

# CurrentTap

Comprehensive **Current Affairs Magazine** Covering

**GA****ESI****FINANCE**

## NOVEMBER - 2022

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# 1 GA in News

## First in News

S.No.	News	Place / Developed by / Launched	Key Facts
1.	<b>North-east India's first ever Fish Museum</b>	To be set up at: Arunachal Pradesh	Project Cost: Rs. 4.59 crore
2.	<b>World's first one-dose drug – 'Nirsevimab' to protect babies against respiratory virus (RSV)</b>	Developed by: Sanofi and AstraZeneca	Approved by: European Commission
3.	<b>Yotta Yotta D1 - North India's first hyper-scale data centre</b>	Launched by Uttar Pradesh (U.P.) government	This 3,00,000 square feet data centre is situated at Noida (U.P.) and built at the cost of Rs. 5,000 crore
4.	<b>India's First Floating Financial Literacy Camp</b>	India Post Payments Bank	The session was conducted in the waters of <b>Dal Lake</b> (Srinagar, J&K) 'Niveshak Didi' initiative launched to promote Financial Literacy 'By the women, for the women'
5.	<b>Suryakumar Yadav</b>	-	First Indian player to score 1,000 T20I runs in a year
6.	<b>World's first Vedic Clock</b>	To be installed in: Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh	Estimated Project cost: <b>Rs 1.62 crore</b>
7.	<b>Tokhü Emong Bird Count (TEBC) - the first avian documentation exercise</b>	Taken by: Nagaland Conducted by: Wokha Forest Division, Nagaland Forest Management Project (NFMP) and Bird Count India.	Aim: To go beyond 'Amur falcons' - the migratory raptor that put the State on the world birding map.
8.	<b>Vaccines delivery through drones for the first time in the world</b>	Delivered in: Arunachal Pradesh	Drone: <b>Vertiplane X3</b> Demonstrated by: <b>Hyderabad-based Indian Immunologicals Limited (IIL)</b>
9.	<b>First state in India to introduce uniform gold price based on bank rate</b>	State: Kerala	Decided by: All Kerala Gold and Silver Merchants Association and Malabar Gold & Diamonds
10.	<b>First ever Joint Society Meeting of Autonomous Institutes of Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES)</b>	Held at: New Delhi	Autonomous Institutes: Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (IITM), Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), National Centre for Earth Science Studies (NCESS), National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR), and National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT)
11.	<b>India's first national repository for life science data - 'Indian Biological Data Center' (IBDC)</b>	Inaugurated at: Faridabad, Haryana	Supported by: <b>Department of Biotechnology (DBT)</b> IBDC is committed to the spirit of <b>data sharing as per FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable)</b> principles.
12.	<b>First Player to Reach 4,000 T20I Runs – Virat Kohli</b>	--	He achieved the feat in the <b>T20 World Cup semi-final against England</b> .

13.	<b>India's first Hydrogen Fuel Cell Catamaran Vessel and Electric Hybrid Vessels</b>	<b>Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) and Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL)</b>	Vessel made for: <b>Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh</b> Designed by: <b>CSL</b> in collaboration with <b>KPIT Technologies Limited, Pune (Maharashtra)</b>
14.	<b>First Indian Scientist to be awarded with Bailey K. Ashford Medal for 2022 and 2022 Fellow of the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (ASTMH) award – Dr. Subhash Babu</b>	--	Awarded for: Research and contributions to <b>tropical medicine</b> He has also been awarded with the <b>Fellow of the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (ASTMH) award for 2022.</b>
15.	<b>India's first privately-developed rocket – 'Vikram-S' to be launched</b>	Developed by: <b>Skyroot Aerospace</b>	The maiden mission of Skyroot Aerospace, named ' <b>Prarambh</b> ' ( <b>the beginning</b> ), will carry payloads of <b>two Indian</b> and <b>one foreign customer</b> .
16.	<b>First Indian fisheries start-up to get ISO 27001 certification – 'Aquaconnect'</b>	--	It received certification for its <b>information security management</b> .
17.	<b>First ever conference of Indian Trade Service Officers - "Manthan 1.0"</b>	Held at: <b>Kevadia, Gujarat</b>	The conference was conducted for brainstorming on <b>future Foreign Trade Policy (FTP)</b> , and to formulate <b>sector wise</b> and <b>state wise export strategy</b> to boost exports from India. Aim: To achieve <b>1 Trillion USD of exports</b> in <b>merchandise</b> , and <b>1 Trillion USD exports</b> in <b>services exports</b> by <b>2030</b> .
18.	<b>First female president of Slovenia - Natasa Pirc Musar</b>	Country: <b>Slovenia</b>	She replaced <b>Borut Pahor</b> .
19.	<b>First-ever World Media Congress</b>	Held at: <b>Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates</b>	Addressed by: <b>Apurva Chandra (Secretary, Ministry of Information &amp; Broadcasting)</b>
20.	<b>India's first Centre of Excellence for Green Port &amp; Shipping – 'National Centre of Excellence for Green Port &amp; Shipping (NCoEGPS)'</b>	Launched by: <b>Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways</b>	Aim: To develop a <b>regulatory framework</b> and <b>alternate technology adoption road map</b> for <b>Green Shipping</b> to foster <b>carbon neutrality</b> and <b>circular economy (CE)</b> in <b>shipping sector</b> in India.
21.	<b>First Buddhist Heritage Theme Park – 'Buddhavanam'</b>	Located at: <b>Nagarjunasagar, Telangana</b>	The project initially developed by the <b>Andhra Pradesh Development Corporation</b> in <b>2003</b> was transferred to the <b>Telangana State Tourism Development Corporation (TSTDC)</b> after bifurcation.
22.	<b>India's first Elephant death audit framework (EDAF)</b>	Introduced at: <b>Tamil Nadu</b> Introduced by: <b>Tamil Nadu's Forest Department</b>	The <b>broad objectives</b> of Elephant Death Audit Framework (EDAF) are threefold: <b>Environment, Climate Change and Forests</b> .
23.	<b>First Indian to be elected in International Table Tennis Federation's Athletes'</b>	--	<b>8 athletes (4 men and 4 women)</b> were chosen for the <b>Athletes' Commission</b> from <b>Asia, Africa, the</b>

	<b>Commission (ITTF) – ‘Achanta Sharath Kamal’</b>		<b>Americas, Europe, and Oceania, for four years, from 2022 to 2026.</b>
24.	<b>India’s First 2-seat micro E-car – ‘EaS-E’</b>	Launched by: PMV Electric	Range: <b>120-200km</b> on a single charge
25.	<b>World’s first listed firm to lose \$1 trillion in market capitalization – ‘Amazon’</b>	--	Reasons: <b>Rising inflation, tightening monetary policies and disappointing earnings updates</b>
26.	<b>1st Indian IT firm to allow Europe employees to form union – ‘Wipro’</b>	--	Wipro's employees that have been allowed to unionize belong to <b>13 countries</b> including <b>France, Sweden, Finland and Germany</b> .
27.	<b>World’s first disabled astronaut or parastronaut- John McFall</b>	--	He has recently joined the <b>European Space Agency</b> . He is a <b>British Paralympic sprinter</b>
28.	<b>India’s first integrated rocket design, manufacturing and testing facility</b>	<b>To be set up at:</b> Telangana <b>To be set up by:</b> Skyroot Aerospace	--
29.	<b>First Indian State to introduce open-loop ticketing system for roadway buses - Haryana</b>	--	The <b>Government of Haryana</b> has recently launched <b>Open Loop Ticketing System</b> . The open-loop ticketing system has been launched for bus routes in <b>six districts</b> . The initiative was launched during <b>7th International Gita Seminar 2022</b> .
30.	<b>India’s first sticker-based debit card – ‘FIRSTAP’</b>	Launched by: IDFC FIRST Bank in collaboration with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) Powered by: RuPay	Aim: To permit transactions by merely <b>tapping the sticker</b> on a <b>point-of-sale terminal</b> that supports <b>Near Field Communication (NFC)</b> . The <b>tap and pay option</b> in the card is applicable for <b>transactions up to Rs. 5,000</b> , whereas <b>above Rs. 5,000</b> requires a <b>tap and PIN</b> to proceed.
31.	<b>India’s First Private Agricultural Mandi at Nashik</b>	To be launched at: <b>Nashik, Maharashtra</b> To be launched by: <b>Sahyadri Farmer Producer Company (FPC)</b>	This market will also have options for both <b>offline and online trading, legalization of field trade and ownership of farmers</b> .
32.	<b>First man to score at 5 FIFA world Cups – ‘Cristiano Ronaldo’</b>	Feat achieved at: <b>Doha, Qatar</b>	He scored the <b>opening goal</b> at the <b>FIFA World Cup, 2022</b> with the game of <b>Portugal against Ghana</b> .
33.	<b>India’s first municipal green bond</b> (local government bond)	To be launched by: <b>Indore Municipal Corporation (IMC), Madhya Pradesh</b>	Aim: To raise money to <b>fund a solar power project</b> .
34.	<b>India’s first private launchpad and mission control centre</b>	Launched at: <b>Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC), Sriharikota</b> Launched by: <b>Agnikul Cosmos</b>	The facility has two parts: <b>Agnikul launchpad</b> and the <b>Agnikul mission control centre</b>
35.	<b>World’s first Hydrogen-Powered Aircraft Engine</b>	Tested at: <b>Boscombe Down, England</b>	--

		Tested by: Rolls-Royce PLC with its testing partner easyJet	
36.	World's first intranasal vaccine – 'iCOVACC'	Developed by: Bharat Biotech	It recently received both <b>primary series</b> and <b>Heterologous booster approval</b> from the <b>Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO)</b> under <b>Restricted Use in Emergency Situation</b> for ages <b>18 and above</b> , in India.
37.	First cricketer to score <b>7 sixes in an over</b>	--	Cricketer: Indian Batsman <b>Ruturaj Gaikwad</b> He achieved this feat during <b>Maharashtra's</b> match against <b>Uttar Pradesh</b> in the quarter-final of the <b>Vijay Hazare Trophy 2022</b> , in <b>Ahmedabad, Gujarat</b> .
38.	1 <sup>st</sup> Greenfield Farm Machinery Plant of Mahindra & Mahindra	Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare	Inaugurated at: <b>Pithampur, Madhya Pradesh</b>
39.	First biodiversity heritage site in Tamil Nadu		Name of the sites: <b>Arittappatti and Meenakshipuram, Tamil Nadu</b>
40.	Mongolia's First Greenfield Oil Refinery		Hyderabad based Megha Engineering and infrastructure limited (MEIL) has bagged a project to build this refinery.  <b>Additional Information:</b> - It is a part of the <b>Development Partnership Administration (DPA)</b> Initiative of India's Ministry of External Affairs which was initiated in 2012

## Government Initiatives

S.No.	Initiatives / Programs in News	Launched by / Developed by	Key Facts
1.	Donation of US\$ 2.5 million to support <b>education &amp; healthcare</b> of <b>Palestinian refugees</b>	Government of India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This is the <b>second tranche</b> of the pledged <b>US\$5 million</b> annual support.</li> </ul>
2.	Extension of pro-rata pension benefits to JCOs/ORs	Ministry of Defence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extension to those having <b>not less than 10 years</b> of qualifying service in Defence Service &amp; who join PSUs.</li> </ul>
3.	<b>Constitution of a High-Level Committee for strengthening the Assessment &amp; Accreditation of Higher Educational Institutions.</b>	Government of India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Committee Chairman:</b> Dr. K. Radhakrishnan, Chairperson, Board of Governors, IIT Kanpur &amp; Chairperson, Standing Committee of IIT Council.</li> <li><b>Mandate:</b> also includes preparing a road map for the National Accreditation Council envisioned in the National Education Policy, 2020.</li> </ul>
4.	Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC) North Eastern Regional Campus (permanent) inaugurated at Aizawl.	-Inaugurated by: <b>President of India</b> -Built at a cost of <b>Rs. 25 crores</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC) is an <b>autonomous body</b> under the <b>Ministry of Information and Broadcasting</b>, Government of India.</li> </ul>

5.	Centre for Metabolic & Endocrine Disorders at Symbiosis University Hospital & Research Centre in Pune inaugurated.	Inaugurated by: Union Minister for Science and Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Centre would focus on preventive screening of the most common disease – <b>diabetes</b>.</li> </ul>
6.	<b>Complaint Management System portal</b>	Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Portal will provide end-to-end information to the citizens through regular updates on the status of their complaints.</li> </ul>
7.	Megha Engineering and Infrastructures Limited ( <b>MEIL</b> ), Hyderabad will build Mongolia's first greenfield oil refinery.	Project part of initiative of India's Ministry of External Affairs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cost: <b>USD 790 million</b>.</li> <li>Project management consultant: <b>Engineers India Limited</b></li> </ul>
8.	'Draft' Common Income Tax Return Form	Central Board of Direct Taxes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed ITR form expected to be applicable from FY 2022-23</li> </ul>
9.	Greenfield Airport at Hollongi, Itanagar has been renamed as " <b>Donyi Polo Airport, Itanagar</b> "	Union cabinet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Donyi means Sun and Polo means Moon</li> </ul>
10.	Medical courses in Hindi from 2023	<b>Govt of Uttarakhand</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uttarakhand will become 2nd state to offer medical courses in English as well as Hindi after Madhya Pradesh</li> </ul>
11.	<b>Aadhaar Mitra</b> (Artificial Intelligence based chatbot)	Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New chatbot has enhanced features like check Aadhaar enrollment/update status, tracking of Aadhaar PVC card status etc</li> </ul>
12.	Vigilance Awareness Week of Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)	Government of India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New Complaint Management System portal of CVC launched</li> </ul>
13.	"Net zero carbon emission" tourist destination	Government of Uttar Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Place: Mathura-Vrindavan (Uttar Pradesh)</li> <li>To attain a <b>net zero carbon emission</b> status, greenhouse gas emissions must be <b>reduced</b> to as close to <b>zero</b> as possible by <b>2041</b>.</li> </ul>
14.	17 <sup>th</sup> capacity building programme for civil servants of Maldives	<b>National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG) and Ministry of External Affairs</b>	The capacity building programme for civil servants of <b>developing countries</b> aims at equipping them with <b>cutting-edge knowledge, skills and tools</b> to design and deliver <b>effective public services</b> .
15.	India's Ayush Sector to increase its market share to <b>USD 23 billion</b> globally by <b>2023</b>	Announced by: <b>Ministry of AYUSH</b>	It was announced at the closing ceremony of the Silver Jubilee celebration of Ayurveda Vyaspeeth in Nagpur, Maharashtra.
16.	Green Energy Open Access portal	Designed by: <b>Power System Operation Corporation Limited (POSOCO)</b> (Now called <b>Grid Controller of India Limited</b> )	Aim: To ensure <b>affordable, reliable, sustainable, and green energy</b> for all.
17.	<b>Green Mobility Initiative</b>	<b>Indian Air Force (IAF)</b>	IAF has inducted a fleet of <b>12 Tata Nexon Electric Vehicles</b> .

18.	Mother Tongue Survey of 576 languages	Ministry of Home Affairs	According to the annual report of the Home Ministry for 2021-22, it has been planned to set up a web archive at the National Informatics Centre (NIC) to preserve and analyse the original flavour of each indigenous mother tongue.
19.	41st India International Trade Fair (IITF)	Ministry of Commerce & Industry	Held at: New Delhi Theme: Atmanirbhar Bharat
20.	Engineering books in Marathi language	All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE)	Launched in alignment with New Education Policy 2020.
21.	Kashi Tamil Sangam 2022.	Indian Railways	13 train services have been started from Tamil Nadu to Kashi, Uttar Pradesh.  About Kashi Tamil Sangamam 2022: It is an initiative of the Government of India as part of "Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav", inaugurated in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. It will be a celebration of the spirit of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' and will also celebrate the beautiful Tamil language as well as culture.
22.	Kochi Green Hydrogen (KGH2) Hub	India Hydrogen Alliance (IH2A) and Government of Kerala	The proposal envisages potential capital expenditure of USD 575 million, to build a 60-tonnes per day (TPD) green hydrogen plant, which could achieve giga-watt scale and build the hydrogen economy in Kerala.
23.	Swachhta Run	Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation (DDWS), Ministry of Jal Shakti	The event is being organized to mark the World Toilet Day and to spread awareness about the global sanitation crisis.
24.	SARAS AAJEEVIKA MELA, 2022	Organized by: Ministry of Rural Development	Organize at: New Delhi Launched under: Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM)  Note: DAY-NRLM is covered under the SchemesTap Document of November 2022.

### MoUs and Agreements

S.No.	Area of MoU/Agreement	Signed Between	Key Facts
<b>MoUs &amp; Agreements related to Banks / Insurance</b>			
1.	Partnership to build digital ecosystem for agri-finance	Bayer, Rabo Partnerships and Mastercard	Aim: To benefit 10 million smallholder farmers in India by enabling them to gain access to formal financial services.
2.	Partnership to facilitate digital invoice financing	MUFG Bank and M1xchange	Under M1xchange's TReDS (Trade Receivables Discounting System), MSME suppliers get early funding from MUFG Bank for their receivables under a bidding mechanism.
3.	Partnership for Bancassurance	Niva Bupa Health Insurance Company Limited (formerly known as Max Bupa Health Insurance Company) and IDFC First Bank	Niva Bupa will provide best-in-class health insurance solutions to the bank's customers.
4.	Acquisition Agreement	Acquirer: Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) Acquiree: Voltas	Stake Acquisition: 2%

5.	<b>Merger Agreement</b>	Merging entities: <b>Cosmos Bank and Sharada Sahakari Bank</b>	Approved by: <b>Reserve Bank of India (RBI)</b>
6.	<b>Partnership</b> to launch ' <b>Purchase Cards</b> ' exclusively designed for <b>offline retailers</b>	<b>Arzooo</b> and <b>HDFC Bank</b>	Aim: To roll out <b>over one lakh</b> such <b>credit cards</b> over the <b>next 12 months</b> .
7.	<b>Partnership</b> for mobilizing up to <b>\$1 billion</b> for the financing of <b>green energy transition and renewable energy projects</b>	<b>Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)</b> and <b>Global Energy Alliance for People and Planet (GEAPP)</b>	Aim: To address the <b>energy transition challenges</b> in Asia and across the world.
8.	<b>Loan Agreement</b> for funding Solar Projects	<b>State Bank of India</b> and <b>German development bank KfW</b>	Loan Amount: <b>150 million euro (Rs 1,240 crore)</b>
9.	<b>Strategic partnership</b> to make <b>LIC products</b> available pan-India	<b>Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)</b> and <b>InsuranceDekho</b>	
10.	<b>MoU</b> to help <b>MSME (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) sector</b> switch to solar solutions	<b>Tata Power Solar Systems (TPSSL)</b> and <b>Union Bank of India (UBI)</b>	Aim: To improve access to <b>green energy</b> and <b>save</b> on the cost of <b>electricity</b> , thus making <b>MSMEs</b> more <b>profitable</b> .
11.	<b>MoU</b> to help <b>Indian payers</b> to easily pay <b>international education fees</b> to higher education institutions <b>digitally</b>	<b>HDFC Bank</b> and <b>Flywire Corporation</b>	It also streamlines the <b>compliance process</b> for <b>Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS)</b> , set up by the <b>RBI</b> that enables Indian residents to <b>remit up to \$250,000 overseas, per financial year</b> .
12.	<b>Partnership</b> to finance the prospective buyers of <b>heavy construction equipment</b>	<b>Federal Bank</b> and <b>JCB India</b>	Aim: To boost <b>financing options</b> for <b>JCB customers</b> in India.

