Day' on August 07, 2022



- The Athletics Federation of India (AFI) is celebrating the second 'Javelin Throw Day' on August 7, 2022.
- The day was first observed in 2021 in honour of javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra, who won India's first Olympic gold medal in athletics at Tokyo.
- This decision to observe Javelin Throw Day is also an attempt to attract more youth towards the sport and get champions ready for a bright future in athletics ahead.

- Neeraj Chopra has scripted history at the Olympic Stadium in Tokyo when he threw the javelin to a distance of 87.58m to end India's medal drought in athletics at the Olympics.
- This is India's first-ever gold medal in athletics in the history of the Olympics.
- AFI's bid to name August 7 as Javelin Throw Day is an attempt to attract more youth to the sport.

10. Chess legend Viswanathan Anand becomes FIDE deputy president



- Indian chess legend Viswanathan Anand was on August 7, 2022 elected deputy president of FIDE, the sport's world governing body, while incumbent president Arkady Dvorkovich was re-elected for a second term.
- Five-time world champion Anand was part of Dvorkovich's team.
- Dvorkovich received 157 votes as against 16 by his rival Andrii Boryshenko while the number of invalid votes was 1 and abstentions stood at 5.
- The elections to the world chess body were held during the FIDE Congress which is being conducted here alongside the 44th Chess Olympiad.
- After an illustrious career during which he won numerous titles and honours, the Chennai-based Anand has in recent times cut down on his tournament play and focussed on coaching.
- He shot to prominence as a teenager and became India's first ever Grandmaster after winning the world junior title and has since led the country at the global level in chess.

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. India,US begin joint Special Forces exercise at Bakloh inHimachal Pradesh



- The 13th Edition of the Indo-US Joint Special Forces exercise “Ex Vajra Prahar 2022” commenced at the Special Forces Training School at Bakloh of Himachal Pradesh yesterday.
- The Vajra Prahar series of joint exercise aims to share best practices and experiences in areas such as joint mission planning and operational tactics as also to improve interoperability between the Special Forces of both the Nations.
- This annual exercise is hosted alternatively between India and the United States.
- The 12th edition was conducted at Joint Base Lewis McChord, Washington (USA) in October last year.
- The Ministry of Defence in a statement said, this joint exercise is a significant step in strengthening the traditional bond of friendship between the special forces of both Nations as well as improve bilateral defence cooperation between India and the USA.
- During the exercise, teams of both armies would jointly train, plan and execute a series of Special Operations, Counter Terrorist Operations, Air Borne operations in simulated conventional and unconventional scenarios in mountainous terrain.

2. Gustavo Petro sworn in as Colombia’s first leftist President



- In Colombia, the first leftist President was sworn into office on Sunday. Mr. Gustavo Petro was a former member of Colombia’s M-19 guerrilla group, won the Presidential Election in June by beating conservative parties.

- He promised to fight inequality and help heralding a turning point in the history of a country haunted by a long war between the government and guerrilla groups.
- The new President also announced that Colombia will stop granting new licenses for oil exploration and will ban fracking projects, even though the oil industry makes up almost 50 per cent of the nation's legal exports.
- According to media reports, Mr Petro is part of a growing group of leftist politicians and political outsiders who have been winning elections in Latin America since the pandemic broke out.
- A 2016 peace deal between Colombia's Government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia turned much of the focus of voters away from the violent conflicts playing out in rural areas.
- It also gave prominence to problems like poverty and corruption, fueling the popularity of leftist parties in national elections.

3. Curtains come down on 22nd Commonwealth Games ; India finish fourth overall with 61 medals, including 22 gold



- The Commonwealth Games 2022 came to an end last night with a glittering closing ceremony at the Alexander Stadium in Birmingham.
- The action-packed edition Games concluded following eleven days of sporting activities in which more than 5,000 athletes from 72 nations and territories competed.
- The closing ceremony kicked off with a musical performance from Solihull band Ocean Color Scene.
- It was followed by an appearance from the athletes of the 72 participating nations and territories who took a walk around the Stadium.
- The Indian contingent was led by Boxer Nikhat Zareen and Table tennis player Achantha Sharath Kamal with the Indian flag at the closing ceremony.
- The curtains were drawn on the Birmingham Games with the lowering of the flag of

the Commonwealth Games Federation which was handed over to the state of Victorian Australia which will be hosting the next edition of the Games in 2026.

- At Commonwealth Games 2022, India finished fourth in the overall medals tally with a total of 61 medals including 22 gold, 16 silver and 23 bronze.
- The Indian contingent gave a commendable performance at the games.
- Wrestling topped the medal chart with 12 medals including six gold while weightlifting accounted for 10 medals.
- Australia topped the final standings with 178 medals including 67 gold, 57 silver, 54 bronze, followed by Host England with 175 medals including 56 gold, 65 silver, 53 bronze. Canada stood third with 92 medals including 26 gold medals, 32 silver and 34 bronze.

4. International Day of World's Indigenous Peoples being celebrated today



- The International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples is being celebrated today.
- The day is celebrated every year on 9th of August to acknowledge the contributions and achievements of the indigenous communities around the globe.
- The United Nations General Assembly on 23rd of December in 1994 decided to observe International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples annually on 9th of August in recognition of the inaugural session of the UN working body on Indigenous Populations held on this day in 1982.
- Indigenous peoples are inheritors and practitioners of unique cultures. Indigenous peoples' conceptualization of health and well-being is generally broader and more holistic, with health frequently viewed as both an individual and a collective right, strongly determined by community, land and the natural environment.
- Every year, the United Nations chooses a theme for commemorating the day.
- This year, the theme for the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples is 'The Role of Indigenous Women in the Preservation and Transmission of Traditional Knowledge.'

- This theme emphasises the role that women of indigenous communities play in carrying forward their traditions and cultures.

5. CSIR gets its first woman director general in Nallathamby Kalaiselvi



- Senior electrochemical scientist, Nallathamby Kalaiselvi has become the first woman director general of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research.
- Her appointment is for a period of two years with effect from the date of assumption of charge of the post or until further orders, whichever is earlier.
- Kalaiselvi succeeds Shekhar Mande, who superannuated in April.
- Kalaiselvi has risen through the ranks in CSIR and had broken the proverbial glass ceiling by becoming the first woman scientist to head the Central Electrochemical Research Institute (CSIR-CECRI) in February 2019.
- CSIR Founded: 26 September 1942
- CSIR President: Prime Minister of India.

6. \$1 trillion economy target: UP govt appoints Deloitte consultant



- The Government of Uttar Pradesh has decided to appoint Deloitte India as a consultant.
- The aim of this decision is that it will suggest plans for bringing the state's economy

to the USD 1 trillion mark.

- The UP government signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Deloitte India on Friday.
- In the presence of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, the MoU was signed between the consultancy agency and the government of Uttar Pradesh.
- On 19 July 2022, the Government of Uttar Pradesh decided to appoint Deloitte India as the consultant for improving the Economy of the most populous state of India.
- Yogi Adityanath takes this decision aiming for the advantage and economic development of Uttar Pradesh.
- The project aims that Uttar Pradesh will become a benchmark for the policy of 'Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas' with a trillion-dollar economy.
- Deloitte will present a future action plan in 90 days and it will be presented to Yogi Adityanath.

7. Nikhat Zareen wins maiden CWG gold to extend India's boxing juggernaut at Commonwealth Games 2022



- Nikhat Zareen wins the Gold medal at Commonwealth Games 2022 in Birmingham. She defeated Mc Naul of Northern Islands in the finals, by 5-0 in women's light-fly 48kg-50kg Boxing.
- With Nikhat Zareen's gold medal at Commonwealth Games 2022, India gets a total of 17 golds and 48 total medals.
- Nikhat Zareen again proves her dominance in the world of boxing.
- Nikhat Zareen was born on 14th June 1996 in Nizamabad, Andhra Pradesh.
- She was introduced to boxing by her father, Mohammad Jameel Ahmed.
- Zareen has been appointed as the staff officer in Bank of India, Zonal Office at AC Guards, Hyderabad.

8. Dalai Lama honored with Ladakh's highest civilian award 'dPal rNgam Duston'



- Tibetan spiritual leader, Dalai Lama was honoured with the 'dPal rNgam Duston' award, the highest civilian honour of Ladakh.
- This award is given for his immense contribution to humanity, especially towards the union territory.
- The sixth award was conferred by Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC), Leh which celebrated the 'dPal rNgam Duston' with great fervour on the occasion of its foundation day at Sindhu Ghat.
- The 87-year-old spiritual leader, who is on a visit to the union territory since July 15, appreciated the gesture and stressed maintaining communal harmony in the region.
- The 'dPal rNgam Duston' marks the celebration of the remarkable contribution and achievement of the heroes of Ladakh and seeks to instil a sense of pride in the younger generation.

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. Serena Williams announces retirement from professional tennis



- American tennis legend Serena Williams, the winner of 23 Grand Slam titles, has announced that she will retire from professional tennis.

- In an article for the Vogue Magazine, the 40-year-old star described her intention to finish her playing career as an evolution away from tennis.
- She explained that one of her biggest reasons for retirement is her intention to further expand her family.
- Serena has now set her eyes on the US Open which starts on the 29th of this month. It would be her last tournament.
- In her reaction to the tennis great's decision to retire, Britain's US Open champion Emma Raducanu said she definitely changed the game.
- She added that there has not really been someone who dominated like her in the women's game. Paying tribute to the tennis star, former world number one Billie Jean King said when Serena steps away from tennis, she will leave as the sport's greatest player.
- Serena Williams first major title was the 1999 US Open, when she was 17.
- She won her last Slam title at the 2017 Australian Open when she was eight weeks' pregnant with daughter Olympia.
- Serena and older sister Venus have been widely regarded as changing the face of tennis and inspiring future players, as well as pushing for gender equality.

2. 44th Chess Olympiad ends; India's men & women team win bronze medal



- The 44th Chess Olympiad inaugurated by Prime minister Narendra Modi in Chennai on the 28th of July ended today.
- India competed in the tournament with three teams in the Men's Section and three teams in the Women's section.
- India 'B' team comprising D Gukesh, R Praggnanandhaa, Raunak Sadhwani and Adhiban won the bronze medal beating Germany.
- In the women's section, India 'A' team won the bronze medal. The team compris-

ing Vaishali and Koneru Humpy, Tania Sachdev and Bhakti Kulkari were headed for a gold medal on the final day but a defeat to USA by 1-3 dented their chances as they eventually finished third.

- The Uzbekistan team, which was seeded 14th in the tournament, won the gold medal in the men's section. Armenia clinched the silver medal.
- It was the first time that the Chess Olympiad was held in India, the place where the game began.
- The 2022 edition was historic as the tournament was contested between 188 teams from about 187 nations.

3. Today is World Biofuel Day



- Today is World Biofuel Day. It is observed to create awareness about the importance of non-fossil fuels as an alternative to conventional fossil fuels.
- This year, the theme is “Biofuels Towards a Carbon Neutral World”.
- This day also honors the research experiments by Sir Rudolf Diesel who ran an engine with peanut oil in the year 1893.
- His research experiment had predicted that vegetable oil is going to replace fossil fuels in the next century to fuel different mechanical engines.
- Biofuels have the benefits of reducing import dependency on crude oil, cleaner environment, and additional income to farmers and employment generation in rural areas.
- The Government approved the National Policy on Biofuels-2018 in June 2018.
- The policy has the objective of reaching 20 per cent ethanol-blending and 5 per cent biodiesel-blending by the year 2030.
- Among other things, the policy expands the scope of feedstock for ethanol produc-

tion and has provided for incentives for production of advanced biofuels.

- The biofuels programme is also in synergy with the Government of India initiatives for Make in India, Swachh Bharat and enhancing farmers' income.

4. World Lion Day being observed globally



- World Lion Day is being observed globally today. The day aims to spread awareness about lions and the urgent need to strive for their conservation.
- In a tweet today, Environment, Forest and Climate Change Minister Bhupender Yadav said that Asiatic Lions population has shown a steady increase with an increased rate of nearly twenty nine per cent.
- He highlighted that the distribution of the lions has increased from an area of 22 thousand square kilometers in 2015 to 30 thousand square kilometers in 2020.
- The Minister stressed that there has been a consistent increase in the population and distribution area of Asiatic Lions.
- He described that several strategies and interventions have been implemented by the Ministry to continue the upward trend of conservation.
- The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, launched the "Asiatic Lion Conservation Project" with an aim to protect and conserve the world's last ranging free population of Asiatic Lion and its associated ecosystem.
- Asiatic lions that once ranged from Iran to Palamau district of Jharkhand were almost driven to extinction by indiscriminate hunting and habitat loss.
- According to the United Nations, lion populations have dropped by more than 40 per cent in the last two decades.

5. Indian Army launches Him Drone-a-thon programme in collaboration with DFI



- The Indian Army launched the Him Drone-a-thon programme today in collaboration with the DroneFederation of India.
- The initiative is in line with self-reliance in defence manufacturing.
- It is aimed at catalysing and providing focused opportunities to the Indian drone ecosystem to develop path-breaking drone capabilities for meeting the requirements of frontline troops.
- The Defence Ministry said, the programme is a pan-India sustained connection between all stakeholders, including industry, academia, software developers and drone product manufacturers.

6. CM Yogi to launch 'Radio Jaighosh' to mark Kakori Train Action anniversary



- As part of the celebrations for Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath debuted “Radio Jaighosh” to commemorate the anniversary of the Kakori Train Action.
- To promote performing arts, regional specialties from Uttar Pradesh, folk art, and gallantry award recipients, the state’s Department of Culture is developing a community radio station and also the “Radio Jaighosh” is a part of it.

- From the recently restored studio of the Sangeet Natak Akademi in Lucknow, “Radio Jaighosh” will be audible at 107.8 MHz and will air programmes from 6 am to 10 pm every day.
- The Radio Jaighosh’s mobile application and social mediapages will also have access to the programmes.
- The daily radio programmes “Parakram” and “ShauryaNagar” will feature folktales from all 75 of the state’s districts and feature valiant troops from both the pre- and post-Independence eras as well as unsung heroes on the “Radio Jaighosh”.
- Kala Yatra will focus on performing arts, Rajya ki Rasoi on Uttar Pradesh’s delicacies, Rang Shala on theatre performers, Rajya ki Raftaar on government initiatives, and Rang Yatra on visual arts on the “Radio Jaighosh”.

