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Current Affairs



August -
2022



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15th President of India Draupadi Murmu 2022

Daughter of a tribal family coming from a very ordinary house in Odisha, Draupadi Murmu has been elected as the 15th President of India. The 2022 Indian Presidential Election was the 16th presidential election that was held in India on the 18th of July 2022. Murmu becomes India's first woman tribal president. She also becomes the second woman to hold the post after Pratibha Patil. The tenure of incumbent president Ram Nath Kovind will end on 24 July.



Interesting points about Droupadi Murmu:

- ◆ The 64-year-old Droupadi Murmu was born in Odisha's Mayurbhanj district to a family belonging to the Santhal tribe.
- ◆ Santhals, also spelled as Santals, are the third largest scheduled tribe community in India after the Gonds and Bhils. Their population is mostly distributed in Odisha, Jharkhand, and West Bengal.
- ◆ Murmu is the second person belonging to a scheduled tribe, to be nominated as a candidate for the post of President of India.
- ◆ She served as the ninth Governor of Jharkhand from 2015 to 2021.
- ◆ As a member of the BJP, she was elected to the state assembly twice – in 2000 and 2009 – from the Rairangpur seat.

Shinzo Abe, Former Japan PM, Dies After Being Shot

Former Prime Minister of Japan, Shinzo Abe was killed in a public event. He succumbed to bullet injuries in the hospital.

his heart" in addition damaged an artery",

Killer who was Tetsuya, is currently apprehended on the and police say he homemade weapon to

As per the official police the shooter was a Maritime Self-Defense Force. "The against a particular organisation, and that he committed the crime because he believed former prime minister Abe had a connection to it,"

Japan's longest-serving Prime minister will always be remembered for his extraordinary political skills. having returned to office in 2012, six years after being forced out by scandal and poor health.

Shinzo Abe was known for his "Abenomics" policy, due to which he was able to lift world's third-biggest economy out of decades of stagnation. Due to his efforts in reinvigorating Japan, he was known worldwide and he was also appreciated for his political and economic understanding.

He also handled enemy countries well, be it China or North Korea. He stood firmly in the support of Japan's military to counter growing threats from North Korea and a more assertive China.



Abe suffered "major damage to to "two neck wounds that hospital officials said.

identified as Yamagami unemployed. He was spot, after the shooting, admitted using a attack Abe.

statement by the Japanese member of the Japanese suspect stated that he held a grudge

A new US-China Flashpoint Taiwan

Chinese President Xi Jinping

dealings with Taiwan

U.S. counterpart, Joe

indication of progress on

irritants, including

top American lawmaker's

which the mainland(China)

President Xi also warned

two biggest economies.

warn such a change, brought on by

on technology exports, might hurt the global economy by slowing innovation and increasing costs.



warned against meddling in China's

during a phone call with his

Biden, that gave no

trade, technology or other

Beijing's opposition to a

possible visit to the island,

claims as its own territory.

against splitting the world's

Business-people and economists

Chinese industrial policy and U.S. curbs

History Of The Issue:

Settlement of the Taiwan issue and realization of the complete reunification of China embodies the fundamental interests of the Chinese nation. The Chinese government has worked persistently toward this goal in the past 50 years. From 1979, the Chinese government has striven for the peaceful reunification of China in the form of "one country, two systems" with the greatest sincerity and the utmost effort. Economic and cultural exchanges and people-to-people contacts between the two sides of the Taiwan Straits have made rapid progress since the end of 1987. Unfortunately, from the 1990s, Lee Teng-hui, the leader of the Taiwan authorities, has progressively betrayed the One-China Principle, striving to promote a separatist policy with "two Chinas" at the core, going so far as to openly describe the cross-Straits relations as "state to state relations, or at least special state to state relations." This action has seriously damaged the basis for peaceful reunification of the two sides, harmed the fundamental interests of the entire Chinese nation including the Taiwan compatriots, and jeopardized peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region. The Chinese government has consistently adhered to the One-China Principle and resolutely opposed any attempt to separate Taiwan from China. The struggle between the Chinese government and the separatist forces headed by Lee Teng-hui finds its concentrated expression in the question of whether to persevere in the One-China Principle or to create "two Chinas" or "One-China, one Taiwan."

China's Perspective:

The One-China Principle is the foundation stone for the Chinese government's policy on Taiwan. On Comrade Deng Xiaoping's initiative, the Chinese government has, since 1979, adopted the policy of peaceful reunification and gradually evolved the scientific concept of "one country, two systems." On this basis, China established the basic principle of "peaceful reunification, and one country, two systems." The key points of this basic principle and the relevant policies are: China will do its best to achieve peaceful reunification, but will not commit itself to rule out the use of force; will actively promote people-to-people contacts and economic and cultural exchanges between the two sides of the Taiwan Straits, and start direct trade, postal, air and shipping services as soon as possible; achieve reunification through peaceful negotiations and, on the premise of the One-China Principle, any matter can be negotiated. After reunification, the policy of "one country, two systems" will be practiced, with the main body of China (Chinese mainland) continuing with its socialist system, and Taiwan maintaining its capitalist system for a long period of time to come. After reunification, Taiwan will enjoy a high degree of autonomy, and the Central Government will not send troops or administrative personnel to be stationed in Taiwan. Resolution of the Taiwan issue is an internal affair of China, which should be achieved by the Chinese themselves, and there is no call for aid by foreign forces. The afore-mentioned principles and policies embody the basic stand and spirit of adhering to the One-China Principle, and fully respect Taiwan compatriots' wish to govern and administer Taiwan by themselves.



Union Health Ministry & Panchayati Raj Ministry Sign MoU to End TB in India by 2025

In order to eradicate tuberculosis (TB) in India, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) and the Central TB Division, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoH&FW).

- ◆ The MoU would establish inter-ministerial collaborations and strategic partnerships with the goal of eradicating TB in India by 2025
- ◆ The MoU was signed by Dr. P. Ashok Babu, Joint Secretary, National Tuberculosis Elimination Program (NTEP), on behalf of the MoH&FW, and Dr. Bijaya Kumar Behera, Economic Adviser, on behalf of the MoPR.

Significance of the MoU :

- ◆ The MoU will pave way for coordinated grassroots initiatives to promote mass awareness to end stigma and discrimination associated with TB in rural regions.
- ◆ By utilising the nationwide network of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs)/Rural Local Bodies across India, including the Village Health, Sanitation and Nutrition Committee (VHSNC), it will aid in the eventual eradication of TB from India by 2025

- ◆ The main objective of this MoU is to avoid convergence at the policy, programme, and implementation levels across the Ministries, in favour of a multi-sectoral and expedited response to a TB-free India.
- ◆ MoH&FW has developed a National Strategic Plan (2017-2025) for elimination of TB in the country by 2025.

India & US Discusses on Joint Action against Drug Trade

On 8th July 2022, a joint Indo-United States (US) Counter-Narcotics Working Group (CNWG) meeting was held to discuss drug law enforcement and the increase in the capture of heroin from Afghanistan.

Key highlights :

- ◆ The Indian delegation was headed by Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) director general SN Pradhan.
- ◆ The revenue secretary Tarun Bajaj from India and Patricia Lacina, Charge d'Affaires from the US signed an Amended Letter of Agreement on strengthening cooperation and sharing intelligence.
- ◆ The two sides also decided to establish a CNWG Executive Group and 3 steering groups on multilateral policy and regulatory coordination, law enforcement cooperation and drug demand or harm reduction.

Unemployment rate in India rises to 7.8 % in June; the rural unemployment rate rises to 8.03 %

According to the latest data published by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), India's unemployment rate in June 2022 rose to 7.8% per cent of the total workforce from 7.12 per cent in May 2022. The increase in the unemployment rate was mainly due to a rise in the rural unemployment rate.

The Rural Unemployment Rate in June 2022 increased to 8.03 per cent from 6.62 per cent in May 2022. The Urban unemployment rate in June 2022 reduced to 7.30 per cent from 8.21 per cent in May 2022.

The highest unemployment rate in June 2022 are Haryana (30.6 per cent) followed by Rajasthan (29.8 per cent), while Madhya Pradesh (0.5 per cent), Chhattisgarh (1.2 per cent), Odisha (1.2 per cent), Tamil Nadu (2.1 per cent) record low rates.

Jharkhand tops in Delta Ranking of Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission

The Union Ministry of Rural Development has released the delta ranking of Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM), in which Jharkhand secured the first position in the delta ranking with a composite score of 76.19 in the month of June 2022.

In the delta ranking, Jharkhand has secured eighth place in overall ranking and improved its score by 1.93 compared to May 2022, which is the highest improvement among the 34 states and union territories.

Jharkhand ranks first across India in the Delta ranking followed by Puducherry and Assam.

The Government of India has launched the Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission in 2016

with the objective of stimulating local economic development, enhancing basic services and creating well-planned Rurban clusters.

Note- The 121 st birth anniversary of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee, who served as Independent India's First Minister of Industry, was observed on 6th July 2022.

CSMT, Mumbai becomes India's first station to have augmented reality experience



The Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CSMT) in Mumbai has become India's first railway station to have an Augmented Reality (AR) experience. This technology will allow passengers at the station to get a real-time digitised timetable with a dedicated scrolling screen and railway information for an engaging experience.

Augmented Reality (AR) magic mirrors create a virtual world around the person standing in front of the screen, the passengers will also be able to meet animals, witness magic tricks and snowfall, and visit any place in the world virtually.

The project at CSMT-Mumbai's busiest railway station aims to generate revenue for Central Railway and offer passengers fun and infotainment during wait periods. The Central Railways is looking to bring in around Rs 50 lakhs in revenues in five years.

Tata Power to spend Rs 75,000 crore in 5 years on renewables

Tata Power Company Limited (Tata Power) is set to spend Rs 75000 crore to expand capacity in its renewable business in the next 5 years. Natarajan Chandrasekaran, Chairman of Tata Power, made the announcement during the company's annual general meeting on 7th July 2022 .

- ◆ The company aims to increase its generation capacity to over 30 gigawatts (GW) by FY2026-27 from the current 13.5 GW with an increased clean energy portfolio from current levels of 34% to 60 % by 2027 and 80 % by 2030 .
- ◆ The company plans a consolidated capex of Rs 14,000 crore in FY'23 with Rs 10,000 crore in renewables.
- ◆ Tata Power added a renewable energy capacity of 707 MW in FY22.

ICAR-NBFGR Scientists Discover 2 New Species of Marine Fishes Along TN Coast

Scientists from the Indian Council of Agricultural Research's National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources (ICAR-NBFGR) have discovered two new species of marine fishes, named *Ariosoma albimaculata* and *Dussumieria modakandai*, along the coast of Tamil Nadu (TN).

- ◆ Species - One species is a sort of eel, from the Colachel fish touchdown centre in Kanyakumari, TN and the other is the sardine fish from Pattinapakkam fish landing centre in Chennai, TN.

MoHA Sets Up 3-Member Commission for Delimitation of Municipal Wards in Delhi

A 3-member delimitation commission has been established by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA), in accordance with its power under sections 3,3A and 5 of the Delhi Municipal Corporation (DMC) Act 1957, to assist the Central Government in delimitation of municipal wards in Delhi and carrying out other functions related to it.

- ◆ This move will set the stage for the 2022 Civic Elections in Delhi, which would be the city's first civic elections since the amalgamation of 3 corporations in May 2022.

GE Healthcare launches its first ' 5G Innovation Lab' in India

United States (US) based GE Healthcare announced the launch of its 5G Innovation Lab in India, the first for GE Healthcare across the globe. The lab is situated at the John F. Welch Technology Centre (JFWTC) Bengaluru, GE Healthcare's largest R&D centre outside of the USA. It is also claimed as world's first 5G Innovation Lab in India.

- ◆ The 5G Innovation Lab is designed to position GE Healthcare at the forefront of these groundbreaking advances in patient care, including potentially bringing cutting-edge technology to rural and suburban regions
- ◆ 5G in Healthcare was valued at an estimated USD 215 million in 2021 and projected to reach USD 3,667 million by 2026.

HAL & Safran Sign MoU to Form Joint Venture to Build Helicopter Engines

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and Safran Helicopter Engines, based in France, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish a new 50-50 Joint Venture (JV) to manufacture helicopter engines.

- ◆ HAL, established in 1964, is an Indian state-owned aerospace and defence company headquartered in Bengaluru, Karnataka.

In the presence of Olivier Andries, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Safran, the MoU was signed by R. Madhavan, Chairman and Managing Director (MD) of HAL and Franck Saudo, CEO of Safran Helicopter Engines.

Highlights :

- ◆ With this partnership, HAL will harness its expertise manufacturing over 15 types of aircraft and helicopter engines to co-develop and manufacture engines, with an initial focus on the IMRH and its navy counterpart, the Deck Based Multi Role Helicopter (DBMRH).
- ◆ HAL and Safran Helicopter Engines already collaborated on a number of projects, including the Shakti engine, which powers HAL-produced helicopters like the Dhruv, Rudra, and Light Combat Helicopter LCH
- ◆ Shakti is the Indian variant of the Safran Ardiden 1H1, which was co-developed with HAL. HAL has successfully manufactured over 500 Shakti engines so far.
- ◆ The Ardiden 1U variant also powers the new three-ton single-engine Light Utility

Helicopter (LUH). On July 26, 2021, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) (India) certified the engine for civil applications.