#### Other MoUs & Agreements

13.	<b>MoU</b> for research projects & geographical surveys	<b>Garuda Airspace</b> and <b>Indian Institute of Science (IISc)</b>	Aim: To use <b>drones &amp; unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV)</b> for applications for <b>geographical surveys</b> for the government and society.
14.	<b>MoU</b> to collaborate to secure <b>Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG)</b> supply, decarbonization, and future sales	<b>Gas Authority of India (GAIL India)</b> and <b>Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC)</b>	Up to <b>55%</b> of India's <b>local gas demand</b> is met through <b>imports</b> .
15.	<b>MoU</b> to build an intelligent <b>transit management system</b> and <b>feed system</b> to track <b>buses</b> live on <b>Google Maps</b>	<b>Google Cloud</b> and <b>Pune Mahanagar Parivahan Mahamandal Ltd (PMPML)</b>	It will enable tracking the <b>PMPML buses</b> on Google Maps.
16.	MoU signed for co-operation in the field of broadband, push-to-talk service.	<b>Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL)</b> and <b>Motorola Solutions India Pvt Ltd.</b>	It will enable both to address the needs of professional mobile radio segment users to connect their teams with greater speed and efficiency using <b>Motorola WAVE PTX</b> , a push-to-talk (PTT) service.
17.	<b>Ramp up medical infrastructure</b>	<b>Assam Government</b> and <b>Bright Star Investments</b>	First time that Assam government has collaborated with the private sector for building infrastructure of a medical college in the state.
18.	Electric bus manufacturer <b>GreenCell Express</b> has	Received from: <b>Asian Development Bank (ADB)</b> , <b>Asian Infrastructure</b>	Additionally, grants worth \$325,000 were received from the CTF and <b>\$5.2 million</b> from <b>Goldman Sach's</b> and

	received a sanction of ₹450 crore.	Investment Bank (AIIB), and Clean Technology Fund (CTF)	Bloomberg's the Climate Innovation and Development Fund (CIDF).
19.	Cooperation in the field of Water Resources Development and Management	India and Denmark	-
20.	Lithium-ion battery recycling plant	Attero Recycling and Govt of Telangana	The facility will be set up with investment of ₹ 600 Crore
21.	MoU to invest ₹3,000 crore to boost warehousing and logistics sector	IndoSpace and Govt of Karnataka	IndoSpace is India's largest developer and owner of Grade A industrial real estate
22.	Production and supply of commercial aircraft engine components	GE Aerospace and Tata Advanced Systems Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This contract is valued over \$1 billion and will extend well beyond 2030</li> <li>Engine parts will be manufactured at the Tata Centre of Excellence for Aero Engines in Hyderabad</li> </ul>
23.	Cancer Patient Navigation Program to improve cancer care in Indonesia	Tata Memorial Centre (TMC) and Dharmais National Cancer Hospital (Indonesia)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MoU signed in April 2022</li> <li>TMC has trained two batches of Indonesian Cancer Patient Navigators</li> </ul>
24.	Agreement for cooperation in the areas of artificial intelligence and machine learning (AI&ML) for air defence (AD) systems/platforms for the Armed Forces	Bharat Electronics (BEL) & Meslova Systems	-
25.	Acquisition Agreement	Acquirer: Adani Group Acquiree: New Delhi Television Ltd (NDTV)	Stake Acquisition: Additional 26% Approved by: Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
26.	Agreement for marine start-up engagement programme	Cochin Shipyard Limited and Indian Institute of Technology Madras	Aim: To provide a platform for young and talented entrepreneurs to develop products/services in the marine space with financial support provided by CSL.
27.	MoU to develop Indigenous Communication-based Train Control System (i-CBTC)	Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL) and Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC)	The project is being carried out under the ambit of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India.
28.	MoU to finance green Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)	Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)	Aim: To promote energy efficiency financing for MSMEs and explore the internet of things (IoT)-based solutions, greening MSMEs, capacity building of various stakeholders.
29.	Agreement to develop renewable energy projects in Haryana	Haryana Rail Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd (HRIDC) and Railway Energy Management Company Limited (REMCL)	Two companies will collaborate to explore areas of renewable energy projects (wind, solar and hybrid) related to net-zero carbon emission targets of the Indian Railways.
30.	MoU to strengthen electric mobility, electric infrastructure and connected services	Amazon India and TVS Motor Company	Aim: To examine electric vehicle (EV) use cases for various Amazon business groups for its network and logistical requirements.

31.	<b>MoU</b> to promote and enhance Japanese investments into India	National Investment and Infrastructure Fund Limited (NIIFL) and Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC)	The MoU outlines a <b>partnership framework</b> between NIIFL and JBIC which is considering the <b>establishment</b> of a <b>bilateral India-Japan Fund (IJF)</b> , which will make equity investments in <b>environmental preservation and low carbon emission strategies</b>
32.	<b>Partnership</b> to launch <b>4G services</b> in India	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd (BSNL) and Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)	Deal amount: <b>Rs 26,281 crore</b> TCS will set up the <b>4G</b> lines and maintain the network for <b>nine years</b> .
33.	<b>MoU</b> for co-operation in the development and marketing of <b>drones</b> and <b>soft kill aerial anti-drone</b>	Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL) and Aerosense Technologies Pvt Ltd	--
34.	<b>MoU</b> for mutual cooperation in areas such as <b>Digital Partnership in Future ICT, Future Mobile Technologies and Digital Education</b>	India and Finland	--
35.	<b>MoU</b> to open the joint exhibition "Silver treasures from Denmark and India"	National Museum, India and Kolding Museum, Denmark	The exhibition will showcase the <b>finest of the silver collection</b> from the Museum Kolding and the National Museum in <b>New Delhi</b> in March 2023.
36.	<b>MoU</b> for infrastructure development	Government of Arunachal Pradesh and National Highway Logistics Management Limited (NHML)	Aim: To bring effective <b>implementation, development, construction, operation and maintenance</b> of the identified projects.
37.	<b>MoUs</b> to meet the requirements of <b>Indian Defence and export markets</b> .	Bharat Electronics Ltd. (BEL) and Hindustan Shipyard	Aim: To carry out joint <b>development, manufacturing and product upgrades</b> of identified products and to <b>capitalize on the emerging opportunities</b> in the domestic defence, non-defence and export markets.
		BEL and SVC Tech Ventures	Aim: To co-operate in the <b>manufacturing and marketing of heavy duty blast doors</b> .
		BEL and US based Profense	Aim: To co-operate in the <b>manufacturing and marketing of light weapons</b> .
		BEL and Yantra India	The MoU is in the areas of <b>ammunition hardware</b> and <b>military grade components</b> to jointly address the requirements of Indian Defence and export markets.
38.	<b>MoU</b> to set up a green hydrogen plant in the Suez Canal Economic Zone	ReNew Power (India) and Egypt	Cost: <b>USD 8 billion</b> The <b>pilot phase</b> project is expected to be commissioned in <b>2026</b> .
39.	<b>MoU</b> to promote Urja Arpan initiative	Tata Power Delhi Distribution Limited (Tata Power-DDL) and The Energy and Resource Institute (TERI)	The collaboration promotes the core strengths of both entities for <b>effective utilization of green energy efficiency</b> .
		About <b>URJA ARPAN Program</b> : It is a <b>Tata Power-DDL</b> initiative, that offers <b>incentives and lucky draw</b> that goes directly to the customers, to	

			<b>encourage them reduce the monthly electricity bill by using electricity judiciously.</b>
40.	<b>MoU to support emerging startups</b>	<b>Google and Government of Karnataka</b>	Google will work with <b>Karnataka Innovation and Technology Society (KITS)</b> to provide women-led founders and startups in tier 2 and tier 3 cities in the state with access to partners and training in the cloud, user experience (UX), Android, Web, product strategy, leadership, and marketing.
41.	<b>MoU to support women's economic empowerment in India</b>	<b>Mahindra Group and Bill &amp; Melinda Gates Foundation</b>	The partnership will work in the area of <b>gender equality</b> , focused on programmes enabling <b>women's economic empowerment</b> targeted towards <b>underprivileged women</b> .
42.	<b>IoC (Intent of Cooperation) on High Performance Computing (HPC), Weather Extremes and Climate Modelling and Quantum Technologies</b>	<b>Ministry of Electronics &amp; Information Technology (MeitY) and European Union's (EU) European Commission's Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology (DG CONNECT)</b>	Aim: To facilitate collaboration on <b>high performance computing applications</b> using <b>Indian and European supercomputers</b> in areas such as <b>bio-molecular medicines, Covid-19 therapeutics, mitigating climate change, predicting natural disasters and quantum computing</b> .
43.	<b>MoU to explore cooperation, convergence, and synergy for evidence-based scientific intervention in the AYUSH sector</b>	<b>Ministry of AYUSH and Department of Science and Technology (DST), Ministry of Science and Technology</b>	Aim: To improve the <b>public healthcare system</b> by incorporating <b>traditional and modern</b> scientific methods.
44.	<b>Partnership to create a platform for the development of new electric vehicle (EV) batteries</b>	<b>Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) and Department of Science and Technology (DST)</b>	--
45.	<b>Agreement for implementing a 9 million Metric Tonnes per Annum (MMTPA) refinery</b>	<b>ICICI Bank Limited, Axis Bank Limited and SBI Life Insurance Company Limited with a Joint Venture (JV) Company of Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) and Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited (CPCL)</b>	Refinery to be installed at: <b>Nagapattinam, Tamil Nadu.</b> <b>ICICI Bank, Axis Bank, and SBI Life Insurance</b> have acquired 10% each, in the JV.
46.	<b>MoU for introducing Indian standards as an integral part of the curriculum</b>	<b>Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) and top six engineering institutes of India</b>	Aim: To establish ' <b>BIS Standardization Chair Professor</b> ' at these institutes. Institutes: <b>Indian Institute of Technology BHU, Malaviya National Institute of Technology Jaipur, Indian Institute of Technology Indore, Indian Institute of Technology Patna, Indian Institute of Technology Madras and National Institute of Technology Trichy</b>
47.	<b>MoU for establishment of Intelligent Transport System on Nagpur-Mumbai Super Communication Expressway Project</b>	<b>India and South Korea</b>	The arrangement regarding the <b>Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF)</b> loan of Korean Won <b>245.081 billion</b> (approx. Rs. 1,495.68 crore) was signed.

			Aim: To enhance the efficiency in <b>traffic management</b> through establishment of the <b>Intelligent Traffic Management System (ITMS)</b> and several others.
48.	<b>Merger Agreement</b>	Merging Entities: <b>Air India</b> and <b>Vistara</b> Agreement signed by: <b>Singapore Airlines (SIA)</b> and <b>TATA Sons</b>	Merger to be completed by: <b>2024</b> <b>SIA</b> also invested <b>USD 250 million</b> in <b>Air India</b> as a part of the transaction, eventually holding <b>25.1% share</b> in <b>Air India</b> .

## Summits & Conference

S.No .	Summit/Conference/Conclave	Venue	Key Facts
<b>International Summits</b>			
1.	<b>World Travel Market 2022</b>	London, United Kingdom	<b>Ministry of Tourism</b> to participate in the conference. Theme of this year's exhibition is ' <b>The Future of Travel Starts Now'</b>
2.	<b>Middle East Green Initiative Summit 2022</b>	COP 27, Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt	<b>India's Minister for Environment Forest and Climate Change</b> spoke at the summit. Saudi Arabia led initiative to plant 50 billion trees across the Middle East applauded. The Green fuel production of Egypt in the pursuit of net-zero shipping appreciated.
3.	<b>World Travel Market 2022 (WTM)</b>	London, United Kingdom (UK)	Theme: <b>The Future of Travel Starts Now</b> <b>Ministry of Tourism, Government of India</b> is participating in the market.
4.	<b>42 International Congress of the Indian National Cartographic Association (INCA)</b>	Dehradun, Uttarakhand	Organized by: <b>National Hydrographic Office (NHO), Dehradun</b> Theme: <b>Digital Cartography to Harness Blue Economy</b>
5.	<b>Telemedicon 2022 – 18<sup>th</sup> International Telemedicine Conference</b>	Kochi, Kerala	Organized by: <b>Telemedicine Society of India (TSI)</b> Theme: <b>Strengthening Health Systems Through Sustainable Telemedicine and Digital Health</b>
6.	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Taiwan-India Industry Summit Forum</b>	New Delhi	<b>4 MoUs</b> were signed between <b>India and Taiwan</b> in the fields of <b>electronic manufacturing, environment and non-traditional medicine</b> .
7.	<b>International travelling Exhibition "Vaccines Injecting Hope"</b>	New Delhi, Nagpur, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Kolkata	Organized by: <b>National Council of Science Museums (NCSM)</b> and <b>Science Museum Group, London</b>
8.	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> International Conference of Chief Justices of the World</b>	Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh	Addressed by: <b>Defence Minister</b>
9.	<b>21<sup>st</sup> World Congress of Accountants (WCOA)</b>	Mumbai, Maharashtra	Organized by: <b>International Federation of Accountants (IFAC)</b> Aim: To build and strengthen <b>trust, transparency and accountability</b> in the <b>economic system</b> .
10.	<b>Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI) meet</b>	Tokyo, Japan	<b>India</b> will take over the <b>chair</b> of the <b>GPAI</b> from <b>France</b> .
11.	<b>47<sup>th</sup> International Convention on Quality Control Circle (ICQCC-2022)</b>	Jakarta, Indonesia	Theme: <b>Building Back Better through Quality Efforts</b> NTPC's Quality Control (QC) team from Unchahar ABHYUDAYA has won the " <b>GOLD</b> " award. The team

			<p>presented on "Frequent Choking of Collecting tanks of AHP-IV".</p> <p><b>Three lean quality circle (LQC) teams from RINL's Visakhapatnam steel plant bagged "Gold Awards" (the highest award).</b></p>
12.	<b>7<sup>th</sup> International Gita Seminar 2022</b>	Kurukshetra, Haryana	<p><b>Organizer:</b> Kurukshetra University &amp; Kurukshetra Development Board</p> <p><b>Theme:</b> World peace and harmony: Insights from SrimadBhagavadgita</p>
<b>National Summits</b>			
13.	A Seminar on <b>Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing</b>	Goa	<p>Conducted by: <b>Indian Navy</b> Conducted under the aegis of: <b>Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)</b></p> <p><b>About IORA:</b> The IORA is a dynamic <b>inter-governmental organization</b> aimed at <b>strengthening regional cooperation and sustainable development</b> within the <b>Indian Ocean region</b> through its <b>23 Member States and 10 Dialogue Partners.</b></p>
14.	<b>15<sup>th</sup> Edition of Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference &amp; Expo 2022</b>	Kochi, Kerala	<p>-The event is being organized by the <b>Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs</b> in collaboration with <b>Govt. Of Kerala.</b> -India currently has the <b>fifth-largest metro network</b> in the world.</p>
15.	<b>Civil Air Navigation Services Organisation (CANSO) Asia Pacific Conference</b>	Goa	<p>Hosted by - <b>Airports Authority of India</b> <b>Theme</b> - Think Global, Collaborate Regional, Accomplish Local</p>
16.	<b>12<sup>th</sup> Edition of India Chem-2022</b>	New Delhi	<p><b>Theme:</b> Vision 2030: Chemicals and Petrochemicals Build India</p>
17.	<b>17<sup>th</sup> Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) Convention</b>	Indore, Madhya Pradesh	<p>Theme: '<b>Diaspora: Reliable Partners for India's Progress in Amrit Kaal'</b> Chief Guest to be: <b>Dr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali</b> (Guyana President)</p> <p><b>About PBD:</b> It is celebrated <b>once in every two years</b> to strengthen the engagement of the <b>overseas Indian community</b> with the <b>Government of India</b> and reconnect them with their roots. The <b>first PBD</b> was organized in <b>2003</b>.</p>
18.	<b>43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Seminar of Maritime History Society (MHS)</b>	Indian Naval Hospital Ship (INHS) Asvini, Colaba (Maharashtra)	<p><b>Theme:</b> Exploring the Trajectory of India's Sea Power</p>
19.	<b>"Cities Creditworthiness Academy" Workshop</b>	New Delhi	<p>Organized by: <b>Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), Ministry of Finance (MoF), Ministry of Housing &amp; Urban Affairs (MoHUA)</b> and the <b>World Bank Group</b></p> <p><b>Theme:</b> <b>Vision of Future Cities and Role of Municipal Financing</b></p> <p><b>Aim:</b> To create an enabling <b>ecosystem for financing future cities of India.</b></p> <p><b>Additional Information:</b> The <b>World Bank</b> developed the <b>City Creditworthiness Initiative</b> to provide <b>comprehensive, hands-on, and long-term assistance</b> to <b>local authorities</b> to achieve <b>higher creditworthiness</b> by <b>strengthening financial performance</b>.</p>
20.	<b>Warship Production Superintendent (WPS) Conclave</b>	Kolkata, West Bengal	<p>Organized by: <b>Warship Overseeing Team, Kolkata</b></p> <p><b>Aim:</b> To discuss ways and means to achieve <b>100% indigenization</b> in <b>Defence Shipbuilding sector.</b></p>

21.	Special Handloom and Handicrafts Expo	New Delhi	<p>Organized by: <b>Office of Development Commissioner for Handlooms and Handicrafts, Ministry of Textiles and National Handloom Development Corporation (NHDC) Ltd.</b></p> <p>Aim: To provide <b>direct access</b> to the handloom <b>weavers and artisans to market</b> their products to consumers.</p>
22.	5th India Agribusiness Summit 2022 as a part of "AgroWorld 2022"	Indian Agriculture Research Institute, New Delhi	<p>Organized by: <b>Indian Chamber of Food and Agriculture (ICFA)</b></p> <p>Aim: For showcasing the <b>development and modernizations</b> achieved by key stakeholders in major sectors like <b>food, agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, fisheries</b> and allied sectors.</p>
23.	Conference on "Rating of Buildings or Areas for Digital Connectivity"	New Delhi	<p>Organized by: <b>Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)</b></p> <p>The conference was organized in the spirit of the <b>proactive role of TRAI</b> to work in <b>collaboration with industry and other stakeholders</b> and ensure <b>good Quality Telecom Services</b> are delivered to the consumers.</p>
24.	4 <sup>th</sup> Indian Chemicals Council (ICC) Sustainability Conclave	New Delhi	<p>Organized by: <b>United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA)</b> with due support of <b>Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers</b> and <b>Ministry of Environment, Forest &amp; Climate Change</b>.</p> <p>Theme: <b>Boardrooms to Community-ESG, Carbon Neutrality, Operational Safety, Greener Solutions</b></p>
25.	'No Money for Terror' (NMFT) Ministerial Conference	New Delhi	<p>Aim: To deliberate on the effectiveness of the <b>current international regime on Counter Terrorism Financing</b> and the steps required to <b>address emerging challenges</b>.</p>
26.	20 <sup>th</sup> National Maritime Search and Rescue (NMSAR) Board meeting	Kevadia, Gujarat	<p>During the meet, <b>National Maritime Search and Rescue Plan-2022</b> was launched, which serves as a <b>policy document</b> for all the <b>participating agencies &amp; stakeholders</b> for directing an integrated approach towards the <b>functioning of the M-SAR system</b>.</p>
27.	Contact Session on Health Communication	New Delhi	<p>Organized by: <b>CSIR-NIScPR (National Institute of Science Communication &amp; Policy Research) and ICMR (Indian Council of Medical research)</b></p> <p>The session was held to signify the <b>importance of communication</b> about various <b>health issues</b> and <b>eliminate any misinformation</b> out there.</p>
28.	27 <sup>th</sup> Conference of Director General of Police (DGPs) and Heads of Central Police Organization (CPOs) of the North East	Agartala, Tripura	<p>Organized by: <b>Intelligence Bureau (Ministry of Home Affairs) and Tripura Police</b></p> <p>Aim: To focus on greater <b>coordination</b> between the <b>North-Eastern States</b> in dealing with <b>existing security challenges</b>.</p>
29.	6 <sup>th</sup> Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) AYUSH Conclave 2022	New Delhi	<p>Organized by: <b>CII and Ministry of AYUSH</b></p> <p>Aim: To discuss the <b>ease of doing business</b> in the <b>AYUSH sector</b> and building a <b>regulatory roadmap</b> in the <b>development of the Branding, promotion and marketing of AYUSH products</b>.</p>

30.	National Workshop on Cryptology - NWC2022	New Delhi	<p>Organized by: Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) in association with Cryptology Research Society of India (CRSI) and IEEE Communications Society – Delhi Chapter</p> <p>Theme: Advancements in Cryptology for enhancing security &amp; privacy in communication networks</p> <p>Aim: To bring all the relevant stakeholders on a common platform to deliberate upon various contemporary themes in the field of Cryptology spanning Cyber Security, Quantum Computing, Post-Quantum Cryptography, and Cryptography in Telecom networks with focus on Wireless and Satellite communication.</p>
31.	Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue 2022 (IPRD-2022)	New Delhi	<p>Organized by: National Maritime Foundation (NMF), New Delhi</p> <p>Conducted by: Indian Navy</p> <p>Overarching Theme: Operationalizing the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI)</p> <p>Aim: To foster exchange of ideas and promote deliberations on maritime issues relevant to the Indo-Pacific.</p>
32.	25 <sup>th</sup> National Conference on e-Governance (NCeG)	Katra, Jammu & Kashmir (J&K)	<p>Organized by: Department of Administrative Reforms &amp; Public Grievances (DARPG) and Ministry of Electronics &amp; Information Technology (MeitY) in association with Government of J&amp;K</p> <p>Theme: Bringing Citizens, Industry and Government closer</p>
33.	4 <sup>th</sup> India-France Annual Defence Dialogue	New Delhi	<p>Held by: Ministry of Defence, India</p> <p>Aim: To have a discussion about a wide range of bilateral, regional, defence and defence industrial cooperation issues.</p>
34.	41 <sup>st</sup> India International Trade Fair 2022	New Delhi	<p>Organized by: India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO)</p> <p>Theme: Vocal For Local, Local to Global.</p>
35.	24 <sup>th</sup> National Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plan (NOS-DCP) and Preparedness Meeting	Chennai, Tamil Nadu	<p>Conducted by: Indian Coast Guard (ICG)</p> <p>Aim: To enhance cooperation through stronger partnerships, effective coordination and imbibing best practices of the developing technology to address the spill disaster issue.</p>

## Banking & Finance

Banking Initiatives			
S.No.	Program / Initiative / Landmarks	Launched / Developed by	Key Facts
1.	'BoB World Opulence' and 'BoB World Sapphire' Debit Cards	Launched by: Bank of Baroda (BoB)	Cards designed for: High Networth Individual (HNI) Cards Powered by: VISA
2.	Foreign outward remittance service through mobile banking	Launched by: South Indian Bank	Non-resident external (NRE) and resident savings bank account holders can make foreign outward remittance through the bank's 'SIB Mirror+' mobile banking application.
3.	Zero-Balance Digital Current Account	Launched by: Chqbook and NSDL Payment Bank	Small business owners like kiranas, chemists, among others, can open a current account instantly.