7. Prabath Jayasuriya and Emma Lamb win ICC Player of the Month Awards



- The International Cricket Council (ICC) has announced Sri Lankan spin sensation Prabath Jayasuriya and England batting all-rounder Emma Lamb as the winners of its Player of the Month awards for July 2022.
- Prabath Jayasuriya claims the ICC Men’s Player of the Month award on the back of an outstanding series of displays with the ball, where his remarkable haul of wickets sees him crowned ahead of rival contenders England’s Jonny Bairstow.
- Emma Lamb was voted the ICC Women’s Player of the Month for July following her thrilling start to life opening the batting in England’s victorious ODI series victory over South Africa.
- Lamb consistently laid the foundations for her side to claim victory in each of the three matches, with her most notable contribution coming in the first match in Northampton.

8. Rudi Koertzen, former ICC Elite umpire, dies in car crash



- Rudi Koertzen, the former international cricket umpire, has passed away in a car crash.
- He was 73. Koertzen, who took up umpiring in the year 1981 and stood in his first international match back in 1992 between India and South Africa at Port Elizabeth, went on to officiate in 331 international matches, a record that stood tall until he retired in the year 2010.
- Rudi became just the second umpire in history to officiate more than 150 ODIs after the legendary David Shepherd, and was also the second to stand in 200 Tests after Steve Bucknor.
- One of the original members of the ICC Elite Panel of Umpires in 2002.
- The last official match in which Koertzen served as during IPL 2011 between Royal Challengers Bangalore and Chennai Super Kings at the Chinnaswamy.

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. New zoonotic virus infects thirty-five persons in eastern provinces of China



- As the world is recovering from the novel coronavirus pandemic, a zoonotic virus has been discovered in two eastern provinces of China.

- The new type of Henipavirus is also called LangyaHenipavirus or the LayV.
- As per media reports, it has infected thirty-five persons in Shandong and Henan provinces of China, so far. Many had symptoms such as fever, fatigue, and a cough.
- Media Reports said that there was no close contact or common exposure history among the infected patients.
- It said, the infections may be sporadic in the human population.
- The studies found that the new virus has jumped from animals to humans.
- The RNA of Langya Henipavirus has been predominantly found in shrews.
- The mole-like mammals may be natural reservoirs for the virus. About Five percent of dogs and Two percent of goats also tested positive for it.

2. Mexican President proposes 3 men commission for world peace including PM Modi



- Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador has proposed a 3-men commission comprising Prime Minister Narendra Modi, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, and Pope Francis for global peace.
- The Mexican President is planning to submit a written proposal to the UN to create the commission, made up of three world leaders, including PM Modi, to promote a world truce for a period of five years.
- The Mexican President said, the aim of the commission is to present a proposal to stop the wars around the world and reach an agreement to seek a truce for at least five years.
- He said, the move will help governments around the world dedicate themselves to support their people, especially the people who are suffering the most from the war and its effects.
- Calling for an end to warlike actions, the Mexican President has invited China, Russia, and the US to seek peace and hoped the three countries will listen and accept inter-

mediation such as the one he is proposing.

3. Union Minister Parshottam Rupala launches 'Fish and Seafood' book in New Delhi



- Minister of Fisheries and Animal Husbandry Parshottam Rupala today launched a unique coffee table book titled -Fish and Seafood - a collection of 75 gourmet recipes in New Delhi.
- The Department of Fisheries has come up with this initiative to boost the domestic consumption of fish and seafood, along with popularizing the local fish species.
- The book was launched in the presence of both the Minister of States for Fisheries and Animal Husbandry Dr L. Murugan and Dr Sanjeev Kumar Balyan.
- The recipe book is a highlight of the diversity of fish available within the domestic water bodies and the fish culinary heritage of the country that signifies the diverse cooking and eating styles across the country.

4. Center decides to remove fare cap on air tickets from August 31st



- Center has decided to remove the fare cap on air tickets from 31st of this month.
- The cap on airfares was imposed by the Civil Aviation Ministry in May, 2020.

- In a tweet, Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia said, the decision has been taken after a careful analysis of daily demand and prices of air turbine fuel.
- He said, stabilisation has set in and the government is certain that the sector is poised for growth in domestic traffic in the near future.
- In its order, Civil Aviation Ministry has said the airlines and operators will have to ensure that the guidelines to contain the spread of COVID-19 are strictly adhered to and appropriate behaviour is strictly enforced.

5. Justice Uday Umesh Lalit appointed as 49th Chief Justice of the country



- President Droupadi Murmu has appointed Justice as the 49th Chief Justice of India, CJI.
- He will take over the charge on 27th of this month. The present CJI Justice N V Ramana will retire on 26th August.
- Justice Uday Umesh Lalit was appointed as Judge of the Supreme Court of India in August 2014.
- He will become the second Chief Justice of India to be directly elevated to the Supreme Court from the Bar, after Justice S.M. Sikri, who served as the 13th CJI in 1971.
- Justice Lalit has served as a Member of Supreme Court Legal Services Committee for two terms.
- Born on 9th November, 1957 at Solapur, Maharashtra, Justice Lalit was enrolled as an Advocate by the Bar Council of Maharashtra and Goa in June, 1983.
- He practiced in the High Court of Bombay till December, 1985 before shifting his practice to Delhi in January, 1986.

6. Ahmedabad University Professor Becomes First Indian Social Psychologist on US Heritage Wall of Fame

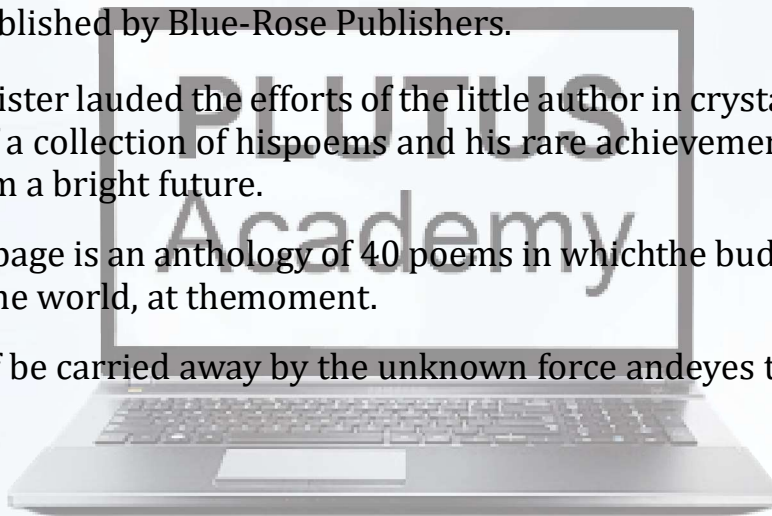


- Ahmedabad University Professor, Ramadhar Singh becomes the first Indian Social Psychologist on the US Heritage Wall of Fame of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP) in the United States.
- He is currently a professor at the Amrut Mody School of Management, Ahmedabad University.
- This recognition comes close on the heels of the College of Health and Human Sciences, Purdue University, conferring him with the Distinguished Alumni Award in Psychological Sciences (March 25, 2022).
- Professor Singh has been a member of the society (1990) and then fellow (1992).
- Professor Singh has been a breakthrough researcher in the field of psychology and management.
- During the 1980s, the predominant American view was that humans were cognitive misers, that is, people resort to short-cuts in thoughts and behaviours.
- Through his research, however, Professor Singh showed how cognitively affluent and dynamic humans were.
- To advance psychology as a science in Asia, Professor Singh played critical roles at the national level in India through the University Grants Commission (UGC) and in Asia through the Asian Association of Social Psychology.

7. Dr Jitendra Singh releases book 'Rusty Skies & Golden Winds'



- Union Minister of State (IC) of the Ministry of Science and Technology, Dr. Jitendra Singh, launched a poetry book titled 'Rusty Skies and Golden Winds' written by 11 yearsold Sannidhya Sharma, student of class 7th, here at Jammu.
- The book is published by Blue-Rose Publishers.
- The Union Minister lauded the efforts of the little author in crystallising his thoughts in the shape of a collection of his poems and his rare achievement at this tender age and wished him a bright future.
- The 100 book page is an anthology of 40 poems in which the budding author defines the nature of the world, at the moment.
- He lets himself be carried away by the unknown force and eyes the blood on the paper bravely.



8. James Marape returned as prime minister in Papua New Guinea after fraught election



- Following elections in the South Pacific island nation of Papua New Guinea, the parliament has reinstated Prime Minister James Marape.
- According to the media and election authorities, Marape was re-sworn in as prime minister after lawmakers in the new parliament elected Marape without opposition.
- The general election in Papua New Guinea took place between July 4 and July 22, although voting and vote counting were postponed due to unusual conditions, such

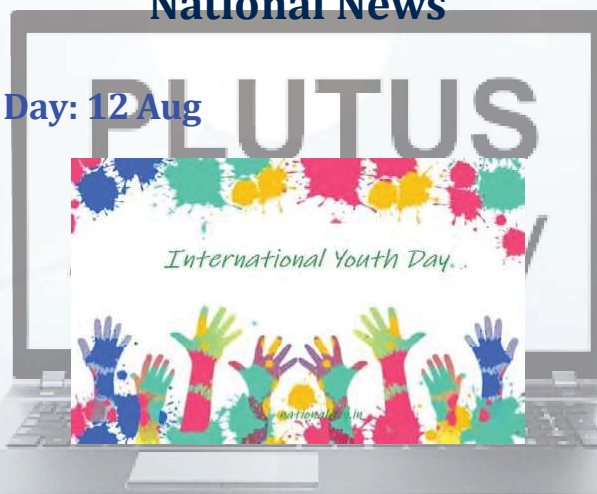
as security concerns, attacks on ballot boxes, and logistical difficulties, according to the electoral commission.

- Marape and his predecessor, Peter O'Neill, who resigned in 2019, were the front-runners for the position of leader of the next administration.
- According to international election monitors, the national election of Papua New Guinea was also marred by violence, delays, accusations of fraud, and a sizable number of voters who were not included on the electoral record.

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. International Youth Day: 12 Aug



- Today is International Youth Day. It is celebrated on August 12 to mark the contribution of today's youth to the development of society.
- The significance of this day is also to raise voices against the injustice faced by the youth worldwide as the young people aren't only tomorrow's leaders, but they are also making huge changes in society right now.
- According to United Nations organizations, the objective of International Youth Day 2022 is to amplify the message that action is needed across all generations to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and leave no one behind.
- This year's theme for International Youth Day 2022 is "Intergenerational solidarity: creating a world for all ages." Ageism, a practice of discrimination based on an individual's age, is the topic of International Youth Day in 2022.

2. World Elephant Day:12 August



- August 12 is a day dedicated to the elephants and it's observed every year to recognize the importance of the 'gentle giants' in the world's ecosystem.
- Unfortunately, across the globe, we lose elephants every year due to poaching.
- Elephants also face other issues like mistreatment by humans, loss of habitat for endless urbanization, and more.
- World Elephant Day was first observed on August 12, 2012. A Thailand-based organization, 'Elephant Reintroduction Foundation' teamed up with Canadian filmmaker Patricia Sims to mark the observance of elephants.
- Since 2012, the day is marked with an aim to reach out to people and educate them on the plight of elephants.
- World Elephant Day is a rallying call for people to support organizations that are working to stop the illegal poaching and trade of elephant ivory and protect wild elephant habitats, and provide sanctuaries and alternative habitats for domestic elephants to live freely.

3. Singapore gives National Monument Status to Padang, where Netaji's famous Call 'Chalo Dilli' was immortalized



- The National Heritage Board stated that Padang (location of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's famous Call "Chalo Dilli") will now receive the Monument Status of Subas

Chandra Bose and the greatest level of protection possible under Singapore's Preservation of Monuments Act (NHB).

- On August 9, 2022, the country of Singapore celebrated its 57th National Day, and the Padang iconic green location was designated as the 75th national monument.
- Padang is a sizable open field venue in Singapore where, in July 1943, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose delivered the phrase "Delhi Chalo."
- One of the oldest open spaces still in use today, Padang has significant national, historical, and social value. It is well-liked for athletic events like lawn bowling, cricket, football, and ice hockey.
- During World War II, an Indian temporary administration known as Azad Hind was created in Japanese-occupied Singapore.
- It was established in October 1943 and was greatly reliant on the Empire of Japan.
- It was a component of the political movement that began outside of India in the 1940s with the aim of uniting with the Axis powers to free India from British control.

4. Real Madrid Defeat Eintracht Frankfurt 2-0 to Win Fifth UEFA Super Cup



- Real Madrid beat Eintracht Frankfurt, 2-0 in the finals to win the 2022 UEFA Super Cup for a record-equalling fifth time, in Helsinki, Finland.
- UEFA Super Cup is an annual football match organised by UEFA for the winners of the two main European club competitions, i.e. the UEFA Champions League and UEFA Europa League.
- The last season's Champions League winners Real Madrid defeated Europa League winners Eintracht Frankfurt to win the title for fifth time.
- David Alaba and Karim Benzema scored in each half as Real Madrid beat Eintracht Frankfurt. The man of the match goes to Casemiro.
- Prior to this, Team Barcelona, and Team Milan won the trophy five times each.

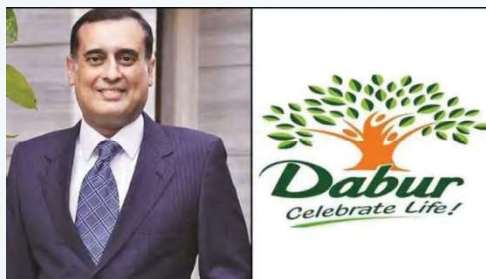
- Real join AC Milan and rivals Barcelona in winning the Super Cup five times (2002, 2014, 2016, 2017, 2022), while boss Carlo Ancelotti becomes the most successful manager in the competition's history with four titles (2003, 2007, 2014, 2022).