Union minister Meenakshi Lekhi launches book on sacrifice of freedom fighters

Union Minister of State for External Affairs and Culture Meenakshi Lekhi launched a book titled 'Swadhinata Sangram Na Surviro', in Gujarati commemorating the contributions of freedom fighters. The book has been prepared by Hindu Spiritual and Service Foundation (HSSF) in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.

- ◆ The book commemorates the contribution of our freedom fighters who battled imperialism & dedicated their lives for India.
- ◆ The book is a part of the "Swadhinta Ka Amrit Mahotsav" to mark the 75th year of the country's Independence.

Maha Metro & NHAI Creates World Record for Building Asia's Longest Multilayer Viaduct

On 10th June 2022 Maharashtra's Maha Metro, a joint entity of the state and Union government, and the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) facilitated with the Asia Book of Records and India Book of Records certifications for jointly constructing the longest Double Decker Viaduct in Asia and 3 metro stations with Highway Flyover & Metro Rail Supported on single column under Nagpur Metro Rail Project.

- ◆ Union Minister for Highways and Road Transport Shri Nitin Gadkari was the Chief

Guest and issued the certificates in an event held at Convention Centre, Airport South Metro Station of Nagpur, Maharashtra.

Highlights of PM Narendra Modi visit to Varanasi on July 7, 2022

On July 7, 2022, the Prime Minister (PM) of India Narendra Modi visited his Lok Sabha constituency of Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh. There he inaugurated, and laid foundation stones of projects worth Rs 1800 crores.

PM Narendra Modi inaugurated a three-day summit,

'Akhil Bharatiya Shiksha Samagam' at International Cooperation and Convention Centre, Rudraksh in Varanasi on the implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP). Its culmination saw the adoption of the Varanasi Declaration on Higher Education.

During the programme at Dr Sampurnanand Sports Stadium in Varanasi, the PM inaugurated projects worth over Rs 590 crore.

Ministry of Women and Child Development Issues Mission Vatsalya Guidelines

The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MoWCD), the nodal Ministry for ensuring the welfare of children, has issued guidelines for the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) "Mission Vatsalya", formerly known as the Child Protection Services (CPS) Scheme, since 2009-10 for the welfare and rehabilitation of children.

- ◆ The primary objective of Mission Vatsalya is to ensure that every child in India has a healthy and happy childhood.

- ◆ Components under Mission Vatsalya include- Improve functioning of statutory bodies; Strengthen service delivery structures; Upscale institutional care/services; Encourage non-institutional community-based care; emergency outreach services; Training and capacity building.

Former NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant Becomes India's New G20 Sherpa



The former National Institute for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Amitabh Kant is appointed as India's new Sherpa for the Group of Twenty (G20) by replacing Piyush Goyal, a Union minister of commerce and Industry

- ◆ India assumes the presidency from 1st December 2022 and the appointment of Amitabh Kant will also be effective from the same date and lasts till 30th November 2023.
- ◆ Current president of G20 is Indonesia.

Artificial Intelligence in Defense (AIDef)

Recently the Defense Minister inaugurated the first "Artificial Intelligence in Defense (AIDef) Seminar and Exhibition". AIDef Seminar

and Exhibition was organized by the Department of Defense Production under the Ministry of Defense under the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'. It has proposed to promote "Self-reliant India" in the defense sector. During the exhibition, the department will showcase AI-enabled solutions that have been developed by industry, research organizations and startups and innovators. All these products are related to automation or unmanned or robotics systems, cyber security, human behavior analysis, logistics and supply chain management, surveillance systems, speech analysis and C4ISR: command, control, communication, computer and intelligence, surveillance.

Har Ghar Tricolor National Campaign on the occasion of 75th Independence Day

On the occasion of 75th Independence Day, the Central Government will launch a national campaign of 'Har Ghar Tricolor' across the country. This campaign will be launched by the Ministry of Culture under the Amrit Mahotsav of Azadi. Home Minister Amit Shah has approved this campaign in honor of the national flag tricolor. The objective of the campaign is to inculcate the spirit of patriotism among the people and bring awareness to the tricolor.

The rules for the use, display and hoisting of the National Flag are laid down in the Flag Code of Conduct, 2002. This code of conduct came into force on 26 January 2002. The Flag Code of Conduct,

2002 allowed the unrestricted display of the tricolor while maintaining the honor and dignity of the flag.

The Flag Code of India, 2002 is divided into three parts: The first part contains a general description of the national flag. The second part deals with the display of the national flag by members of the public, private organizations, educational institutions, etc.

The third part of the Code gives information about the hoisting of the National Flag by the Central and State Governments and their organizations and agencies. It mentions that the tricolor cannot be used for commercial purposes. Apart from this, the flag should not be used as a festival or for any kind of decoration purposes.

For official display, only the flags conforming to the specifications laid down by the Bureau of Indian Standards and bearing its mark may be used.

Coffee Board to collaborate with ISRO to develop climate resistant varieties

The Coffee Board plans to focus on developing new varieties that will be resistant to the changing climate patterns. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Coffee Board and the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) regarding breeding of climate-resilient varieties and assessing the carbon sequestration potential in coffee.

The Coffee Board of India is a statutory organization constituted under the Coffee Act, 1942. Its headquarter is in Bangalore. The organization is managed by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry to promote coffee production in India.

- ◆ Central Coffee Research Institute (CCRI) in Chikmagalur district of Karnataka plants under the Board in the areas of Plant Breeding, Agronomy, Agricultural Chemistry and Soil Science, Plant Physiology, Pathology, Entomology, and Post-harvest Technology Conducts research activities related to

Union Minister of State for Space Jitendra Singh inaugurated the IS4OM Center

Union Minister of State for Space Jitendra Singh inaugurated the ISRO System for Safe and Sustainable Space Operation and Management (IS4OM) center in Bengaluru. On this occasion, Jitendra Singh said that IS4OM will perform space debris observation, orbit determination and new debris inventory and data processing, so that accidents due to debris present in space can be avoided. ISRO Chairman S. Somnath said that this is the first step in this area. More research will be done in the coming times to deal with the debris, so that other countries can also help it.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will attend the first virtual summit of I-2U-2 leaders

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will take part in the first summit of the leaders of the Group of I-You-U-2 from India, Israel, the United Arab Emirates and the United States. The conference will be held virtual, in which Israel's Prime Minister Yair Lapid, UAE President Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan and US President Joe Biden will also participate. All these leaders will discuss possible joint projects and other issues of common interest within the framework of the grouping, as well as strengthen economic

partnerships in trade and investment in their respective regions and outside. These projects can act as a model for economic cooperation and will provide opportunities for entrepreneurs and workers. The idea of setting up an Eye-to-You group came up during the meeting of the foreign ministers of these four countries on October 18 last year.

Pallavi Singh won the crown of Mrs Universe Divine in South Korea

India's Pallavi Singh won the title of Mrs Universe Divine in the final held in Yeosu city, South Korea. She hails from Kanpur, India and has made her country proud in this competition, in which 110 countries participated. It is a proud moment for India. Pallavi Singh was a contestant from Asia in the Mrs. Universe pageant and has demonstrated the strong will and commitment of Indian women to excel in all walks of life.

Department of Consumer Affairs launched a Muscat called Jagriti

The Department of Consumer Affairs has launched a mask called Jagriti to empower the consumers and make people aware of their rights. Jagriti Muscat will be projected as an empowered consumer who will create awareness among the people about the rights of consumers and will focus on resolving the problems related to them. Jagriti Muscat will make people aware about various topics of the department, including Consumer Protection Act 2019, Hall Marking, National Consumer Helpline Toll Free Number 1915, Provisions of Measurement Act, decisions of Central Consumer Protection Authority and documents related to resolution of complaints.

Are included. Jagriti Musket will be displayed along with the tagline Jago Grahak Jago in all media campaigns of the Department of Consumer Affairs.

Ola introduces India's first indigenously developed Lithium-Ion cell

Ola Electric recently introduced India's first indigenously developed Lithium-Ion cell, it is named as "NMC 2170". Ola Electric is an electric vehicle company headed by Bhavish Agarwal. NMC 2170 has been made in-house. The mass production of SAIL will begin by 2023 at its upcoming Gigafactory. NMC 2170 is a high nickel cylindrical Ola cell. This includes nickel-manganese-cobalt (NMC) on the cathode side and graphite and silicon on the anode side. It uses specific chemistry and materials, which help the cell pack more energy into a given space. It also improves the overall life cycle of the lithium-ion cell. This cell has been developed keeping in mind the indigenous conditions in origin.

Inauguration of Bundelkhand Expressway by Prime Minister

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the Bundelkhand Expressway at Kaithari village in Jalaun district in Uttar Pradesh on July 16, 2022. About 14 thousand 850 crore rupees have been spent on the construction of this 297 km long four-lane expressway. Later it can be expanded to 6 lanes. It travels from NH 35 at Gonda village near Bharatkup in Chitrakoot district to Kudrail village in Etawah district where it joins Agra-Lucknow Expressway.

This route passes through 7 districts- Chitrakoot, Banda, Mahoba, Hamirpur, Jalaun, Auraiya and Etawah.

Along with increasing connectivity, Bundelkhand Expressway will also boost economic development. This will create employment opportunities for the local people. The work of construction of industrial corridor in Banda and Jalaun districts near the expressway has started. The government is committed to increase connectivity between different parts of the country, for this purpose road connectivity is being improved. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had laid the foundation stone for the construction of Bundelkhand Expressway on February 29, 2020. Its construction work was completed in 28 months.

India's first monkeypox patient confirmed in Kollam, Kerala



After the confirmation of monkeypox patient in Kollam district of Kerala, the Center has sent a high-level team of various experts to the state to cooperate with the health authorities there. The central team consists of the National Center for Disease Control and Dr. RML of New Delhi. Hospital experts and a senior official from the Ministry of Health. The Central Government

has asked the States and Union Territories to follow the guidelines of the Ministry of Health to deal with Monkeypox disease. Monkeypox has been confirmed in a 35-year-old man living in Kollam. This person had reached Kerala from UAE. He and the people who came in close contact with him have been kept in quarantine.

New Delhi Co-Partnership Scheme

The "New Delhi Co-Partnership" scheme has been launched by the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi Vinay Kumar Saxena on July 11, 2022. The New Delhi Co-Partnership Scheme has been launched to partner Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs) in the tax collection and waste management ecosystem in Delhi. It aims to improve efficiency and compliance in tax collection by encouraging RWAs.

As per the scheme, if the RWA is able to collect 90 per cent tax from the total properties in the societies or colonies, it will be able to recommend development works in their areas with 10 per cent share of the tax collection. This tax collection is subject to the limit of one lakh rupees.

Further, if the colony is able to achieve 100% waste segregation at source, wet waste assembling as well as dry waste recycling, the government will provide an additional incentive of 5 percent of the tax paid.

The New Delhi Co-Partnership Initiative addresses the issue of rationalization of the wealth tax structure. It also gives importance to solid waste management through community

participation. The new tax policy will help bring about uniformity with the various approaches adopted by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD).

Ahmedabad and Kerala featured in Time Magazine's The World's Greatest Places of 2022

Two places in India have been named among the "50 Extraordinary Destinations to Explore" by Time Magazine this year. The southern state of Kerala and Ahmedabad, the capital of Gujarat, were the two Indian entries in the 2022 list of the world's greatest places.

Mohammed Shami becomes the fastest Indian bowler to take 150 ODI wickets

Indian fast bowler Mohammed Shami completed his 150-wicket haul in ODIs on 12 July 2022, taking the wicket of Jos Buttler in the first ODI against England. Let us tell you that Mohammed Shami, playing his 80th ODI, has become the fastest Indian bowler to take 150-wickets (80 matches). He has also become the Indian bowler to take 150 wickets in the fewest matches, with three England players dismissed. Ajit Agarkar held the record for taking 150 wickets at the fastest pace for India. Shami has become the third fastest bowler in the world to take 150 ODI wickets. Shami also became the joint third fastest bowler to take 150 ODI wickets along with Rashid Khan of Afghanistan. Australia's Mitchell Starc (77 matches) and Pakistan's Saqlain Mushtaq (78 matches) are in the top two positions for the fastest bowlers to reach 150 ODI wickets.

Indian Institute of Technology Madras tops the list of higher educational institutions in the country, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore Best University in India Ranking-2022

Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan released the list of top institutes in the country in New Delhi. Indian Institute of Technology, Madras has emerged as the best educational institution. Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore is the best university in India Ranking-2022. As per the ranking, Indian Institute of Management-IIM Ahmedabad has emerged as the best Management Institute in the country.

IIM Bangalore is second and IIM Calcutta third. All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi is the best Medical College and Savita Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences is the best Dental College in Chennai.