4.	<b>US\$ 350 million loan to improve road connectivity of key economic areas in Maharashtra</b>	Approved by: <b>Asian Development Bank (ADB)</b>	Aim: To connect <b>underdeveloped rural communities with off-farm opportunities</b> and markets, improve <b>access to health and social services</b> & improve agricultural <b>value chains</b> by reducing transport costs for <b>small and medium-sized enterprises</b> .
5.	Launch of contactless credit cards on the RuPay network.	<b>Zaggle</b> , a SaaS FinTech company and <b>NPCI</b>	They will use this platform to launch multiple credit cards to address the ever-growing demand of <b>Corporates, SMEs, and consumers</b> .
6.	<b>Group health policy to Nutan Gulgule Foundation, for individuals with Down syndrome.</b>	Issued by: <b>SBI General Insurance</b>	Policy will provide, an insurance coverage of ₹3 lakhs to ₹5 lakhs of sum insured for any hospitalizations that may occur during the policy period.
7.	<b>HDFC Nifty IT ETF and HDFC Nifty Private Bank ETF - two new exchange-traded funds</b>	Launched by: <b>HDFC Mutual Fund</b>	Aim: To gain <b>exposure</b> to the growing <b>IT and Private Bank space</b> .
8.	<b>Union Vyom App</b>	Launched by: <b>Union Bank of India</b>	Aim: To deliver a unique experience of banking to customers where customers can do <b>transactions beyond traditional banking</b> .
9.	<b>Highest-ever quarterly profit of Rs. 13,265 crore in second quarter</b>	Achieved by: <b>State Bank of India (SBI)</b>	The Bank's quarterly profit is <b>74% higher</b> than the <b>Rs. 7,627 crore</b> reported in the <b>year-ago period</b> .
10.	<b>Unified Payment Interface (UPI) Autopay for subscription-based purchases of apps</b>	Launched by: <b>Google Play</b>	The <b>National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)</b> has introduced <b>Autopay</b> under <b>UPI 2.0</b> and it allows customers to make <b>recurring payments</b> using <b>any UPI app</b> which supports this feature.
11.	<b>ICICI Pru Sukh Samruddhi</b>	Launched by: <b>ICICI Prudential Life Insurance</b>	It provides customers with guaranteed benefits and growth potential in the form of <b>bonuses</b> .
12.	<b>\$4.5 billion loan for Bangladesh to combat economic crisis</b>	To be given by: <b>International Monetary Fund (IMF)</b>	The amount will be disbursed in <b>seven installments till December 2026</b> .
13.	<b>\$4.5 billion loan for Bangladesh to combat economic crisis</b>	To be given by: <b>International Monetary Fund (IMF)</b>	The amount will be disbursed in <b>seven installments till December 2026</b> .
14.	<b>HDFC Real Estate Tech Innovators 2022 – a proptech (property tech) platform</b>	HDFC Capital in partnership with <b>Startup India</b>	Launched under: <b>HDFC Affordable Real Estate and Technology (H@ART) platform</b> The platform has committed to <b>more than 15 investments in Indian prop-tech startups</b> .
15.	<b>Loan Against Deposits (LAD) and Dollar Bonds for Non-Resident Indian (NRI) customers</b>	ICICI Bank	Launched at: <b>GIFT City, Gandhinagar</b> <b>LAD</b> resembles a <b>loan in foreign currency</b> against a <b>deposit in India</b> (including <b>Rupee NRE FDs</b> ). <b>Dollar Bond</b> is an <b>alternate investment option</b> for NRIs, where they can <b>book dollar bonds</b> through <b>ICICI Bank in GIFT City</b> .

16.	\$400-million loan to Maharashtra government to bring in 5,000 electric buses	Approved by: Asian Development Bank (ADB)	--
17.	Fund Sanctioned to Odisha Government for flood protection projects	Sanctioned by: NABARD	Fund amount: Rs 220.50 crore Sanctioned under: Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF)
18.	Electronic Bank Guarantee (e-BG)	Canara Bank in partnership with National E-Governance Services Limited (NeSL)	The new e-BG platform offers several advantages including greater transparency, better monitoring triggers, secured transmission of BG to beneficiary.  About Bank Guarantee (BG): A BG is a type of financial backstop offered by a lending institution. The bank guarantee means that the lender will ensure that the liabilities of a debtor will be met.
<b>Others</b>			
	Topic	Key facts	
19.	'ftcash' has received a licence from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to set up a non-banking financial company (NBFC).	<b>ftcash</b> is a small & medium enterprises lending startup. It aims to disburse loans worth Rs. 100 crore in FY23.	
20.	ICICI Venture recently invested in consumer houseware company Cello World, marking its first bet from the fifth private equity (PE) fund.	Investment: ₹360 crore (around \$44.3 million)	
21.	Maximum tenure of Chief executive Officer (CEO) and Managing Director (MD) of public sector banks (PSBs) has been increased	Increased to: 10 years from 5 years Increased by: Government of India  The amendment would be called Nationalised Banks (Management and Miscellaneous Provisions) Amendment Scheme, 2022.	

## Science & Technology

S.No.	News	Developed by / Launched by / Partnership	Key Facts
1.	'2022 AP7' asteroid discovered	Discovered by: International Team of Scientists	Width: 1.5km Found using: Victor M. Blanco telescope in Chile
2.	Mengtian – a space station component launched	Launched by: China	It is the third and final space station component.
3.	A R&D centre and manufacturing factory for 'Space Taxis' (orbital transfer vehicles or OTVs) to be setup.	Set up by: Bellatrix Aerospace	Cost of factory: USD 76 million. Location: Bengaluru, Karnataka
4.	New-generation super-abrasive tools for advanced grinding applications	Indian Institute of Technology (Madras)	Developed with advanced chemical bonding technology for energy-efficient material removal requirements
5.	ISRO's RISAT-2 satellite makes re-entry into Earth's atmosphere	Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)	RISAT (Radar Imaging Satellite) -2 was launched in 2009 by PSLV-C12 PSLV stands for 'Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle'

6.	<b>Gaia BH1</b> (Blackhole 10 times bigger than sun)	Royal Astronomical Society	<b>First unambiguous detection of a dormant stellar-mass black hole in the Milky Way</b> It is located about <b>1600 light-years away</b> in the <b>constellation Ophiuchus</b>
7.	A new <b>satellite-carrying rocket</b> launched - <b>Ghaem 100</b>	Launched by: Iran's <b>Paramilitary Revolutionary Guard</b>	Aim: To demonstrate the force's <b>space prowess</b> . The carrier would be able to put a satellite weighing <b>80 kg</b> into orbit some <b>500 kilometers</b> from Earth.
8.	Single-piece <b>3D-printed engine</b> – ' <b>Agnilet</b> ' test fired	Developed by: Space-Tech start-up <b>Agnikul Cosmos Pvt. Ltd.</b>	Tested at: <b>Vikram Sarabhai Space Center (VSSC), Thiruvananthapuram.</b> Tested by: <b>Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)</b>
9.	Hot test of <b>CE20 cryogenic engine</b> indigenously developed for <b>Launch Vehicle Mark-3 (LVM3)</b> successfully conducted	Conducted by: <b>Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)</b>	Aim: To enhance the <b>LVM3 payload capability</b> up to <b>450kg</b> with additional propellant loading.
10	<b>Psyche Mission</b>	To be launched by: <b>National Aeronautics &amp; Space Administration (NASA)</b>	Aim: To investigate the metal-rich <b>16 Psyche Asteroid</b> – “ <b>Golden Asteroid</b> ” orbiting the Sun between <b>Mars and Jupiter</b> , made up of <b>gold, nickel and iron deposits</b> worth nearly <b>USD 10,000 quadrillion</b> .
11	<b>Hybrid Thermally Efficient Core (HyTEC) project</b>	To be done by: <b>NASA and Pratt &amp; Whitney</b>	It is a part of <b>NASA's Sustainable Flight National Partnership</b> , which aims towards the development of <b>advanced engine technologies</b> to reduce fuel consumption and <b>emissions</b> for next-generation <b>single-aisle aircraft</b> .
12	<b>Artemis I moon mission's Orion spacecraft</b>	Launched by: <b>National Aeronautics &amp; Space Administration (NASA)</b>	Launched on: <b>Space Launch System (SLS) Rocket</b> NASA is planning to send the <b>first woman and first person of colour</b> to the <b>Moon</b> by <b>2025</b> .
13	<b>China to send monkeys into space to study reproduction</b>	Project to be developed by: <b>Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing</b>	--
14	<b>Non-public network licence</b> to deploy a <b>high-speed data network</b> on <b>Delhi-Meerut railway corridor</b>	Given by: <b>Department of Telecommunications (DoT)</b>	Received by: <b>National Capital Region Transport Corp. Ltd (NCRTC)</b>
15	<b>Assessment of 'CO2 Geological Storage Potential'</b>	Launched by: <b>Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bombay</b> under the aegis of <b>NITI Aayog, NETRA NTPC</b> and the <b>National Centre of Excellence in Carbon Capture &amp; Utilisation (NCoE-CCU)</b>	As a part of this initiative, an assessment of <b>CO2 storage potential</b> in select <b>Coalbed Methane (CBM)</b> rich coalfields in India shall be carried out including those available with <b>NTPC</b> .
16	<b>Continuous Marine Water Quality Monitoring Station (CMWQMS)</b>	Developed by: <b>Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA)</b> and <b>Department of Civil Engineering, IIT Madras</b>	The system will aid in <b>controlling the marine water and air quality</b> in the port area.

17	Entrepreneurship Cell and Centre of Innovation (COI)	Inaugurated by: Ministry of Communications	Inaugurated at: <b>Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT), Delhi Campus</b> Aim: To spur indigenous <b>innovation and entrepreneurship</b> in various domains of Telecom like Internet of Things (IoT)/ Machine to Machine (M2M), Artificial Intelligence (AI)/Machine Learning (ML), 5G, etc. by encouraging <b>local startups</b> to play a significant role.
18	Integrated Main Parachute Airdrop Test (IMAT)	Conducted by: <b>Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC), Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)</b>	Aim: To stimulate various <b>failure conditions</b> of the <b>parachute system</b> prior to the first <b>human spaceflight mission</b> , 'Gaganyaan'.
19	<b>WASP-39 exoplanet atmospheric observations through James Webb Space Telescope</b>	Conducted by: <b>Goddard Space Flight Centre, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)</b>	The observations reveal <b>patchy clouds</b> , an intriguing <b>chemical reaction</b> in its atmosphere, and hints about its <b>formation</b> .
20	200 <sup>th</sup> Launch of Rohini 'RH-200' Sounding Rocket	Launched by: <b>ISRO</b>	--
21	Tilting while Turning Train Technology	To be Introduced by: <b>Indian Railways</b>	<b>100 of the 400 Vande Bharat trains</b> that will be produced by <b>2025</b> will have <b>this technology</b> .
22	Polar Satellite Launch vehicle (PSLV)-C54 mission	Launched by: <b>ISRO and NewSpace India Limited (NSIL)</b>	This is the <b>56<sup>th</sup> flight</b> of PSLV, carrying <b>9 satellites</b> , including <b>Indo-Bhutan SAT</b> jointly developed by <b>ISRO</b> and <b>Department of Information Technology &amp; Telecom (DITT)</b> , <b>Bhutan</b> and <b>Earth Observation Satellite-6 (EOS-6)</b> - <b>Oceansat-3</b> launched by <b>ISRO</b> in partnership with <b>Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES)</b> .

## Defence

Defence Exercises			
S.No.	Exercise	Countries / Forces Involved	Key Facts
1.	<b>11<sup>th</sup> Joint Military Training-2022</b>	Indian Air Force (IAF) and the Republic of Singapore Air Force (RSAF)	<b>Location of training:</b> Air Force Station, Kalaikunda, West Bengal
2.	Biennial <b>Goa Maritime Symposium (GMS-22)</b>	<b>Indian Navy</b>	Navies and Maritime Agencies from 12 countries took part <b>Theme:</b> 'Maritime Security Challenges in the Indian Ocean Region: Converting Common Maritime Priorities into Collaborative Mitigation Frameworks'
3.	'Vigilant Storm' air drill	<b>United States and South Korea</b>	
4.	<b>26<sup>th</sup> International Malabar Naval Exercise</b>	India, Australia, Japan and United States	Held at: <b>Yokosuka, Japan</b> <b>Indian Naval Ships (INS) Shivalik and Kamorta</b> are ready to demonstrate at the event.
5.	<b>Garuda VII</b>	Indian Air Force (IAF) and French Air and Space Force (FASF)	Held at: Air Force Station Jodhpur, Rajasthan Garuda VII is the <b>first occasion</b> for the LCA Tejas and the recently inducted <b>LCH Prachand</b> to participate in any <b>international exercise</b> .

6.	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sea Vigil-22 Coastal Defence Exercise</b>	<b>Indian Navy in coordination with the Coast Guard</b>	Aim: To activate the <b>Coastal Security apparatus</b> across <b>India</b> and assess the overarching <b>Coastal Defence mechanism</b> .
7.	<b>Offshore Security Exercise - 'Prasthan'</b>	<b>Eastern Naval Command, Indian Navy</b>	The <b>Half Yearly Exercise</b> was conducted in the <b>Offshore Development Area (ODA)</b> off <b>Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh</b> .
8.	<b>26<sup>th</sup> MALABAR 2022</b>	<b>Navies of India, United States of America, Japan and Australia</b>	Held at: <b>Japan</b> Indian Navy was represented by: <b>Eastern Fleet ships Shivalik and Kamorta</b>
9.	<b>18<sup>th</sup> Yudh Abhyas</b>	<b>Indian Army and United States Army</b>	Held at: <b>Auli, Uttarakhand</b>
10.	<b>Sea Sword 2</b>	<b>Combined Maritime Forces (CMF)</b>	Held at: <b>Northwest Arabian Sea</b> <b>Indian Naval Ship (INS) Trikand</b> participated in the operation.
11.	<b>Integrated Fire Power Exercise, "SHATRUNASH"</b>	<b>South-Western Command, Indian Army</b>	Held at: <b>Thar Desert, Rajasthan</b>
12.	<b>Samanvay 2022</b>	<b>Conducted by:</b> Indian Air Force (IAF) <b>Venue:</b> Air Force Station, Agra, Uttar Pradesh	It is a multi-agency Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief ( <b>HADR</b> ) exercise
13.	<b>8<sup>th</sup> edition of GARUDA SHAKTI</b>	<b>Indian and Indonesian Army</b>	Held at: <b>Karawang, Indonesia</b>
		<b>Additional Information:</b> The <b>1<sup>st</sup> edition</b> of this exercise was conducted in <b>2012</b> in <b>India</b> .	
14.	<b>13<sup>th</sup> NASEEM AL BAHR, 2022</b>	<b>Indian Navy (IN) and Royal Navy of Oman (RNO)</b>	Held at: <b>Oman</b> Indian Participants: <b>INS Trikand, INS Sumitra and Maritime Patrol Aircraft, (MPA) Dornier</b>
15.	<b>HARIMAU SHAKTI - 2022</b>	<b>Indian and Malaysian Army</b>	Held at: <b>Kluang, Malaysia</b> Aim: To enhance the level of <b>defence co-operation</b> between <b>Indian Army</b> and the <b>Malaysian Army</b> .
16.	<b>Austra Hind 22</b>	<b>Indian and Australian Army</b>	Held at: <b>Rajasthan</b> Aim: To share best practices in <b>tactics, techniques and procedures</b> for conducting tactical operations at <b>company and platoon level</b> for neutralizing hostile threats.
17.	<b>SAMANVAY 2022</b>	<b>Indian Air Force</b>	Held at: <b>Agra, Uttar Pradesh</b> Participants: Various stakeholders from <b>India</b> and representatives from <b>ASEAN member countries</b> It is a <b>High availability disaster recovery (HADR) exercise</b> .

#### Defence Initiatives/Technologies

	<b>Initiative / Missile / Technology</b>	<b>Launched / Developed by</b>	<b>Key Facts</b>
18.	Indian Army has approved Project Sanction Orders (PSOs) of <b>five Make II projects</b> .	<b>Multiple Developing Agencies (DAs)</b>	Make II projects are Industry funded projects involving design, development and innovative solutions by Indian vendors for development of prototypes. <b>An assurance of order</b> is given <b>after successful prototype development</b> .
19.	In a <b>first</b> , CRPF appoints 2 women cadre officers as <b>IG of RAF, Bihar sector</b>	<b>Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Annie Abraham has been appointed as the IG of the blue duangree donning Rapid Action Force (RAF).</li> <li>- Seema Dhundia has been posted as the IG of the Bihar Sector.</li> </ul>

20.	<b>Testing &amp; evaluation facility for Sonar Systems of Indian Navy launched</b>	Defence Research & Development Organization (DRDO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Termed as Hull Module of Submersible Platform for Acoustic Characterization &amp; Evaluation (<b>SPACE</b>) facility becomes operational at Naval Physical &amp; Oceanographic Laboratory (<b>NPOL</b>), Kochi.</li> </ul>
21.	Phase-II Ballistic Missile Defence interceptor AD-1 missile	Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AD-1 is a long-range interceptor missile propelled by a <b>two-stage solid motor</b></li> <li>Designed for both low exo-atmospheric and endo-atmospheric interception of long-range ballistic missiles as well as aircraft.</li> </ul>
22.	Indian Army's ' <b>Go-Green Initiative</b> '	Indian Army in Collaboration with TATA Power	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>16 charging stations for electric vehicles have been set up at Delhi cantonment.</li> </ul>
23.	Hull Module of Submersible Platform for Acoustic Characterization & Evaluation ( <b>SPACE</b> ) facility	Launched by: Defence Research & Development Organization (DRDO)	<p>Launched at: <b>Naval Physical &amp; Oceanographic Laboratory (NPOL) Kochi (Kerala)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is a state-of-the-art <b>testing and evaluation facility</b> for <b>sonar systems</b> developed for use by the <b>Indian navy</b> onboard various platforms, including <b>ships, submarines and helicopters</b>.</li> </ul>
24.	"Veerangana Sewa Kendra" (VSK) -	Launched by: Indian Army	<p>Motto: <b>Taking Care of Our Own, No Matter What</b> It is a single window facility for <b>welfare and grievances redressal</b> of <b>veer naris</b></p>
25.	International Fleet Review (IFR)	Hosted by: Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF)	<p>Held at: <b>Yokosuka, Japan</b> Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral R Hari Kumar made an <b>official visit to Japan</b>.</p>
26.	'Day at Sea' event	Organized by: Western Naval Command, Indian Navy	Organized for: <b>Maharashtra government officials</b>
27.	Vintage Prototype Aircraft "Air Force Kanpur-1"	<p>Built by: Late Air Vice Marshal Harjinder Singh</p> <p><b>Additional Information:</b> Indian Air Force (IAF) Heritage Centre being set up in Chandigarh received this aircraft, which was in possession of Punjab Engineering College (PEC) Chandigarh.</p>	<p>Built in: <b>1958</b></p>
28.	Aero India 2023	<p><b>To be organized by:</b> Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).</p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Air Force Station, Yelahanka, Bengaluru, Karnataka</p>	<p>It is the <b>largest air show in Asia</b>. It is the <b>14<sup>th</sup> biennial edition</b>.</p>
29.	Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile (IRBM) – 'Agni-3'	<p>Designed by: Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)</p> <p>Manufactured by: Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL)</p>	<p>Test Launched under: <b>Strategic Forces Command (SCF)</b> Range: <b>3000km</b></p>
30.	Compendium on Low Intensity Conflict (LIC) Products	Developed by: DRDO	<p>Released by: <b>Ministry of Defence</b> Aim: To act as a valuable <b>repository of information</b> for the <b>Central security forces</b>.</p>
31.	7 <sup>th</sup> 250 Men Ferry Craft 'Manjula' (Yard 786)	Build under 'Make in India' initiative of Ministry of Defence (MoD)	<p>Launched at: <b>M/s Shalimar Works Ltd, Kolkata, West Bengal</b> Aim: To provide impetus to <b>operational and logistics requirements</b> of the <b>Indian Navy</b>.</p>

32.	Y 12705 (MORMUGAO)	Designed by: Warship Design Bureau Built by: Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL)	This is the second ship of Project 15B stealth guided missile destroyer, recently delivered to Indian Navy.	
		Additional Information: The contract for 4 ships (Vishakhapatnam, Mormugao, Imphal and Surat) for Project 15B was signed in 2011. The first ship of Project 15B, INS Vishakhapatnam, was commissioned into the Indian Navy in 2021.		
33.	'Ikshak'	Built by: Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd (GRSE) and Larsen and Toubro (L&T)	Launched at: Chennai (Tamil Nadu) It is the third of the four Survey Vessels (Large) (SVL) Project. SVL ships will replace the existing Sandhayak Class survey ships.	