5. AIADMK's first MP Mayathevar passes away



- Former Member of Parliament (MP) and senior All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK) politician K. Maya Thevar has passed away due to an age-related illness.
- He was 87. He was the first MP of the AIADMK.
- He led the party to enter the world of politics by registering the party's first victory by contesting a by-election to the Dindigul Lok Sabha constituency in 1973.
- Also, it was Mr. Maya Thevar who chose the iconic 'two-leaves' symbol of the AIADMK party.
- Later, he left AIADMK and joined the DMK.

6. Amit Burman steps down as Chairman of Dabur India, to continue as non-executive director



- FMCG major Dabur has announced that the board has accepted the resignation of Amit Burman as the Chairman.
- Amit Burman will continue to serve in the position of non-executive director of the company.

- Amit Burman was announced as the CEO of Dabur in 1999 when the company forayed into the processed food business.
- In July 2007, he stepped down from his position when the company was merged into Dabur India Ltd and was appointed as the vice chairman.
- In 2019, Amit took the charge as the chairman of Dabur Indian Ltd.
- The new non-executive vice chairman of the board of directors is Saket Burman from 11th August 2022, for the next five years.
- The board also announced that Mohit Burman will be the non-executive chairman of the board for the next five years, who is currently serving as the non-executive vice chairman.
- Dabur today operates in key consumer product categories like Hair Care, Oral Care, Health Care, Skin Care, Home Care, and Foods.
- Dabur has successfully transformed itself from being a family-run business to becoming a professionally managed enterprise.

7. HDFC Bank inks pact with TReDs platform M1xchange



- M1xchange (TReDs platform), a marketplace for discounting trade receivables, and HDFC Bank have partnered to provide small businesses' access to financing at competitive interest rates.
- To debut on the Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDs) platform, HDFC Bank has joined forces with M1xchange, a project of Mynd Solutions Pvt Ltd.
- This action is anticipated to provide corporate buyers and MSMEs with high liquidity at competitive interest rates.
- The Micro, Small, and Medium-Sized Enterprises (MSMEs) can auction their trade receivables online through the TReDS (M1xchange) system, which is governed by the RBI, and borrow money from the financial institution offering the lowest interest rate.

- The partnership between HDFC Bank and M1xchange represents yet another important advance in the financing of MSME and micro category firms.
- Shorter turn-around times and lower administrative expenses will enable HDFC Bank to book more new-to-bank (NTB) corporate buyer partnerships, according to him.
- This agreement is anticipated to increase TReDS (M1xchange) adoption among more corporate customers and MSMEs, as well as bring in more liquidity.

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. Agriculture Minister launches indigenous vaccine Lumpi-ProVac to protect livestock from Lumpy Skin disease



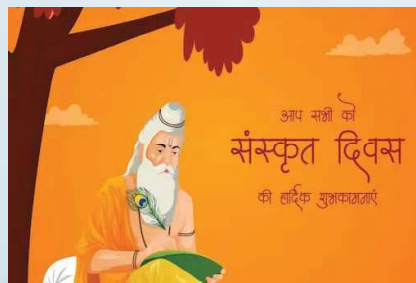
- Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Narendra Singh Tomar has launched the indigenous vaccine Lumpi-ProVacto protect livestock from Lumpy Skin disease.
- The vaccine has been developed by the National Equine Research Center, Hisar, Haryana in collaboration with the Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izzatnagar, Bareilly.
- Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Tomar described this vaccine as a milestone for eradicating the Lumpy disease.
- He expressed happiness that scientists have developed a vaccine 100 percent effective complying with all standards, which will be effective in getting rid of the Lumpy disease.
- The Minister directed the concerned officials to provide this vaccine in large numbers at the earliest for relief to the cattle.
- He said that there are thirty crore livestock in the country and all possible measures should be taken to provide them relief at the earliest.

2. Bangladeshi architect Marina becomes first South Asian to win Lisbon Triennale Lifetime Achievement Award



- Renowned Bangladeshi architect, researcher and educator Marina Tabassum became the first person from the global south and first south Asian to win the prestigious Lisbon Triennale Millennium bcp Lifetime Achievement Award.
- Announcing the award, the Lisbon Architecture Triennale jury praised Marina Tabassum for presenting an inspiring example of work with local communities that can have a positive impact across the globe even under the most adverse conditions.
- The International Jury for the award said that Marina Tabassum's unique practice touches on the spiritual fundamentals of architecture.
- Driven by specific cultural and geographical context, her works address pressing contemporary issues, said the jury in their citation for the award.
- Her work shows how architects can challenge the climate crisis and bring about social change in an experimental, respectful and inspiring manner.
- She will receive an original artwork by the Portuguese artist and sculptor Carlos Nogueira as award during the Lisbon Triennale which begins on 29 September in Lisbon, Portugal.

3. World Sanskrit Day 2022



- World Sanskrit Day is celebrated on Sawan Poornima in the Hindu calendar.
- As per the calendar, today Friday, August 12 marks the occasion.

- It was first celebrated in 1969 when the government decided to illuminate the world about the language that is deeply rooted in the Hindu culture.
- The auspicious occasion of Raksha Bandhan was decided as the day to commemorate the language.
- Sanskrit is one of the most ancient languages that make up the holy scriptures of the Hindu culture.
- The origins of the language are long debated and are surrounded by multiple theories.
- Many believe that the language dates back to roughly 3,500 years old.

4. Badhe Chalo'- Lehra Do, Har Gahr Tiranga Fehra Do' campaign culminates in New Delhi



- The “Badhe Chalo'- Lehra Do, Har Gahr Tiranga Fehra Do' campaign culminated with the Grand Finale event in the presence of Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur and Culture Minister G Kishan Reddy at the Talkatora Stadium in New Delhi this evening.
- Speaking on this occasion, Mr Thakur said, under the reign of previous governments at the centre, no one could dare to unfurl the national flag in Jammu and Kashmir region, but after the abrogation of article 370 by the NDA government, anyone can freely hoist the tricolour anywhere in the region.
- He urged the youth to resolve to take India to newer heights in the next 25 years under Amrit Kaal.
- In his address, Culture Minister G Kishan Reddy called upon all citizens to hoist the tricolour on their house and resolve to make India a new, young, secure and strong country in the world.
- He said Prime Minister Narendra Modi is tirelessly working towards this cause.

5. Initiative 'SMILE' launched to make cities, towns and municipal areas begging-free



- Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment Dr. VirendraKumar today launched the 'SMILE: Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise' initiative in New Delhi.
- The Initiative aims to make cities, towns and municipal areas begging-free and make a strategy for comprehensive rehabilitation of the persons engaged in the act of begging through the coordinated action of various stakeholders.
- The Ministry has allocated a total budget of a hundred crore rupees for the project till 2025-26.
- Through the project, the Ministry envisions developing a support mechanism for holistic rehabilitation of those engaged in the act of begging and building an India where no person is forced to beg in order to survive and fulfill their basic needs.
- The Ministry highlighted that under the initiative seventy-five Municipal Corporations in collaboration with Non-Government Organizations and other stakeholders will cover several comprehensive welfare measures for persons who are engaged in the act of begging.

6. Sunil Chhetri and Manisha Kalyan named the AIFF's Footballers of the Year



- Sunil Chhetri and Manisha Kalyan have been named the 2021-22 All India Football

Federation (AIFF) Men's Footballer of the Year and the 2021-22 Women's Footballer of the Year, respectively.

- Manisha had won the Women's Emerging Footballer of the Year for last season, while this is the 7th time that Sunil won the award, having last won it in 2018-19.
- This was Sunil Chhetri's record seventh AIFF Men's Footballer of the Year award, having won it previously in 2007, 2011, 2013, 2014, 2017 and 2018-19.
- No other player has won it more times than the 38-year-old veteran.
- Sunil Chhetri is currently third after Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi in the list of highest goal scorers in international football among active players and sixth on the all-time leaderboard.
- Manisha Kalyan, who won the 2021-22 AIFF Women's Footballer of the Year, was the recipient of the Women's Emerging Footballer of the Year from last season.
- This award is started in 1992, the winners of the AIFF Player of the Year Awards were nominated by Igor Stimac and Thomas Dennerby, the Indian men's and women's national team coaches, respectively.

7. India, Malaysia begin four-day air exercise Udarashakti



- Indian Air Force (IAF) contingent left for Malaysia to participate in a four-day bilateral exercise 'Udarashakti' with the Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF).
- The exercise will give an opportunity to the IAF contingent members to share and learn best practices with some of the best professionals from the RMAF, while also discussing mutual combat capabilities.
- The exercise will witness various aerial combat drills between the two Air Forces, the IAF said, adding that it would fortify the long-standing bond of friendship and enhance the avenues of defence cooperation between the two Air Forces, thereby augmenting security in the region.

- From the Indian Air Force Su-30, MKI and C-17 aircraft will be participating while the RMAF will be flying Su-30 MKM aircraft.

8. Tamara Walcott lifts 737.5 kg to break powerlifting Guinness World Record



- Tamara Walcott, a female powerlifter from Maryland in the United States broke according to sources in the investigating agency for the heaviest cumulative lift for bench/squat and press in competition (female) after lifting a total of 737.5 kg across three compound lifts – the squat, the bench press, and the deadlift.
- She was honoured at the 2022 World Raw Powerlifting Federation American Pro in Manassas, Virginia last month.
- GWR compared the weight she lifted with a female adult giraffe that weighs about 680.3 kg.
- Walcott started power lifting four years ago when she realized that she cannot invest time in baseball or basketball.
- Initially, she was aiming for weight loss and general fitness, and not setting new world records.

By Sameer Singhal



CURRENT AFFAIRS

AUGUST 2022

National News

1. Veteran stock market investor Rakesh Jhunjhunwala passes away; PM Modi expresses grief



- Veteran stock market investor Rakesh Jhunjhunwala passed away in Mumbai this morning. He was 62.
- Akasa Air - India's newest budget carrier - was one of the business ventures of Rakesh Jhunjhunwala.
- The airline began commercial operations this month with a maiden flight from Mumbai to Ahmedabad.
- Known as India's Warren Buffett, Jhunjhunwala's wealth was pegged at 5.8 billion dollars.
- Jhunjhunwala started his journey in stock markets while still in college with a capital of just 5,000 rupees.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has expressed sadness on the passing away of business magnate, stock trader and investor Rakesh Jhunjhunwala.
- In a tweet, Mr Modi said, Rakesh Jhunjhunwala was indomitable.

2. India gift Dornier Maritime Reconnaissance aircraft to Sri Lanka



- India gifted a Dornier Maritime Reconnaissance aircraft to Sri Lanka towards strengthening the maritime security of the island nation at a special event in Sri Lanka Air Force Base in Katunayake yesterday.
- Navy and Air Force personnel of Sri Lanka who received training in India for close to four months shall operate the aircraft.
- The External Affairs Ministry said they will also receive operational support from their Indian counterparts.
- Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe and Indian High Commissioner Gopal Baglay graced the occasion among others.
- The landmark event coincided with the celebration of India's Independence Day.
- The aircraft would act as a force multiplier, enabling Sri Lanka to tackle multiple challenges such as human and drug trafficking, smuggling, and other organized forms of crime in its coastal waters more effectively.
- Induction of the aircraft is timely in view of the current challenges to Sri Lanka's maritime security.

3. Myanmar court jails Aung San Suu Kyi for six years for corruption



- A court in Myanmar has found the former State Counsellor and deposed head of the civilian government Aung San Suu Kyi guilty of corruption.
- The court sentenced Aung San Suu Kyi for 6 years in jail, says Reuters.
- The court has found her guilty of misusing funds from a health and education organization named Daw Khin Kyi Foundation established by her in the memory of her

late mother.

- She faced charges of building a home for the organization and leasing government-owned land to it at a concessional rate.
- She has been kept in solitary confinement in the capital city of Naypyidaw.
- She has already been sentenced to 11 years in prison in other cases.
- The 77-year-old Nobel Peace prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi is facing at least 18 cases under the military government of Myanmar which took power in February last year immediately after her party National League for Democracy (NLD) swept the national elections in the country.
- She could potentially face a very long jail term if convicted under the charges leveled against her.

4. BCCI Ex-Secretary Amitabh Chaudhary died of heart attack in Ranchi



- Ex-Secretary BCCI, Team India Manager, President of Jharkhand State Cricket Association and former IPS Officer Amitabh Chaudhary died of a heart attack in Ranchi this morning.
- He was 62. Mr Chaudhary also served as Chairman of the Jharkhand Public Service Commission.
- Chief Minister Hemant Soren has expressed his condolences to the bereaved family.
- In a tweet, the Chief Minister remembered the contribution of Mr Chaudhary to promote the game of cricket in Jharkhand.

5. Asia's oldest football tournament - Durand Cup begins this evening



- The 131st edition of Asia's oldest football tournament - Durand Cup will begin today.
- The opening match will be played between FC Goa and Mohammedan SC at the Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan in Kolkata at 7 pm.
- The tournament will feature 20 teams, all divided into four groups of five teams each.
- Of the 20 teams, 11 teams will be the clubs that play Indian Super League, five teams will be from I-League and four teams from the Armed forces.
- For the first time in its history, the tournament is being held in multiple cities. West Bengal, Assam and Manipur are hosting the Durand Cup 2022.
- The matches will be played in Salt Lake Stadium (Kolkata, West Bengal), Naihati Stadium (Naihati, West Bengal), Kishore Bharati Stadium (Kolkata, West Bengal), Khuman Lampak Stadium (Imphal, Manipur) and Indira Gandhi Athletic Stadium (Guwahati, Assam).

6. FIFA suspends All India Football Federation due to undue influence from third parties



- The global football governing body FIFA has suspended the All India Football Federation (AIFF) due to undue influence from third parties.
- In a statement, FIFA termed it a serious violation of the FIFA Statutes.
- It said the suspension will be lifted once an order to set up a committee of administrators to assume the powers of the AIFF Executive Committee has been repealed and the AIFF administration regains full control of the AIFF's daily affairs.
- The AIFF ran into trouble after former chief Praful Patel stayed in office beyond his term with the Supreme Court of India ruling it invalid.
- The apex court had placed the AIFF under the aegis of a Committee of Administrators (CoA) it had selected in May 2022.
- The decision to suspend the AIFF comes even as the Supreme Court of India directed that the election of the executive committee of the Indian football governing body be held expeditiously.