IIT Madras has emerged as the best engineering college. It is followed by IIT Delhi and IIT Bombay. Miranda House in Delhi is the best college. The Hindu College of Delhi is second and the Presidency College of Chennai is at the third position. Jamia Hamdard is the best pharmacy institute in the country.

MoA&FW forms 29-Member Panel to make MSP Effective; Headed by Former Agriculture Secretary Sanjay Agrawal

The Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare (MoA&FW) has setup 29-member committee, to be headed by Former Agriculture Secretary Sanjay Agrawal that will look into how to make the Minimum Support Price (MSP) more effective and transparent, and to promote zero-budget based farming.

- ◆ This committee formation is on the lines of the promise of India Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi after the repeal of farm laws in December 2021.

Key Points :

- ◆ There is no mention about the tenure of the panel by which it should submit the report.
- ◆ There are 3 posts for the representatives of Samyukta Kisan Morcha (SKM), that spearheaded the protests against the farm laws, in the committee.

India Introduces First Unique Model to Standardize Civil Service Training Institutions

The "National Standards for Civil Service Training Institutions" (NSCSTI) were introduced at the Capacity Building Commission (CBC) headquarters in New Delhi, Delhi, by Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (MoS), Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions.

National Standards for Civil Service Training Institutions (NSCSTI) :

- ◆ The NSCSTI is designed by CBC to provide a baseline for Central Training Institutions (CTIs) regarding their current capabilities, to enhance their quality and capacity of training delivery, and to streamline standards for training.
- ◆ CBC highlighted a few areas of focus that might substantially enhance the development of civil service capacity, including Training Needs Assessment (TNA), Faculty Development, Collaboration with Different Institutes, Digital Readiness, etc.

ONDC Expands to 15 New Cities and Partners with Snapdeal for Pan-India Access

The Open Network Digital Commerce (ONDC) network, led by the Government of India (GoI), has expanded its pilot to 15 new cities ahead of its plans to begin operations in August 2022.

- ◆ ONDC has expanded to Noida (Uttar Pradesh -UP), Lucknow (UP), Bijnor (UP), Faridabad (Haryana), Chhindwara (Madhya Pradesh - MP), Bhopal (MP), Kolkata (West Bengal), Pune (Maharashtra), Kannur (Kerala), Thrissur (Kerala), Udipi (Karnataka), Kanchipura (Karnataka), Chennai (Tamil Nadu -TN), Pollachi (TN), Mannar and Ramanathapuram (TN).

RINL signs a MoU with STPI to establish CoE in Visakhapatnam

Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL), the corporate entity of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP), signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), STPINEXT to establish Industry \$4.0\$ CoE (Centre of Excellence), for promotion of innovation and start-up activities for RINL and other industries in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.

- The CoE is named 'Kalpataru'.

PM Narendra Modi unveils 'SPRINT Challenges' for Indian Navy in New Delhi

On 18th July 2022, Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi unveiled 'SPRINT Challenges' while addressing the Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation

(NIIO) seminar, named 'Swavlamban' (self-reliance) in New Delhi, Delhi.

- ◆ The SPRINT Challenges aims to boost the usage of indigenous technology in the Indian Navy.
- ◆ The 2 day seminar held on 18th-19th July 2022 was organised by the NIIO and Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM).

Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign: Tricolour To Be Hoisted Atop 20 Crore Homes



The preparation of the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign, to be carried out under "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav" was reviewed by Union Home Minister Amit Shah. As part of the programme, the tricolour (Indian national flag) will be flown atop more than 20 crore houses across the country from 13th to 15th August 2022 through public participation while government and private establishments will also be involved

Jitendar Singh Inaugurates IS4OM to Safeguard Space Assets; 60 Startups registered with ISRO

Union Minister of Science and Technology (S&T), Jitendra Singh inaugurated ISRO System for Safe and Sustainable Space Operation

(IS4OM) at Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) control centre, Bengaluru, Karnataka for safeguarding space assets.

- ◆ Around 60 startups have been registered with ISRO since the agency's start of promoting India's space sector.

India made robotic surgery system installed at Rajiv Gandhi Cancer Institute

Rajiv Gandhi Cancer Institute and Research Center, New Delhi (RGCI) has installed the first ever Made-in-India Surgical Robotic System, "SSI-Mantra", developed by SS Innovation, a new age Indian med-tech start-up has gone. Simple SSI Mantra, the brainchild of world renowned robotic cardiac surgeon Dr Sudhir P Srivastava, will herald the beginning of a new era of surgical procedures in India, making robotic surgery accessible and affordable to the people of our country.

Varanasi to become cultural -tourism capital of SCO

Varanasi will be declared the first cultural and tourism capital of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). SCO General Secretary Zhang Ming gave this information. Under the new initiative, Varanasi will become the cultural and tourism capital of the SCO for the year 2022-23. Under this, the member countries will get the opportunity in turn. This initiative is to promote people-to-people contact and tourism in the eight member countries.

Kerala's own internet service

Recently Kerala has become the first state in India to launch its internet service KFON (Kerala Fiber Optic Network). This has been announced by the Chief Minister of Kerala after the Department of Telecommunications granted an Internet Service Provider (ISP) license to KFON Ltd to provide Internet access to all residents of the state. KFON is an initiative of the Government of Kerala, launched with the aim of bridging the digital gap in the state.

According to the government, the infrastructure created under this project will be part of the existing telecom ecosystem in Kerala. It aims to build a core network infrastructure to provide non-discriminatory access to all service providers to reduce their connectivity gap.

Reliable, secure and scalable internet will be provided in all government offices, hospitals and educational institutions, along with partnerships with internet service providers, system operators and telecom service providers to provide free internet to economically backward families.

The Central Government constituted a committee under the chairmanship of Sanjay Agarwal on Minimum Support Price of agricultural products for more effective and transparent functioning

The Central Government has constituted a committee under the chairmanship of former Agriculture Secretary Sanjay Agarwal on Minimum Support Price. The committee includes Ramesh Chand, Agriculture Member of NITI Aayog, CSC Shekhar, Agriculture Economist of Indian Institute of Economic Development and Sukhpal Singh of IIM-Ahmedabad and Naveen P

Singh, Senior Member, Agricultural Costs and Prices Commission. The farmers' representatives will include National Award winner Bharat Bhushan Tyagi, three members from SKM and five members from other farmers' organisations, Gunwant Patil, Krishnaveer Choudhary, Pramod Kumar Choudhary, Guni Prakash and Syed Pasha Patel. Two members of the farmers' cooperative group, Dilip Sanghani, chairman of IFFCO and Binod Anand, general secretary of CNRI, will also join the committee. Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Secretary, Agriculture Research and Education Secretary, Food and Public Distribution Secretary, Cooperation Secretary, Secretary in the Ministry of Textiles, Additional Chief Secretaries or Principal Secretaries of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Sikkim and Orissa or Commissioners and senior members of Agricultural Universities also Committee will be involved in.

Initiatives of NITI Aayog and World Food Program to mainstream coarse cereals in Asia and Africa

NITI Aayog and the World Food Program (WFP - World Food Programme) will launch an initiative called 'Mapping and Exchange of Good Practices' to mainstream millet (coarse cereals) in Asia and Africa. This event will be organized online and in hybrid form on July 19, 2022. NITI Aayog and WFP will prepare a summary of effective measures to increase the consumption and production of coarse cereals in India and abroad.

The program will be inaugurated by Shri Suman Berry, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog. ICAR, Central and State Government Departments, Krishi

Vigyan Kendras, Industry, Central and State Agricultural Universities, FPOs, NGOs, Start-ups, Academic and Research Institutes and International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) Delegates from international organizations like Food Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) etc. will also participate in the programme.

Vehicle Location Tracking Device System in HP

Himachal Pradesh has become the first state in India to integrate Vehicle Location Tracking Device (VLTD) with Emergency Response Support System (ERSS). All registered commercial vehicles equipped with VLTD will be linked to ERSS. Through this mechanism these vehicles can be tracked anywhere in India.

More than 9,423 vehicles have been registered and linked with ERSS. Under this mechanism, both the police and transport departments can now monitor the vehicles. The system was launched by Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur at Peterhof, Shimla. The Chief Minister also launched the facility of panic button for the safety of women and children in public vehicles. Vehicle Location Tracking Device consisting of Emergency Panic Button System and Command Control Center is integrated with Emergency Response Support System 112. When this panic button is pressed in times of distress, it will send a signal to 112 via satellite. After this the system will connect the person in distress and alert the police. This monitoring center or command control center will help in easy detection of vehicle thefts and vehicle accidents.

It will be easier to monitor the movement of vehicles to ensure the safety of women and children. This innovative initiative will make the roads safer in the states.

National Standards for Civil Services Training Institutes

On July 18, 2022, the Central Government unveiled the "National Standards for Civil Service Training Institutions" with an aim to enhance the quality and competence of civil servants. NSCSTI was launched at the Headquarters of Capacity Building Commission. With this, India has become the first country in the world to launch a unique model for creating national level standards for civil services training institutes.

A web portal and approach paper for national standards were also unveiled during the launch event. The Capacity Building Commission was created as a part of Mission Karmayogi for Civil Servants. The commission consists of experts and global professionals from the relevant fields. It will help in preparation and monitoring of annual capacity building plans as well as audit of human resources in the government. In September 2020, the Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister approved the launch of "Mission Karmayogi" National Program for Civil Services Capacity Building (NPCSCB).

The program aims to prepare Indian civil servants for the future by making them more creative, creative, thoughtful, innovative, more dynamic, progressive, energetic, efficient, transparent and technology enabled.

Kasas edition of the Northeast India Festival



The Bank of India is committed to communication in the central world of the Bank. Located in the aforesaid region of India. Jeans, Arunachal region, Mam, Mizoram, Nagaland, and entitlements. It was created for the first time. Indian traders from the Northeast are the opposite of equality. Food tourism expands into agriculture and food. The Purvadhya Bharat Festival of the Year consists of business, initiating, and first class pathologists of the upper class. Tajmyotsav on November 24, 2022. External Affairs Minister Dr. Crown Ranjan Singh will be the guest of honor for the festival.

State Bank of India (SBI) launched "WhatsApp Service"

Recently State Bank of India (SBI) started "WhatsApp Seva Hall". SBI had complained of irregularities in the behavior of customers. Check customer account balances and retrieve checks. It offers a level playing field between the bank and the customers. SB I. This mechanism handles the messaging of the environment's API well. Incentives in India (NPCI) entered India in November 2017.

The Supreme Court accepted the report of the Banthia Commission, paving the way for 27 percent reservation for Other Backward Classes in local body elections in Maharashtra

The Supreme Court has accepted the report of the Banthia Commission and directed the Maharashtra State Election Commission to conduct elections accordingly. With this, the way has been cleared for giving political reservation to the candidates of other backward classes in the elections of local bodies in the state. The apex court has also asked for immediate holding of pending elections in the state. For this, the court has ordered to announce the election program in the next two weeks. The Jayant Kumar Banthia Commission in its report has suggested that 27 percent reservation should be given to the candidates belonging to the Other Backward Classes in the elections to the local bodies. Elections to 92 municipal corporations and four nagar panchayats of the state are to be held.

Boundary dispute settlement between Arunachal Pradesh and Assam

According to chief ministers of both the states, Assam and Arunachal Pradesh have taken a step towards resolving their seven-decade-old border dispute by signing the Namsai Declaration. After the third round of discussions on the matter, Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu and his Assam colleague Himanta Biswa Sarma signed the declaration at Namsai. There is a shared border of 804 km between the two states. Although

initially there was no conflict, over time, it is claimed that citizens of one state were encroaching upon the territory of another, resulting in arguments and even violence. A case regarding this matter is pending in the Supreme Court since 1989.

Union Cabinet approves signing of MoU in the field of Judicial Cooperation with the Judicial Service Commission of Maldives

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given its approval for signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and the Judicial Service Commission of the Republic of Maldives in the field of Judicial Cooperation. This is the eighth MoU between India and other countries in the field of judicial cooperation. This MoU will provide a suitable platform to leverage the facilities of information technology in the process of digitization of courts and can prove to be a potential area of growth for IT companies and start-ups of both the countries.

NTPC recognized as the 'Most Preferred Workplace' of 2022

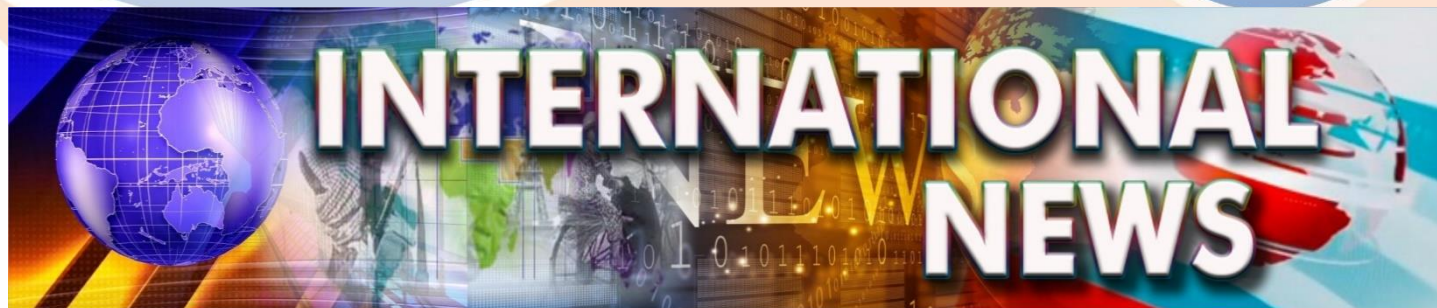
NTPC Limited headquartered at New Delhi, formerly known as National Thermal Power Corporation Limited, founded in 1975, recognized as one of the 'Most Preferred Workplaces of 2022' by Team Marksmen in association of India Today for maximizing employee well-being, engagement & productivity alongside organizational performance.