## Sports

S.No.	Tournament	Venue	Winner / Looser	Key Facts																								
1.	Asian Chess Championship 2022	Leela Ambience Convention Hotel, New Delhi, India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grandmaster Praggnanandhaa R</li> <li>Women Grandmaster Nandhidhaa P V</li> </ul>	—																								
2.	International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) Rifle/Pistol World Championship	Cairo, Egypt	<p><b>Gold Medalists from India</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Winner</th> <th>Category</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Rudrankksh Patil</td> <td>Men's 10m air rifle</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Esha Singh</td> <td>Junior women's 25m pistol</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Udhayveer Sidhu</td> <td>Junior men's 25m pistol</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rudrankksh Patil, Ankush Jadhav, Arjun Babuta</td> <td>Junior men's 25m standard pistol</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Esha Singh, Shikha Narwal, Varsha Singh</td> <td>Men's 10m air rifle team</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tilottama Sen, Nancy, Ramita</td> <td>Junior women's 10m air pistol</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Divyansh Singh Panwar, Karthik Sabari Raj, Vedit Jan</td> <td>Junior men's rifle team</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adarsh Singh, Payal Khatri</td> <td>Junior mixed team 25m rapid fire pistol</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ramita</td> <td>Junior women's 10m air rifle</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Divanshi</td> <td>Junior women's 50m pistol</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sagar Dangi, Varun Tomar, Samrat Rana</td> <td>Junior men's 10m pistol</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Winner	Category	Rudrankksh Patil	Men's 10m air rifle	Esha Singh	Junior women's 25m pistol	Udhayveer Sidhu	Junior men's 25m pistol	Rudrankksh Patil, Ankush Jadhav, Arjun Babuta	Junior men's 25m standard pistol	Esha Singh, Shikha Narwal, Varsha Singh	Men's 10m air rifle team	Tilottama Sen, Nancy, Ramita	Junior women's 10m air pistol	Divyansh Singh Panwar, Karthik Sabari Raj, Vedit Jan	Junior men's rifle team	Adarsh Singh, Payal Khatri	Junior mixed team 25m rapid fire pistol	Ramita	Junior women's 10m air rifle	Divanshi	Junior women's 50m pistol	Sagar Dangi, Varun Tomar, Samrat Rana	Junior men's 10m pistol	<p>India won 34 medals (12 golds, nine silvers and 13 bronze medals) in the championship.</p> <p>India finished second in the medals tally</p> <p>China topped the medal table with 58 medals including 27 golds.</p> <p>Rudrankksh Patil became the sixth Indian to win a gold in men's 10 m air rifle.</p> <p>Rudrankksh Patil, Swapnil Kusale and Bhowneesh Mendiratta secured 2024 Paris Olympic quotas for India.</p>
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			Esha Singh, Samrat Rana	Junior mixed team 10m pistol	
3.	Asian Team Championships 2022	Cheongju, South Korea	<b>Indian men's squash team</b> won its <b>first-ever gold medal</b> , defeating Kuwait.		--
4.	Badminton World Federation (BWF) Para Badminton World Championships, 2022	Tokyo, Japan	<b>Gold Medalists:</b> <b>Pramod Bhagat</b> , beating compatriot <b>Nitesh Kumar</b> <b>Manisha Ramadass</b> , beating Japan's <b>Mamiko Toyoda</b>		--
5.	Women's World Boxing Championships, 2023	To be hosted by: <b>India</b>	--		Announced by: <b>International Boxing Association (IBA)</b> and the <b>Boxing Federation of India (BFI)</b>
6.	Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 Trophy 2022-23	Kolkata, West Bengal	<b>Mumbai</b> beats <b>Himachal Pradesh</b> to win <b>Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 Trophy</b>		--
7.	Paris Masters, 2022	Paris, France	<b>Danish Holger Rune</b> defeated <b>Serbian Novak Djokovic</b> to win the trophy.		--
8.	Khelo India Women's Weightlifting tournament	Modinagar, Uttar Pradesh	Senior Women Category (Winner): <b>Railway Sports Promotion Board (RSPB)</b>		Organized by: <b>Indian Weightlifting Federation (IWLF)</b>
			Junior Women and Youth Girls category: <b>Maharashtra</b>		
9.	Yachting Association of India (YAI) Senior National Sailing Championship 2022 (Asian Games selection trial)	Mumbai, Maharashtra	--		Conducted by: <b>Indian Navy Watermanship Training Center (INWTC), Mumbai</b> under the aegis of the <b>YAI</b> and <b>Indian Naval Sailing Association (INSA)</b>
10	Khelo India National University Games, 2023- 24	To be hosted by: <b>Uttar Pradesh</b>	--		The games will be hosted in <b>four cities of Lucknow, Gorakhpur, Varanasi and Noida.</b>
11	ICC T20 World Cup 2022	Melbourne, Australia	<b>England</b> beats <b>Pakistan</b> to win the trophy.		Player of the Final & official ICC Player of the Tournament: <b>Sam Curran – England</b>
12	Kabaddi World Cup, 2025	To be hosted by: <b>West Midlands, England</b>	--		To be organized by: <b>World Kabaddi Federation</b>

13	International Blind Sports Federation (IBSA) Blind Football Asia/Oceania Championship	To be held at: Kochi, Kerala	--	To be organized by: Indian Blind Football Federation Asia Oceania championship will have a women's edition for the first time involving two nations — Japan and India.
14	Asian Boxing Championships 2022	Amman, Jordan	India's Shiva Thapa lost to Uzbekistan's Ruslan Abdullaev in the final of the men's 63.5kg.	Total Medals India won: 12 (4 golds)
15	Brazilian Grand Prix, 2022	Sao Paulo, Brazil	Britain's George Russell took his first Formula One Grand Prix victory after defeating Lewis Hamilton.	--
16	2024 Summer Olympics and Paralympics – "Paris 2024"	To be held in: Paris, France	--	Mascots: Olympic Phryge and Paralympic Phryge Both are the Phrygian caps which are related to liberty in France.
17	FIFA World Cup 2022	Al Khor, Qatar	--	Key Points on opening ceremony: Official Song: 'Dreamers' sung by Jungkook from BTS and Fahad Al-Kubaisi (Qatari singer) Monologue by: Morgan Freeman
18	15 <sup>th</sup> Asian Airgun Championship, 2022	South Korea	India's Shiva Narwal won gold in the Men's 10-meter air pistol event, defeating South Korea's Park Dai Hun.	Another Indian, Vijayvir Siddhu bagged bronze in the same event. India bagged 25 out of 28 golds.
19	2 <sup>nd</sup> North-East Olympic Games 2022	Shillong, Meghalaya	Manipur tops the medal tally for the 2 <sup>nd</sup> consecutive time. Assam secured 2 <sup>nd</sup> position and Arunachal Pradesh secured 3 <sup>rd</sup> position in the medal tally.	Total Medals won by Manipur: 240 Medals (88 gold, 75 silver and 77 bronze)
20	USIC International Railway Sports Association Table Tennis Championship, 2022	Jaipur, Rajasthan	Indian players won men's and women's singles, mixed doubles, doubles and team titles  <b>Additional Information:</b> The championship was organized by North Western Railway Sports Association under the aegis of Railway Sports Promotion Board.	--
21	International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF)- Asian Table Tennis Union (ATTU) Asian Cup 2022	Bangkok, Thailand	Manika Batra won the bronze medal in Women's Singles, defeating Hina Hayata of Japan.	She became the first Indian Woman and second Indian table tennis player to win a medal at the Asian Cup tournament, first being men's singles player Chetan Baboor.
22	59 <sup>th</sup> Billie Jean King Cup, 2022	Glasgow, Scotland	Switzerland women's tennis team won the Billie Jean King Cup for the first time by defeating Australia.	--
23	IBA Youth World Boxing	La Nucia, Spain	Women: Gold – Ravina (63kg), Devika Ghorpade (52kg)	India won 11 medals as per the tally.

	Championships, 2022		Silver – <b>Kirti (81+kg), Bhawna Sharma (48kg)</b>  <b>Men:</b> Gold – <b>Vanshaj (63.5kg), Vishwanath Suresh (48kg)</b> Silver – <b>Ashish (54kg)</b>	
24	Davis Cup, 2022	Málaga, Spain	<b>Canada</b> won the cup by defeating <b>Australia.</b>	--
25	81 <sup>st</sup> Annual Madras-Colombo Rowing Regatta, 2022	Colombo, Sri Lanka	<b>Madras Boat Club women</b> lifted the <b>Adyar trophy</b> by defeating <b>Colombo club.</b>	--

### Awards & Milestones

S.No.	Award/Milestone	Category	Awardee	Key Facts
1.	Karnataka Ratna 2022	--	<b>Puneeth Rajkumar</b> (Late Actor)	Awarded <b>posthumously</b> .
2.	Chevalier de l'Ordre National du Mérite (Awarded by French Government)	Knight of the Order of the Merit	<b>Aruna Sairam</b>	She is a <b>Carnatic Vocalist</b> .
3.	Commentation Award in Urban Transport	City with the best Public Transport System	<b>City Circular Service, Kerala Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC)</b>	--
		Award of Excellence in Urban Transport	<b>'Gramavandi'</b> launched by the <b>KSRTC</b>	
4.	National Florence Nightingale Awards 2021	--	<b>Nursing professionals</b>	Awards were instituted in the year 1973 by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, as a mark of recognition for the meritorious services rendered by the <b>nurses and nursing professionals</b> to the society.
5.	'Friends of Liberation War' honour	-	<b>Edward M Kennedy</b> (Former US Senator)	Award conferred to commemorate the 50th anniversary of US-Bangladesh relations
6.	Country's most profitable firm	-	State Bank of India (SBI)	With a consolidated net income of <b>₹14,752 crore</b> , SBI has surpassed Reliance Industries Ltd during second quarter
7.	Order of Australia (AM)	-	<b>Amit Dasgupta</b>	He served as the Consul-General of India to Australia from 2009-2012
8.	1 <sup>st</sup> Kerala Jyothi award	--	<b>M.T. Vasudevan Nair</b>	He is a Writer.

9.	Ezhuthachan Puraskaram by Kerala Government	--	<b>Sethu</b>	He is a <b>Malayalam Fiction Writer</b> .
10.	Calcutta Sports Journalists Club Awards	Sportsperson of the Year	<b>Saurav Ghosal</b>	He became the <b>first Indian squash player to win a singles medal at Commonwealth Games (CWG) 2022</b> .
11.	Uttarakhand Gaurav Samman	--	<b>Ajit Doval</b>	He is the <b>National Security Advisor (NSA) of India</b> .
			<b>Late Ge. Bipin Rawat</b>	He was the <b>Chief of Defence Staff</b> .
			<b>Prasoon Joshi</b>	He is a renowned <b>lyricist</b> .
			<b>Late Viren Dangwal</b>	He was a <b>poet</b> and a <b>journalist</b> .
			<b>Late Girish Chandra Tiwari</b>	He was an <b>author</b> and a <b>poet</b> .
12.	International Cricket Council (ICC) Player of the Month Awards, October 2022	ICC Men's Player of the Month	<b>Virat Kohli</b> (India)	--
		ICC Women's Player of the Month	<b>Nida Dar</b> (Pakistan)	
13.	ICC Hall of Fame Inductions	--	<b>Abdul Qadir</b> (Pakistan)	--
			<b>Shivnarine Chanderpaul</b> (West Indies)	
			<b>Charlotte Edwards</b> (England)	
14.	India Agribusiness Awards, 2022	Best Agribusiness Award under Fisheries Sector	<b>National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB), Hyderabad</b>	NFDB comes under <b>Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India</b> .
15.	Bihari Puraskar, 2022	--	<b>Madhu Kankariya</b>	Kankariya was awarded for her <b>2018 novel 'Hum Yahan The'</b> .
			<b>Madhav Hada</b>	Hada was awarded for his <b>2015 literary criticism book 'Pachrang Chola Pahar Sakhi Ri'</b> .
16.	Kuldip Nayar Patrakarita Samman Award	--	<b>Arfa Khanum Sherwani</b>	She is the <b>senior editor</b> at ' <b>The Wire</b> '.
17.	International Kannada Rathna (Kannadiga) award	--	<b>Yaduveer Krishnaraja Chamaraja (YKC) Wadiyar</b>	He is the member of a <b>royal family</b> .
18.	International Maritime Organization's bravery award	--	<b>Crews of INS Kochi, INS Kolkata and Greatship Ahalya of Indian Navy</b>	--
19.	Forbes' Asia's Power Businesswomen 2022 list	Indian entrepreneurs in the list	<b>Soma Mondal</b>	She is the <b>chairperson of Steel Authority of India (SAIL)</b> .
			<b>Namita Thapar</b>	She is the <b>Executive Director of Emcure Pharma</b> .

			Ghazal Alagh	She is the co-founder of Mamaearth.
20.	Public Relations Council of India (PRCI) Excellence Awards 2022	Champion of Champions Award	National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC)	--
21.	SKOCH award	Women and Child Development category	'Lakshmir Bhandar' scheme, West Bengal	The scheme was launched in August 2021 to provide financial support to a woman head of a family and is in the age group of 25-60 years. Under the scheme Rs 500 per month is being given in respect of general caste category and around Rs 1,000 per month for those in the SC and ST categories.
22.	United Kingdom (UK) Royal Order of Merit	--	Professor Venki Ramakrishnan	He is India-born UK based molecular biologist and a nobel laureate. Awarded by: King Charles III
23.	S&P Dow Jones Sustainability Indices 2022	India's most sustainable Oil and Gas Company	Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL)	It is BPCL's 3 <sup>rd</sup> consecutive win.
24.	International Press Institute (IPI) India Award for Excellence in Journalism, 2022.	--	The Print Saurabh Shukla (from NDTV)	The award has been given to 17 media organisations and journalists in the print and electronic media so far.
25.	Paired Early Career Fellowship in Applied Research (PECFAR)	--	11 career researchers from India and Germany	Aim: To explore opportunities for connecting and networking for research collaborations between India and Germany in frontier areas of science and technology.  About PECFAR: The initiative has been launched by the Indo-German Science & Technology Centre (IGSTC), established by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), the Government of India, and the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Government of Germany to promote Science and Technology collaborations with a focus on applied research.
26.	Excellence in Leadership in Family Planning (EXCELL) Awards-2022	Country Category	India	The awards were held at International Conference on Family Planning in Pattaya city, Thailand.
27.	Deming award	--	L. Ganesh	Rane Group chairman L. Ganesh was awarded for outstanding contribution in dissemination and promotion (overseas) of total quality management (TQM).
28.	Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur (Knight of the Legion of Honour)	--	Sumeet Anand	He is the Founder of IndSight Growth Partners and the President of the Indo-French Chamber of Commerce & Industry (IFCCI).
29.	Jaipur Foot USA Global Humanitarian Award for COVID19 relief efforts	--	Danish Manzoor Bhat	He is an Indian Journalist.

<b>30.</b>	Sumitra Charat Ram Award, 2022	Lifetime Achievement	<b>Dr. Uma Sharma</b>	She is an eminent <b>Kathak dancer</b> .
<b>31.</b>	UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize for Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence	--	<b>Franca Ma-ih Sulem Yong</b>	She is the <b>President of the NGOs #Afrogiveness and Positive Youths Africa</b> . She hails from <b>Cameroon</b> .
<b>32.</b>	TATA Literature Live! Awards	Publisher of the Year 2022	<b>HarperCollins India</b>	--
<b>33.</b>	Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development, 2021	--	<b>Pratham</b>	It is a <b>Non-Governmental Organization (NGO)</b> functioning in the field of education.
<b>34.</b>	Gandhi Mandela Award 2022	--	<b>14<sup>th</sup> Dalai Lama</b>	Awarded by: <b>Governor of Himachal Pradesh, Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar</b>
<b>35.</b>	2023 Australian of the Year award	--	<b>Angraj Khillan</b>	He is an <b>Indian-origin paediatrician</b> .
<b>36.</b>	Silver Jubilee celebrations of Prasar Bharati	--	--	Prasar Bharati was set up in <b>23<sup>rd</sup> November, 1997</b> . It is a <b>statutory body</b> set up under <b>Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990</b> It comprises the <b>Doordarshan</b> and <b>All India Radio</b> . <b>Location:</b> New Delhi
<b>37.</b>	Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award, 2021	Land Adventure Water Adventure Life Time Achievement	<b>Ms. Naina Dhakad</b> <b>Shri Shubham Dhananjay Vanmali</b> <b>Group Captain Kunwar Bhawani Singh Samyal</b>	--   About the Award: Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports announced the <b>Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Awards</b> for the year <b>2021</b> .
<b>38.</b>	Pension Fund regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) National Award	--	<b>Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB)</b>	KVGB was awarded for significant enrolment under Atal Pension Yojana (APY). KVGB has so far enrolled <b>3,34,687 (cumulative) accounts</b> to the APY.
<b>39.</b>	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Champions of the Earth 2022	Entrepreneurial Vision Inspiration and Action	<b>Dr Purnima Devi Barman</b> <b>Arcenciel</b> <b>Constantino (Tino) Aucca Chutas</b> <b>Cécile Bibiane Ndjebet</b>	She is <b>Assam's leading conservationist and wildlife biologist</b> . She was awarded for her efforts to protect the <b>greater adjutant stork</b> , known as " <b>Hargila</b> " in Assamese. It is <b>Lebanon's environmental enterprise</b> . He is a <b>conservationist</b> from Peru. She is a <b>women's rights activist</b> from Cameroon.

		Science And Innovation	Sir Partha Dasgupta	He is an economist from the United Kingdom.
40.	5 <sup>th</sup> JCB Prize for literature	--	"The Paradise of Food" or "Ne'mat Khana"	Authored by: Urdu writer Khalid Jawed Translated to English by: Baran Farooqi Published by: Juggernaut Books
41.	8 <sup>th</sup> Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) Higher Education Excellence Awards	Lifetime Achievement Award 2022	Rajendra Singh Pawar	He is the Chairman & Founder of the National Institute of Information Technology (NIIT).
42.	Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards (Akademi Puraskar) for the years 2019, 2020 & 2021	--	--	<b>Total artists selected for the award: 128</b> Akademi Fellows: <b>10 eminent personalities</b> in the field of <b>performing arts</b>
43.	Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar for the years 2019, 2020 & 2021.	--	--	<b>Total artists selected for the award: 102</b> The <b>North-eastern States</b> of the country have also been adequately represented with <b>19 artists</b> .
44.	Sangeet Natak Akademi Amrit Awards		<b>86 artists are to be felicitated</b>	The artists who are <b>above the age of 75 years</b> and <b>haven't</b> been accorded any <b>national honour</b> in their career so far in the field of the <b>performing arts</b> are to be awarded.
45.	Dr. Abdul Kalam Seva Puraskar	--	Ravi Kumar Sagar	He is one of the <b>youngest entrepreneurs, founder and CEO</b> of RK'S INNO group.
46.	French National Order - the insignia of Chevalier de l'Ordre national du Mérit	--	Payal S Kanwar	She is the Director General (DG) of the Indo-French Chamber of Commerce (IFCCI).
47.	S&P Global's Corporate Sustainability Assessment (CSA) 2022	Sustainable Companies Globally in the Metal and Mining Sector	Hindustan Zinc Limited	Hindustan Zinc is ranked <b>3<sup>rd</sup> globally</b> in the <b>metal and mining sector</b> and retained its <b>1<sup>st</sup> position in Asia Pacific</b> for the <b>4<sup>th</sup> consecutive year</b> .
48.	UNESCO-India-Africa Hackathon 2022	--	Shreya Narayan (1 <sup>st</sup> position)	She is from Jamshedpur, Jharkhand and a student at Bangalore Institute of Technology, Bengaluru.
49.	National Awards for e-Governance (NAeG) 2021-2022 GOLD Award	Excellence in Government Process Re-engineering for Digital Transformation	eGramSwaraj and AuditOnline	These are the e-Panchayat Mission Mode Projects of Ministry of Panchayati Raj.
50.	Asian Rich List 2022	--	Rishi Sunak and his wife Akshata Murty	They featured on <b>no. 17</b> . The <b>Hinduja family</b> is ranked <b>no. 1</b> .
51.	ICC 2022 T20 World Cup	Most Valuable Team	Virat Kohli and Suryakumar Yadav	Both of them are <b>Indian Cricket Players</b> .

<b>52.</b>	Guard of Honour by French Army	--	<b>General Manoj Pande</b>	He is the <b>Indian Army Chief</b> . Awarded at: <b>Les Invalides, Paris</b>
<b>53.</b>	41 <sup>st</sup> India International Trade Fair 2022 awards	Outstanding Contribution towards Public Communication and Outreach	<b>Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, India</b>	--
<b>54.</b>	Shilp Guru and National Awards (2017, 2018, 2019)	--	--	Organized by: <b>Ministry of Textiles</b>
<b>55.</b>	Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award 2022	--	<b>Sharath Kamal Achanta</b>	He is the <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Table Tennis</b> player to be awarded this, after <b>Manika Batra</b> in <b>2020</b> .
<b>56.</b>	Arjuna Awards for outstanding performance in Sports and Games 2022	--	<b>25 Recipients</b>	--
<b>57.</b>	Dronacharya Award for outstanding coaches in Sports and Games 2022	--	<b>7 Recipients</b>	--
<b>58.</b>	CareEdge's Environment, Social, and Governance (ESG) Ratings	Best in Class	<b>ESAF Small Finance Bank (ESAF SFB)</b>	--
<b>59.</b>	Fortune's 40 under 40 list, 2022 (2 Indian-origin Entrepreneurs featured)	--	<b>Ankit Gupta</b>	He is the <b>Founder and CEO of Bicycle Health</b> .
			<b>Kanav Kariya</b>	He is the <b>President of Jump Crypto</b> .
<b>60.</b>	2022 UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation	Award of Excellence	<b>Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya Museum, Mumbai (Maharashtra), India</b>	<b>13 projects from 6 different countries of Afghanistan, China, India, Iran, Nepal and Thailand</b> were awarded.
		Award of Distinction	<b>Stepwells of Golconda, Hyderabad (Telangana), India</b>	
			<b>Zarch Qanat, Yazd, Iran</b>	
			<b>Neilson Hays Library, Bangkok, Thailand</b>	
		Award of Merit	<b>Domakonda Fort, Telangana, India</b>	
			<b>Byculla Station, Mumbai, India</b>	
			<b>4 other projects from Iran, China,</b>	

			<b>Afghanistan and Nepal</b>	
		Special Recognition for Sustainable Development	<b>West Guizhou Lilong Neighborhood, Shanghai, China</b>	
		Award for New Design in Heritage Contexts	<b>2 projects from China</b>	
61.	17 <sup>th</sup> BBVA Foundation Biodiversity Conservation Awards	--	<b>International Snow Leopard Trust</b>	Indian Scientist <b>Charudutt Mishra</b> , executive director of the <b>International Snow Leopard Trust</b> along with other scientists received the award. The trust has been awarded for its role for supporting <b>Global Snow Leopard Ecosystem Protection Program(GSLEP)</b> .
		About <b>GSLEP</b> : It is an alliance created in <b>2013</b> , between <b>12</b> governments, conservationists, scientists and other organizations to work for the <b>conservation of snow leopards</b> and their ecosystem.		
62.	D&B Business Excellence Awards 2022	Best Tech Initiative of the Year	<b>Manthan Platform</b>	Manthan is a platform that promotes <b>collaboration</b> at scale between <b>industry and the scientific research and development</b> ecosystem.
63.	Forbes Top 100 Richest Person India 2022	--	<b>Top spot: Gautam Adani</b>	Gautam Adani has the <b>estimated net worth of USD 150 billion</b> .
			<b>Second spot: Mukesh Ambani</b>	
64.	11th edition of FICCI's Global Sports Summit – TURF 2022 and India Sports Awards of FICCI	Lifetime Achievement Award, 2022	<b>Manav Rachna Educational Institutions</b>	--

#### **53<sup>rd</sup> International Film Festival of India (IFFI)**

<b>Held at</b>		<b>Goa</b>		
<b>Organized by</b>		<b>National Film Development Corporation and Entertainment Society of Goa</b>		
<b>IFFI Philosophy</b>		<b>Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam</b>		
<b>Total films featured</b>		<b>280 films from 79 nations</b>		
<b>Country of Focus</b>		<b>France (8 films screened)</b>		
<b>Number of Pavilions</b>		<b>42</b>		
<b>Non-Feature Film screened at a special section on Satyajit Ray</b>		<b>Other Ray: The Art of Satyajit Ray (Directed by Jaydip Mukherjee)</b>		
<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Parameter/Award</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Film/Awardee</b>	<b>Key Facts</b>
1.	Opening Film	--	<b>Alma and Oscar</b>	It is an <b>Austrian film</b> directed by <b>Dieter Berner</b> .
2.	Closing Film	--	<b>Perfect Number</b>	It is a <b>Polish Film</b> directed by <b>Krzysztof Zanussi</b> .
3.	Opening Film	<b>Indian Panorama Feature Films section</b>	<b>Hadinelantu</b>	It is a <b>Kannada Film</b> directed by <b>Prithvi Konanur</b> .