7. Indian flag unfurled 30 kilometers above earth by Space Kidz India



- Space Kidz India unfurled the Indian flag about 30 kilometres above the planet on Independence Day yesterday.
- The flag was sent to an altitude of 1 lakh 6 thousand feet above the planet on a balloon that unfurled it.
- The event was part of the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav slogan and under the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to celebrate the historic anniversary.
- Space Kidz India is an organization creating 'young scientists for the country and spreading awareness among children for a borderless world.'
- The organization recently launched a satellite into Low Earth Orbit. AzadiSAT was developed by 750 girl students from across India to mark the 75 years of Independence.

8. Parsi new year Navroz being celebrated in different parts of the country today



- Today is Navroz or the Parsi New Year. It is the most widely celebrated festival of the Parsi community. This is seen as a harbinger of peace and prosperity.
- In Mumbai and its suburbs, which host a considerable population of Parsi community, the festival is celebrated with grand lunch and dinner with the best and finest variety of Parsi cuisine.
- Parsis see this festival as the great occasion to get together, eat and mingle.
- On this day, the Parsis visit the Agyaris or the fire temples to offer prayers.

- They feed the poor on this day, as the new year has to start on a good note.
- President Droupadi Murmu, Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar have greeted the people on the occasion.

9. Arunachal's new airport named Donyi Polo, to begin operations on Aug 15



- The third airport in Arunachal Pradesh, which is now under construction in Itanagar, the state capital, has been given the name “Donyi Polo Airport” by the Arunachal Pradesh administration.
- According to a representative of the Chief Minister’s Office, the state cabinet adopted “Donyi Polo Airport” as the name of the airport at its meeting.
- Pema Khandu, the chief minister of Arunachal Pradesh, presided over the gathering.
- The name of the only airport in the capital city, according to the official, would represent the long-standing customs and rich cultural legacy of the tribally dominant state and would also reflect the long-standing indigenous respect for the Sun (Donyi) and the Moon (Polo) among the populace.
- The Airport Authority of India has undertaken a Rs 650 crore project to develop the airport to boost air connectivity in the mountainous areas.

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. Today is the death anniversary of freedom fighter Madan Lal Dhingra



- Today is the death anniversary of freedom fighter Madan Lal Dhingra. He is remembered for sustaining the freedom movement from outside the motherland.
- He was influenced by Shyamji Krishna Verma and VD Savarkar. Madan Lal was deeply troubled by the treatment meted out to Indians by the British Police, and he decided to take revenge.
- He found out that William Hutt Curzon Wylie was the Head of secret police because of whom, the freedom fighters in London were targeted.
- When the elder brother of Veer Savarkar was arrested, Dhingra decided to take revenge.
- On 1st July, 1909, Dhingra shot dead the British police officer Curzon Wylie in a public gathering.
- He was immediately arrested and sentenced to death.
- The brave freedom fighter was executed at Pentonville Prison on 17 August 1909.

2. NASA rolls out its new Moon rocket to prepare it for maiden flight



- The American space agency NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) is rolling out its giant new Moon rocket to prepare it for a maiden flight.
- Known as the Space Launch System (SLS), the vehicle is being taken to Pad 39B at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida for a lift-off scheduled for the 29th of August.
- It will be a crucial and long-delayed demonstration trip to the moon in NASA's Artemis program, the United States multibillion-dollar effort to return humans to the lunar surface as practice for future missions to Mars.
- The debut outing is a test with no crew aboard, but future missions will send astronauts back to the lunar surface for the first time in over 50 years.
- According to media reports, if bad launch weather or a minor technical issue triggers a delay from 29th August, NASA has backup launch dates on 2nd and 5th September.

3. Defense Minister Rajnath Singh hands over indigenously-developed equipment & systems to Indian Army



- Defense Minister Rajnath Singh handed over indigenously-developed equipment and systems to the Indian Army in New Delhi today.
- Future Infantry Soldier, new generation anti-personnel mine, upgraded sights system for tanks, high mobility Infantry Protected Vehicles and Assault Boats are among the state-of-the-art equipments.
- The equipment/systems have been jointly developed by the Indian Army in collaboration with Defence Research and Development Organisation and the Industry, in line with the Prime Minister's vision to modernize the Armed Forces, under the 'Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan'.
- Mr Rajnath Singh exuded confidence that these equipment and systems will enhance the operational preparedness of the Indian Army and enhance their efficiency.
- He said it is a shining example of the country's growing self-reliance prowess, in partnership with the private sector and other institutions.
- The Defense Minister asserted that the infrastructural needs of the Armed Forces are increasing with constantly-changing times.

4. US President Joe Biden signs massive climate and healthcare legislation



- US President Joe Biden has signed a massive climate change and healthcare spending bill into law.

- The legislation aimed to bring changes in the way medicines are priced. As per reports, there will be a minimum 15 percent tax for corporations.
- As per the White House, 740 billion dollar bill is the biggest commitment to counter climate change in the history of the country.
- The federal government will invest around 375 billion dollar over the decade to fight climate change.
- The White House claimed that Biden's Inflation Reduction Act would reduce greenhouse gas emissions by about one billion tons in 2030.
- The law will also cap prescription drug costs at 2,000 dollar out-of-pocket annually for Medicare recipients.
- The new legislation will also help around 13 million Americans in paying for their healthcare insurance.

5. Odisha government ties up with ocean institute for coastline



- The Odisha Government has signed an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Chennai-based National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) for the protection of coastal areas from various natural calamities like flood, cyclone, soil erosion and high tide, etc.
- The Odisha coastal areas face natural calamities every year due to the effects of climate change.
- Seven districts namely Ganjam, Puri, Khordha, Kendrapada, Bhadrak, Baleswar and Jagatsinghpur will get benefitted out of the initiative.
- This will help these districts to get technological knowledge and design from the NIOT, Chennai, for coastal area protection.
- The districts have already faced cyclones like Phailin, Hudhud, Titli, Amphan, Bulbul, Yash, Gulab, Jawad, etc., in the past years.
- In the first phase, work will be carried out in 199 km coastal areas of Kendrapada, Baleswar, Bhadrak Jagatsinghpur and Puri and in the next phase, Ganjam and Khordha will be included.

- The expenditure will be made by the State Government from its own resources.

6. Govt re-nominates four independent directors on central board of RBI



- Satish Kashinath Marathe, Swaminathan Gurumurthy, Revathy Iyer, and Sachin Chaturvedi have all been renominated by the national government to serve as part-time, non-official directors on the RBI's central board or central board of the Reserve Bank of India.
- The RBI said on its website that Gurumurthy and Marathe have been renominated for another term of four years, until further instructions for RBI's central board.
- After the RBI's central board current terms expire on September 18, 2022, Iyer and Chaturvedi have been renominated for another four years.
- Anand Mahindra, the chairman of the Mahindra & Mahindra group, Venu Srinivasan, Pankaj Patel, the chairman of Zydus Lifesciences, and Ravindra Dholakia, a former member of the Monetary Policy Committee, were nominated by the government in June to serve as part-time non-official directors on the RBI's central board.
- Members of the RBI's central board offer a bigger picture for the central bank rather than getting personally involved in monetary policy decisions.

7. Sultan Azlan Shah Cup 2022 hockey back after two years; India, Australia in fray



- Malaysia's premier men's hockey tournament, the Sultan Azlan Shah Cup 2022 will be held from November 16 to 25 in Ipoh.
- The tournament is making a return after a two-year absence due to the Covid-19

pandemic.

- World No 1 Australia, fifth-ranked Germany, India, New Zealand, and Canada have been invited to the tournament.
- All matches will be played at the Azlan Shah Stadium in the city of Ipoh in Malaysia, which is the permanent venue of the Sultan Azlan Shah Cup.
- Last time the Azlan Shah tournament was held in 2019 which was won by South Korea beating India in the final, which was there 3rd title.
- Best player of the tournament was Surender Kumar.
- Most Azlan Shah tournament is won by Australia (10 times) then comes India with 5 titles. And Pakistan, South Korea with 3 titles each.

8. Researchers develop 3D printed artificial cornea



Lead researchers from L V Prasad Eye Institute, Dr Vivek Singh (4th from Left), Scientist & Dr Sayan Basu (fifth from Left), Director – Research, along with the team which developed the first 3D-Printed Human Cornea in India. First 3D-Printed Human Cornea in India has been developed by L V Prasad Eye Institute, CCMB and IIT Hyderabad.

- Researchers in Hyderabad have successfully 3D-printed an artificial cornea (3D-printed Human Cornea) and placed it in a rabbit eye for the first time ever in India.
- A 3D-printed Human cornea made from human donor corneal tissue has been created by researchers from the L V Prasad Eye Institute (LVPEI), Indian Institute of Technology-Hyderabad (IIT-H), and the Center for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB).
- The product (3D-printed Human Cornea) was created locally with support from the government and philanthropic organisations; it is entirely natural, free of synthetic ingredients, and safe for patients to use.
- In order to create a special biomimetic hydrogel (patent pending), the researchers from LVPEI, IITH, and CCMB employed decellularized corneal tissue matrix and stem cells generated from human eyes.
- This hydrogel served as the foundation material for the 3D-printed Human Cornea.

- The 3D-printed Human Cornea is biocompatible, natural, and free of animal byproducts because it is made of components derived from human corneal tissue.

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. Trial run of cargo shipment between Kolkata and North-east completed



- The first of the four cargo trial runs between Indian and Bangladesh being conducted for the full operationalisation of the Agreement on the Use of Chattogram and Mongla Port (ACMP) was completed on Tuesday.
- The cargo shipment crossed the Bibirbazar-Srimantapur Land Customs Station (LCS) which will be further transported to Silchar in Assam.
- Another container from the same shipment that had arrived from Kolkata to Mongla port was earlier flagged off from Tamabil land port into Meghalaya on August 10.
- Minister of State, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment Pratima Bhoumik received the Cargo on its arrival in Tripura.
- Tripura Minister for Industry and commerce Santana Chakma and Assistant High Commissioner of India at Chattogram Dr Rajiv Ranjan were present on the occasion.
- Minister Pratima Bhoumik said that the experimental cargo movement has created a new scope for transportation of consignments.
- Once the system is regularised, several items could be transported to the northeastern states through Bangladesh.
- The containership MV Rishad Rayhan had arrived from Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port (SPMP) Kolkata at the Mongla port on August 8.

2. Chinese authorities scramble to prevent falling birth rates as “three child policy” finds less traction among youth



- Chinese authorities issued new guidelines to promote population growth amid falling birth rate.
- In a rare occurrence, a total of 17 Chinese government departments on Tuesday jointly released a guideline on support policies in finance, tax, housing, employment, education and other fields to create a fertility-friendly society and encourage families to have more children, as the country’s latest “Three child policy” found less traction among the population in child-bearing age.
- China’s National Health Authority said on Tuesday, China will discourage abortions and take steps to make fertility treatment more accessible as part of efforts to boost one of the world’s lowest birth rates.
- The authority said it would carry out reproductive health promotion to enhance public awareness while “preventing unintended pregnancy and reducing abortions that are not medically necessary.”
- China’s fertility rate of 1.16 in 2021 was far below the 2.1 OECD standard for a stable population and among the lowest in the world.
- The announcement underscored the seriousness of China’s demographic decline, as a contraction in Chinese population is expected before 2025.
- Experts said that China’s total population may begin to shrink earlier than previously expected, and with the decreasing willingness for marriage and fertility especially among young people, the situation may worsen.

3. DoT allocates spectrum to telecom operators, I&T Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw asks telcos to prepare for 5G launch



- The Department of Telecommunications(DoT) has allocated spectrum to telecom operators, paving the way for launch of 5G services.
- Communications and Information Technology Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said the letters for spectrum assignment were issued.
- Mr Vaishnaw has also requested Telecom Service Providers to prepare for 5G launch. Bharti Enterprises Chairman sunil Mittal praised at the speed at which DoT processed all the matters related to spectrum auction.
- Yesterday, Airtel paid 8312.4 cr rupees towards spectrum dues and was provided the allocation letter for the designated frequency bands within hours.
- Mr Mittal said, E band allocation was given along with spectrum as promised.
- He said, No fuss, no follow Up, No running around the corridors and No tall claims and this is ease of doing business at Business as it should be.
- With the assignment of frequencies, telecom operators can start the work for rolling out 5G networks.
- Telcos have already placed orders for buying telecom equipment and now will start distributing radios to the identified sites for 5G.

4. **Hindustan Aeronautics Limited signs MoU for establishing an office in Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia**



- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) signed an MoU for establishing an office in Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia.
- The office in Malaysia will help HAL in tapping the new business opportunities for Fighter Lead in Trainer (FLIT) LCA and other requirements of Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) like Su-30 MKM and Hawk upgrades.
- It will reinforce the commitment of India in supporting the Malaysian Defense Forces and industry for sustainable aerospace and defense landscape in Malaysia.

- HAL's office in Kuala Lumpur will take up market promotion of HAL's range of products and services not only in Malaysia but in entire South East Asia.
- HAL had submitted a proposal to the Ministry of Defence (MINDEF), Malaysia during October 2021 for supply of 18 FLIT LCAs against a global tender issued by RMAF.
- The final winner of the tender is expected to be declared soon by Malaysian authorities.
- LCA Tejas stands a fair chance of selection in the bid as it meets all the parameters sought by RMAF.

5. **Govt undertakes Project Cheetah to re-establish endangered species in its historical range in India**



- Government has undertaken the ambitious Project Cheetah which aims to re-establish the species in its historical range in India. Reintroduction of wild species particularly the Cheetah is being undertaken as per the International Union for Conservation of Nature, IUCN guidelines.
- Environment Ministry said processes like disease screening, quarantine of release candidates as well as transportation of live wild animals across continents require careful planning and execution.
- It said reports in certain sections of the media that African Cheetahs are still stuck in transit are completely unfounded.
- The date for Cheetah introduction and translocation has not been decided yet.
- Environment Ministry said all precautions are being taken to ensure success of the project.
- Upon arrival, the Cheetahs will be kept under quarantine and observed before release.