- ◆ The esteemed award was received by Dillip Kumar Patel, Director (HR), Munish Jauhari, RED (West-1), and Anil Kumar Jadli GM HR
- ◆ Organizations have been appraised on the parameters such as Employee Centricity, Organizational Purpose, Intrapreneurial Ecosystem, Work Flexibility, Diversity and Equality, Growth and Rewards, and Social Cohesion.
- ◆ Recently, in March 2022, NTPC Limited had been declared as "Dream Employer of the year" at 30 th session of World HRD Congress.

AadhaarFaceRd: UIDAI has launched a new mobile app for Face Authentication

The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has developed and launched new mobile app 'AadhaarFaceRd' which is a face authentication feature to verify Aadhaar number holder's identity.

- ◆ However, face authentication is consent-based.
- ◆ Aadhaar refers to a verifiable 12-digit identification number issued by UIDAI to Indian residents



Geopolitical conflicts, Covid 19 pandemic puts SDG Targets in Jeopardy: UN Report

As per the United Nations (UN) report titled 'The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2022', the Geo-political conflicts and the Covid-19 pandemic has put the 17 sustainable development goals (SDGs) of UN in jeopardy means they are at risk of harm.

- ◆ The combined crisis led to an additional 75 million to 95 million people living in extreme poverty in 2022 as compared with pre-pandemic projections.
- ◆ 93 million people worldwide were pushed into extreme poverty in 2020.

India Becomes 68th Country to Join Interpol's Child Sexual Exploitation Database

On 8th July 2022 Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), India's nodal agency for Interpol matters joins International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol's) International Child Sexual Exploitation (ICSE) database and becomes the 68th country to join.

Key Points :

- ◆ The ICSE database uses video & image comparison software to analyse child sexual abuses and make connections between victims, abusers and places.

- ◆ Detectives in all 68 countries that joined the database, can exchange information and notes on cases of child sexual abuse.
- ◆ The victim identification experts analyses the digital, visual and audio content of photographs and videos to retrieve clues and identify any overlap in cases which leads to locate victims of child sexual abuse.

Former Angolan President José Eduardo Dos Santos Passes Away



On 8th July 2022 Angola's former and one of the longest serving president José Eduardo Dos Santos passed away in Barcelona, Spain at the age of 79 years. His achievements:

José Eduardo dos Santos was born in Luanda, Angola in 1942 and joined the MPLA (Movimento Popular de Libertação de Angola) in 1961.

He came to power 4 years after Angola gained independence from Portugal in 1975 and he

voluntarily stepped down from the presidency, after he fell ill in 2017

José Eduardo Dos Santos served as the President of Angola from 1979 to 2017. In 2017, he was replaced by João Lourenço (the incumbent President of Angola).

- ◆ After Angola's independence, dos Santos became foreign minister and later planning minister and deputy prime minister.
- ◆ At 37 years, he became president upon the death of Agostinho Neto, Angola's first leader, in 1979.

India's International Economic Resilience Improves To 2nd Position In 2022 From 3rd Position In 2021: PHD Chamber

According to data released by the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI), India has consistently improved its position in the ranking of International Economic Resilience (IER) 2022 of top 10 countries, over the last four years.

- ◆ Among the top 10 leading economies, the Indian economy has risen from 6th place in 2019 to 4th place in 2020, 3rd place in 2021, and 2nd in 2022.
- ◆ The IER rank analysis is based on five major macroeconomic indicators. Significance : Due to its effective and dynamic policy environment, India has managed to achieve this milestone despite significant disruptions in both demand and supply side factors brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic and further geopolitical unrest.

NASA Release 78 kg of Garbage Bag from ISS for the First time

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) tested a first-of-its-kind waste disposal technology by releasing around 78 kg of garbage from the International Space Station (ISS).

- ◆ The waste disposal technology has been jointly developed by NASA's Johnson Space centre and Nanoracks.
- ◆ The garbage bag was removed from the Nanoracks's commercial Bishop Airlock in ISS. Nanoracks Bishop Airlock is a world's first commercial airlock to the International Space Station (ISS) infrastructure. It offers 5 x5 the current volume that can be moved in and out of the Space Station.
- ◆ The new technology uses a specially designed waste container, which is mounted in the Bishop Airlock. The ISS crew can fill the container with up to 600 lbs (272kgs) of trash. The waste bag is then released and the Airlock is re-mounted empty.

10th World Peace Forum organized in Beijing by Tsinghua University

The Tenth edition of the World Peace Forum 2022 was organised by Tsinghua University, in Beijing, China under the theme "Preserving International Stability: Commonality, Comprehensiveness and Cooperation".

- ◆ It was started in Beijing on 3rd July, 2022. India's ambassador to China Pradeep Kumar Rawat was also a participant in the Forum.
- ◆ The tenth edition of the forum comprises of topics including preservation of world peace, United Nations, European security order, and world order.

Japanese Govt. Awards Ex-PM Shinzo Abe Country's Highest Order Posthumously

The Government of Japan honored the former Prime Minister (PM) Shinzo Abe with the Collar of the Supreme Order of the Chrysanthemum, posthumously. He has been awarded the Junior First Rank of Court and Grand Cordon of the Supreme Order of the Chrysanthemum Posthumously.

- ◆ It is Japan's highest award.
- ◆ Shinzo Abe became the fourth PM to receive the award under the post-war constitution

Boris Johnson Resigned as UK Prime Minister



United Kingdom (UK) Prime Minister (PM), Boris Johnson announced his resignation as Prime Minister of UK after he was abandoned by ministers and own party's lawmakers. He also step down from Conservative Party leader.

Highlights:

- ◆ He was forced to quit when 3 cabinet members and more than 40 ministers resigned on 5 July 2022 for demanding his resignation.

- ◆ However he would serve as the PM until his successor was elected.
- ◆ Boris Johnson as the PM had a very controversial tenure which include breaches of COVID-19 pandemic lockdown rules, a luxury renovation of his official residence.

Scientists at CERN Discovered Three "Exotic" Particles for First Time



Scientists of CERN or European Council for Nuclear Research discovered three subatomic (exotic) particles with the help of the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) for the first time using Large Hadron Collider beauty (LHCb) experiment.

- ◆ The subatomic particles were seen as scientists began smashing protons at record energy levels in the 27km long LHC machine in Geneva, Switzerland.
- ◆ The result is presented at the ICHEP 2022 in Italy. ICHEP is a series of international conferences organized by the C11 commission of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP).

Sri Lankan President Gotabaya Rajapaksa has signed the resignation letter

Sri Lankan President Gotabaya Rajapaksa has signed the resignation letter and the Speaker of Parliament will officially announce it. According to Sri Lankan newspapers, Mr. Rajapaksa has submitted his resignation letter to a senior government official, who will hand it over to the Speaker of the Parliament. Mr. Rajapaksa left Rashtrapati Bhavan before thousands of protesters entered the Rashtrapati Bhavan on Saturday.

Ranil Wickremesinghe sworn in as interim President of Sri Lanka

On July 15, 2022, in Sri Lanka, Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe was sworn in as interim President until Gotabaya Rajapaksa's successor is elected. He called for the restoration of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution and maintenance of law and order in order to give more powers to the Parliament than the Acting President. Rajapaksa resigned after protests against his government for not handling the economy of the bankrupt island nation. He left the country and went to Maldives first and then to Singapore. Chief Justice Jayanta Jayasuriya administered the oath of office to Wickremesinghe as the acting President of Sri Lanka. Significantly, the 19A amendment of the Constitution adopted in the year 2015 gives more powers to the Parliament than to the acting President. However, 19A was repealed after Gotabaya Rajapaksa won the presidential election in November 2019.

US decided not to impose sanctions against India for the purchase of S-400 missiles from Russia

The US has decided not to impose sanctions on India under its stringent act for buying S-400 missile systems from Russia. It is being considered as a big relief for India. After buying the missile system from Russia, there were fears of US sanctions but India was confident of its implementation against itself. The US House of Representatives passed a legislative amendment to impose no restrictions under the Sanctions Act. The US House of Representatives on Thursday approved the amendment of Indian-origin MP Ro Khanna to the National Defense Authorization Act. Responding to this development, Mr. Ro Khanna said that the move will further strengthen the India-US defense partnership.

Union Labour Minister Bhupender Yadav Attends BRICS 8th Labour and Employment Ministers' Meeting 2022

On July 14, 2022, Union Minister Bhupender Yadav, Ministry of Labour and Employment (MoLE), virtually attended the 8th BRICS Labour and Employment Ministers' Meeting 2022, held under the Chinese Presidency in Beijing, China.

- ◆ The Labour and Employment Ministers (LEMM) of the member countries Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) participated in the meeting.

West Indies Cricketers Denesh Ramdin & Lendl Simmons Announces Retirement from International Cricket

On 18th July 2022 West Indies cricketers Denesh Ramdin (Former West Indies captain and wicketkeeper) and Lendl Simmons (opening

batsman) announced their retirement from international cricket with immediate effect.

About Lendl Simmons :

- ◆ He is a right-hand batter from Trinidad and made his debut for the West Indies in 2006 in a One Day International (ODI) against Pakistan.
- ◆ Until now, He has played 68 ODI's and 68 T20 International matches and was also a part of the West Indies T20 World Cup in 2012 and 2016
- ◆ The T20 World Cup in October 2021 in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) was his last appearance for the team.

Organized Jeddah Summit and Development Summit

The Jeddah Security and Development Summit held in Jeddah city of Saudi Arabia concluded on July 16, 2022. The leaders of the Gulf Cooperation Council and the US participated in this summit. During the conference, the leaders highlighted the shared historical ties between the countries. The aim of the conference is to promote joint cooperation of countries in all fields.

During the conference, the leaders of the Gulf countries justified the important role played by the US in their strategic partnership in the Middle East region. The leaders also reiterated their joint vision for a prosperous and peaceful Middle East and called for all necessary measures to be taken to safeguard security and stability in the region.

The leaders committed to develop mutual areas of cooperation and integration, adhere to the principles of good neighborliness and mutual respect, as well as to deal with threats. He stressed the need to support the Palestinian economy and UNRWA (United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees). The commitment to building joint projects between countries for sustainable development was also renewed during this summit.

The leaders welcomed the establishment of Joint Task Force 153 and Task Force 59 during the conference. The two task forces have been set up to strengthen joint defense coordination, improve joint naval defense and deal with maritime security threats.

UK launches 'Aviation Passenger Charter' to help passengers know their rights

The British government launched an "Aviation Passenger Charter" to help passengers know their rights if they face problems at airports after widespread disruption this year.

The new charter will help travelers know what to do if they face cancellations, delays or missing baggage. It has been developed by the British Government in partnership with the aviation sector and the travel industry.

Long queues and canceled flights due to staff shortage have at times created chaos, forcing airlines to cut their schedules as the industry struggles to spur demand in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. Last month, the

government published a 22-point aid plan to avoid further disruption, including asking airlines to run "realistic" summer programs and promising to expedite security checks.

Henley Passport Index 2022 : India ranked 87

Henley Passport Index has recently released the list of most powerful passports in the world for the year 2022. India has been placed at 87th position in this list, which allows traveling to 60 countries without hassle. Indian people in 60 countries can travel through Indian passport without prior visa. At the same time, in this list, Russia is at 50th place, China is at 69th place and Pakistan is at 109th place. According to the latest ranking, Japan is at number one in the world's most powerful passport, followed by South Korea and Singapore jointly at number two. Germany and Spain are jointly at number three. Finland, Italy and Luxembourg are jointly at number four. Along with this, Austria, Denmark, Sweden and the Netherlands are jointly at number five.

13th Petersburg climate talks begin in Germany

The 13th Petersburg Climate Dialogue began in Berlin, Germany. The two-day informal ministerial meeting is being chaired by Germany and Egypt, which are the hosts of this year's annual climate meeting (COP-27). The informal ministerial meeting proposes to build consensus and provide political direction to resolve differences with the aim of improving the implementation of climate action, the main goals of COP-27.