4.	Indian Film Personality of the Year	--	Konidela Siva Sankara Vara Prasad (Chiranjeevi)	He is a <b>South-Indian Actor</b> .
5.	ICFT-UNESCO Gandhi Medal	--	Nargesi	It is an <b>Iranian Film</b> directed by <b>Payam Eskandari</b> .
6.	Golden Peacock Award	<b>Best Film</b>	Tengo sueños eléctricos (I have electric dreams)	It is a <b>Spanish film</b> directed by <b>Valentina Maurel</b> .
7.	Silver Peacock Award	<b>Best Director</b>	Nader Saeivar	Awarded for the <b>Turkish film, Bi Payan (No End)</b>
		<b>Best Actor (Male)</b>	Vahid Mobasseri	<b>Lead Actor</b> in the film, <b>No End</b>
		<b>Best Actor (Female)</b>	Daniela Marn Navarro	Actress from the <b>Spanish film, I have electric dreams</b>
8.	Special Jury Award	--	Lav Diaz	He is a <b>Filipino director</b> and was awarded for the movie, <b>When the Waves are gone</b>
9.	Best Debut Feature Film of a Director	--	Asimina Proedrou	Awarded for the film, <b>Behind the Haystacks</b>
10.	Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement award	--	Carlos Saura	He is a <b>Spanish Director</b> .
11.	'75 Creative Minds Tomorrow' winner	--	Dear Diary	--
12.	Prasad DI award	--	Agantuk	It is a <b>Bangladeshi feature film</b> directed by <b>Biplob Sarkar</b> .
13.	<b>First feature film</b> in Indian film history to have a <b>star cast</b> comprising only <b>indigenous people</b>	--	"Dhabari Quruvi" Directed by: Priyanandan	This film also has the distinction of having been shot <b>completely</b> in the <b>tribal language of Irula</b> . Tribes the star cast belong to: <b>Irula, Muduka, Kurumba and Vaduka</b> tribal communities of Kerala.

#### Miscellaneous

S.No.	News	Key Facts
1.	A clean-up campaign, 'Clean-A-Thon' was launched	Organized by: <b>Divyaj Foundation</b> and <b>Bhamla Foundation</b> along with <b>Government of Goa</b> . Aim: To foster the value of keeping <b>surroundings clean</b> .
2.	'53-Hour Challenge' for the '75 Creative Minds Tomorrow' was launched	Launched by: <b>National Film Development Corporation (NFDC)</b> in collaboration with <b>Shorts TV</b> The competition challenged the 75 'Creative Minds' to produce a <b>short film</b> on their idea of <b>India@100</b> , all in <b>53 hours</b> .
3.	<b>Largest South Asian film market- Film Bazaar</b> was inaugurated	Created and Organized by: <b>NFDC</b> Aim: To encourage <b>creative and financial collaboration</b> between the <b>South Asian and International film communities</b> .
4.	<b>Manipur State Pavilion</b> was showcased	Theme: <b>Manipur Unexplored</b> Pavilion Organized by: <b>Manipur State film development Society</b> Aim: To call out the budding filmmakers to explore the <b>historical, archaeological, cultural and natural heritage</b> of 'the land of jewel', <b>Manipur</b> .

5.	Bihar Pavilion was showcased	Theme: <b>Explore Bihar</b> Aim: To call out the budding filmmakers to explore the historical, archaeological, cultural and natural heritage of the land of Buddha and Mahavira.
6.	Masterclass on Gender Participation in Hindi Cinema	Organized by: IFFI and Tata Institute of Social Sciences A total of <b>1930 characters</b> from <b>35 films</b> were analyzed for their gender representation on screen.
7.	Screened Films	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <b>Fatima</b> (a documentary on <b>human trafficking</b>) directed by <b>Sourabh Kanti Datta</b></li> <li>b. <b>The Storyteller</b> (premiered in the 'Divyangjan' section) directed by <b>Ananth Narayan Mahadevan</b></li> <li>c. <b>Major</b> (a film about martyr <b>Major Sandeep Unnikrishnan</b>) directed by <b>Sashi Kiran Tikka</b></li> <li>d. <b>Yaanam</b> (non-feature film screened under the <b>Indian Panorama section</b>) produced by <b>AV Anoop</b></li> </ul>

### Appointments

S.No.	Person	Position	Organization / Country / State / Company	Outgoing Person	Key Facts
1.	Vishal Kapoor	Chief Executive Officer (CEO)	<b>Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL)</b>	Arun Kumar Mishra	--
2.	Subhrakant Panda	President	<b>Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)</b>	Sanjiv Mehta	Panda is the Managing Director of Indian Metals & Ferro Alloys Ltd (IMFA).
3.	Elon Musk	CEO	<b>Twitter</b>	Parag Aggrawal	--
4.	Vivek Joshi	Secretary	<b>Dept. of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance</b>	Sanjay Malhotra	--
5.	KV Kamath	Independent Director	<b>Reliance Industries</b>	--	--
6.	Benjamin Netanyahu	Prime Minister	<b>Israel</b>	Yair Lapid	-
7.	Manish Chopra	Interim Chief of Meta India	<b>Meta India</b>	Ajit Mohan	Manish Chopra currently serves as the director and head partnerships.
8.	Gopal Vittal	Deputy Chair	<b>GSMA</b>	--	<b>Gopal Vittal is the chief executive of Bharti Airtel Group</b>
9.	MS Dhoni	Brand Ambassador	<b>Boltt Games Pvt. Ltd</b>	--	
10.	Kishor Kumar Basa	Chairman	<b>National Monuments Authority (NMA)</b>	--	He is also the chairman of Indian National Confederation and Academy of

					<b>Anthropologists (INCAA)</b>
<b>11.</b>	<b>Mohammad Tayyab Ikram (Macau)</b>	President	<b>International Hockey Federation (FIH)</b>	<b>Narinder Batra (India)</b>	<b>Ikram is the CEO of Asian Hockey Federation (AHF).</b>
<b>12.</b>	<b>Rituraj Awasthi</b>	Chairperson	<b>22<sup>nd</sup> Law Commission</b>	--	<b>He is the Retired Karnataka High Court Chief Justice.</b>
<b>13.</b>	<b>Vijay Srirangam</b>	Non Official Director as well as Non Executive Chairman	<b>Canara Bank</b>	--	--
<b>14.</b>	<b>K G Ananthakrishnan</b>	Non Official Director as well as Non Executive Chairman	<b>Punjab National Bank (PNB)</b>	--	--
<b>15.</b>	<b>Srinivasan Varadarajan</b>	Non Official Director as well as Non Executive Chairman	<b>Union Bank of India</b>	--	--
<b>16.</b>	<b>Charan Singh</b>	Non Official Director as well as Non Executive Chairman	<b>Punjab &amp; Sind Bank</b>	--	--
<b>17.</b>	<b>Justice D.Y. Chandrachud</b>	Chief Justice of India (CJI)	<b>India</b>	<b>Justice Uday Umesh Lalit</b>	<b>Chandrachud is the 50<sup>th</sup> CJI.</b>
<b>18.</b>	<b>Bjorn Gulden</b>	Chief Executive Officer (CEO)	<b>Adidas</b>	<b>Kasper Rorsted</b>	<b>Bjorn was the CEO of Puma before.</b>
<b>19.</b>	<b>Ramesh Kejriwal</b>	President	<b>All India Rubber Industries Association (AIRIA)</b>	<b>Sawar Dhanania</b>	--
<b>20.</b>	<b>Aruna Miller</b>	Lieutenant Governor	<b>Maryland, United States</b>	--	<b>She became first immigrant to hold the office of Lieutenant Governor in Maryland.</b>
<b>21.</b>	<b>Neeraj Chopra</b>	Friendship Ambassador	<b>Switzerland Tourism</b>	--	--
<b>22.</b>	<b>C. Anandharamakrishnan</b>	Director	<b>National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science and Technology (NIIST)</b>	--	--
<b>23.</b>	<b>Gaurav Dwivedi</b>	Executive Member (Chief Executive Officer)	<b>Prasar Bharati</b>	<b>Shashi Shekhar Vempati</b>	--
<b>24.</b>	<b>Greg Barclay</b>	Chairman	<b>International Cricket Council (ICC)</b>	--	<b>Re-elected.</b>
<b>25.</b>	<b>Rear Admiral Vineet McCarty</b>	Fleet Commander	<b>'Sword Arm' of Indian Navy (Western Fleet)</b>	<b>Rear Admiral Sameer Saxena</b>	--
<b>26.</b>	<b>Yogeshwar Dutt</b>	Brand Ambassador	<b>Religare Enterprises Limited (REL)</b>	--	<b>He is an Indian freestyle wrestler.</b>

27.	Dr. C.V. Ananda Bose	Governor	West Bengal	Jagdeep Dhankhar	--
28.	Arun Goel	Election Commissioner	Election Commission	--	--
29.	M C Mary Kom	Members	Indian Olympic Association (IOA) Athletes Commission	--	Mirabai Chanu, Gagan Narang, Achanta Sharath Kamal, Rani Rampal, Bhavani Devi, Bajrang Lal and OP Karhana are 7 of the 10 members.
30.	PV Sindhu				
31.	Shiva Keshavan				
32.	Arvind Virmani	Full-Time Member	National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog	--	--
33.	Suraj Bhan	Chairman	National Pension System (NPS) Trust	--	Appointed by: Pension Fund Regulatory & Development Authority (PFRDA)
34.	Arun Kumar Singh	Chairman	Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC)	Rajesh Kumar Srivastava	Arun is a retired chairman of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPCL).
35.	Sandhya Devanathan	Top Executive for India	Meta	Ajit Mohan	--
36.	Qasym-Jomart Toqayev	President	Kazakhstan	--	Re-elected
37.	Vinit Kumar	Chief Executive Officer (CEO)	Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC)	--	--
38.	Prof. Venu Gopal Achanta	Member	International Committee for Weight and Measures (CIPM)	--	He is the Director of CSIR-National Physical Laboratory (CSIR-NPL).
39.	Shivnath Thukral	Director, Public Policy	Meta India	Rajiv Aggarwal	--
40.	Gianni Infantino	President	International Federation of Association Football (FIFA)	--	Re-elected for 3 <sup>rd</sup> term.
41.	Adrian Mardell	Interim CEO	Jaguar Land Rover (JLR)	Thierry Bolloré	--
42.	Bob Iger	CEO	Walt Disney Co	Bob Chapek	He re-joined the company after retiring as CEO.
43.	Syed Asim Munir	Army Chief	Pakistan	Qamar Javed Bajwa	--
44.	Dr. Rajagopala S.	Academic Chair in Ayurvedic Science	Western Sydney University's NICM Health Research Institute, Australia	--	He is the Associate Professor & Head (Department of

					<b>Kaumarabhritya) All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), New Delhi.</b>
<b>Additional Information:</b> The Academic Chair in Ayurvedic Science in Australia is to be set up by the Ministry of AYUSH.					
<b>45.</b>	<b>Vimal Mahendru</b>	Vice President representing India	<b>International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC)</b>	--	--
<b>46.</b>	<b>Meenesh C Shah</b>	Managing Director (MD)	<b>National Dairy Development Board (NDDB)</b>	--	He has been promoted to MD from Executive Director.
<b>47.</b>	<b>Sundararaman Ramamurthy</b>	MD and Chief Executive Director (CEO)	<b>BSE Limited (formerly Bombay Stock Exchange)</b>	<b>Ashishkumar Chauhan</b>	Appointment approved by: <b>Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)</b>
<b>48.</b>	<b>Rohit Jain</b>	Chairman	<b>Digital Entertainment Committee, Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI)</b>	--	Rohit is the MD of emerging markets Asia, Lionsgate.

### Persons in News

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Personality</b>	<b>Profession</b>	<b>Key Facts</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Lt Gen Batoo Tshering</b>	Chief Operations Officer, <b>Royal Bhutan Army (COO, RBA)</b>	He recently visited <b>New Delhi, India</b> to enhance <b>bilateral defence cooperation</b> between the two country's Armies.
<b>2.</b>	<b>Ela Bhatt</b>	Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA) founder & women's activist	She recently passed away.
<b>3.</b>	<b>Lionel Messi</b>	Football Player from Argentina	He has been appointed as global brand ambassador of <b>Byju's</b> social impact arm, Education For All.
<b>4.</b>	<b>Jamshed J Irani</b> (Recently passed away)	former Tata Steel managing director	He was known as <b>Steel man of India</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Shyam Saran Negi</b>	Independent India's first voter	Recently passed away at the age of 106 years
<b>6.</b>	<b>Ms. Elaben Bhatt</b>	Noted educationist and social worker	Recently passed away
<b>7.</b>	<b>CV Raman</b>	India's First Nobel Prize-winning <b>Physicist</b>	<b>November 7</b> marked his <b>134<sup>th</sup> birthday anniversary</b> .
<b>8.</b>	<b>Sir David Butler</b>	<b>Election Analyst</b>	He recently <b>passed away</b> .
<b>9.</b>	<b>RL Kashyap</b>	<b>Mathematician</b>	He recently <b>passed away</b> .
<b>10</b>	<b>Stephan Myburgh</b>	The Netherlands' cricket player	He announced his retirement from <b>international cricket</b> .
<b>11</b>	<b>Lewis Hamilton</b>	<b>Formula-1 Race Car Driver</b>	He was recently given the <b>honorary citizenship of Brazil</b> .
<b>12</b>	<b>Kevin Conroy</b>	<b>American Voice Actor</b>	He recently <b>passed away</b> . He was best known for voicing <b>Batman</b> .

13	Rajiv Kumar	Chief Election Commissioner of India	He has been invited by <b>Election Commission of Nepal</b> as <b>International Observer</b> for the forthcoming elections to <b>Nepal's House of Representatives and Provincial Assembly</b> .
14	Ghattamaneni Siva Rama Krishna Murthy	Telugu Actor	He recently <b>passed away</b> .
15	Gulam Abbas Moontasir	Indian Basketball Player	He recently <b>passed away</b> .
16	Sanjay Kumar Mishra	Director of Enforcement Directorate (ED)	His <b>tenure</b> got <b>extended</b> recently for <b>1 year</b> by the <b>Government of India</b> .
17	Vikram Gokhale	Indian Actor	He recently <b>passed away</b> .
18	Keneth Kiprop Renju	Kenyan Runner	He was recently <b>banned</b> for <b>5 years</b> for suspected <b>doping</b> by the <b>Athletics Integrity Unit</b> .
19	Carlos Alcaraz	Spanish Tennis Player	He recently became the <b>youngest year-end No 1</b> in <b>Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP)</b> history.
20	Babu Mani	Indian Football player	He recently <b>passed away</b> .
21	Areez Pirojshaw Khambatta	Founder and Chairman of 'Rasna' beverage	He recently <b>passed away</b> .
22	Vinay Mohan Kwatra	Foreign Secretary, Government of India	He received a <b>14-month extension</b> as a <b>foreign secretary</b> from <b>Indian government</b> .
23	Vikram Kirloskar	Vice Chairman, Toyota Kirloskar Motor Pvt. Ltd	He recently <b>passed away</b> .
24	Abdel Fattah Al Sisi	Politics (President of Egypt)	The Government of India has <b>invited him as the Chief Guest</b> of the <b>Republic Day</b> celebrations. He is the <b>first Egyptian President</b> to attend the event as <b>Chief Guest</b>
		<b>Additional Information</b>	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>India &amp; Egypt are celebrating <b>75th anniversary</b> of the <b>establishment of diplomatic relations in 2022</b></li> <li>Egypt has been invited as a <b>Guest Country</b> during India's <b>G-20 Presidency in 2022-23</b></li> </ul>	
25	Narayan Jagadeesan	Sports (Cricket)	He recently <b>broke the world record</b> for the <b>highest individual score</b> in men's List A cricket. He achieved the milestone by scoring <b>277 runs off 141 balls</b> in a <b>Group C match</b> against Arunachal Pradesh in <b>Vijay Hazare Trophy</b> . The <b>previous record</b> was set up by <b>Alistair Brown (268 runs)</b> for Surrey against Glamorgan in 2002. Narayan Jagadeesan is also the <b>sixth batter to hit a double ton</b> in <b>Vijay Hazare trophy</b> . Narayan Jagadeesan is from <b>Tamil Nadu</b>
		<b>Additional Information</b>	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tamil Nadu had also <b>won the match</b> against Arunachal Pradesh by <b>435 runs</b></li> <li>It is the <b>biggest victory margin</b> in any List A match.</li> </ul>	

## Books and Authors

S.No.	Book Title	Author	Publisher	Key Facts
1.	Engineered In India: From Dreams to billion dollar Cyient	B.V.R. Mohan Reddy	Penguin Business	--

2.	<b>E. K. Janaki Ammal: Life and Scientific Contributions</b>	Nirmala James	Envview Research and Development	E. K. Janaki Ammal was often described as India's first woman botanist.
3.	<b>Winning The Inner Battle: Bringing the Best Version of You, To Cricket</b>	Shane Watson (Former Australian Cricketer)	--	--
4.	<b>Modi@20: Dreams Meet Delivery</b>	--	--	Both books were released by Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship at a programme of Vishwa Sadhbhavana, NID Foundation.
5.	<b>Heartfelt: The Legacy of Faith</b>			
6.	<b>Nalanada – Until we meet again</b>	Gautaam Borah	The Alcove Publishers	
7.	<b>India: The Mother of Democracy</b>	--	Prepared & Published by: Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR)	Released by: Union Education & Skill Development Minister Released at: New Delhi
8.	<b>Coastal Security Dimensions of Maritime Security</b>	--	National Maritime Foundation	Released at: IPRD, 2022  (Refer to: Summits & Conferences Pt. 6)

### Fairs and Festivals

S.No.	Festival/Fair	Country / State / UT	Key Facts
1.	<b>41<sup>st</sup> Sharjah International Book Fair (SIBF), 2022</b>	United Arab Emirates (UAE)	<b>Slogan: 'Spread the Word'</b> The Government of India's premier publishing house Publications Division will showcase its publications at SIBF.
2.	Dance Drama titled ' <b>'Yugpurush Raja Rammohun Roy'</b>	Organized at Kartavya Path and India Gate (Central Vista), New Delhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Event part of yearlong celebration of <b>250th birth anniversary of Raja Ram Mohun Roy</b>. Organized by <b>Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation of Ministry of Culture</b>.</li> </ul>
3.	<b>National Tribal Dance Festival</b>	hosted by the Chhattisgarh government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 3-day event coincided with the State's 23rd foundation day celebrations (1st November).</li> </ul>
4.	<b>Rising Sun Water Fest-2022</b>	Umiam Lake, Meghalaya	Initiative by: <b>Indian Army's Eastern Command</b> with the governments of <b>Assam</b> and <b>Meghalaya</b> . <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aim: To encourage the sports loving youth of North-East to take up water sports like <b>Rowing and Sailing</b>.</li> </ul>
5.	<b>Pushkar Fair</b>	Jaipur, Rajasthan	The fair will not include the famous cattle fair, owing to the spread of <b>lumpy skin disease</b> .
6.	<b>Amur Falcon Festival</b>	Manipur	The festival is being organized to spread awareness about protection and conservation of <b>Amur falcon</b> , the world's longest flying migratory bird.
7.	<b>Fair for Diamond jubilee celebrations of Battle of Walong</b>	Arunachal Pradesh	Organized by: <b>Dao Division of Spear Corps</b>
			About <b>Battle of Walong</b> : It happened during the <b>1962 Sino-India war</b> , where <b>Indian Army</b> fought bravely <b>against China</b> .