6. Center appoints Rajkiran Rai as NaBFID managing director for nearly 5 years



- The Centre and the board of the National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID) has appointed Rajkiran Rai G as its managing director (MD) for the next five years.
- The board of NaBFID approved Rai's appointment on July 30 based on clearance by the RBI, centre and the Development finance institutions (DFI) nomination and remuneration committee.
- He took charge as the DFI's MD on August 8, and will hold the top post till May 18, 2027, according to details of the appointment.
- Last year in October 2021, the Centre had appointed K V Kamath as chairperson of NaBFID. Subsequently, government nominees Pankaj Jain and Sumita Dawra were appointed directors to the board of DFI.
- The government has already infused Rs 20,000 crore into NaBFID to help the DFI start its operations to catalyse investment in the infrastructure sector

7. PM sets 'Panch Pran' target for next 25 yrs



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke to the nation from the Red Fort for the ninth time in a row on August 15, 2022. PM Modi, in his 88-minute speech, outlined his "Panch Pran Targets" (Five Resolves) to make India a developed country by the time it celebrates its 100th Independence Day in 25 years.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi discussed the Panch Pran Goal.
- Cleanliness campaigns, vaccinations, electrical connections, the elimination of open

defecation, and the usage of solar energy are all examples of established India standards according to the Panch Pran.

- A prime illustration of “liberation from the concept of servitude” is the New National Education Policy.
- Women’s rights, gender equality, and India First are national emblems of solidarity and unity.
- India would advance if its citizens carry out obligations like saving power, practising chemical-free agriculture, and making the most of the available irrigation water.

The Panch Pran are as follows:

- A. Advance with greater conviction and the determination of a developed India
- B. Get rid of any signs of slavery
- C. Take pride in India’s history.
- D. the power of unity
- E. duties of citizens, such as those of the PM and CMs.

8. Ireland’s Kevin O’Brien announces retirement from International Cricket



- Ireland all-rounder Kevin O’Brien has announced his retirement from international cricket after falling out of contention for this year’s T20 World Cup in Australia.
- O’Brien played three Tests, 153 one-day internationals and 110 T20 internationals during a 16-year international career and had spells with a number of English county clubs and T20 franchise sides around the world.
- The 38-year-old famously blasted the Irish to victory over England in a 2011 World Cup group match in India with a 50-ball century—still the tournament’s quickest.
- The Dubliner scored 9,048 runs in total for Ireland, including the country’s first Test hundred, a second-innings knock of 118 against Pakistan in 2018, and took 276 wickets

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. Rajnath Singh inaugurates Manipur leg of football Durand Cup 2022 in Imphal



- Defense Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the Manipur leg of football Durand Cup 2022 on Thursday at Khuman Lampak Sports Stadium in Imphal.
- The Durand Cup is being hosted for the first time in the Northeastern city.
- Mr Singh reached Imphal accompanied Chief of Army Staff General Manoj Pande and witnessed the first-ever Durand Cup match in the North-Eastern state.
- The match was played between NEROCA FC and TRAU FC.
- Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh, and other high-ranking Indian Army Officers also attended the inaugural function of Durand Cup.
- Speaking on the occasion, Mr.Rajnath Singh said, every sports person maintains good discipline and they are like jawans of the country. He also praised Manipur for its sports talent among the youths.
- The Chief Minister in his address said, the State Government has been able to host the historic Durand Cup with the support of Indian Armed Forces.

2. Har Ghar Jal in Full Flow: Goa Becomes 1st State to Provide Tap Water Connections to All Rural Homes



- The people of all the villages in Goa and Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu (D&NH and D&D) declared their village to be a “Har Ghar Jal” through a resolution passed by the Gram Sabha, certifying that all households in the villages have access to safe drinking water through taps and ensuring that “No One is Left Out.”

- All 85,156 of the 85,635,000 rural households in Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu, and Goa have access to potable water via a tap connection with Har Ghar Jal.
- The Government of India's flagship programme, Jal Jeevan Mission, was unveiled on August 15, 2019, from the Red Fort's ramparts by its forward-thinking Prime Minister.
- By 2024, the goal hopes to provide every rural family in the nation with a reliable in Jal Jeevan Mission, long-term supply of potable tap water in an appropriate amount and of the required quality.
- The initiative is carried out by the Indian government in collaboration with the States and UTs.
- Despite numerous setbacks and difficulties encountered during the COVID-19 pandemic, this success is the result of the persistent efforts of Goa's Panchayat members, Pani Samitis,
- The tap connection currently provides access to potable water for all schools, anganwadi centres, public institutions, including Gram Panchayat buildings, healthcare facilities, community centres, ashramshalas, and other government structures.

3. Kejriwal launches 'Make India No.1' mission, to travel across country to rally people's support



- Delhi Chief Minister, Arvind Kejriwal has formally unveiled his Aam Aadmi Party's national ambition with the launch of the 'Make India No 1' campaign.
- At an event organized at Talkatora stadium here, he proposed a five-point vision for good governance.
- The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) national convenor termed the campaign a "national mission" and appealed to the masses to join.
- The first thing that we have to do is provide free and quality education to every child of this country.
- The second measure that we will have to take is to provide free and best medical treatment along with free medicines and test facilities to every citizen of the country.

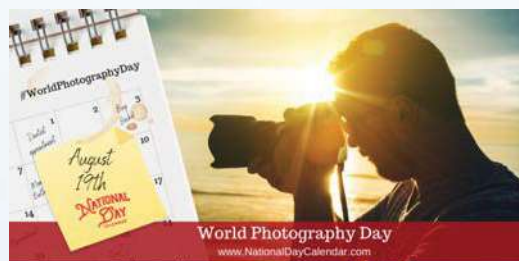
- Third, we will have to provide employment to every youth which is possible with the right intention and management.
- Fourth, every woman should get respect, equal rights and security.

4. Paytm partners with Samsung stores to deploy smart PoS devices, offers Paytm Postpaid



- Paytm partnered with Samsung stores across India to facilitate smart payments as well as its loan service Paytm Postpaid through the deployment of point-of-sale devices.
- The partnership will enable consumers purchasing Samsung devices like laptops, smartphones, television, smart watches etc, from any authorised store in the country to pay through Paytm payment instruments, including UPI, wallet, buy now pay later scheme, debit cards and credit cards.
- The partnership with Samsung stores will enable us to further extend the convenience of smart payments to a larger customer base.
- Paytm through its postpaid or buy-now-pay-later service will provide a credit limit of up to Rs 60,000 per month. It will also give customers an option to avail of personal loans of up to Rs 2 lakh through financial institution partners of Paytm, according to the company statement.
- Paytm claims to be the leader in offline payments, having deployed 4.1 million devices across the country as of July 2022.

5. WORLD PHOTOGRAPHY DAY: 19th August 2022



- World Photography Day is celebrated on August 19 each year.
- The aim of World Photography Day is to create awareness, share ideas and encour-

age people to take up photography.

- The annual celebration pays tribute to the art of photography and also encourages those who are passionate about it to come together and share their work.
- It also serves as a motivating day for enthusiasts to pursue photography as a career.
- World Photography Day is a day to celebrate the art and craft of photography and the passion that people have for this genre.
- The day also recognizes how the purpose of the medium has evolved from documenting historic events to a mode for personal fulfilment and memory creation.
- The inception of this day dates back to 1837 when Frenchmen Joseph Nicéphore Niepce and Louis Daguerre invented the 'daguerreotype' which was the world's first-ever photographic process.
- Two years later on January 9, 1939, the daguerreotype was officially endorsed by the French Academy of Sciences.

6. Bajaj Electricals elevates Anuj Poddar as Managing Director, CEO



- Bajaj Electricals, part of business conglomerate Bajaj Group, has elevated its Executive Director Anuj Poddar to Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO).
- The company has separated the post of Chairman & Managing Director and its patron Shekhar Bajaj will continue as Executive Chairman of the company.
- The separation of the Chairman and Managing Director positions is in continuation of the professionalisation of the management of the company and marks the company's commitment to strong corporate governance standards.
- Bajaj Electricals had a turnover of Rs 4,813 crore in FY22.
- Its business portfolio spans consumer products such as appliances, fans, lighting and EPC (illumination, power transmission and power distribution).
- It also has a presence in premium home appliance and cookware segments with

brands like Morphy Richards and Nirlep.

7. NASA's moon rocket moved to launch pad for 1st test flight



- The American space agency, NASA has rolled out its giant new Moon rocket, surrounding the Space Launch System (SLS) rocket and Orion spacecraft, the vehicle was moved to Pad 39B at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida ahead of the expected lift-off on 29 August.
- The near 100m-tall (328ft) SLS rode an immense tractor to the pad.
- The SLS will be used under the Artemis mission that will take humans back to the Moon his time with plans for a longer presence on the surface.
- The SLS will have 15% more thrust off the pad than Apollo's Saturn V rockets.
- This extra power, combined with further enhancements, will allow the vehicle to not only send astronauts far beyond Earth but, additionally, so much equipment and cargo that those crews could stay away for extended periods.
- The crew capsule, also, is a step up in capability. Called Orion, it is much more spacious, being a metre wider, at 5m (16.5ft), than the historic command modules of the 1960s and 70s.

8. Bengaluru to host U18 women basketball event



- The International Basketball Federation FIBA is scheduled to host the FIBA U18 Women's Asian Championship at Sree Kanteerva and Koramangala Indoor stadiums in Bengaluru from September 5 to 11. As many as 16 countries will participate in the event.
- Youth Empowerment and Sports minister Dr C Narayana Gowda told reporters on

Thursday that preparations for the event were on track.

- The championship will be in two divisions -- A and B.
- The countries in Division A are: China, Indonesia, India, Japan, Korea, Chinese, Taipei, Australia and New Zealand. In Division B are: Hong Kong, Jordan, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Philippines, Samoa and Thailand.
- The first four teams from the championship will qualify for the FIBA U19 Women's World Cup, which is scheduled to be held in Madrid, Spain, in July 2023.

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. **Goa becomes 1st 'Har Ghar Jal' Certified State & D&NH and D&D becomes 1st 'Har Ghar Jal' Certified UT in India**



- Goa becomes the **first** 'Har Ghar Jal' certified State while Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu (D&NH and D&D) becomes the **first** 'Har Ghar Jal' certified Union Territory (UT) in India.
- People from all the villages of Goa and D&NH and D&D have declared their village as 'Har Ghar Jal' through a resolution passed by Gram Sabha, certifying that all households in the villages have access to safe drinking water through taps, ensuring that 'No One is Left Out'.
- All 2.63 lakh rural households of Goa & 85,156 of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu have access to potable water through tap connection.

About Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM):

- i. Jal Jeevan Mission(JM) is a **flagship** programme of the Government of India (Gol) announced on August 15, 2019. 'Har Ghar Jal' is a **flagship** programme of Gol, implemented by Jal Jeevan Mission under the Ministry of Jal Shakti.
- ii. JJM aims to make provision of potable tap water supply in adequate quantity, of prescribed quality and on regular & long-term basis to every rural household of the country by 2024.
- iii. The program is implemented by Gol in partnership with States/UTs.
- iv. Village Water and Sanitation Committee (VWSC) or paani samiti has been constituted in all the 378 villages of Goa and 96 villages of D&NH and D&D. VWSC is responsible for operation, maintenance and repair of water supply infrastructure developed under 'Har Ghar Jal' programme.
- v. Today more than 10 lakh women in the country have been trained to use Field Test Kits (FTKs) for testing the quality of water supplied in rural households.
- vi. More than 57 lakh water samples have been tested by these women using FTKs.
- vii. More than 52% rural households in India are now connected with tap water which was only 17% at the time of launch of this transformational mission on August 15, 2019.

2. This State Is India's 1st To Use Blockchain To Distribute Seed To Farmers



- Jharkhand: In a significant development that would revolutionize agriculture in the country, the Directorate of Agriculture, Jharkhand, and global blockchain technology company, SettleMint, India jointly announced the successful launch of seed distribution to farmers based on blockchain technology.
- "This will enable timely availability of seeds to distributors, retailers and most importantly, the farmers. Each farmer is **first** registered in the blockchain system along with their Aadhar card number and mobile number. Seed distribution is logged into the system after entry of OTP in the registered mobile number of the concerned farmer.
- During the current Kharif season, the department has covered seed distribution of cereals, pulses, oilseeds, and coarse cereals completely via blockchain technology.

To date, more than 3 lakh farmers, 600 LAMPS/PACS/Private distributors, and 160 FPOs have been registered on the platform.

3. SpiceJet Pilot's Licence Suspended For 6 Months Over Turbulence Incident



- Aviation regulator Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has suspended the licence of a SpiceJet pilot for six months following an incident where the airline's **flight** from Mumbai to Durgapur had faced severe turbulence and resulted in injuries to many passengers in May.
- The Directorate General of Civil Aviation is the regulatory body in the **field** of Civil Aviation primarily dealing with safety issues. It is responsible for regulation of air transport services to/from/within India and for enforcement of civil air regulations, air safety and airworthiness standards. It also co-ordinates all regulatory functions with International Civil Aviation Organisation.
- The headquarters are located in New Delhi with regional offices in the various parts of India.

4. BSF & IRCTC Signed MoU to ensure safety of booking data under Air E-Ticket Service



- On 16th August 2022, the Border Security Force (BSF) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) to ensure the safety and security of booking data for BSF personnel with low cancellation charges and provided an online portal with a credit facility of 60 days.
- The MoU for the BSF Air e-ticket service was signed in the presence of the Director General (DG) of BSF, Pankaj Kumar Singh and other high authorities at BSF Force Headquarters (FHQ) Delhi, New Delhi.
- This will enable better facilities to the BSF personnel who guard 3,323 km of India

-Pakistan and 4,096 km India-Bangladesh borders.