India and Namibia sign MoU on wildlife conservation and sustainable biodiversity use

India and the Republic of Namibia have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding on Wildlife Conservation and Sustainable Bio-diversity Use, to bring the cheetah to the historic category in India. Under this MoU, direction will be given to the development of mutually beneficial relationships to encourage wildlife conservation and sustainable biodiversity use. It is based on the principles of mutual respect, sovereignty, equality and the supreme interests of India and Namibia. The main features of the MoU are as follows:-

- ◆ Bio-diversity conservation, with emphasis on conservation of cheetahs. Simultaneously, cheetahs have to be resettled in their old area, from where they have become extinct.
- ◆ Sharing and exchanging expertise and capabilities with the goal of promoting cheetah conservation in both countries.
- ◆ Wildlife conservation and sustainable biodiversity use by sharing good practices.
- ◆ Promotion of wildlife conservation and sustainable biodiversity use through adoption of technologies, livelihood generation for local communities living in wildlife areas and sharing of effective measures with a view to sustainable management of biodiversity.
- ◆ Cooperation in climate change, environmental governance, assessment of environmental side effects, pollution and waste management and other areas of mutual interest.

- ◆ Exchange for training and education for personnel in wildlife management, including technical expertise, wherever relevant.
- ◆ Keeping in view the national conservation and ethos, the cheetah has a very special importance.

Kuwaiti Emir Appoints Ahmad Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah as New PM



On 24th July 2022, The Kuwaiti Emir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah issued a decree appointing Ahmad Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah as the new Prime Minister (PM) of Kuwait.

- ◆ He replaced caretaker PM Sheikh Sabah Khalid Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, who took the position in 2019
- ◆ Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al Sabah handed his cabinet's resignation to the crown prince in April 2022 and the government stayed in a caretaker role since then.

China Launches the Second of Three Space Station Modules- 'Wentian Lab Module'

China's Long March 5B Y3 rocket launched the Wentian Lab Module from the Wenchang Spacecraft Launch Site on the coast of China's southern island province of Hainan.

- ◆ Wentian, which means "Quest for the Heavens," is the second of three modules and the first lab module of China's permanent space station, Tiangong (heavenly palace).

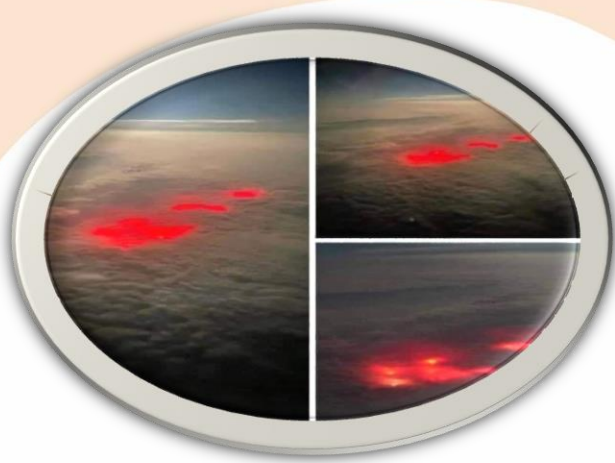
Wentian Lab Module :

- ◆ The Wentian scientific module is \$17.9\$ metres (59 feet) long and weighs about 23 tonnes. It consists of a work cabin, an airlock cabin, and a resource cabin.
- ◆ It is primarily used to assist astronauts as they remain in orbit and engage in extravehicular activities.
- ◆ It is also used to perform scientific experiments in space and can act as a backup to the Tianhe core module for space station management and control.
- ◆ The Wentian is intended for science and biology experiments, and its lab module is heavier than any other single-module spacecraft currently in space.

DBS Bank declared 'World's Best SME Bank' by Euromoney for the second time

Development Bank of Singapore Limited (DBS Bank) has been recognized by Euromoney as the 'Best SME Bank in the World' for the second time (for the first time in 2018). The Bank has established its position as a global industry leader in collaboration with Small to Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to drive growth and advancement. DBS's latest Global Best SME Bank honor comes from UK-based leading financial publication Euromoney, which has awarded DBS the title of 'World's Best SME Bank' for the second time since 2018.

Mysterious Red Glow Over Atlantic Ocean



One reasonable theory states that the mysterious red patches on the Atlantic Ocean were likely generated by a fishing boat employing red LED lights to attract saury fish schools. Large LED light panels are frequently used by fishing boats to entice saury fish.

World Bank appoints Indermit Gill as Chief Economist & Senior Vice President

The World Bank appointed Indian national Indermit Gill, as the Chief Economist of the World Bank Group (WBG) and Senior Vice-President for development economics. His appointment will be effective from 1st September 2022

- ◆ Indermit Gill will be the 2nd Indian, after Kaushik Basu, to serve as the chief economist at the world bank.
- ◆ Kaushik Basu was the chief economist of the World Bank from 2012 to 2016

Nobel Peace Prize Winner, Architect of Good Friday Agreement David Trimble Passes Away

Nobel Peace Prize winner and former Northern Irish first minister William David Trimble passed away at the age of 77 years.

- ◆ He was the key architect of the Good Friday Agreement (GFA) in 1998 which ended the 30 years of disputes in Northern Ireland.

UNGA Declares Access to Clean & Healthy Environment a Universal Human Right

On 28th July 2022, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) adopted the resolution A/76/L.75 titled "The human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment" and declared the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment as a human right.

- ◆ The resolution was adopted with 161 votes in favour, and 8 abstentions.
- ◆ The resolution calls upon the states, international organisations, and business enterprises to scale up efforts to ensure a healthy environment for all.

Note :

- ◆ India voted in favour of the resolution but dissociated itself from an operative paragraph of the text.
- ◆ India pointed out that UNGA resolutions do not create binding obligations.
- ◆ China, Russian Federation, Belarus, Cambodia, Iran, Syria, Kyrgyzstan and Ethiopia are the states that abstained from voting.



Ferrari's Charles Leclerc Wins 2022 Austrian Grand Prix



Ferrari's Charles Leclerc has won the 2022 Austrian Grand Prix, a formula one race which took place over 71 laps of the 4.318-kilometre Red Bull Ring in Spielberg, Austria. Charles Leclerc was followed by Red Bull's Max Verstappen finishing 2nd position and Mercedes' seven-time world champion Lewis Hamilton finishing third in the race.

- ◆ It was the eleventh round of the 2022 Formula One World Championship, and the 35th running of the Austrian Grand Prix in a World Championship season.
- ◆ In April 2022, Charles Leclerc won 2022 Australian Grand Prix in Melbourne, Australia.

Arjun Babuta First Gold in International Shooting



Recently Arjun Babuta of India has won his first gold medal in International Shooting Sports Federation-ISSF World Cup. He defeated Lukas Kozenisky of America 17-9 in the final held in Changwon, South Korea. Arjun secured the first position in the ranking round with a score of 261.1, while Lucas finished second with a score of 260.4. Israel's Sergei Richter won the bronze medal and India's Partha Makhija finished fourth. India topped the medal tally with four gold, two silver and one bronze in the ISSF World Cup 2022, organized by the International Shooting Sports Federation in Cairo. Norway finished second in the table with three gold, one silver and two bronze medals.

India won 22 medals including four gold in the Asian Under-20 wrestling competition held in Bahrain

India has won 22 medals including four gold in the Asian Under-20 Wrestling Championship held in Manama, Bahrain. India won nine silver and nine bronze medals in this championship. The Indian women's team has won a total of ten medals including three golds from Priyanka, Arju and Interim. In the men's section, freestyle wrestler Sujit won the gold medal in the 65 kg weight category.

2025 World Athletics Championships: Tokyo's Olympic Stadium to host the event



The World Athletics Council has chosen Tokyo (Japan) to host the 2025 World Athletics Championships. At the World Athletics Council meeting in Oregon, United States, the council also announced that the 2024 World Athletics Cross Country Championships will be held in Medulin and Pula, Croatia, and the 2026 World Athletics Cross Country Championships will be held in Tallahassee, Florida. The 18th edition of the World Athletics Championships begins in Oregon USA while Budapest in Hungary

will host the 2023 event. The 2022 edition is currently being held in Oregon, USA, which was originally scheduled to be held in 2021 but has been postponed by a year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Narinder Batra resigns from FIH, IOC and IOA

Veteran sports administrator, Narinder Batra has resigned as President of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA), International Hockey Federation (FIH), as well as a member of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), citing "personal reasons". Have given. Mr Batra ceased to be the President of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) when the Delhi High Court on May 25 annulled the post of 'life member' in Hockey India, courtesy of which he contested the IOA elections and won back in 2017.

England's Ben Stokes Announced Retirement from ODI Cricket



The New-Zealand born English cricketer, 31-year-old Ben Stokes (full name: Benjamin Andrew Stokes), Captain of the England Test team, has announced his retirement from the

One Day Internationals(ODIs) format after England's first ODI match against South Africa on 19th July 2022 in Chester-le-Street, Durham, England.

- ◆ He played his 105th and final ODI against South Africa in Durham.

Chess Olympiad Torch Relay

The torch relay being organized in Chennai as part of the 44th edition of the Chess Olympiad will reach Kerala on July 21, 2022. After reaching Cochin International Airport from Kavaratti, Grand Master Vishnu Prasanna (who is famous for chess) will take the torch to Marrotichal village in Thrissur district, where state Revenue Minister K. Rajan will receive the torch and hand it over to Nihal Sarin.

On July 22, the torch will be taken to the state capital Thiruvananthapuram, from where it will leave for Tirupati in Andhra Pradesh. The torch relay started by Prime Minister Narendra Modi will culminate on July 27 at Mahabalipuram near Chennai.

The 44th Chess Olympiad 2022 will be held in Chennai from July 28 to August 9. Held since 1927, this prestigious competition is being hosted for the first time in India and after 30 years in Asia.

This will be the largest participation in any Chess Olympiad with 189 countries participating. The International Chess Federation (FIDE) is the governing body of the game of chess and it regulates all international chess competitions. It is constituted as a non-government institution. It was recognized as a global sporting organization

by the International Olympic Committee in the year 1999.

West Indies cricketers Lendl Simmons and Denesh Ramdin announce retirement

Former West Indies captain Denesh Ramdin has announced his retirement from international cricket with immediate effect. He played his last match for West Indies in a T20I in December 2019. However, he will continue to play franchise cricket. He has played 74 Tests, 139 ODIs and 71 T20 matches. He made his Test debut in July 2005, making his debut against Sri Lanka in Colombo. He played a part in West Indies T20 World Cup victories in 2012 and 2016. Meanwhile, West Indies batsman Lendl Simmons also announced his retirement from international cricket.

Indian GM Aravindh won Benasque International chess tournament in Spain



The Grand Master(GM) of India, Aravindh Chithambaram won the 41st Villa de Benasque International Open chess tournament in Benasque, Spain. Aravindh scored eight points from 10 rounds along with 10 others, but finished first on tie-break rules.

- ◆ GM Robert Hovhannisyan of Armenia finished second while India's GM Raunak Sadhwani was third.

Yonex Taipei Open 2022



The USD 500,000 Yonex Taipei Open 2022 badminton tournament, organised by the Chinese Taipei Badminton Association was held from 19th July 2022 to 24th July 2022 at the Taipei Heping Basketball Gymnasium in Taipei, Taiwan.

- ◆ The 2022 Taipei Open was the 15th tournament of the 2022 BWF World Tour and also part of the Taipei Open championships.

Highlights :

- ◆ The World No.4 Chou Tien-chen (Taiwan) won the Men's Singles defeating Japan's Kodai Naraoka in Men's Singles.
- ◆ World No.2 Tai Tzu-ying (Taiwan), won the Women's Singles defeating Japan's Saena Kawakami. This marks her fourth singles title at the Taipei Open.
- ◆ Man Wei Chong & Tee Kai Wun from Malaysia won the Men's Doubles defeating the Olympic winners Lee Yang and Wang Chi Lin.

Indian Players -Parupalli Kashyap and the two Indian doubles pairs in action on the day losing their respective quarter-final matches.

- ◆ In mixed doubles, India's Tanisha Crasto and Ishaan Bhatnagar were defeated by Malaysian pair Hoo Pang Ron and Toh Ee Wei.
- ◆ In Women's Doubles, India's Tanisha Crasto and Shruti Mishra lost to Hong Kong's Tsang Hiu Yan and Ng Tsz Yau.

Cricket: Overview of India Tour of England, India Wins the T20I and ODI Series in England Soil

Rohit Sharma - led Indian Cricket Team Defeated Team England, led by Jos Buttler in both - Twenty 20 International (T20I) "2-1"and One Day International (ODI) "2-1" and won both the series of England tour at United Kingdom.

Twenty-20 International (T20I):

- ◆ The 3-match T20I series took place from 7 July to 10 July 2022, in which Team India (Ind) defeated Team England (Eng) by 2-1 to win the series.
- ◆ Player of the Series was given to Bhuvneshwar Kumar(India).

One Day International (ODI):

- ◆ Team Ind defeated team Eng by 2-1 to win the 3-match ODI series, which took place from 12 July to 17 July 2022 .
- ◆ Player of the Series was given to Hardik Pandya(India)

2022 FIH Women's Hockey World Cup: Netherland Wins World Championship



The 2022 Women's FIH Hockey World Cup, the quadrennial world championship organised by the International Hockey Federation (FIH) was held from 1st July 2022 to 17th July 2022 at Estadi Olímpic de Terrassa, Spain and at Wagener Stadium, Netherlands.