8.	<b>International Gita Mahotsav (IGM)-2022</b>	Kurukshetra, Haryana	--
9.	<b>Sangai Festival</b>	Manipur	Theme: <b>Festival of Oneness</b> The festival is named after the <b>State Animal</b> which is found <b>only in Manipur</b> .
10	<b>Wangala – The 100 Drums Festival</b>	Meghalaya	Famous among: <b>Garos tribe</b> It is a <b>harvest</b> festival.
11	<b>Sonjal-2022</b>	Venue: University of Kashmir	It is an <b>annual youth festival in Kashmir</b>

### Places in News

S.No.	Place	Why in News	Key Facts
1.	<b>Ghana</b>	Got Presidency of UNSC in November 2022	Replaced Gabon
2.	<b>Vadodara, Gujarat</b>	It became the second Indian city to issue a municipal bond.	-bonds issued with assistance from the <b>US Treasury Department's Office of Technical Assistance</b> -bonds will provide funds for infrastructure projects
3.	<b>Mangaluru</b>	The name of city 'Mangalore' is changed to ' <b>Mangaluru</b> ' thus name of the airport is changed to <b>Mangaluru International Airport</b>	Airport Authority of India (AAI) announced the change of city and airport name from Mangalore to Mangaluru as of December 1.
4.	<b>Kalajhari Hills, Tripura</b>	<b>Devtamura</b> , 15th-century rock carvings on the steep slopes of Kalajhari hill along the banks of the <b>Gomati river</b> , is poised to welcome tourists.	These carvings have 37 sculptures of Hindu deities like Shiva, Ganesha, Kartikeya, Mahisasur Mardini, and others.
5.	<b>Ranipur Tiger Reserve (Uttar Pradesh)</b>	Ranipur Tiger Reserve in <b>Chitrakoot district</b> is the <b>fourth in U.P.</b> after Dudhwa, Pilibhit and Amangarh	It is <b>53rd tiger reserve in India</b> Spread over <b>530 sq km</b>
6.	<b>Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru (Karnataka)</b>	Prime Minister of India recently <b>inaugurated Terminal 2</b> of Kempegowda International Airport.	PM also inaugurated <b>108-feet-long bronze statue</b> of Sri Nadaprabhu Kempegowda as ' <b>Statue of Prosperity</b> ' in Bengaluru.
7.	<b>Jaipur International Airport Ltd., Rajasthan</b>	It recently received the <b>Aerodrome licence</b> from the <b>Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)</b> .  <b>Additional Information:</b> The Aerodrome licence is given to <b>an airport operator</b> for ensuring <b>complete management</b> of the airport in accordance with the <b>concession agreement</b> .	
8.	<b>Jhula Bailey Suspension Bridge, Ramban (Jammu &amp; Kashmir)</b>	<b>Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science &amp; Technology</b> visited there.	
9.	<b>Bhopal Railway Station, Madhya Pradesh</b>	<b>Bhopal Railway Station</b> has been awarded a 4-star ' <b>Eat Right Station</b> ' certification by <b>Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)</b> .  <b>Additional Information:</b> The ' <b>Eat Right Station</b> ' certification is awarded by <b>FSSAI</b> to <b>railway stations</b> that set <b>benchmarks</b> in providing <b>safe and wholesome food</b> to passengers.	

10	Anamalai Tiger Reserve (ATR), Tamil Nadu	It has opened the doors for an <b>elephant adoption programme</b> through which <b>non-governmental organisations, institutions, trusts or individuals</b> can <b>sponsor</b> the expenses of Forest Department's camp elephants.	--
11	Miyawaki forest, Hyderabad (Telangana)	It is <b>India's largest Miyawaki forest</b> spread over <b>18 acres</b> . Additional Information: The <b>Miyawaki method</b> , pioneered by <b>Japanese botanist Akira Miyawaki</b> , helps build <b>dense, fast-growing forests</b> with native plants.	
12	Cauvery South Wildlife Sanctuary, Tamil Nadu	This sanctuary was recently notified as state's 17 <sup>th</sup> wildlife sanctuary.	--
13	Kameng Hydro Power Station	PM has dedicated 600 MW Kameng hydro power project in Arunachal Pradesh to the nation	Implemented by: <b>North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Limited (NEEPCO Ltd.)</b> The project will form part of projected <b>hydro capacity addition</b> of <b>30000 MW</b> by <b>2030</b> .
14	Anamalai Tiger Reserve (ATR), Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu)	The reserve recently launched ' <b>Jumbo Trails</b> ' program.	Program Aim: to <b>educate visitors</b> to the tiger reserve about <b>elephants, the flora, and fauna of ATR</b> and the <b>aboriginal tribes</b> who live in the hills
15	Donyi Polo Airport	<b>Union Cabinet</b> recently approved the greenfield airport at <b>Hollongi, Itanagar (Arunachal Pradesh)</b>	Will be developed by <b>Airports Authority of India (AAI)</b> with the help of <b>central government</b> and the <b>Arunachal Pradesh government</b> at a cost of <b>₹646 crore</b>
16	Switzerland	<b>Country</b> is now home to the <b>world's longest passenger train</b> .	The train has 100 coaches, measures <b>1910 metres</b> and consists of 4,550 seats.

### Days in News

S.No.	Days	Date	Theme & Misc.
1.	<b>Formation Day of 7 States and 2 Union Territories</b>	November 1	States: <b>Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh</b> and <b>Punjab</b> Union Territories: <b>Lakshadweep and Puducherry</b>
2.	<b>Zojila Day</b>	November 1	This day celebrated the gallant action by Indian troops in ' <b>Operation Bison</b> ' in <b>1948</b> which was launched on <b>Zojila pass</b> , the gateway to Ladakh.
3.	<b>International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists</b>	November 2	The day draws attention to <b>impunity</b> , i.e., <b>culprits going unpunished</b> , to crimes <b>against journalists</b> .
4.	<b>World Tsunami Awareness Day</b>	November 5	Theme: <b>Early Warning and Early Action Before Every Tsunami</b> The theme of World Tsunami Awareness Day 2022 in Asia-Pacific is ' <b>Early Warning and Early Action Before Every Tsunami</b> '.

5.	<b>70th Foundation Day of EPFO</b>	1st November	EPFO Vision @ 2047 document was released Bhavishya Nidhi Awards-2022 were also presented
6.	<b>World Vegan Day</b>	1st November	<b>Theme:</b> Future Normal
7.	<b>International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict</b>	November 6	The day seeks to make people aware of the <b>consequences</b> that war and conflict have on the environment.
8.	<b>National Cancer Awareness Day</b>	November 7	--
9.	<b>Infant Protection Day</b>	November 7	--
10.	<b>World Radiography Day/International Day of Radiology</b>	November 8	Theme: <b>Radiologists and Radiographers supporting patients.</b>
11.	<b>World Urbanism Day/World Town Planning Day</b>	November 8	Theme: <b>Think Global, Plan Local</b>
12.	<b>Uttarakhand Foundation Day</b>	November 9	Uttarakhand was declared as the <b>27<sup>th</sup> state</b> on <b>November 9, 2000.</b>
13.	<b>National Legal Services Day</b>	November 9	This day is celebrated to commemorate the beginning of the <b>Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.</b>
14.	<b>World Science Day for Peace and Development</b>	November 10	Theme: <b>Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development</b>
15.	<b>World Usability Day (Make Things Easier Day), 2022</b>	November 10	Celebrated on <b>second Thursday of November.</b> Theme: <b>Our Health</b>
16.	<b>World Quality Day</b>	November 10	World Quality Week: <b>November 7 – November 11</b> Theme: <b>Quality conscience: Doing the right thing</b>
17.	<b>National Education Day</b>	November 11	This day is celebrated to commemorate the <b>birth anniversary</b> of the first <b>Education Minister Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.</b>
18.	<b>World Pneumonia Day</b>	November 12	Theme: <b>Pneumonia Affects Everyone</b>
19.	<b>Public Service Broadcasting Day</b>	November 12	This day is celebrated to commemorate the <b>only visit</b> of <b>Mahatma Gandhi</b> to <b>All India Radio</b> in <b>Delhi</b> in <b>1947.</b>
20.	<b>World Kindness Day</b>	November 13	Theme: <b>Be kind whenever possible.</b>
21.	<b>Children's Day</b>	November 14	This day is celebrated to commemorate the <b>birth anniversary</b> of <b>First Prime Minister of India, Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru.</b>
22.	<b>World Diabetes Day</b>	November 14	Theme: <b>Access to diabetes education</b>
23.	<b>Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas</b>	November 15	To be celebrated by: <b>Ministry of Education</b> The day is celebrated in the memory of <b>tribal freedom fighters</b> and it also marks the birth anniversary of <b>Birsa Munda</b> who is revered as <b>God</b> by <b>tribal communities</b> across India.
24.	<b>Jharkhand Foundation Day</b>	November 15	Jharkhand was declared as the <b>28<sup>th</sup> state</b> of India on <b>November 15, 2000.</b>
25.	<b>World Liquified Petroleum Gas (LPG) Week, 2022</b>	November 14 – November 18	Launched by: <b>World LPG Association</b> Held at: <b>Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh</b> Theme: <b>Humanizing Energy</b> Aim: To allow the <b>exchange of ideas, knowledge and views</b> on the <b>role of LPG</b> in the energy transition to a <b>low carbon future.</b>
26.	<b>National Press Day</b>	November 16	Theme: <b>The Media's Role in Nation Building</b>
27.	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Audit Diwas</b>	November 16	It was celebrated at <b>Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG)</b> office in New Delhi.

28.	<b>International Day for Tolerance</b>	November 16	This day is celebrated to <b>commemorate</b> the passing of <b>The Declaration of Principles on Tolerance</b> .
29.	<b>World Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) Day</b>	November 16	Celebrated on <b>third Wednesday</b> of November. Theme: <b>Your Lungs for Life</b>
30.	<b>National Epilepsy Day</b>	November 17	National Epilepsy Awareness Month (NEAM): <b>November</b> Theme: <b>There is no NEAM without ME</b>
31.	<b>International Students' Day</b>	November 17	This day is celebrated to remember the courage of <b>student activists</b> during the <b>1939 Nazi attack</b> at the <b>University of Prague</b> .
32.	<b>World Philosophy Day</b>	November 17	Celebrated on <b>third Thursday</b> of November. Theme: <b>The Human To Come</b>
33.	<b>5th Naturopathy Day</b>	November 18	Theme: <b>Naturopathy: An Integrative Medicine</b>
34.	<b>World Day for the prevention of and healing from child sexual exploitation, abuse and violence</b>	November 18	Resolution to commemorate this day adopted by: <b>United Nations General Assembly</b>
35.	<b>242<sup>nd</sup> Corps of Engineers Day</b>	November 18	Celebrated by: <b>Indian Army</b>
36.	<b>World Antimicrobial Awareness Week</b>	November 18 – November 24	Theme: <b>Preventing Antimicrobial Resistance Together.</b>
37.	<b>World Toilet Day</b>	November 19	Theme: <b>Making the Invisible Visible</b>
38.	<b>International Men's Day</b>	November 19	Theme: <b>Helping men and boys</b>
39.	<b>World Heritage Week</b>	November 19 – November 25	The <b>Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)</b> announced <b>free entry</b> to its monuments on <b>November 19</b> to mark the commencement of Heritage week.
40.	<b>Women Entrepreneurship Day</b>	November 19	The <b>official campaign</b> of Women's Entrepreneurship Day 2022 is <b>#ChooseWomen</b> .
41.	<b>National Integration Day (Quami Ekta Diwas)</b>	November 19	This day is observed to promote <b>peace, unity</b> and <b>integration</b> among all segments of people in the country.
42.	<b>World Children's Day</b>	November 20	Theme: <b>Inclusion, for every child</b>
43.	<b>World Television Day</b>	November 21	This day is celebrated to <b>recognize and value</b> the role of <b>television</b> in an <b>individual's life</b> and how it has <b>transformed</b> society for the <b>better</b> .
44.	<b>World Fisheries Day</b>	November 21	This day is celebrated to demonstrate <b>solidarity</b> with all <b>fisher folk, fish farmers</b> and <b>concerned stakeholders</b> throughout the world. <b>Department of Fisheries</b> launched " <b>Sagar Parikrama Song</b> ".
45.	<b>International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women</b>	November 25	<b>Theme:</b> UNITE! Activism to End Violence against Women & Girls. <b>UNITE to End Violence against Women Campaign</b> has been launched as a part of the celebration  <b>About UNITE to End Violence against Women Campaign</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Launched in:</b> 2008</li><li>• <b>Led by:</b> United Nations (UN) Secretary-General &amp; UN Women</li><li>• <b>Campaign Duration:</b> 16 days (November 25 to December 10, 2022)</li></ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Aim:</b> to prevent and eliminate violence against women and girls around the world</li> </ul>
46.	<b>International Jaguar Day</b>	November 29	<b>Jaguar</b> is the <b>third largest Cat Predator of the World</b> <b>Scientific Name of Jaguar:</b> <i>Panthera onca</i>
47.	<b>55<sup>th</sup> National Library Week</b>	November 14 – November 18	Inaugurated at: <b>Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh</b>
48.	<b>Day of 8 billion</b>	November 15, 2022	On this day, the <b>population</b> of the earth reached <b>8 billion</b> .
49.	<b>Communal Harmony Campaign Week</b>	November 19 – November 25	Celebrated by: Council of Scientific & Industrial Research – National Institute of Science Communication & Policy Research (CSIR-NIScPR)
50.	<b>National Milk Day</b>	November 26	The day marks the <b>100<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary</b> of <b>Dr Verghese Kurien</b> , popularly known as the ' <b>Father of White Revolution</b> '.
51.	<b>Constitution Day/National Law Day</b>	November 26	On <b>November 26, 1949</b> , the <b>Constituent Assembly</b> of India <b>adopted</b> to the <b>Constitution of India</b> , and it <b>came into effect</b> on <b>January 26, 1950</b> .
52.	<b>74<sup>th</sup> Raising Ceremony of National Cadet Corps (NCC)</b>	November 27	--

### Miscellaneous News

S.No.	Miscellaneous News	Key Facts
1.	<b>Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) of the New Design and Camouflage Pattern Uniform registered</b>	IPR registered by: <b>Indian Army</b>
2.	<b>Collins Dictionary's word of the year for 2022 announced</b>	Word of the year: <b>permacrisis</b> (permanent + crisis)
3.	<b>AirAsia Aviation Group Ltd (AAAGL) recently sold the remaining stakes in its India Operations</b>	Stakes sold: <b>16.33%</b> Sold to: <b>Air India Ltd.</b> Amount: <b>Rs. 155 crores</b>
4.	<b>Honda Cars India</b> has reported crossing the <b>20 lakh</b> cumulative production milestone in the country.	The automaker began production operations in <b>December 1997</b> . It has so far cumulatively invested over <b>₹10,000 crore</b> since setting up its operations in India.
5.	<b>India's largest wind turbine installed at Mundra (Gujarat)</b>	At <b>200 meters height</b> , the wind turbine is taller than <b>Statue of Unity</b> Installed by – <b>Adani New Industries Limited</b> Capacity – <b>5.2 MW</b> ,
6.	<b>'FloodHub'</b> – by <b>Google</b> launched	The platform shows the <b>area and time where floods could occur</b> , in order to <b>inform people</b> about the natural calamity and authorities can assist them with effectively.
7.	<b>Top Oil supplier to India in October, 2022 – Russia</b> (almost <b>22%</b> of India's total crude imports)	Reported by: Energy Cargo Tracker ' <b>Vortexa</b> ' Russia surpassed <b>Saudi Arabia &amp; Iraq</b> .
8.	Top destination for India's <b>petroleum product exports</b> such as <b>petrol and diesel</b> in the <b>first half</b> of the current fiscal year - <b>The Netherlands</b>	The Netherlands becomes the <b>third biggest market</b> for India's <b>overall exports</b> , thereby <b>replacing China</b> .
9.	<b>13 Private Agencies Get Accredited for Mineral Exploration by Quality Council of India - National Accreditation Board for Education and Training (QCI-NABET)</b>	Accredited as per: <b>Mines &amp; Minerals (Development &amp; Regulation) MMDR Act</b> The total number of <b>government agencies</b> engaged in mineral exploration comes to <b>22</b> .

10.	<b>Fit India School Week Mascots – “Toofan &amp; Toofani” launched</b>	Launched by: <b>PV Sindhu</b>
11.	<b>Saudi Arabia commits \$2.5 billion to Middle East green initiative over the next 10 years</b>	Aim: To achieve <b>net-zero emissions by 2050.</b>
12.	<b>\$4.5 billion loan for Bangladesh to combat economic crisis</b>	To be given by: <b>International Monetary Fund (IMF)</b> The amount will be disbursed in <b>seven installments till December 2026.</b>
13.	<b>‘Chennai 1’ hyperscale data centre campus inaugurated</b>	Inaugurated by: <b>AdaniConneX</b> (a joint venture between <b>Adani Enterprises</b> and <b>EdgeConneX</b> )
14.	<b>UAE-based bank Emirates NBD recently announced an additional USD 100 million investment in its India operations</b>	2 more branches to be opened at: <b>Chennai, Tamil Nadu and Gurugram, Haryana</b>
15.	<b>World’s longest 50-day luxury river cruise – “Antara (Ganga Vilas)” in 2023</b>	Route: <b>Varanasi to Dibrugarh via Bangladesh</b>
16.	<b>India’s National Grid Operator “Power System Operation Corporation Limited (POSOCO)” changed its name</b>	New Name: <b>Grid Controller of India Limited</b>
17.	United States Department of Treasury has taken off <b>India’s name</b> from its <b>Currency Monitoring List (CML)</b> of major trading partners	Others removed: <b>Mexico, Thailand, Italy and Vietnam</b> Countries on the list: <b>7 (Japan, China, Korea, Singapore, Germany, Malaysia and Taiwan)</b>  About <b>CML</b> : Any country in the CML is called ‘ <b>currency manipulator</b> ’ which is a designation that the <b>US government</b> authorities give to countries that engage in “ <b>unfair currency practices</b> ” for trade benefits.
18.	<b>World Population recently grew to 8 billion</b>	<b>8 billionth baby:</b> Name - <b>Vinice Mabansag</b> Born in - <b>Manilla, Philippines</b> Gender - <b>Female</b>
19.	<b>Ghana</b> recently assumed the rotating <b>monthly presidency of United Nations (UN) Security Council (UNSC)</b> in November.	Ghana’s tenure in UNSC: <b>2 years</b>
20.	India becomes the <b>world's second-largest producer of steel</b> .	Announced by: <b>Ministry of Steel</b>  Additional Information: The <b>per capita steel consumption</b> grew from <b>57.8kg to 78kg</b> , registering a <b>growth of 50%</b> in the last <b>8 years</b> .
21.	<b>Alstom</b> recently bagged an order to <b>design, manufacture, supply, test, and commission standard gauge metro cars for Delhi Metro Phase IV expansion</b>	Order granted by: <b>Delhi Metro Rail Corp. (DMRC).</b>
22.	<b>The United States</b> recently imposed a fine as a <b>civil penalty on Air India over delay in refunds</b>	<b>Penalty: US\$ 1.4 million</b>
23.	<b>Tata Consumer Products</b> to <b>buy Bisleri International</b> for up to <b>Rs 7000 crore</b>	--
24.	<b>World’s longest (27-year) natural gas supply deal</b>	Signed between: <b>Qatar (Qatar Energy)</b> and <b>China</b> <b>Qatar Energy</b> will send <b>four million tonnes</b> of <b>liquefied natural gas</b> annually from its new <b>North Field East project</b> to <b>China Petroleum and Chemical Corporation (Sinopec)</b> .
25.	<b>Cambridge Dictionary ‘Word of the Year’ – 2022</b>	Word: <b>Homer</b> Meaning: It is an <b>informal American English word</b> signifying a <b>homerun</b> in <b>Baseball</b> .

26.	<b>Domestic Liquified Petroleum Gas (LPG) cylinders with Quick-Response (QR) codes</b> to be implemented	Implemented by: <b>Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOCL)</b> The consumers will be able to track and trace the cylinders.
27.	<b>India recently won the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) Vice Presidency and Strategic Management Board (SMB) Chair</b>	Term: <b>2023-25</b>  About IEC and SMB: IEC is an international <b>standard setting body</b> that publishes international Standards for all <b>electrical, electronic and related technologies</b> . SMB is an apex governance body of IEC responsible for technical policy matters.
28.	<b>Himalayan yak</b> was recently accepted as a food animal by the scientific panel of <b>Food Safety and Standard Authority of India (FSSAI)</b>	Recommended by: <b>Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD)</b>
29.	<b>Air Fest 2022</b>	Organized by: <b>Indian Air Force</b> Organized at: <b>Nagpur, Maharashtra</b> Aim: To showcase various <b>facets of Indian Air Force</b> and <b>motivate the youth of Nagpur</b> to choose Indian Air Force for an exciting career.
30.	<b>Government recently exempted Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) from taking its approval for manufacturing, storage, use and transportation of solid propellant for space rockets</b>	Aim: To promote <b>ease of doing business</b> .  Background: Earlier, ISRO was required to take a license from the <b>Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organisations (PESO)</b> , an arm of the <b>department for promotion of industry and internal trade (DPIIT)</b> .