5. RBI Cancels Licence of Deccan Urban Co-operative Bank



- Earlier this week, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) cancelled the licence of Deccan Urban Co-operative Bank in Karnataka. RBI took the decision as the lender did not have adequate capital and earning prospects, the banking regulator said.
- The bank is prohibited from conducting the business of banking' as defined in Section 5(b) read with Section 56 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 with immediate effect.
- The bank has failed to comply with the requirements of Sections 22(3) (a), 22 (3) (b), 22(3) (c), 22(3) (d) and 22(3)(e) read with Section 56 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.

What happens to the money of depositors?

- With regard to the deposits in the bank, the RBI said that 99 percent of the depositors of the co-operative bank were entitled to receive the entire amount they had deposited from Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC).
- It added that the bank, based in Karnataka's Vijayanagar was not in a financial position to pay its current depositors in full.
- Once the bank's liquidation is complete, every depositor will be entitled to get deposit insurance claim amount for their deposits up to Rs 5 lakh.
- The DICGC has already paid Rs 13.07 crore of the total insured deposits as of August 06, 2022, it mentioned.

By BHUPENDRA YADAV



CURRENT AFFAIRS

AUGUST 2022

National News

1. EAM DR S JAISHANKAR UNVEILS BUST OF MAHATMA GANDHI IN ASUNCION, PARAGUAY



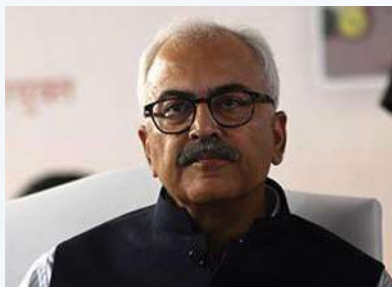
- External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar has unveiled a bust of Mahatma Gandhi in Asuncion, Paraguay.
- In a tweet, he appreciated the Asuncion Municipality's decision to locate it at the prominent waterfront of the city.
- Dr Jaishankar said this is a statement of solidarity that was so strongly expressed during the Covid pandemic.
- The Minister also visited the historic Casa de la Independencia, from where Paraguay's Independence movement started more than two centuries ago.
- The Minister said, it is a fitting testament to our common struggle and growing relationship.

2. FORMER JHARKHAND GOVERNOR SYED SIBTEY RAZI PASSES AWAY



- Former Governor of Jharkhand, Syed Sibtey Razi passed away on Saturday in Lucknow.
- He was suffering from heart disease and was under treatment at King George's Medical College.
- He breathed his last at the Trauma Centre in Lucknow. He served as the Governor of Jharkhand from the year 2004- 2009.
- Razi was associated with the Congress. He was a member of Rajya Sabha thrice.
- Later he was made the Governor of Jharkhand and Assam.
- Jharkhand Governor Ramesh Bais expressed grief over Razi's death and prayed for the peace of departed soul.
- Chief Minister Hemant Soren also prayed for the departed soul.

3. GOVT EXTENDS SERVICE OF UNION HOME SECRETARY AJAY KUMAR BHALLA FOR PERIOD OF ONE YEAR



- Union Home Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla was on August 19, 2022 given one-year extension in service till August 22, 2023, according to a Personnel Ministry order.
- Mr. Bhalla, a 1984-batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of the Assam-Meghalaya cadre, was appointed as the Home Secretary in August 2019.
- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved extension in service to Mr. Bhalla as Home Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, for a period of one year beyond August 22, 2022, i.e. up to August 22, 2023, it said.

4. SOUTH KOREA, US BEGIN THEIR LARGEST JOINT MILITARY DRILLS IN YEARS



- South Korea and the United States began their largest joint military drills in years today with a resumption of field training.
- According to media reports, the annual summertime exercises, renamed 'Ulchi Freedom Shield' this year and scheduled to end on 1st of September.
- Deep in a military bunker outside Seoul, two Air Force Colonels sit shoulder-to-shoulder.
- This week, for the first time in four years, the two militaries will run field exercises, to practise how they would respond to a North Korean attack.
- South Korea also launched the four-day Ulchi civil defence drills separately today, designed to boost government readiness, for the first time since the coronavirus pandemic emerged.
- The military and civil exercises are aimed at improving the country's preparedness to match the changing patterns of war, with evolving cyber threats against key facilities such as chip factories and supply chains.

5. INDIA'S PRAGGNANANDHAA TO FACE CARLSEN IN FINAL OF FTX CRYPTO CUP RAPID CHESS TOURNAMENT



- India's Rameshbabu Pragganandhaa will face Norway's world champion, Magnus Carlsen, in the final of the FTX Crypto Cup rapid chess tournament in Miami tonight.
- The 210,000 dollar tournament is hinged on a last-round match between the two players who have dominated the competition thus far.

- In the sixth round, Carlsen defeated the Iranian-French teenager Alireza Firouzjain in tiebreaks.
- On the other hand, R Praggnanandhaa battled back from the verge of defeat to force a blitz tiebreak in his sixth-round match against World Cup winner Jan-Krzysztof Duda of Poland.
- After the sixth round, Carlsen, with 15 points, is now two points ahead of his Indian opponent.
- He will win the FTX trophy if he reaches tiebreaks in the seventh and final rounds tonight.

6. U-20 WORLD WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIPS: ANTIM PANGHAL BECOMES FIRST INDIAN WOMAN WRESTLER TO WIN GOLD MEDAL



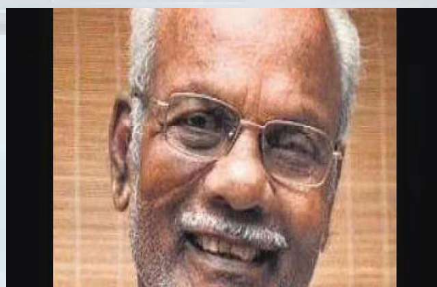
- 17-year-old Haryana wrestler Antim Panghal has become the first Indian woman wrestler to win Gold medal at Under-20 World Wrestling Championship in Sofia, Bulgaria.
- She scored an 8-0 win over Atlyn Shagayeva of Kazakhstan in 53kg category to achieve this feat.
- This gold medal is historic in its own ways as India has never won any gold medal in women's wrestling at U20 World Championships.
- Antim Panghal belongs to Haryana's Bhagana village in the Hisar district.
- Sonam Malik and Priyanka won silver medals in 62 kg and 65 kg respectively after losing the gold medal bouts.

7. SUMIT ANTIL, YOGESH KATHUNIYA CREATE NEW WORLD RECORDS AT PARA NATIONALS



- Tokyo Paralympics champion Javelin thrower Sumit Antil and silver medallist discus thrower Yogesh Kathuniya created new world records at the ongoing fourth Indian Open National Para Athletics Championships at the Sri Kanteerava stadium here on Friday.
- Sumit picked up from where he left off in Tokyo, and created a new world record after hurling the spear to a record distance of 68.62m in his event.
- The 24-year-old para athlete's previous world record throw of 68.55m in the F64 category came at the Tokyo Games last year. He also broke the world record thrice during his six attempts.
- Yogesh, on the other hand, also created a new world record in the discus throw event with a throw of 48.34m

8. KERALA'S FIRST TRIBAL NOVELIST - NARAYAN - PASSES AWAY



- Kerala's first tribal novelist and short story writer Narayan has passed away at the age of 82 in Kochi.
- He was born in the Malayaraya community in Kadayathur hills in Thodupuzha taluk in 1940.
- His debut novel, 'Kocharethi' published in 1998, was selected for the Kerala Sahitya Akademi award in 1999.
- The novel has been translated to English, Hindi and south Indian languages. Kocharethi portrays the struggles of the Malayaraya community through the life of protag-

onist Kunjipennu.

- The novel has been translated to English, Hindi and south Indian languages.

By sameer singhal

1. MoS (PANCHAYATI RAJ) SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL INAUGURATES NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON LOCALIZATION OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS IN PANCHAYATS AT MOHALI, PUNJAB



- About 1300 Elected Representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) from 22 States are attending the two-day workshop
- Shri Kapil Moreshwar Patil releases SDG's Anthem and Booklet and launches a Prime App and PSRLM website
- The National Workshop on Localization of Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs) in Panchayats through Thematic Approach on 'Village with Self-Sufficient Infrastructure'

2. INDIA finishes THIRD IN INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMY OLYMPIAD WITH 5 MEDALS



- the Olympiad held between August 14 to 21, a total of 209 students from 37 main and six guest teams participated

- India **finished** third in the 15th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics (IOAA) held in Kutaisi, Georgia, on Monday winning **five** medals in total—three gold and two silver.
- The **five** winners were namely, Raghav Goyal from Chandigarh (gold), Md Sahil Akhtar from Kolkata (gold), Mehul Borad from Hyderabad (gold), Malay Kedia from Ghaziaabad and Atharva Nilesh Mahajan from Indore won a silver medal each.

3. TOMATO FLU



- A new illness, Tomato Flu or Tomato Fever, has been found in Kerala and Odisha, as India continues its **fight** with coronavirus and monkey pox. So far, 82 children have been reported to be infected with the disease. The rash can appear on hands, feet and buttocks and also cause ulcers in the mouth.
- The symptoms of this rare viral infection include high fever, body ache, joint swelling and fatigue. Nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, fever, dehydration, swollen joints and body aches are the other symptoms reported by some patients.
- Tomato **flu** is caused by intestinal viruses and is rare among adults due to their strong immunity.

4. NATIONAL ACTION FOR MECHANISED SANITATION ECOSYSTEM (NAMASTE)



- Namaste is a Central Sector Scheme of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE) as a joint initiative of the MoSJE and the Ministry of Housing and

Urban Affairs (MoHUA).

- NAMASTE envisages safety and dignity of sanitation workers in urban India by creating an enabling ecosystem that recognizes sanitation workers as one of the key contributors in operations and maintenance of sanitation infrastructure thereby providing sustainable livelihood and enhancing their occupational safety through capacity building and improved access to safety gear and machines.
- Ensure safety and dignity of sanitation workers in urban India and providing sustainable livelihood and enhancing their occupational safety through capacity building and improved access to safety gear and machines.
- i. NAMASTE would also aim at providing access to alternative livelihoods support and entitlements to reduce the vulnerabilities of sanitation workers and enable them to access self-employment and skilled wage employment opportunities and break the intergenerationality in sanitation work.
- ii. In addition, NAMASTE would bring about a behavior change amongst citizens towards sanitation workers and enhance demand for safe sanitation services.

NAMASTE aims to achieve the following outcomes:

- i. Zero fatalities in sanitation work in India
- ii. All sanitation work is performed by skilled workers
- iii. No sanitation workers come in direct contact with human faecal matter
- iv. Sanitation workers are collectivized into SHGs and are empowered to run sanitation enterprises
- v. All Sewer and Septic tank sanitation workers (SSWs) have access to alternative livelihoods
- vi. Strengthened supervisory and monitoring systems at national, state and ULB levels to ensure enforcement and monitoring of safe sanitation work
- vii. Increased awareness amongst sanitation services seekers (individuals and institutions) to seek services from registered and skilled sanitation workers

Five hundred cities (converging with AMRUT cities) will be taken up under this phase of NAMASTE. The list of cities will be notified at an appropriate time. The category of cities that will

be eligible are given below:

- i. All Cities and Towns with a population of over one lakh with notified Municipalities, including Cantonment Boards (Civilian areas),
- ii. All Capital Cities/Towns of States/ Union Territories (UTs), not covered in 4(i),
- iii. Ten Cities from hill states, islands and tourist destinations (not more than one from each State).



Enumeration: NAMASTE envisages identifying the Sewer/Septic Tank Workers (SSWs) with a focus on informal workforce who are engaged in hazardous cleaning operations. The database will enable MoSJE, NSKFDC and MoHUA (including DAY-NULM, SBM 2.0 and AMRUT) to reach to the SSWs and their families and provide them necessary support for collectivization, skill building and linking with social and **financial** benefits. The Survey would be conducted by the City NAMASTE Managers and validated by the concerned ULB. The survey would be held in digital mode in a pre-approved format.

- i. **Extending Insurance Scheme Benefits:** For providing a safety net to identified SSWs and their families they will be covered under the Ayushman Bharat- Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY). The premium for AB-PMJAY for those identified SSWs families who are not covered earlier shall be borne under NAMASTE.
- ii. **Livelihood Assistance:** The Action Plan will promote mechanization and enterprise development. NSKFDC will provide funding support and subsidy(capital +interest) to the sanitation workers, SHGs of SSWs and private sanitation service organizations (PSSOs) to procure sanitation related equipment and vehicles under SUY for total mechanization of cleaning operations. Identified SSWs and their dependants will be given counseling on available livelihood choices and an opportunity to acquire alternative skills, if they so desire. Depending on their personal preference, a SSW may choose to continue working in the sanitation sector, thereby becoming eligible for receiving capacity building training. Alternatively, the worker may choose to explore an alternative livelihood option or an entrepreneurial venture. In case the work-

ers decide to adopt an alternate livelihood of their choice, skilling and EDP support will be provided to these workers. The workers may start a new livelihood project as an individual or as a group interested in same option. Details of rate of interest chargeable on self employment projects including sanitation related projects and the admissible capital subsidy are as follows:-

(a) The rate of interest chargeable from the beneficiaries will be as follows:-

Project cost	Rate of Interest per annum 5%
Projects upto Rs. 100000 /-	(4% for women beneficiaries)
Projects above Rs 100000/-	6%

(b) Upfront Capital subsidy as under:

Range of Project Cost (Rs.)	Capital Subsidy
For individuals	
Upto Rs. 5,00,000	50% of project cost
5,00,000 to 15,00,000	Rs.2.50 lakh + 25% remaining project cost

(c) For Group Projects:

Upto Rs. 10,00,000 lakh per beneficiary with maximum project cost upto Rs. 50,00,000	Same as admissible to individuals subject to maximum Rs. 3.75 lakh per beneficiary.
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Interest Subvention:

Interest subvention for the rate of interest charged by the Bank over and above the rates of interest prescribed under the scheme, is also admissible. The maximum repayment period including the moratorium period of upto 6 months may be 5 years for projects costing upto Rs. 5.00 lakh and upto 7 years for projects costing above Rs. 5.00 lakh.

iii. Saturation with Social Security Schemes' benefits: The identified sanitation workers and their family members will be extended benefits of all the social security schemes being implemented by various departments in the area, like:

a. Food Security (Ration)

b. Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana

- c. Scholarship Schemes at pre matric and post matric level**
 - d. Enrolment of out of school, school-going-age children**
 - e. Atal Pension Yojana**
 - f. Pension Schemes for older persons, widows, orphan, physically challenged etc.**
 - g. Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana(PM-SBY)**
 - h. Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PM-JJBY)**
 - i. Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana**
 - j. Allotment of free land/plots**
 - k. Anganwari**
 - l. Coaching for entrance exams and service.**
 - m. Any other scheme**
- iv. National NAMASTE Management Unit :** National Safai Karamchari Financial Development Corporation(NSKFDC) would be implementing agency for NAMASTE. The Scheme will operate as a joint initiative of MOSJE and MoHUA, with a dedicated national team. At the apex of the structure will be the National NAMASTE Monitoring Unit (NNMU) under Managing Director, NSKFDC, which will report to concerned Division head in the MoSJE, Government of India. A Technical Support Unit (TSU) consisting of team of IT Professional, Experts of implementation of similar programmes, SHG expert, IEC expert, Banking expert etc., will be established in the NNMU to support the implementation of NAMASTE and facilitate coordination between MoSJE and MoHUA. Maximum monitoring and reporting will be on real time basis through mobile app and dedicated website.
- v. State Namaste Management Unit:** The State Govt. will decide a suitable officer to be designated as State Namaste Director to head State Namaste Management Unit (SNMU). The officer may be from SBM, NULM, AMRUT or the ULB or any other relevant Department of the State. He will be assisted by PMU resource (State NAMASTE Manager) to be deployed under the Scheme as per requirement. At the

City level, City NAMASTE Monitoring Unit (CNMU) shall consist of NAMASTE nodal officer of the city to be designated by the concerned ULB, who will be assisted by PMU resource (City NAMASTE Manager) deployed under the Scheme.