- ◆ This marks the 15th edition of Women's FIH Hockey World Cup

- ◆ The Netherlands won the world championship for the 9th time by defeating Argentina. Australia has placed third.

Formula One: Max Verstappen Wins 2022 French Grand Prix

On 24th July 2022, Red Bull racer Max Verstappen (Dutch) won the 2022 French Grand Prix (Formula 1(F1) Lenovo Grand Prix de France 2022) which takes place over 53 laps of the 5.842-kilometre Circuit Paul Ricard in Le Castellet, France.

- ◆ This marks his 2nd consecutive French Grand Prix win. Max Emilian Verstappen is a Belgian-Dutch racing driver and the 2021 Formula One World Champion.
- ◆ Mercedes racer Lewis Hamilton (British), 7 times world champion finished second and marked his 300th grand prix.
- ◆ Mercedes racer George Russell (British) finished third in the French Grand Prix.



Ashish Kumar Chauhan is the new head of National Stock Exchange (NSE)



Ashish Kumar Chauhan will be the new head of National Stock Exchange (NSE). The candidature of Ashish Kumar Chauhan has been approved by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). He will become the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of NSE. Presently he is the MD & CEO of BSE. This is his second term of five years in BSE. His term is set to end in November 2022.

His name was approved after the resignation of Vikram Limaye, MD and CEO of NSE. Now Ashish Kumar Chauhan will need the approval of the shareholders to take over the charge of NSE. Ashish Kumar Chauhan is an alumnus of IIT and IIM. His career started in IDBI Bank before joining NSE. He worked in the development of Derivatives segment at NSE during the year 1993-2000.

National Stock Exchange of India Limited (NSE) is the largest financial market in India. Incorporated in the year 1992, NSE has evolved into a sophisticated and electronic market, which was ranked fourth in the world in terms of equity trading volume. It is India's first exchange to provide fully automated electronic trading facility.

- ◆ NSE has the largest private sector network in India. NIFTY 50 is the flagship index of National Stock Exchange of India Limited. The index tracks the portfolio behavior of blue chip companies, the largest and most liquid Indian securities. This includes 50 out of about 1600 companies listed on the NSE.
- ◆ In 2021, it became the world's largest derivatives exchange in terms of the number of contracts traded.

Meena Hemchandra appointed as temporary chairperson of Karur Vysya Bank

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has authorised Meena Hemchandra's appointment as the Karur Vysya bank's temporary chairperson for three years, according to private sector lender Karur Vysya Bank. Hemchandra's application for the position of non-executive independent (part-time) chairperson of the bank had been recommended by the bank to the RBI in May.

Mustafizur Rahman named as Bangladesh High Commissioner to India



The Bangladesh Government has appointed Mustafizur Rahman as the next High Commissioner of Bangladesh to India. He is currently serving as Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations Offices in Geneva and the Ambassador to Switzerland. He will succeed Muhammad Imran as the new High Commissioner.

Manoj Kumar assumes charge as KVIC's new chairman



Manoj Kumar, former expert member of marketing at Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), has been promoted to take charge as Chairman of the Government of India's

statutory body. KVIC's former Chairman Vinai Kumar Saxena has moved on to take charge as the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi. Manoj Kumar was earlier part of KVIC as the Expert Member (Marketing) and has professional experience in the areas of marketing and rural development.

VK Singh appointed as Director (Technical) of REC Limited

V.K. Singh has taken charge as Director (Technical) of REC Limited. Before this elevation, Singh was Executive Director in REC holding a portfolio of key business areas including Private Sector Project Management, Entity Appraisal and Procurement and is also a Director on the Board of REC Power Development and Consultancy Limited.

Former SC judge Vineet Saran appointed as new BCCI ethics officer

Former Supreme Court judge, Vineet Saran has taken over as the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) ethics officer and ombudsman. He has succeeded Justice (Retd) D. K. Jain, whose term ended in June last year. Saran, 65, is a former Chief Justice of Odisha High Court, and also served as a judge in Karnataka and Allahabad High Court.

Brijesh Gupta appointed as MD of RattanIndia Power

RattanIndia Power announced hiring Brijesh Gupta as its new managing director. He has experience working across the renewable, steel, mining and commodities sector in India and abroad. He has over three decades of experience in the industrial sector. Brijesh Gupta held leadership positions in Adani Enterprises,

Essar Group, Welspun and Atha Group. Other than this, he also has global experience by working across geographies in the USA, Middle East, Iran and the Indian Subcontinent.

Jayanti Prasad named as Whole Time Member of IBBI

The Central Government has appointed, Jayanti Prasad as a Whole-time Member of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) for five years. This period of five years will be counted from the date of assumption of charge of the post i.e July 5, 2022, or up to the age of 65 years, whichever is the earliest, according to an executive order issued by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA).

Rajarshi Gupta named as Managing Director of ONGC Videsh



Rajarshi Gupta has been appointed as Managing Director of ONGC Videsh. He was recommended for the position by the Public Enterprise Selection Board (PESB). He has more than 33 years of wide-ranging experience in supervisory, managerial and strategic planning capacities in domestic and international operations of ONGC and ONGC Videsh.

Egypt's Seif Ahmed named as FIH acting president

The International Hockey Federation (FIH) has appointed Egypt's Seif Ahmed as its acting president following Indian administrator Narinder Batra's resignation from the post. Batra resigned as FIH president and also quit as Indian Olympic Association (IOA) chief. He also gave up his International Olympic Committee (IOC) membership which was directly linked with his IOA position.

Ennarasu Karunesan chosen by IAPH to serve as its representative in India

Ennarasu Karunesan has been named as the International Association of Ports and Harbors' (IAPH) official representative in India. IAPH is the world's port industry's forum for cooperation and excellence. Karunesan has over 33 years of leadership experience in the marine and port industries. He began his career in the port industry with the Mumbai port and later worked as the general manager of operations and CEO of the Westport Container Terminal in Port Klang, Malaysia, from 2001 to 2004.

Tata Projects appoints Vinayak Pai as managing director

Vinayak Pai has been named as the managing director of TATA Projects, the company announced. Vinayak Deshpande, who had been in charge of operations for more than 11 years, had been replaced by Pai. Pai has worked with top engineering and EPC firms for more than three decades, holding significant positions on teams that worked on engineering design, technology licencing, project management, business development, and operations.

Nakul Jain Joins As CEO Of Paytm Payments Services

Paytm's parent One97 Communications has appointed Nakul Jain as the CEO of Paytm Payments Services Ltd (PPSL). Praveen Sharma, who is now serving as the acting CEO of PPSL, has been promoted to oversee the organisation's commerce vertical in addition to his other duties.

Sujoy Lal Thaosan gets the additional charge of DG of ITBP



Sashastra Seema Bal's director general in New Delhi, Dr. Sujoy Lal Thaosan assumed the additional responsibility of Director General of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police. Dr. Thaosan is a Madhya Pradesh Cadre IPS Officer from the 1988 batch. Dr. Thaosan received the charge and traditional baton from IPS Sanjay Arora. The ITBP, established in 1962, patrols the Indo-Chinese border. Additionally, it is used for a number of internal security tasks, such as anti-Naxal operations in Chhattisgarh.

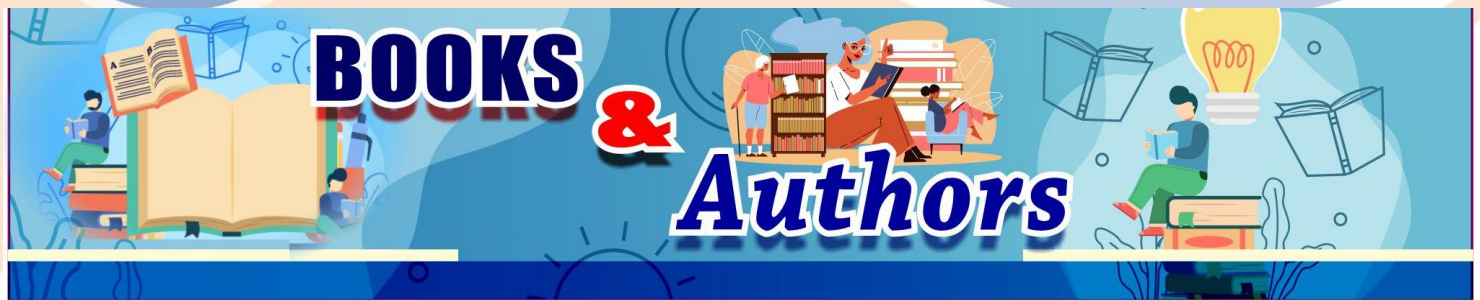
Sanjay Arora to join as the new Delhi Police commissioner

Sanjay Arora, a Tamil Nadu-cadre IPS officer who oversaw the paramilitary ITBP, will assume control of the Delhi Police as Delhi Police commissioner. He is scheduled to retire in 2025. Sanjay Arora was named commissioner of the Delhi Police, replacing the previous Delhi Police Commissioner Rakesh Asthana, an IPS officer from the Gujarat Cadre who retired after nearly 38 years of service.

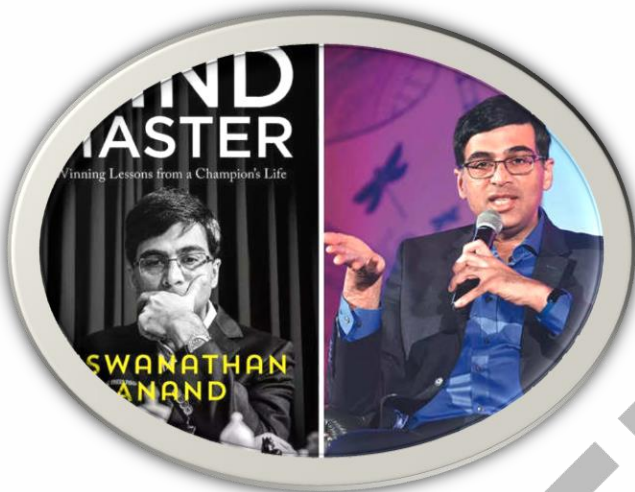
Suresh N Patel sworn in as Central Vigilance Commissioner



Vigilance Commissioner, Suresh N. Patel was appointed as the Central Vigilance Commissioner. He has been working as the acting Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC) since June this year. He was sworn in as the chief of the Central Vigilance Commission by President Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan. The ceremony was also attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu.



A new edition of Viswanathan Anand's memoir 'Mind Master' set to be released

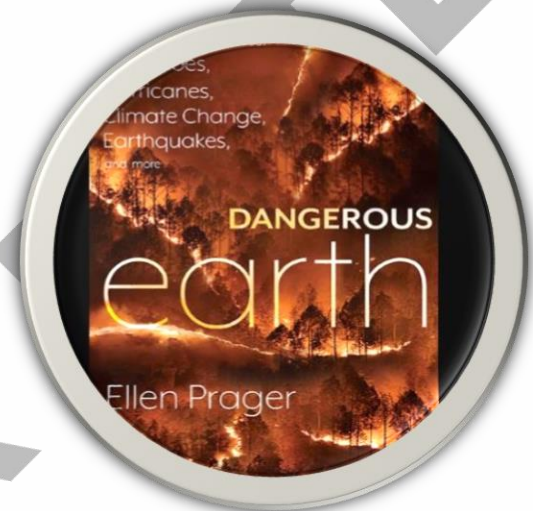


Hachette India announced the expanded paperback edition of five-time world chess champion from India Viswanathan Anand's acclaimed memoir (book) "Mind Master: Winning Lessons from a Champion's Life". The Book will be released on 15 th July, \$2022 .

The book, featuring a bonus chapter on how to navigate uncertainty and rapidly changing realities in the wake of the pandemic. It is written by Viswanathan Anand with author-journalist Susan Ninan.

In "Mind Master", Anand looks back at a lifetime of games played, opponents tackled and circumstances overcome and draws from its depths significant tools that will help every reader to navigate life's challenges.

A book titled "Dangerous Earth" by Marine biologist Ellen Prager



Marine biologist Ellen Prager has come up with a book titled "Dangerous Earth: What we wish we knew about volcanoes, hurricanes, climate change, earthquakes and more". In the book, the author seeks to respond to the most compelling question: Why can't we better predict natural disasters?

A book titled "Lion Of The Skies: Hardit Singh Malik" by Stephen Barker

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.

Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik releases a book titled 'Lockdown Lyrics'

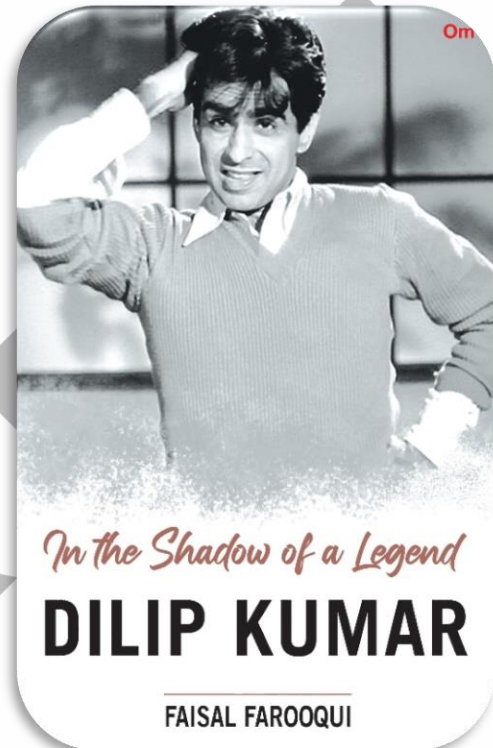
Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has released a book titled 'Lockdown Lyrics', a collection of poems written by Sanjukta Dash. The poems are an unadulterated narration of the author's experiences and exasperations during the pandemic. She has reflected all the trauma & tribulations and hope and aspirations of humanity during this most critical journey of society in a long time.

Anurag Thakur released books showcasing pictures of President Kovind his predecessors

Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur has released three books showcasing some of the rarest photographs of outgoing President Ram Nath Kovind and his predecessors. The books were released during a function at the Rashtrapati Bhavan and their first copies were presented to President Ramnath Kovind in the presence of

president-elect Droupadi Murmu, Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

A book titled "Dilip Kumar: In the Shadow of a Legend" by Faisal Farooqui



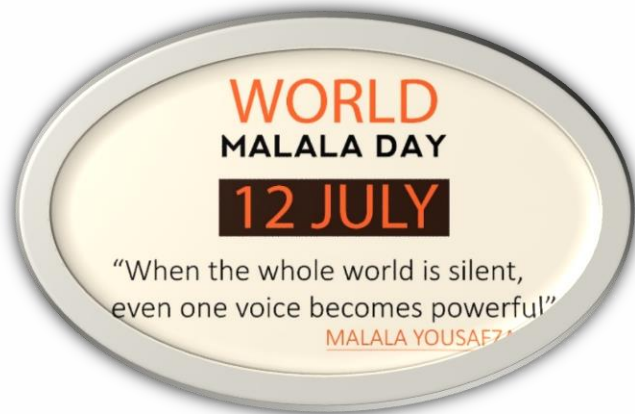
A new book on the legendary actor of Indian cinema, Yusuf Khan, better known as Dilip Kumar, has been released by author Faisal Farooqui. The book is titled "In the Shadow of a Legend: Dilip Kumar". The book is a tribute to Dilip Kumar the man more than Dilip Kumar the actor. Farooqui is the founder and CEO of Mouthshut.com, one of India's leading review and rating platforms.



List of Important Days National & International



Malala Day - July 12



The International Malala Day is annually celebrated on 12th July on the occasion of young activist Malala Yousafzai's birthday. The day is marked to honor the young women who have been advocating for female education.

- ◆ It also emphasizes compulsory and free education for every child.
- ◆ Malala Yousafzai is the youngest Nobel Prize laureate of the world.
- ◆ In support of the United Nations Secretary-General's Global Education First Initiative, hundreds of youth representatives from across the world will come together for Malala Day - to celebrate Malala's 16th birthday and show their support for universal education., therefore the UN designated that 12 July will be celebrated as 'Malala Day' to honor the young activist.

National Fish Farmers Day 2022-July 10

National Fish Farmers Day is annually celebrated on 10th July to commemorate the demonstration of Dr K. H. Alikunhi and Dr H. L. Chaudhary for the successful contribution in demonstrating Hypophysation (technology of induced breeding) in Indian Major Carps (common name for several species of fish) on 10th July 1957 at the former CIFRI Pond Culture Division in Angul, Odisha.

- ◆ The 22nd National Fish Farmers Day was celebrated on 10th July 2022 across India.
- ◆ It is celebrated by the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying in association with the National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB).
- ◆ The day is also observed as the NFDB Foundation Day.
- ◆ 2022 marks the 16th NFDB Foundation Day.

National Students Day 2022- July 9

India celebrates National Students Day annually on 9th July to commemorate the foundation of Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP), a student organization.

- ◆ 9th July 2022 marked the 74th Foundation Day of ABVP.
- ◆ **Objective :** To bring positive changes in the Indian education system.

July 14 : French Bastille Day



France celebrates 14 July every year as National Day, also known as Bastille Day. Known as the military fort and prison on July 14, 1789, the Bastille's fall when angry mobs stormed it marked the beginning of the French Revolution and became an important symbol for the French Republican movement.

The French National Day is formally called La Fete Nationale in France. Along with France, it is also celebrated by other countries and especially by French speaking people and communities. Many public events are organized on this occasion but the most famous event is the Bastille Day Military Parade. This parade takes place in Paris on the morning of July 14.

The first parade was held in the year 1880. The famous Tour de France also takes place during Bastille Day. The Bastille was a medieval armory,

fort and prison in Paris. For many common people it represented an unfair monarchy and the monarchy was a symbol of abuse of power.

July 22: World Brain Day

World Brain Day is organized every year on 22 July with the aim of raising awareness related to brain health around the world. Significantly, this day is celebrated on 22 July 1957 to commemorate the establishment of the World Federation of Neurology. On September 22, 2013, the 'Public Awareness and Advocacy Committee' of the 'World Congress of Neurology' proposed to observe 22 July every year as 'World Brain Day' or 'World Brain Day', after which 22 July, This day was organized for the first time in 2014.

- ◆ The theme of World Brain Day-2022 is "Brain Health for all". Multiple sclerosis is a disease in which the body's immune system itself damages myelin (the fatty substance that surrounds nerve fibers and acts as a covering), nerve fibers, and specialized cells that make myelin in the body. delivers.
- ◆ It affects the central nervous system, especially the brain, spinal cord and nerves related to vision. Although the disease has been more prevalent in the countries of the West, but in recent times its cases are increasing in India as well.
- ◆ Adults in the age group of 20-40 years, especially women are vulnerable to Multiple

Sclerosis. There is a dire need of other services in India like raising awareness, conducting large scale studies regarding this epidemic, opening of dedicated multiple sclerosis clinics, optimal rehabilitation etc.

International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystems 2022-July 26



The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)'s International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem is annually celebrated on 26 July to raise awareness of the importance of mangrove ecosystems as "a unique, special and vulnerable ecosystem" and to promote solutions for their sustainable management, conservation and uses.

- The day is also known as World Mangrove Day.

World In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) Day 2022- July 25

The World In-Vitro Fertilization (IVF) Day is annually observed across the globe on 25th July to commemorate the birth of Louise Joy Brown, the World's first IVF baby, on 25th July 1978 in Manchester, England.

- ◆ The day marks the celebration of all embryologists who played a significant role in the IVF clinic.
- ◆ IVF technology is one of the greatest innovations in the field of reproductive medicine.

International Tiger Day 2022

The goal of International Tiger Day 2022 is to increase public awareness of the problems contributing to the global tiger population decline. It will take place on July 29. The decrease of the tiger population, a crucial component of our environment, began in the 20th century. International Tiger Day was created in 2010 at the St. Petersburg Tiger Summit in Russia to promote tiger conservation efforts and bring attention to the wild tiger population reduction that has brought them dangerously close to extinction.

**Current Affairs Quiz - 1****NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

1. Which of the following state will soon launch, first of its kind in India – 'Right to Health Bill' in assembly?
(a) Andhra Pradesh
(b) Rajasthan
(c) Haryana
(d) Chhattisgarh
2. _____ longest skywalk from the Khar Road railway station to the nearby Bandra Terminus has been opened for the passengers to reach the platforms to board trains easily.
(a) Northern Railway
(b) East Coast Railway
(c) Western Railway
(d) North Central Railway
3. Former Prime Minister of Japan Shinzo Abe passed away. In which year did he receive the Padma Vibhusan Award?
(a) 2018
(b) 2019
(c) 2020
(d) 2021
4. Who unveiled the 'Statue of Peace' of Swamy Ramanujacharya in Srinagar, located in a temple in the Sonwar region?
(a) Manoj Sinha
(b) Narendra Modi
(c) Amit Shah
(d) G Kishan Reddy
5. Which of the following bank has signed an MoU with Indian Air Force to provide specially designed products to the defence personnel under the bank's flagship scheme of 'Rakshak Plus'?
(a) SBI
(b) PNB
(c) ICICI Bank
(d) Axis Bank

6. Kharchi festival began with thousands of devotees converging at Khayerpur on the eastern outskirts of the _____.
(a) Arunachal Pradesh (b) Assam
(c) Nagaland (d) Tripura
7. Which of the following state becomes first state in the country to have 13 expressways?
(a) Punjab (b) Maharashtra
(c) Uttar Pradesh (d) Gujarat
8. In July 2022, Coffee Board has signed an MoU with _____ to develop climate-resistant varieties of the coffee crops.
(a) ICAR (b) DRDO
(c) TNAU (d) ISRO
9. As per a recent newspaper report, Nokia has partnered with which institution to set up Nokia Center of Excellence in networked robotics?
(a) IIT Delhi (b) IIT Madras
(c) IIT Bombay (d) IISc, Bengaluru
10. Which bank has signed a corporate agency agreement with Shriram General Insurance?
(a) Kotak Mahindra Bank (b) YES Bank
(c) Federal Bank (d) City Union Bank
11. India's first elevated urban expressway is known as _____.
(a) Dwarka Expressway (b) Mathura Expressway
(c) Badrinath Expressway (d) Somnath Expressway
12. The first James Webb Telescope image revealed which of the following?
(a) Image of Earth (b) asteroid
(c) The Earliest galaxy (d) Image of Moon
13. Which of the following is being built as India's first carbon-neutral airport?
(a) Jammu Airport (b) Leh Airport
(c) Kargil Airport (d) Wayanad Airport

14. Monty Norman, who passed away recently, was a famous _____.
- (a) actor (b) Music Composer
(c) football player (d) author
15. In which state/UT the SAH-Bhagita scheme was launched to reward RWAs (Resident Welfare Associations) for property tax compliance?
- (a) Maharashtra (b) Assam
(c) Puducherry (d) Delhi
16. Which country is not the part of the I2U2 grouping of nations?
- (a) Israel (b) Italy
(c) United States (d) United Arab Emirates
17. Nasscom Foundation has partnered with which company to set up DigiVaani Call Center for helping women farmers scale up their business?
- (a) Google (b) Microsoft
(c) Meta (d) IBM
18. Ola Electric has unveiled India's first indigenously developed lithium-ion cell. What is the name of this cell?
- (a) MMC 2170 (b) NNC 2170
(c) NMC 2171 (d) NMC 2170
19. In which state, Union cabinet has approved the setting up of the Gati Shakti University?
- (a) Uttar Pradesh (b) Gujarat
(c) Rajasthan (d) Maharashtra
20. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved Taranga Hill-Ambaji-Abu Road new rail line. This railway line is between which two states?
- (a) Rajasthan & Haryana (b) Maharashtra & Gujarat
(c) Gujarat & Haryana (d) Rajasthan & Gujarat
21. Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has launched a new mobile app named _____ to perform face authentication.
- (a) FacelIdentifier (b) FaceRecognition
(c) AadhaarFaceRd (d) AadhaarFaceRecognition

22. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a fine of Rs 1.67 crore on _____ for non-compliance with certain provisions related to Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPI).
- (a) Adcon Capital Services Ltd
(b) Amrapali Capital and Finance Services Ltd
(c) Bajaj Finance Limited
(d) Ola Financial Services
23. In which city, Space tech startup Agnikul Cosmos has opened India's first rocket engine factory?
- (a) Bengaluru (b) Kochi
(c) Hyderabad (d) Chennai
24. Which state government has partnered with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for Data in Climate Resilient Agriculture (DiCRA)?
- (a) Telangana (b) West Bengal
(c) Assam (d) Andhra Pradesh
25. Bajrang Punia, who won the gold medal for India in the Commonwealth Games 2022, is associated with which of the following sports?
- (a) Javelin throw (b) High Jump
(c) Wrestler (d) Pole Vault

Current Affairs Quiz - 2

SPORTS APPOINTMENTS AND DAYS OF IMPORTANCE

1. Ratchanok Intanon won the women's singles title at 2022 Malaysia Open badminton tournament. She is from _____.
- (a) China (b) Philippines
(c) Thailand (d) Indonesia
2. Who has been appointed as the deputy election commissioner of India Recently?
- (a) R K Gupta (b) T Sreekanth
(c) Vipin Chandra (d) Kapil Mishra

3. Which of the following state to host 36th National Games of India?

(a) Goa	(b) Gujarat
(c) Haryana	(d) Odisha

4. Who has been appointed as the new President of IFAD?

(a) Vipin Sondhi	(b) Neeraj Akhoury
(c) Avinash Kulkarni	(d) Alvara Lario

5. World Population Day is observed every year on _____ to raise awareness about global population issues.

(a) July 09	(b) July 10
(c) July 11	(d) July 12

6. When is the National Fish Farmers Day observed in India?

(a) July 09	(b) July 10
(c) July 11	(d) July 12

7. Who among the following has won the Wimbledon men's title 2022?

(a) Andy Murray	(b) Rafael Nadal
(c) Roger Federer	(d) Novak Djokovic

8. Who among the following has been appointed as the Managing Director of National High Speed Rail Corporation Limited (NHSRCL) recently?