Following are the YouTube reference videos for this week; however, this does not cover all the news and comprises of important news in a very crisp manner (not in detail):

Date	YouTube Video Link
1st November	<a href="https://youtu.be/3Xfv9Gg-l0o">https://youtu.be/3Xfv9Gg-l0o</a>
2nd November	<a href="https://youtu.be/15n2Q_RBXmg">https://youtu.be/15n2Q_RBXmg</a>
3rd November	<a href="https://youtu.be/YpjTedR8t24">https://youtu.be/YpjTedR8t24</a>
4th November	<a href="https://youtu.be/50Jg6hNL3_w">https://youtu.be/50Jg6hNL3_w</a>
5th to 7th November	<a href="https://youtu.be/MmoX09XCN9k">https://youtu.be/MmoX09XCN9k</a>
8 <sup>th</sup> November	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y9hw-eLcxVE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y9hw-eLcxVE</a>
9 <sup>th</sup> November	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FhLsR1fwER8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FhLsR1fwER8</a>
10 <sup>th</sup> November	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J6Zc69vMHCg">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J6Zc69vMHCg</a>
11 <sup>th</sup> November	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cJArOng3LfE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cJArOng3LfE</a>
12 <sup>th</sup> November	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IHCJxXudfJw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IHCJxXudfJw</a>
13 <sup>th</sup> & 14 <sup>th</sup> November	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q9WUZLDjh1Q">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q9WUZLDjh1Q</a>
15 <sup>th</sup> November	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WcRY0BzLnBA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WcRY0BzLnBA</a>
16 <sup>th</sup> November	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IPy0nUOI6w4">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IPy0nUOI6w4</a>
17 <sup>th</sup> November	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tK5xPQOfHVM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tK5xPQOfHVM</a>
18 <sup>th</sup> November	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uQUShOsawgs">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uQUShOsawgs</a>
19 <sup>th</sup> to 21 <sup>st</sup> November	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vLFcKpkbwU">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vLFcKpkbwU</a>
22 <sup>nd</sup> November	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bVkuSLK4A9Y">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bVkuSLK4A9Y</a>
23 <sup>rd</sup> November	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yyY_AdalqdE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yyY_AdalqdE</a>

24 <sup>th</sup> November	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O33u_L1u9yQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O33u_L1u9yQ</a>
25 <sup>th</sup> November	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lpz3QPVUEoU">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lpz3QPVUEoU</a>
26 <sup>th</sup> November	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LBDgvWRT0tA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LBDgvWRT0tA</a>
27 <sup>th</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup> November	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IDGWVvSEy24">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IDGWVvSEy24</a>
29 <sup>th</sup> November	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lr-i5c_eXaA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lr-i5c_eXaA</a>
30 <sup>th</sup> November	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZURYa7uHQUI">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZURYa7uHQUI</a>

## 2 GA + ESI in News

### PIB News

#### Social Sectors in India – Health

##### 2.1 Saliva Direct Sample Collection Kit

###### Why in News

- Recently, the **Technology Development Board** has signed an agreement to provide a loan of **Rs. 4 crores** for the development and Commercialization of **Saliva Direct Sample Collection Kit**.
- It is being developed by M/s **KRIYA Medical Technologies Private Limited**, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
- Total Project cost: **Rs. 9 crores**.

###### Key Details

- The company intends to manufacture the kit with a **Molecular Transport media (MTM)** that will advance molecular diagnosis of infectious diseases and cancer screening.
- The MTM enables the laboratory to **skip RNA isolation protocol** and **facilitates DNA isolation**.

###### Additional Information

- At the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, KRIYA came out **with India's first domestic**, ICMR-approved **nasopharyngeal swab-based sample collection kit** along with an innovative Safe Viral MTM.
- CEO of KRIYA Group of Companies: **Anuradha Moturi**.

##### 2.2 Training Programme on Herbal/ Traditional products

###### Why in News

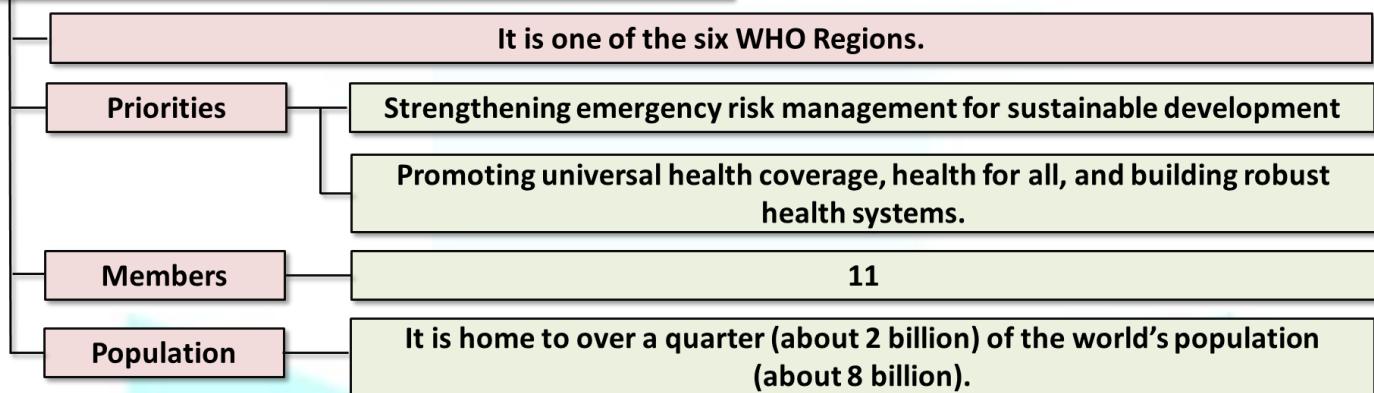
- Recently, the **WHO-SEARO (World Health Organisation – South East Asia Regional Office)** organised a **first-ever training program** for **Traditional/ Herbal Products** in India.
- It was organised in collaboration with the **Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine & Homoeopathy (PCIM&H)**, Ministry of Ayush.
- Objective:** To upgrade laboratory capacity for quality control of Traditional/Herbal products in the South East Asia region.

###### Key Details Shared

- As per the **Research and Information System Centre for Developing Countries report**, the industry is projected to reach **USD 23.3 billion in 2022**.

## About WHO South East Asia Regional Office (WHO-SEARO)

### WHO South East Asia Regional Office (WHO-SEARO)



## About PCIM&H

- It was established in 2010 as **Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine (PCIM)** as an autonomous body under Ministry of Ayush.
- Currently, it is a subordinate office under Ministry of AYUSH.

### 2.3 National Drugs Database

#### Why in News

- Recently, the government has constituted a **7-member expert panel/ committee** to prepare a National Drugs Database.

#### Key Details

- **Chairperson:** A K Pradhan, Joint drugs controller (India).
- **Aim:** To strengthen the monitoring mechanism for quality drugs and create a uniform regulatory mechanism.
- It will list the information on drugs, Manufacturers or Marketers, dosage forms, strengths, etc.
- It is supposed to submit its report within **three months**.

#### Additional Information

- At present, the **Ministry of Health** maintains 'Sugam', an index of drug licenses issued to companies by state FDAs (Food and drug Administration) while drug prices regulator NPPA (**National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority**) separately collects data on companies for price control.

### 2.4 Stop TB Partnership

#### Why in News

- Recently, the **Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare** agreed to host the **Stop TB Partnership's 36<sup>th</sup> Board meeting** in March, 2023, in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.
- Chair of the Stop TB Partnership's Board: **Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare**.

#### Key Details

## Stop TB Partnership

It is an <b>international organization</b> working to <b>serve every person</b> who is <b>vulnerable to TB</b> and ensure that <b>high-quality diagnosis, treatment and care</b> is available to all who need it.	
<b>Establishment</b>	<b>2000</b>
<b>Chairperson</b>	<b>Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, India (till 2024)</b>
<b>Secretariat</b>	Hosted by <b>United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)</b> in Geneva, Switzerland
<b>Highlights</b>	It is a ' <b>public-private partnership</b> '

### 2.5 16th Asian Conference on Diarrhoeal Disease and Nutrition (ASCODD)

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the **16<sup>th</sup> Asian Conference on Diarrhoeal Disease and Nutrition (ASCODD)** was held in **Kolkata, West Bengal**.
- Organized by:** Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)-National Institute of Cholera and Enteric Diseases (NICED), Kolkata
- Theme:** "Prevention and control of cholera, typhoid and other enteric diseases in low and middle-income countries through community participation: beyond the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic".

#### Additional Information

- The Global Task Force on Cholera Control (**GTFCC**) has formulated a new global cholera control strategy called **The Ending Cholera—A Global Roadmap to 2030**
  - Aim:** to reduce cholera deaths by 90% over the next decade.

### 2.1 Healthcare Leaders' Summit-2022

#### Why in News

- Recently, the **Union Minister of State for Science & Technology** has addressed the Healthcare Leaders' summit 2022 organised by the **Economic Times**.
- Topic: "**Building a Cohesive Healthcare Ecosystem in India through Proactive Government Initiatives**".

#### Key details shared

Particulars	Key figures
Medical visas were issued to foreigners between <b>2019 and 2022</b>	<b>More than 10 lakh</b>
Number of globally and nationally accredited hospitals in India that provide world-class treatment in a cost-effective manner.	Almost 600
<b>Healthcare sector in India</b> is expected to reach a size of <b>USD 50 billion</b>	<b>By 2025</b>
<b>Share in medical tourism of India</b> is expected to be <b>around USD 10 billion (Global: USD 72 billion)</b>	<b>By 2023</b>
World's largest supplier of <b>Generic Medicine</b>	<b>India</b>
Number of <b>Health-Tech Startup</b> in India	<b>Over 4000</b>

### 2.2 Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR)

#### Why in News

- Recently, the Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare congratulated the country because of significant decline in the **Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR)** in the country.

## Key details

Particulars	Key Figures
MMR in 2018-20 (As per the statistics derived from <b>Sample Registration System (SRS) of Registrar General of India</b> )	<b>97</b> (130 in 2014-16)
<b>National Health Policy (NHP) target for MMR (Achieved)</b>	Less than 100/ Lakh live birth
<b>SDG (Sustainable Development Goal) Target 3.1 for MMR</b>	Less than 70/ lakh live birth by <b>2030</b>
Number of States which have achieved SDG target	8

- **8 states are as follows:**
  - Kerala (19), Maharashtra (33), Telangana (43), Andhra Pradesh (45), Tamil Nadu (54), Jharkhand (56), Gujarat (57) and lastly Karnataka (69).

## About MMR

- It is defined as the **number of maternal deaths** during a given time period per 100,000 live births.

Note: **Sample Registration System (SRS) Statistical Report 2020** has been comprehensively covered in course under- ESI reports and Schemes.

## 2.3 3rd Global High-Level Ministerial Conference on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)

### Why in News

- Recently, the Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare has represented India at the **3<sup>rd</sup> Global High-Level Ministerial Conference on Antimicrobial Resistance**.

### 3rd Global High-Level Ministerial Conference on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)

It is a follow up of two earlier high level conferences held in the Netherlands in 2014 and 2019.	
Location	Muscat, Oman
Theme	The AMR: from Policy to One Health Action
Aim	To accelerate tackling the antimicrobial resistance at the national, regional, and global levels, as well as to enhance international cooperation
Organised by	Government of Oman in collaboration with Gulf Health Council for the Cooperation Council States as well as the Quadripartite Alliance (WHO, FAO, WOAH and UNEP) formed by the United Nations to monitor antibiotic resistance.
Reducing the total amount of antimicrobials used in agrifood systems by at least 30 -50% by 2030	
3 Global Targets	Preserving critically important antimicrobials for human medicine and ending the use of medically important antimicrobials for growth promotion in animals
Ensuring that 'Access' group antibiotics (a category of antibiotics that are affordable, safe and have a low AMR risk) represent at least 60 per cent of overall antibiotic consumption in humans by 2030.	

### Key details shared by the Union Minister

- Actions taken by the Government of India for AMR:

Initiatives	Key Information
National Health Policy, 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anti-Microbial Resistance (AMR) has been identified as a key priority in this policy.</li> </ul>

<b>National Action Plan for containment of AMR (NAP-AMR)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It was officially released on <b>19th April 2017</b>.</li> <li>It focuses on an <b>Integrated One Health approach</b> and involves coordination among various sectors at the state, national and international level.</li> </ul>
<b>Delhi Declaration on AMR</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is an <b>inter-ministerial consensus</b>, signed at the launch of NAP-AMR, by the ministers of the concerned ministries pledging their whole-hearted support in AMR containment.</li> </ul>
<b>AMR Surveillance Network</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ICMR (Indian Council of Medical Research) has established <b>AMR surveillance and research network (AMRSN)</b> comprising <b>30 tertiary care hospitals</b>, both private and government to generate evidence and capture trends and patterns of drug resistant infections in the country.</li> </ul>
<b>AMR Research &amp; International Collaboration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ICMR has taken initiatives to develop <b>new drugs /medicines</b> through international collaborations in order to strengthen medical research in AMR.</li> </ul>

## Social Sectors in India – Education

### 2.4 SERB-National Post-Doctoral Fellowship (N-PDF)

#### Why in News

- Recently, a total of **301 young researchers** have been selected for **support** under **SERB-National Post-Doctoral Fellowship (N-PDF)**, to work for **2 years** in areas of science and engineering.
- Aim:** To identify motivated young researchers and provide them support for doing research in frontier areas of science and engineering.

#### Key Details

- The support includes:

Particulars	Financial Support
<b>A monthly fellowship</b>	<b>Rs. 55,000/- per month</b> (consolidated) and <b>Rs. 35,000/ p.m</b> for candidates who have submitted the thesis but degree not awarded
<b>An annual research grant</b>	<b>Rs. 2,00,000/- per annum</b>
The Overheads for the host institution	<b>Rs. 1,00,000/- per annum.</b>

- Five thematic areas of Research:** Chemical Sciences, Earth & Atmospheric Sciences, Engineering Sciences, Life Sciences, and Physical & Mathematical Sciences.
- Eligibility:** Candidates within the **upper age limit of 35 years**, with **Ph.D/M.D/M.S** degree from a recognized University and also those who have submitted their Ph.D/M.D/M.S thesis and are awaiting award of the degree.
- The fellowship was **initiated in 2015**.

#### About Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB)

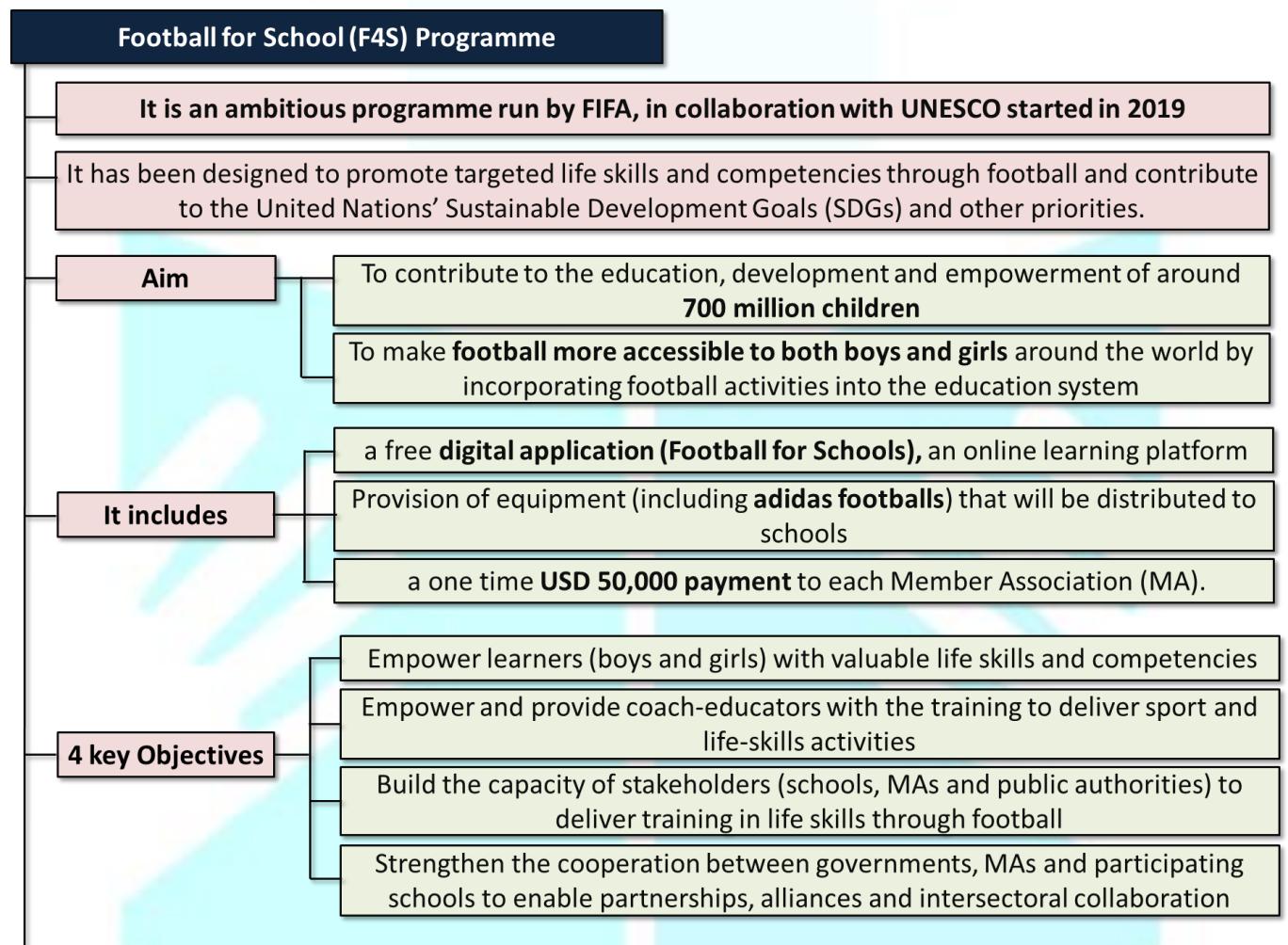
- It is a **statutory body** established through an **Act of Parliament (SERB Act 2008)** under the Department of Science and Technology (DST).
- Aim:** To build up the best management systems that would match the best global practices in the area of promotion and funding of basic research in Science and Engineering.

### 2.5 ‘Football4Schools’ initiative

#### Why in News

- Recently, the Ministry of Education signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **FIFA (International Federation of Association Football)** and **All India Football Federation** for the ‘Football4Schools’ initiative in India.

### Key Details



## 2.6 Assessment & Accreditation of Higher Educational Institutions

### Why in News

- Recently, the Ministry of Education has created a high-level panel to strengthen the assessment and accreditation of higher educational institutions.
- Chairmanship:** K Radhakrishnan, chairperson, Board of Governors, IIT Kanpur.
- Mandate of the Committee includes:**
  - Preparing a road map for the National Accreditation Council envisioned in the National Education Policy, 2020.

## 2.7 Swachh Vidyalaya Puraskar 2021- 22

### Why in News

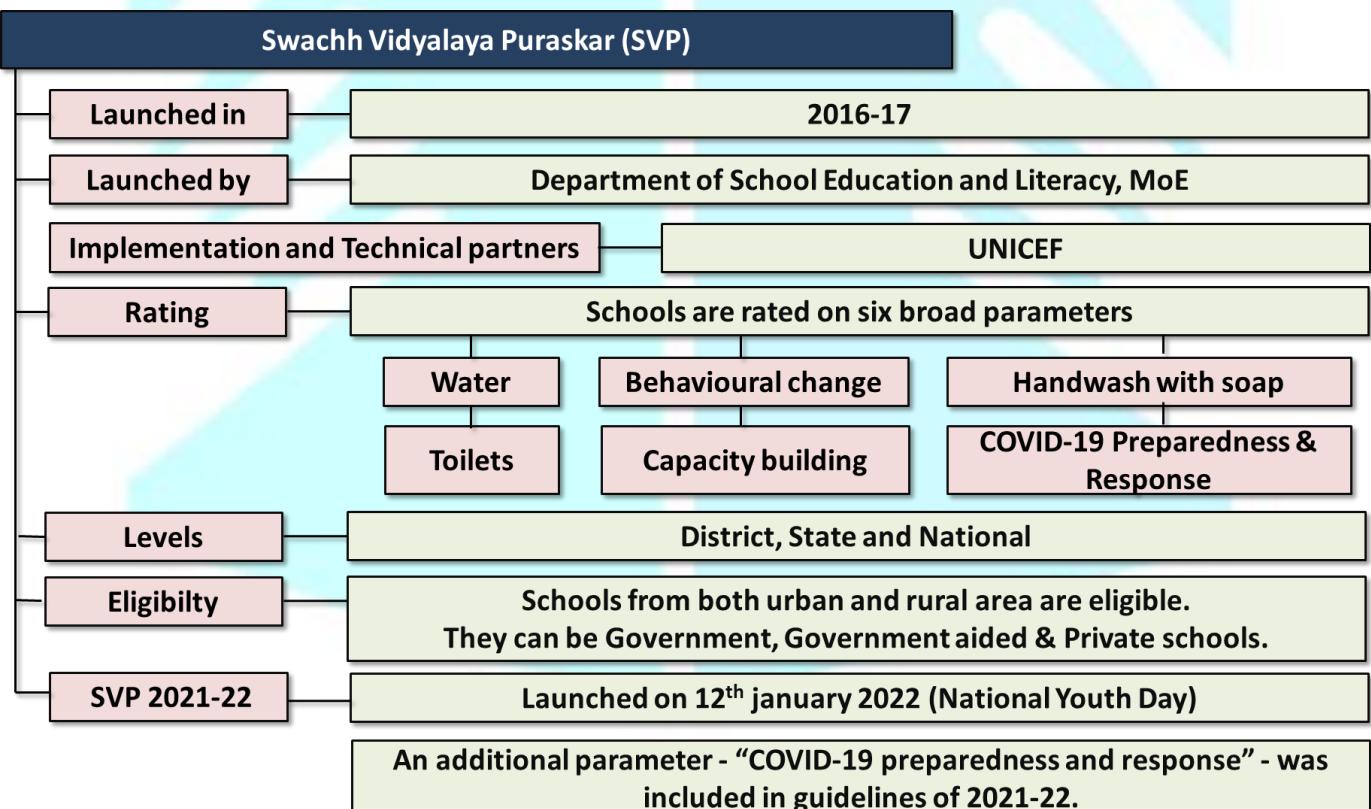
- Recently, National Award Ceremony has been organised for the **Swachh Vidyalaya Puraskar 2021-22 (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition)** by Ministry of Education (MoE).