- vi. City NAMASTE Monitoring Unit: While constituting the Project Management Unit as implementation body at the city level, the PMU would be organised in clusters of municipalities to work as City NAMASTE Monitoring Unit (CNMU) so as to coincide with the SBM clusters. PMU resources would be deputed by NSKFDC accordingly. The PMU should not duplicate the work of the PMU being constituted under the NULM. The work of the PMU should be passed on to the NULM for the purpose of forming SHGs and building strong livelihoods. City NAMASTE Monitoring Unit (CNMU) would also ensure to cover any other urban body like sewerage board/jal board, cantonment board etc. dealing with sewerage operations in the city. The details of indicative work profile of the City NAMASTE Manager is given at Annexure-II.
- vii. Convergence of Programmes of MoSJE & MoHUA: The safety of SSWs is a joint responsibility of MoSJE and MoHUA. Hence, the intent of NAMASTE is to strengthen convergence amongst both Ministries for governance and implementation of the NAMASTE components. The Action Plan leverages the available **financial** allocations of existing SRMS, SBM, DAY-NULM and NSKFDC and brings in a focused approach to provide occupational, social and **financial** safety nets to the SSWs. The **financing** of the Action Plan shall be leveraged under the Schemes of MoHUA (SBM and DAY-NULM) particularly for the following interventions:-
 - a. **SHG formation of core sanitation workers**
 - b. **PPE procurement and distribution**
 - c. **Safety devices and equipment procurement (can also be financed through NSKFDC to ULBs)**
 - d. **Occupational safety training and skilling for SEPs & Duty Supervisors (can also be done through NSKFDC under SRMS)**
 - e. **Providing work assurance to sanitation workers interested in availing Sanitation Related Projects.**
 - f. **Interventions under AMRUT**
- viii. IEC Campaign: Campaigns would be undertaken jointly by the ULBs & NSKFDC

to spread awareness about the enumeration of target sanitation workers and other interventions of NAMASTE. Electronic and print media and hoardings at prominent locations shall be used for the campaign in local language and English/Hindi. Maximum use of social media during the publicity would be ensured.

The Scheme has been approved with an outlay of Rs. 360 crore for four years from 2022-23 to 2025-26.

5. FIRST INDIGENOUSLY DEVELOPED HYDROGEN FUEL CELL BUS UNVEILED IN PUNE



- India has received its **first** indigenously developed hydrogen fuel cell bus which has been rolled out by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) in association with a private **firm** called KPIT Limited. In line with the Atmanirbhar Bharat mission, the new fuel cell bus was unveiled by Dr. Jitendra Singh, Minister of State, Science and Technology in Pune.
- Fuel cell vehicles utilise a mixture of air and hydrogen to produce electricity, which runs the vehicle. Having said that, water is the only effluent from the bus. Therefore, FCEVs (Fuel Cell Electric Vehicles) are the cleanest, greenest and most environment-friendly mode of public transportation.

6. WHAT IS MITHILA MAKHANA, BIHAR'S FOX NUT WITH A GI TAG? KNOW ABOUT ITS BENEFITS



- Bihar's Mithila Makhana has been awarded the GI Tag by the Union Government.

As indicated by its name, is cultivated in the Mithila region of Bihar and some parts of Nepal — is the fifth product from Bihar which has received the GI tag. Prior to this, Bhagalpur's Jardalu Mango, Katarni Dhaan (rice), Nawada's Maghai Paan and Muzaffarpur's Shahi Litchi have been recognised.

What is a GI tag?

In a tweet, the citizen engagement platform of the government of India, 'MyGovIndia', explained that tag "ensures no one other than those registered as authorised users is allowed to use the popular product name".

About Mithila Makhana

- Mithila Makhana is also simply known as 'makhan'. Its botanical name is 'Euryale Ferox Salisb' and it is a special variety of aquatic fox nut. It is believed that the food is famously consumed during Kojagara Puja by Maithil Brahmins, who celebrate it for newly-married couples.
- Some of the well-known products that bear GI tag: Basmati rice, Darjeeling Tea (West Bengal), Chanderi Fabric (Madhya Pradesh), Mysore Silk (Karnataka), Kul-lu Shawl (Himachal Pradesh), Kangra Tea (Himachal Pradesh), Thanjavur Paintings (Tamil Nadu), Allahabad Surkha Guava (Uttar Pradesh), Farrukhabad Prints (Uttar Pradesh), Lucknow Zardozi (Uttar Pradesh) and Kashmir Walnut Wood Carving (Jammu & Kashmir).

7. SEBI JOINS RBI'S ACCOUNT AGGREGATOR ECOSYSTEM



- Capital markets regulator *Sebi* joined the RBI's account aggregator framework, a move that will allow customers to share information about their mutual fund and stock holdings with financial service providers.
- Besides, it will give a boost to the Reserve Bank of India-regulated financial-data sharing system.
- Under the framework, Financial Information Providers (FIPs) in the securities mar-

ket, like depositories and asset management companies (AMCs) - through their Registrar and Transfer Agents or RTAs - will provide financial information pertaining to securities markets to the customers and consented Financial Information Users (FIUs) through any of the account aggregators registered with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

Account aggregator or AA is an RBI-regulated non-banking finance company (NBFC) that facilitates the collection of the financial information pertaining to a customer from financial information providers on the basis of the consent of the customer.

- AA facilitates consolidation, organisation, and presentation of the **financial** information to the customer or FIU based on the explicit consent of the customer.
- Under the guidelines, FIPs in the securities market will have to enter into a contractual framework with the AAs, and the same will distinctly specify the rights and obligations of each party and modalities of dispute resolution mechanism.
- FIPs will share the **financial** information pertaining to securities markets through the AA only after receiving valid consent from the customer.
- Also, FIPs will have to verify the validity of consent, specified dates and usage and the credentials of the AA.
- After due verification of the consent, the FIPs in the securities markets will digitally sign the **financial** information and securely transmit the same to the AA.
- “All responses of the FIPs in the securities markets shall be in real-time,” Sebi said.
- To enable these data **flows**, the FIPs will have to implement interfaces that will allow an account aggregator to submit the consent artefacts, and authenticate each other, and would enable a secure **flow** of **financial** information to the AA.
- Also, FIPs will have to maintain a log of all information sharing requests and the actions performed by them pursuant to such requests.
- Notably, all the 12 Public Sector Banks (PSBs) joined the AA Framework.

By BHUPENDRA YADAV

National News

1. CENTRE ISSUES ADVISORY TO STATES ON TOMATO FLU



- The Center has issued an advisory to states on Hand Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD), commonly known as Tomato Flu.
- According to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Tomato Flu was first identified in the Kollam district of Kerala on May 6 and as of July 26, more than 82 children younger than 5 years with the infection have been reported by the local government hospitals.
- The other affected areas of Kerala are Anchal, Aryankavu, and Neduvathur.
- This endemic viral illness triggered an alert in the neighboring states of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.
- Additionally, 26 children (aged between 1-9 years) have been reported as having the disease in Odisha by the Regional Medical Research Center in Bhubaneswar.
- To date, apart from Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Haryana and Odisha, no other regions in India have reported the disease in their State and Union Territories by the virus.

2. GOVT TERMINATES THREE OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE FOR MARCH'S ACCIDENTAL FIRING OF BRAHMOS MISSILE



- The government has terminated the service of three Indian Air Force officers in the matter of accidental firing of a BrahMos missile into Pakistan.
- The incident happened in March this year.
- In a statement, Indian Air Force said, a BrahMos missile was accidentally fired on 9th March this year.

- It said, a Court of Inquiry was set up to establish the facts of the case including fixing responsibility for the incident.
- The Court of Inquiry found deviation from the Standard Operating Procedures by three officers which led to the accidental firing of the missile.
- In the Court of Inquiry, three officers have primarily been held responsible for the incident and their services have been terminated by the Central government with immediate effect.
- Indian Air Force said, termination orders have been served upon the officers today.

3.EAM S JAISHANKAR INAUGURATES NEWLY OPENED INDIAN EMBASSY IN ASUNCION



- External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar inaugurated the newly opened Indian Embassy in Asuncion on Tuesday during his official visit to Paraguay.
- On this occasion, Dr. Jaishankar said, this is a reiteration of India-Paraguay's strong bilateral relationship and long-standing multilateral cooperation.
- External Affairs Minister's visit started with inauguration of a bust of Mahatma Gandhi at a waterfront of Asuncion. He paid homage at the National Pantheon of Heroes and remembered the sacrifices of Paraguayan national heroes.
- During his visit, Dr. Jaishankar called on President of Paraguay Mario Abdo Benitez at the presidential palace.
- He also held a meeting with Foreign Minister of Paraguay Julio Cesar Arriola.
- In a statement, External Affairs Ministry said, both sides agreed to strengthen their cooperation in various areas including trade, commerce, agriculture, pharmaceuticals, traditional medicines and solar energy.
- They also exchanged views on regional and global affairs.
- Dr. Jaishankar addressed a business gathering at the Industrial Union of Paraguay in presence of Commerce and Industry Minister of Paraguay Luis Alberto Castiglioni.

5. DRDO & INDIAN NAVY SUCCESSFULLY FLIGHT-TEST VL-SRSAM OFF ODISHA COAST



- Defense Research and Development Organization and Indian Navy successfully flight tested Vertical Launch Short Range Surface to Air Missile (VL-SRSAM) today.
- The missile was tested from the Integrated Test Range at Chandipur off the coast of Odisha.
- This missile has been indigenously designed and developed by DRDO.
- Defence Ministry said, the flight test was carried out from an Indian Naval ship against a high-speed unmanned aerial target for demonstration of vertical launch capability.
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has complimented DRDO, Indian Navy and associated teams on the successful flight trial of missile.
- He said, the missile will prove to be a force multiplier for the Indian Navy. DRDO Chairman Dr G Satheesh Reddy congratulated the teams involved in the successful flight test.

6. BANGLADESH-BORN FAHMIDA AZIM WINS 2022 PULITZER PRIZE IN ILLUSTRATED REPORTING, COMMENTARY CATEGORY



- Bangladesh-born Fahmida Azim working for the Insider online magazine of the United States has been selected for the 2022 Pulitzer prize under the category of Illustrated Reporting and Commentary.
- She is among the four journalists including Anthony Del Col, Josh Adams and Walt

Hickey of Insider being published from New York, selected for their work on the Chinese oppression of the Uyghurs.

- The work 'I escaped a Chinese internment Camp' has illustrations by Fahmida Azim.
- The citation for the award said that they have been selected for the prize for using graphic reportage and the comics medium to tell a powerful yet intimate story of the Chinese oppression of the Uyghurs, making the issue accessible to a wider public.
- Fahmida Azim was born in Bangladesh and now settled in the US. She is an illustrator and story teller.
- Her work centers on themes of identity, culture and autonomy.

7. INTERNAUT DAY BEING CELEBRATED TO MARK INVENTION OF WORLD WIDE WEB



- Internaut Day is being celebrated around the world today to mark the invention of the World Wide Web.
- An “internaut” is a person who possesses a thorough knowledge of how to use the Internet and its history.
- It is hard to imagine the ease and comfort of doing anything in the present times without the internet and the access available to the amount of information on the web.
- August 23 marks the day when the World Wide Web was opened to the public back in the year 1991 for the first time by WWW inventor Tim Berners Lee as he allowed its access, CERN announced that internet would be free to everyone and there would be no fee for its use.
- Lee , an English computer scientist had invented the World Wide Web in 1989 , while working at the CERN.
- He had initially proposed an information management system on 12th of March in the year 1989 and thereafter was able to implement the first successful world wide web communication through the Internet around November in the same year.

- He also devised and implemented the first Web browser and Web server and helped foster the Web's subsequent rapid development.