(a) Satish Agnihotri	(b) Brajesh Kumar Upadhyay
(c) Rajendra Prasad	(d) Debasish Nanda

9. Brajesh Kumar Upadhyay has been appointed as the Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) of which organisation?

(a) Goa Shipyard Limited	(b) Coal India Limited
(c) GAIL Limited	(d) ONGC

10. Who has been voted as the ICC Men's Player of the Month for June 2022?

(a) Jonny Bairstow	(b) Joe Root
(c) Daryl Mitchell	(d) Rohit Sharma

11. World Paper Bag Day is observed every year on _____ to raise awareness about the importance of using paper bags instead of plastic bags.
(a) 11th July (b) July 12
(c) July 13 (d) July 14
12. What is the theme of World Paper Bag Day 2022?
(a) only one earth
(b) it is never too late to switch from plastic o paper
(c) If you are 'fantastic', do something 'dramatic' to cut 'plastic', use 'paper bags'
(d) living permanently in harmony with nature
13. Who among the following has been elected to the post of Chairman and Managing Director of RailTel Corporation of India Limited in July 2022?
(a) Gurdeep Singh (b) Debashish Nanda
(c) Rajendra Prasad (d) Sanjay Kumar
14. Who among the following is set to join as the Managing Director and CEO of Eureka Forbes in July 2022?
(a) George Kurian (b) Dinesh Paliwal
(c) Neeraj Shah (d) Prateek POTAS
15. Who has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of Bangladesh to India?
(a) Mustafizur Rahman (b) Mustafizur Imran
(c) Abdul Basit (d) Nabin Sarkar
16. The 7th anniversary of the Skill India Mission is being observed on _____.
(a) 11th July (b) 12th July
(c) 13th July (d) 15th July
17. Who has been appointed as the new MD and CEO of the National Stock Exchange (NSE)?
(a) L V Prabhakar (b) VP Nandkumar
(c) Ashish Kumar Chauhan (d) Murali M. Natrajan
18. Which city has been selected as the host city for the World Athletics Championship 2025?
(a) Tokyo (b) Paris
(c) Beijing (d) New Delhi

19. Recently, _____ has assumed the charge as Chairman of Khadi and Village Industries Commission.
- (a) Dinesh Sharma (b) Vinai Kumar Saxena
(c) Manoj Kumar (d) Kartik Soni
20. Lleyton Hewitt was inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame in July 2022, Hewitt belongs to which country?
- (a) Australia (b) UK
(c) Russia (d) Serbia
21. In July 2022, India achieved the major landmark of 200 Crore COVID-19 Vaccinations, India's nation-wide COVID19 vaccination program was launched on _____.
- (a) January 1st 2021 (b) January 16th 2021
(c) January 26th 2021 (d) April 1st 2021
22. The former West Indies captain _____ announced his retirement from international cricket with immediate effect.
- (a) Chris Gayle (b) Dinesh Ramdin
(c) Jason Holder (d) Carlos Brathwaite
23. England all-rounder _____ has made a surprise announcement of retirement from ODI cricket.
- (a) Jos Butler (b) Moeen Ali
(c) Jonny Bairstow (d) Ben Stokes
24. Every year on _____ the world celebrates Nelson Mandela International Day.
- (a) July 16 (b) July 17
(c) July 18 (d) July 19
25. World International Day of Justice is observed on _____ to commemorate organizations working to bring justice to victims of international criminal acts.
- (a) July 17 (b) July 14
(c) July 15 (d) July 16



ANSWERS



Current Affairs Quiz - 1

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL NEWS

1.(b) Rajasthan

Exp. The Rajasthan government is soon likely to introduce in the Assembly the Right to Health Bill (the first of its kind in India) which aims to commit to quality and affordable health care services through government and private health care providers.

2.(c) Western Railway

Exp. The Western Railway's (WR) longest skywalk from the Khar Road railway station to the nearby Bandra Terminus has been opened for the passengers to reach the platforms to board trains easily.

3.(d) 2021

Exp. Shinzo Abe was conferred the Padma Vibhushan — India's second-highest civilian award, in 2021.

4.(c) G Kishan Reddy

Exp. Union Home Minister Amit Shah virtually unveiled the 'Statue of Peace' of Swamy Ramanujacharya in Srinagar, located in a temple in the Sonwar region.

5.(b) PNB

Exp. PNB has signed an MoU with IAF to provide specially designed products to the defence personnel under the bank's flagship scheme of 'PNB Rakshak Plus'.

6.(d) Tripura

Exp. A week-long traditional Kharchi festival, offering prayer to 14 gods and goddess, began with thousands of devotees converging at Khayerpur on the eastern outskirts of the Tripur

- 7.(c) Uttar Pradesh**
Exp. Uttar Pradesh will be the first in the country to have a network of 13 expressways.
- 8.(d) ISRO**
Exp. State-run Coffee Board is planning to focus on developing new varieties that will be resistant to the changing climatic patterns. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Coffee Board and ISRO was signed with regard to breeding climate-resilient varieties and assess the carbon sequestration potential in coffee among others.
- 9.(d) IISc, Bengaluru**
Exp. Nokia has partnered with Indian Institute of Science to set up Nokia Center of Excellence in networked robotics at IISc Bengaluru. The Center of Excellence (CoE) will promote interdisciplinary research involving robotics and advanced communication technologies in 5G and Artificial Intelligence (AI).
- 10.(d) City Union Bank**
Exp. Private sector lender City Union Bank (CUB) has signed a corporate agency agreement with Shriram General Insurance to distribute the latter's insurance products through its network of branches across the country.
- 11.(a) Dwarka Expressway**
Exp. Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari has said that the Dwarka Expressway, which will be India's first elevated urban expressway, will be operational by 2023.
- 12.(c) The Earliest galaxy**
Exp. First Webb Telescope image reveals oldest galaxies formed after the Big Bang. This first image from NASA's James Webb Space Telescope is the deepest and sharpest infrared image ever taken of the distant universe.
- 13.(b) Leh Airport**
Exp. AAI's Leh airport being built as a carbon-neutral airport, is the first in India. A "geothermal system" in hybridization with a solar PV plant will be provided for heating and cooling purposes in the new airport terminal building.

14.(b) Music Composer

Exp. British composer Monty Norman, who wrote the theme tunes for James Bond films, has died. He was 94 years old. Norman was cast in the first James Bond film, "Dr. No," by producer Albert "Cubi" Broccoli, released in 1962.

15.(d) Delhi

Exp. Delhi Lieutenant Governor VK Saxena launched an incentive scheme for resident welfare associations to ensure property tax compliance and waste management in the city. Under the SAH-Bhagita scheme, RWAs (Resident Welfare Associations) will get 15 percent of the total collection of property tax for development works in their areas.

16.(b) Italy

Exp. Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the first virtual I2U2 Summit on July 14, 2022. The I2U2 is a four-nation grouping, where "I" stands for India and Israel, and "U" for the US and the UAE.

17.(a) Google

Exp. Nasscom Foundation and Google have announced setting up a call centre in collaboration with a not-for-profit body Indian Society of Agribusiness Professionals (ISAP) to help women farmers scale up their business.

18.(d) NMC 2170

Exp. Ola Electric has unveiled India's first indigenously developed lithium-ion cell NMC 2170. The company will begin mass production of the cell (NMC 2170) from its Chennai-based Gigafactory by 2023.

19.(b) Gujarat

Exp. Union Cabinet has approved the up-gradation of the National Rail and Transportation Institute (NRTI) to Gati Shakti University in Gujarat.

20.(d) Rajasthan & Gujarat

Exp. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved Taranga Hill-Ambaji-Abu Road new rail line in Gujarat and Rajasthan to provide connectivity and improve mobility.

- 21.(c) AadhaarFaceRd**
Exp. Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has launched a new mobile app named 'AadhaarFaceRd' to perform face authentication.
- 22.(d) Ola Financial Services**
Exp. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a fine of Rs 1.67 crore on Ola Financial Services Private Limited for non-compliance with certain provisions related to Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPI) and Know Your Customer (KYC) norms.
- 23.(d) Chennai**
Exp. Space tech startup Agnikul Cosmos has inaugurated India's first-ever factory to manufacture 3D-printed rocket engines in Chennai.
- 24.(a) Telangana**
Exp. Telangana government partnered with UNDP for Data in Climate Resilient Agriculture (DiCRA).
- 25. (c) Wrestler**
Exp. Bajrang Punia has won his 3rd Commonwealth Games medal and his second successive Gold medal in the men's 65kg category.

Current Affairs Quiz - 2**SPORTS APPOINTMENTS AND DAYS OF IMPORTANCE**

- 1.(c) Thailand**
Exp. Thailand's Ratchanok Intanon won the women's singles title at the 2022 Malaysia Open.
- 2.(a) RK Gupta**
Exp. Senior bureaucrat R K Gupta was appointed as the deputy election commissioner, an order issued by the Personnel Ministry said. He comes in place of T Sreekanth.
- 3.(b) Gujrat**
Exp. Gujarat will host the 36th National games from September 27 to October 10.

- 4.(d)** Alvara Lario
Exp. The governing council of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) has been appointed as Spain's Alvaro Lario new President.
- 5.(c)** July 11
Exp. World Population Day is observed every year on July 11 to raise awareness about global population issues.
- 6.(b)** July 10
Exp. National Fish Farmers Day is celebrated on 10th July every year to demonstrate solidarity with all fisher folk, fish farmers and concerned stakeholders throughout the Country.
- 7.(d)** Novak Djokovic
Exp. Serbia Novak Djokovic won a seventh Wimbledon men's title and 21st Grand Slam crown with a four-set triumph over Nick Kyrgios.
- 8.(c)** Rajendra Prasad
Exp. Rajendra Prasad has been appointed as the Managing Director of National High Speed Rail Corporation Limited (NHSRCL) after the government dismissed Satish Agnihotri over corruption allegations.
- 9.(a)** Goa Shipyard Limited
Exp. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of Brajesh Kumar Upadhyay as Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) of Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL).
- 10.(a)** Johnny Bairstow
Exp. England batsman Jonny Bairstow has been named the ICC Men's Player of the Month for June 2022.
- 11.(b)** July 13
Exp. World Paper Bag Day is observed every year on 12 July to raise awareness about the importance of using paper bags instead of plastic bags.
- 12.(c)** If you are 'fantastic', do something 'dramatic' to cut 'plastic', use 'paper bags'
The theme for Paper Bag Day this year is "If you're 'fantastic', do something 'dramatic' to cut the 'plastic,' use a 'paper bag'."

- 13.(d)** Sanjay Kumar
Exp. Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) has selected Mr. Sanjay Kumar for the post of Chairman and Managing Director, RailTel Corporation of India Limited (RCIL).
- 14.(e)** Prateek POTAS
Exp. Prateek Pota will join as the Managing Director and CEO of Eureka Forbes. Prateek will lead the management team to grow the business and deliver innovative products. Prateek was the CEO at Jubilant FoodWorks Ltd.
- 15.(a)** Mustafizur Rahman
Exp. Govt of Bangladesh has appointed Mustafizur Rahman as the next High Commissioner of Bangladesh to India.
- 16.(d)** 15th July
Exp. The 7th anniversary of the Skill India Mission is being observed on 15th July. National Skill Development Mission also known as Skill India Mission was launched on this day in 2015.
- 17.(c)** Ashish Kumar Chauhan
Exp. The National Stock Exchange (NSE) has announced the appointment of Ashish Kumar Chauhan as its new managing director and CEO.
- 18.(a)** Tokyo
Exp. The World Athletics Council has selected Tokyo (Japan) to host the 2025 World Athletics Championships.
- 19.(c)** Manoj Kumar
Exp. Manoj Kumar has assumed the charge as Chairman of Khadi and Village Industries Commission. His predecessor Vinai Kumar Saxena was appointed the Lt Governor of Delhi.
- 20.(a)** Australia
Exp. Lleyton Hewitt, a two-time Grand Slam champion and former world number one, was inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame.
- 21.(b)** January 16th 2021
Exp. India's nation-wide COVID19 vaccination program was launched by PM on 16th January 2021.

22.(b) Dinesh Ramdin

Exp. Former West Indies captain Dinesh Ramdin announced his retirement from international cricket with immediate effect. He played his last match for West Indies in a T20.I in December 2019.

23.(d) Ben Stokes

Exp. England all-rounder Ben Stokes has made a shocking announcement to retire from ODI cricket.

24.(c) July 18

Exp. Every year on 18 July the world celebrates Nelson Mandela International Day. The day commemorates South Africa's first democratically elected president and his long struggle for justice against apartheid.

25.(a) July 17

Exp. World International Day of Justice is observed on 17 July to commemorate the organizations working to bring justice to the victims of international criminal acts.