8. HPCL LAUNCHES COW DUNG-TO-COMPRESSED BIOGAS PROJECT



- HPCL Compressed Biogas Project: HPCL's first of its kind Waste-to-Energy portfolio, uses 100 tonnes of dung per day to make biogas, which may be used as vehicle fuel.
- In a year, the HPCL Compressed Biogas Project project is expected to be put into operation.
- The GOBAR-Dhan plan, announced by the Indian government in April 2018 as a part of the Swachh Bharat Mission's (Grameen) Biodegradable Waste Management component, is the framework under which the HPCL Compressed Biogas Project initiative is being developed.
- The HPCL Compressed Biogas Project project is being developed under the GOBAR-Dhan scheme, which was introduced by the Indian government in April 2018 as a part of the Swachh Bharat Mission's (Grameen) Biodegradable Waste Management component.
- The HPCL Compressed Biogas Project scheme aims to improve cleanliness and produce wealth and energy from organic waste and livestock.
- At Shree Godham Mahatirth Pathmeda Lok Punyarth Nyas, Village Pathmeda, Tehsil Sanchore District Jalore in Rajasthan, the project's groundbreaking ceremony was held.
- Senior HPCL officials including ED Biofuel & Renewables Shuvendu Gupta were present at the occasion.

9. IAS OFFICER RAJESH VERMA APPOINTED AS SECRETARY TO PRESIDENT DROUPADI MURMU



- Odisha cadre 1987-batch IAS officer, Rajesh Verma has been appointed as the Secretary to President Droupadi Murmu.
- He replaces the incumbent Kapil Dev Tripathi, a 1980-batch IAS officer.
- He is currently serving as Secretary of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs & has also served as principal secretary to Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik.
- In the past, Verma has also served as the Principal Secretary to Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik and Principal Secretary of Energy Department, Government of Odisha.
- Droupadi Murmu became the 15th President of India after Chief Justice of India (CJI) NV Ramana administered the oath of office last month.
- With this, she became the second woman President of the country, and the first-ever tribal woman to hold the highest Constitutional office and also happens to be the first President to be born in independent India.
- Murmu received around 64 per cent of the valid votes of MPs and MLAs comprising the Electoral College.
- Murmu received 6,76,803 votes whereas Sinha secured 3,80,177 votes

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. GOVERNMENT TO LAUNCH E-PASSPORT IN NEXT 6 MONTHS



- Electronic-Passports will be rolled out by the end of this year or early next year. Secretary External Affairs, Dr. Ausaf Sayeed informed the media in Hyderabad.
- He said an e-chip and a few more features will be added to the passport book which will provide security upgradation of the Indian passport and enable machine reading.
- A team of officials led by the secretary is visiting Hyderabad as part of Videsh Sampark Outreach program and held a series of meetings with Telangana government.
- Stating that the interests of diaspora are important, the secretary said several steps are being taken to facilitate Indian citizens who are migrating to work in other countries and providing legal support.
- He said 87 billion dollars have been remitted to India by diaspora last year, compared to the 83 billion dollars in the previous year.
- Dr. Sayeed also said efforts are being made to make immigration process easy through legal processes and increase training levels of those migrants.
- He said all agents operating illegally will be eliminated.
- dr Sayeed said maximum number of Immigration clearances are being given in Telangana.

2. VVS LAXMAN NAMED TEAM INDIA'S INTERIM HEAD COACH FOR ASIA CUP 2022



- VVS Laxman has been named Team India's interim head coach for the 2022 Asia Cup.
- Laxman, the chief of the National Cricket Academy (NCA), has joined Team India as its interim head coach in Dubai for the 2022 Asia Cup.
- The move comes a day after the BCCI confirmed that Rahul Dravid, India's head coach, did not travel with the team after testing positive for COVID-19.
- India will take on Pakistan in their first game of the 2022 Asia Cup on Sunday.
- India will enter the 2022 Asia Cup as defending champions. Under the leadership of Rohit, the Men in Blue won the tournament in 2018. They also won the 2016 Asia Cup under MS Dhoni.

3. GODREJ AGROVET SIGNS MOU WITH ASSAM, MANIPUR & TRIPURA FOR PALM OIL CULTIVATION



- Godrej Agrovet, a diversified agribusiness conglomerate, announced that it has signed an MoU with the governments of Assam, Manipur, and Tripura to advance and promote oil palm growth in the area under the National Mission on Edible Oils-Oil Palm initiative.
- The partnership between Godrej Agrovet and the state governments will create new chances for expansion of oil palm plants in these states as well as support for farmers.
- The Agreements are in keeping with Godrej Agrovet's long-term goal to be the driving force behind India's oil mission by doubling farmer income and promoting sustainable expansion of oil palm production.

- In the entire nation, Godrej Agrovet has planted palm oil on over 65,000 acres.
- In the upcoming years, Godrej Agrovet intends to raise this to 100,000 ha.
- Godrej Agrovet's six oil palm mills, which are dispersed around the nation, manufacture a variety of goods, including crude palm oil, crude palm kernel oil, and palm kernel cake.
- The government had established the National Mission on Edible Oils-Oil in August 2021.

4. COMPOSITE INDOOR SHOOTING RANGE OPENED AT INS KARNA



- A first-of-its-kind, Composite Indoor Shooting Range (CISR) was inaugurated by Vice Admiral Biswajit Dasgupta at INS Karna.
- The CISR is a state-of-the-art, self-contained, 25 m, six-lane, live firing range for all primary and secondary weapons in the Navy.
- With advanced target systems and associated control software, this range would enable personnel to hone their firing skills, enabling them to challenge and take on adversaries in demanding scenarios.
- INS Karna is the first in the Navy & the only military unit in the country to set up and use a facility of this kind.
- The range has been set up to contemporary international standards by an Indian firm and is a shining example of Atma Nirbhar Bharat in the year of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'.
- The entire facility was set up in a record time of 120 days from the award of the contract to the firm.

5. CBDC, THE 'DIGITAL RUPEE' THAT RBI COULD INTRODUCE THIS YEAR, AND HOW IT WILL HELP



- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will very likely introduce its digital rupee, the Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC), in this fiscal year itself.
- Talks of a digital rupee in the country have been swirling since Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced it during her Budget 2022 speech back in February.
- At the time, she had said that the digital rupee would be launched in 2022-2023.
- The digital rupee blockchain, being developed by the Reserve Bank, would be able to trace all transactions, unlike the current system of mobile wallet offered by private companies.
- Earlier, news agency PTI reported that the digital currency issued by the RBI would be numbered in units, just like every fiat currency has an unique number on it.
- CBDC is a digital or virtual currency but it is not comparable to the private virtual currencies or cryptocurrency that have mushroomed over the last decade.
- Private virtual currencies do not represent any person's debt or liabilities as there is no issuer.
- The government has already said that private cryptocurrencies will never be a legal tender.
- The RBI has been strongly opposing private cryptocurrencies as they could have implications on national security and financial stability.

6. LIBERTY MEDAL TO BE AWARDED TO UKRAINIAN PRESIDENT ZELENSKYY



- The Liberty Medal 2022 will be awarded this fall to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy.
- The National Constitution Center has announced that Zelenskyy will be honoured in a ceremony in October for what it called “his heroic defence of liberty in the face of Russian tyranny.”
- President Zelenskyy has bravely led the Ukrainian people in their defence of freedom against Russian tyranny, and his courage has inspired people around the world to defend liberal democracy and the rule of law.
- Zelenskyy, who has served as the nation’s president since May 2019, has also been the recipient of awards such as the Ronald Reagan Freedom Award and the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award as well as honours from the governments of the Czech Republic, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, and Slovakia.
- The Liberty Medal, established in 1988 to mark the U.S. Constitution’s bicentennial, is presented to individuals who strive to secure the blessings of liberty for people around the globe.
- Recent recipients have included Supreme Court justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Anthony Kennedy, Sen. John McCain, Rep. John Lewis and Malala Yousafzai.

7. INDIA PREPS FOR G20 PRESIDENCY FROM 1 DEC, GREENLIGHTS SETTING UP A SECRETARIAT



- The Union cabinet approved the setting up of a G20 Secretariat and related structures that will implement policy decisions and be responsible for arrangements for India's forthcoming presidency of the group in 2023.
- India will hold the presidency of the G20 from December 1, 2022, to November 30, 2023, culminating with the G20 Summit in India next year.
- The G20 Secretariat will handle work related to knowledge, content, technical, media, security and logistical aspects of India's presidency of the inter-governmental forum comprising 19 countries and the European Union (EU).
- The members of the G20 are Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States and the European Union.
- Each year the G20 president invites several guest countries to participate in G20 events and contribute to the agenda.
- G20 members engage with guest countries and other non-member countries to ensure the G20 reflects a broad range of international opinion.
- In 2015 Turkey welcomed Spain as a permanent invitee.

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. FOR 1ST TIME IN HISTORY: SUPREME COURT STARTS LIVE-STREAM PROCEEDINGS



- The Supreme Court today called for an expert committee and an all-party meeting to discuss on freebies.
- The order was live-streamed in a historic first to mark outgoing Chief Justice N V Ramana's last day.

- The freebies case was among 20 hearings streamed for the first time from the Chief Justice's court.
- A petition has sought the deregistration of political parties who offer freebies during and after elections.
- Chief Justice Ramana said, there can be no denying fact that in electoral democracy, the true power lies with the electorate.
- The electorate judges the parties and candidates.
- The outgoing Chief Justice said a three-judge bench would decide on a petition seeking the reconsideration of a 2013 judgment in a similar case.
- That order had said that free TVs or laptops announced during elections is not a corrupt practice and is related to Directive Principles of State Policy for welfare of citizens.

2. INDIA-BANGLADESH JOINT RIVER COMMISSION MEETING HELD IN DELHI



- The 38th Meeting of Ministerial level Joint Rivers Commission, JRC, of India and Bangladesh was held in New Delhi yesterday.
- The two sides finalized the text of MoU on 'Interim Water Sharing of Koshiyara river'.
- Both sides also welcomed finalization of the design and location of the water intake point on the Feni River to meet the drinking water needs of Sabroom town in Tripura, as per the October 2019 India -Bangladesh MoU on the subject.
- The Indian delegation was led by Union Minister for Jal Shakti Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and the Bangladesh delegation was led by State Minister for Water Resources Zaheed Farooque.
- The meeting assumes significance as it was held after a long gap of 12 years, though the technical interactions under the framework of JRC have continued in the intervening period.

- India and Bangladesh share 54 rivers, of which seven rivers have been identified earlier for developing framework of water sharing agreements on priority.

3. VETERAN CONGRESS LEADER GHULAM NABI AZAD RESIGNS FROM THE PARTY



- Veteran Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad has resigned from all positions, including primary membership, from the Congress party.
- In a letter addressed to Congress President Sonia Gandhi, Mr. Azad said, with great regret and an extremely heavy heart, he has decided to sever his over half a century-old association with the Indian National Congress.
- He said, the leadership should have undertaken a Congress Jodo exercise across the country before starting Bharat Jodo Yatra.

4. CHIRAG SHETTY, SATWIKSAIRAJ RANKIREDDY MAKE HISTORY IN BWF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 2022; WIN INDIA'S 1ST MEN'S DOUBLES TITLE



- In the BWF World Championships 2022, Indian pair of Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy made history as they secured India's first men's doubles medal in the history of the BWF World Championships 2022 after defeating world number 2 - Takuro Hoki & Yugo Kobayashi of Japan to storm into the semi-finals.
- In the men's single, Indian shuttler HS Prannoy's dream ended on Friday after losing the hard-fought quarter-final to China's Jun Peng Zhao in Tokyo.
- Prannoy crashed out of the tournament after losing to Zhao 21-19, 6-21, 18-21.
- Meanwhile, in Men's double's Arjun and Dhruv Kapila lost to Indonesian's Hendra Setiawan and Mohammad Ahsan by 8-21,14-21.

5. INTERNATIONAL DOG DAY 2022 CELEBRATES ON 26TH AUGUST



- We all are well aware of the fact that dogs are human's best friends.
- Their love is unconditional and therefore to honour that affection, International Dog Day is celebrated annually on August 26.
- It also aims to encourage people to adopt dogs and provide them with the better quality of life they deserve.
- Devote your time to your closest furry friend and make it feel more special.
- To mark this special occasion, let's shed light on the history and significance of International Dog Day.
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6. SAMIR V KAMAT APPOINTED DRDO CHIEF



- According to a Personnel Ministry order, Distinguished scientist Samir V Kamat was appointed as Secretary of the Department of Defence Research and Development and Chairman of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- Kamat, who is Director General, Naval Systems & Materials, at the DRDO will succeed G Satheesh Reddy who has been named as scientific adviser to Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.

- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of Kamat as Secretary of the Department of Defence Research and Development and Chairman of DRDO from the date of his assumption of charge till he attains the age of 60 years.
- The ACC also approved the appointment of Reddy as scientific adviser to the defence minister, the order said. Reddy was appointed as DRDO chief in August 2018 for two years. He was given two years extension in the post in August 2020.

7. UNESCO, ROYAL ENFIELD FORGE PARTNERSHIP TO SAFEGUARD CULTURAL HERITAGE OF INDIA



- Royal Enfield has partnered with UNESCO (the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) to promote and safeguard the 'Intangible Cultural Heritage of India, beginning with the Himalayas.
- The programme is curated as an experiential and creative showcase of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) practices in the Western Himalayas and the North Eastern region.
- This includes an exhibition, panel discussions, film screenings, performances and lecture demonstrations.
- The four-day programme will see eminent artists, designers, chefs, mixologists, musicians, actors, photographers and luminaries of the social development sector such as Adil Hussain, Peter D'Ascoli, Sonam Dubal, Rita Banerji, Mallika Viridi and Tsewang Namgail, Yangdup Lama, Nilza Wangmo and Anumitra Ghosh.

8. FORMER CEA K SUBRAMANIAN APPOINTED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (INDIA) AT IMF



- Former Chief Economic Adviser, KV Subramanian was appointed as the Executive Director for India at the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
- His term will begin from November and will continue for a period of three years or until further orders, whichever is earlier, by curtailing the tenure of eminent economist Surjit S Bhalla as ED (India), IMF up to 31 October 2022.
- Bhalla was appointed as the Executive Director for India on the board of the IMF in 2019.
- He succeeded former RBI deputy governor Subir Gokarn, who died in the US on 30 July after a brief illness.
- Subramanian holds an MBA and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in financial economics from University of Chicago Booth School of Business.

By Sameer Singhal