### Key details shared

- The National Selection Committee selected 39 schools (34 in overall category and 5 in sub-categories) for National level awards, after 3rd party evaluation by UNICEF partner agency (NEERMAN).

Selected Schools	Composition
39	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>21 schools are from rural areas and 18 from urban areas.</li><li>28 schools are government/ government aided while 11 are private schools.</li><li>17 are elementary and 22 are secondary/ higher secondary schools.</li><li>It also includes 2 Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas and 1 Navodaya Vidyalaya and 3 Kendriya Vidyalayas.</li></ul>

- Cash prizes: Rs. 60,000 (in overall category) and Rs. 20,000 (in sub-categories).



### Additional information

- On 15<sup>th</sup> August 2014, Prime Minister declared that all schools in the country should have toilets with separate toilets for girls **within a period of one year**.
  - Accordingly, **Swachh Vidyalaya Initiative** was launched in **2014**.
  - Under this initiative, a record number of **4,17,796 toilets were constructed in 2,61,400 schools**, including **1,90,887 girls toilets** in one year period upto 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2015.

## Sustainable Development and Environmental issues

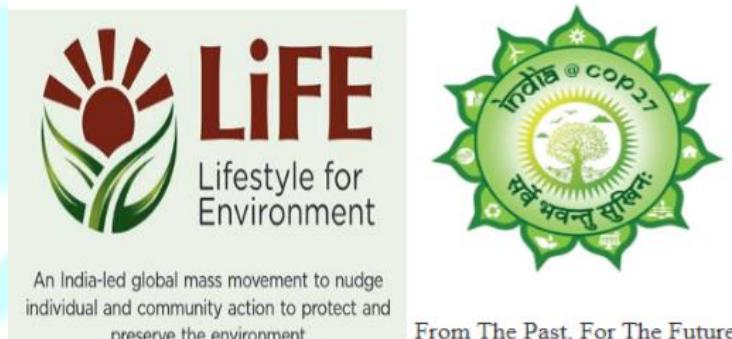
## 2.8 27<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties (COP27)

### News 1

- Recently, the 27<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) [COP27] / Sharm el-Sheikh Climate Change Conference was hosted by **Egypt** under its **Presidency at Sharm el-Sheikh**.
- At the event, the Indian Delegation emphasized **Mission LiFE** & Sustainable Development Goal -12 (**SDG-12**) - **responsible consumption and production**.

#### News 2

- India Pavilion** has been set up at **COP27**.
- Theme of India Pavilion:** “LiFE- Lifestyle for Environment”.
- Slogan:** May everyone be happy (सर्व भवन्तु सुखिना)
- Logo of Mission LiFE & India Pavilion**



#### News 3

- The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (**MNRE**), **Ministry of Power**, in partnership with Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (**IREDA**), Solar Energy Corporation of India (**SECI**) and the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (**CEEW**) have hosted an **International Conference** at the India Pavilion at **COP27**.
- Conference Title / Theme:** “Citizen-centric energy transition: Empowering citizens with Mission LiFE (Lifestyles for Environment)”.
- Chaired by:** Bhupinder Singh Bhalla, Secretary, MNRE.

#### News 4

- The Department of Science & Technology (**DST**) & Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council (**TIFAC**) have conducted a **panel discussion** on “**Technology Needs Assessment for Sustainable Life**” at the **India Pavilion** at **COP 27**.

#### News 5

- The National Museum of Natural History (**NMNH**), under the Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change and United Nations Development Programme (**UNDP**) have jointly launched “**In Our LiFETIME**” campaign at India Pavilion at COP 27.
- Aim:** to encourage youth between the ages of 18 to 23 years to become message bearers of sustainable lifestyles.

#### News 6

- Recently, the Mangrove Alliance for Climate (**MAC**) initiative has been **launched on the side-lines COP27 at Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt**.

#### Key Information Shared

Particulars	Key Details
<b>Distribution of Mangroves</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Mangroves</b> are distributed in the <b>tropical and sub-tropical regions</b></li> <li>They are found in <b>123 countries</b>.</li> </ul>

- Mangroves account for **3% of carbon sequestered by the world's tropical forests.**

### Mangrove Alliance for Climate (MAC)

Launched/ Led by	United Arab Emirates (UAE) & Indonesia
Partners	India, Australia, Japan, Spain and Sri Lanka
Aim	to raise awareness about mangroves as a 'nature-based' solution to climate change

- Initiative aligned with India's Nationally determined contributions (**NDC**) – to **create an additional carbon sink of 2.5 to 3 billion tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent through additional forest and tree cover by 2030.**

**Note:** Mission LiFE discussed in October 2022 CA Magazine (News 2.8).

### News 7

- Recently, **countries** agreed to establish the **first loss & damage fund for vulnerable countries hit hard by climate disasters** at the **27th Conference of Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) [COP27]** at Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt.
  - **COP27 President:** Sameh Shoukry (Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt).
- A **transnational committee** would be setup to **recommend the actual adoption of the fund** at **COP28 in 2023.**
  - **COP28 Presidency & Host:** United Arab Emirates (UAE).

### United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

Signed in	1992 during the Rio Earth Summit
Effective Date	21 March 1994
Objective	to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere to avoid dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.
Secretariat (UN Climate Change)	Bonn, Germany
Total Parties	198

### Three Rio Conventions

- **Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)**  
 ➤ **United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)**  
 ➤ **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)**

### News 8

- Recently, the **first annual high-level ministerial round table on pre-2030 ambition** was held on the sidelines of **COP27**.
- **Convened by:** COP27 Presidency (Egypt)
- **Focus Area:** to discuss the ways to achieve the long-term temperature goal of the Paris Agreement.

### News 9

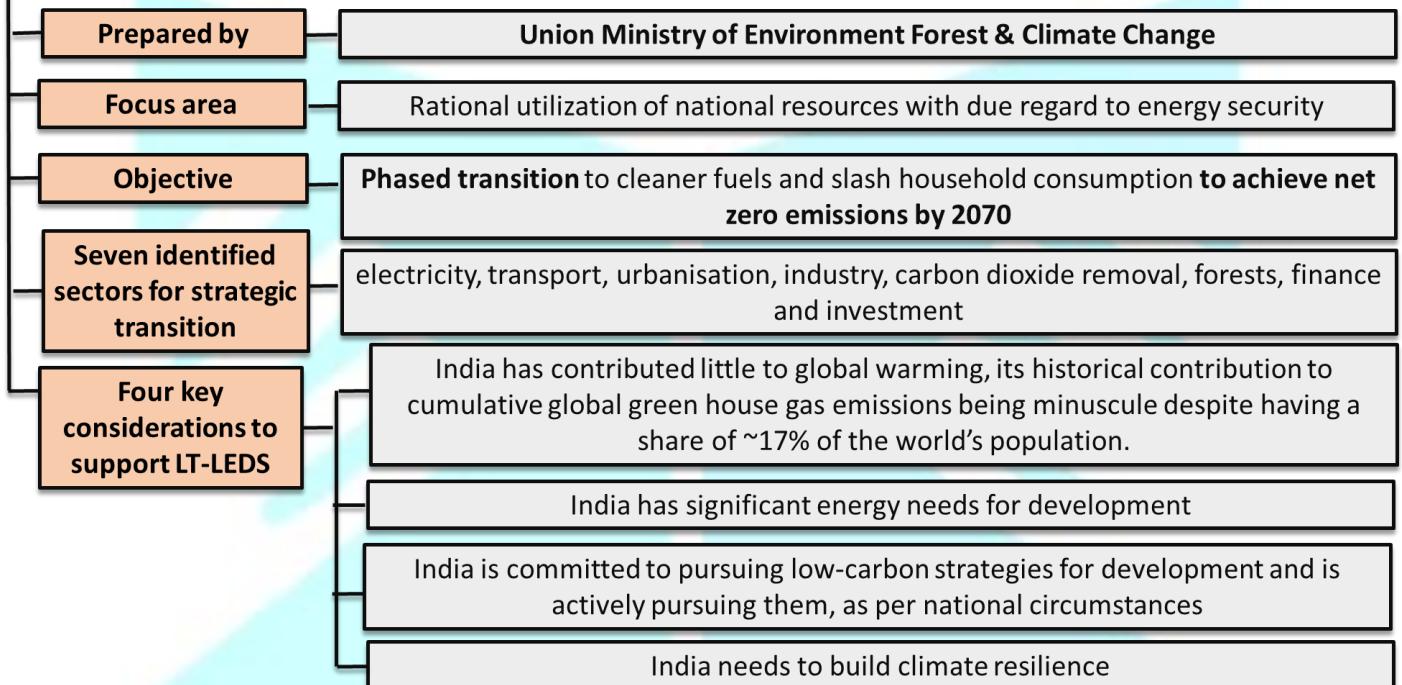
- '**Sharm el-Sheikh Implementation Plan**'- the **summary of all key decisions** arrived at the COP27 was released.

- It highlighted that a **global transformation to a low-carbon economy** is expected to require investments of at least USD 4-6 trillion a year.

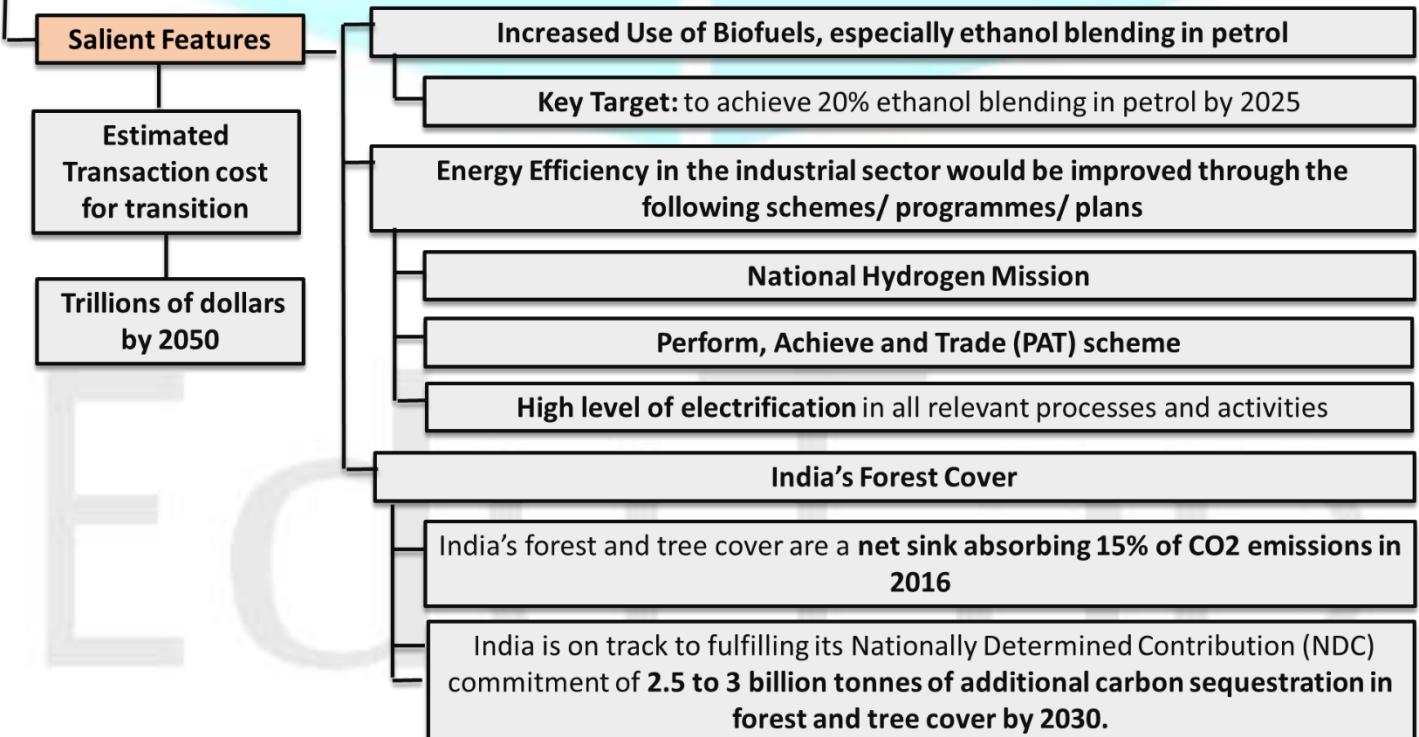
#### News 10

- Recently, the **Government of India** has submitted its **Long-Term Low Emissions and Development Strategies (LT-LEDS)** to UNFCCC at **COP27**.
  - Indian Delegation Led by:** Union Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change.
- India has submitted LT-LEDS as per the requirements of **Paris Agreement**
- So far, **only 56 countries** have submitted **LT-LEDS** to UNFCCC.

#### India's Long-Term Low Emissions and Development Strategies (LT-LEDS)



#### India's Long-Term Low Emissions and Development Strategies (LT-LEDS)



## Paris Agreement

	a legally binding international treaty on climate change
Adopted at	COP 21 in Paris, France on 12 December 2015
Adopted by	196 Parties
Effective Date	4 November 2016
Goal	to limit global warming to well below 2, preferably to 1.5 degrees Celsius, compared to pre-industrial levels.
NDCs	Countries must mandatorily submit their plan for climate action/NDC by <b>2020 &amp; every five years thereafter. (Article 4)</b>
LT-LEDs	Countries can submit LT-LEDS by 2020, its is <b>optional</b>

### Additional Information

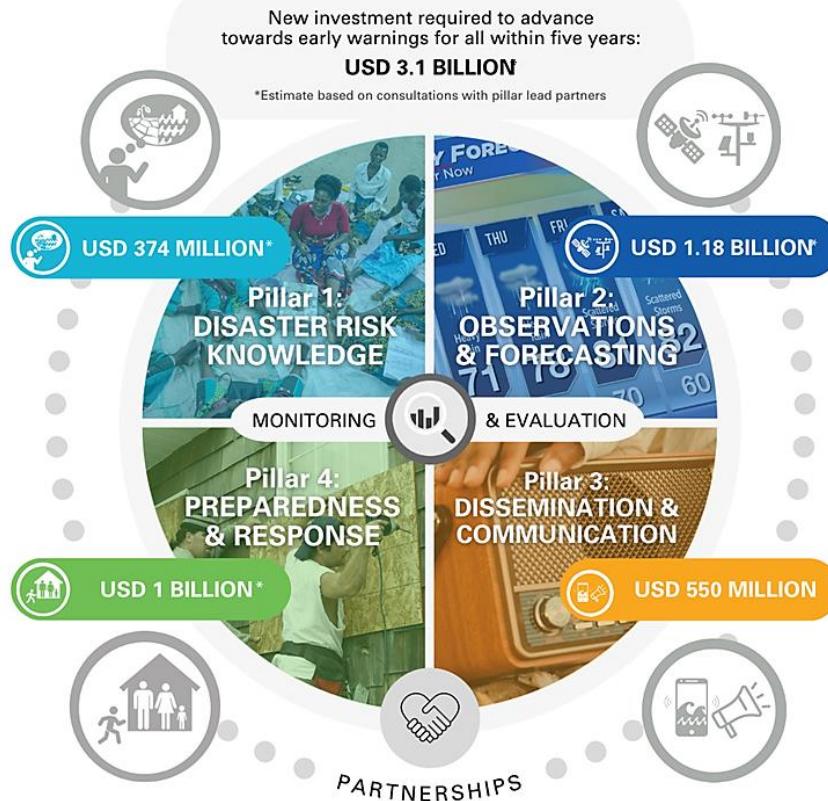
- Common But Differentiated Responsibilities (**CBDR**) is a **principle within the UNFCCC**
- It was formalized during Earth Summit in 1992 at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

## News 11

- The United Nations (**UN**) **Secretary-General-High-Level Round Table** was organized during the **World Leaders' Summit at COP27**.
- During the meeting, the **Executive Action Plan of Early Warnings for All** was launched.

### Executive Action Plan of Early Warnings for All

Released by	World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
Objective	to develop a global early warning system for extreme weather events intensified by climate change
Duration	2023-2027
Initial Investment	<b>USD 3.1 billion</b> to deliver early warning systems for all between <b>2023 and 2027</b>
	It is equivalent to <b>50 cents</b> (approximately <b>Rs 41</b> ) per person per year.
	Represent <b>6%</b> of the <b>USD 50 billion</b> requested for <b>adaptation financing</b>



### Key Information Shared

Particulars	Key Information
<b>Web-based Dynamic Composite Risk Analysis (Web-DCRA)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Developed by:</b> National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) in collaboration with India Meteorological Department (IMD) &amp; State Governments of coastal states</li> <li><b>Developed under:</b> National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project (NCRMP) of NDMA</li> <li>It enables <b>swift and advanced action on early warnings.</b></li> </ul>
<b>DRI Connect</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Initiative of:</b> Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI)</li> <li>A web-based platform for stakeholders engaged in infrastructure sectors.</li> </ul>

### News 12

- The Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (**CDRI**) has announced **Infrastructure Resilience Accelerator Fund (IRAF)** at Indian Pavilion at COP27.

#### Infrastructure Resilience Accelerator Fund (IRAF)

**Established by** Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (**CDRI**) with support from United Nations Development Programme (**UNDP**), United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (**UNDRR**)

**Supported by** India, the United Kingdom (UK), Australia and the European Union

**Managed by** United Nation Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (UN MPTFO), New York

**Objective** to support global action on disaster resilience of infrastructure systems, especially in developing countries and Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

**Financial Commitment** Around \$50 million in financial commitments have been announced for IRAF for an initial duration of five years.

### Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI)

Proposed & Launched by	Narendra Modi, the Prime Minister of India
Launched in	September 2019 at UN Climate Action Summit in New York
Total Members	31 countries and eight member organizations.
Aim	To promote the resilience of new and existing infrastructure systems to climate and disaster risks, thereby ensuring sustainable development
Secretariat	New Delhi
Financial Support from India	Rs 480 crore

### News 13

- A session on Accelerating Resilient Infrastructure in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) was held at the **UNFCCC Pavilion** on the side lines of COP 27.
- Infrastructure for Resilient Island States (**IRIS**) vision 2022-2030 was released during the event.
- First 'Call of Proposals' for the roll out of projects under IRIS was also announced.
  - These projects will be rolled out through Infrastructure Resilience Accelerator Fund (**IRAF**).
  - **IRIS** will be the first initiative that will be rolled out through the **IRAF**.

### Infrastructure for Resilient Island States (IRIS)

Launched at	World Leaders Summit at COP26 in November 2021
Launched by	India, The United Kingdom, Australia, Fiji, Jamaica and Mauritius
Initiative of	Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) with support from CDRI members and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) representatives
Aim	to support SIDS in achieving sustainable development through a systematic approach to resilient, sustainable, and inclusive infrastructure

### News 14

- The **Government of India & United Nations (UN) in India** hosted a side event "Understanding the Concept of LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment" at **India Pavilion at COP 27**.
- During the event, a **Compendium** titled '**Prayaas Se Prabhaav Tak – From Mindless Consumption to Mindful Utilization**' was launched.
- **Compendium drafted by:** Union Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC) & United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).
- It highlights **traditional best practices from India** & proposes a **LiFE framework** to move towards mindful utilization of resources

### News 15

- Recently, **Toolbox of Solutions for urban decarbonization** was launched at **COP27**

## Toolbox of Solutions for Urban Decarbonization

Launched by	World Economic Forum ( <b>WEF</b> ) in partnership with National Institute of Urban Affairs ( <b>NIUA</b> ), Sustainable Energy for All ( <b>SEforALL</b> ), Basel Agency for Sustainable Energy ( <b>BASE</b> ), and Electric Power Research Institute ( <b>EPRI</b> )
Knowledge Partner	Accenture
Key Features	<p>It is a <b>compilation of global best practices</b> to reduce emissions</p> <p>It has been designed to work in tandem with the <b>City Sprint Process</b></p>
Background	<p>It is estimated that 68% of people will live in cities by 2050</p> <p>It would result in increased energy consumption &amp; carbon emissions</p> <p>Cities play an important role in achieving net zero</p>

### About City Sprint Process

- **Initiative of:** WEF in collaboration with Accenture
- It is a **series of guided workshops** engaging business, government, and civil society leaders from energy, transport and built environment sectors.
- **Objective:** to catalyze decarbonization initiatives through energy efficiency, clean electrification and resource circularity.

## News 16

- Recently, the **Accelerating to Zero (A2Z) Coalition** was launched on the **COP27 Solutions Day (17<sup>th</sup> November 2022)** at COP27.

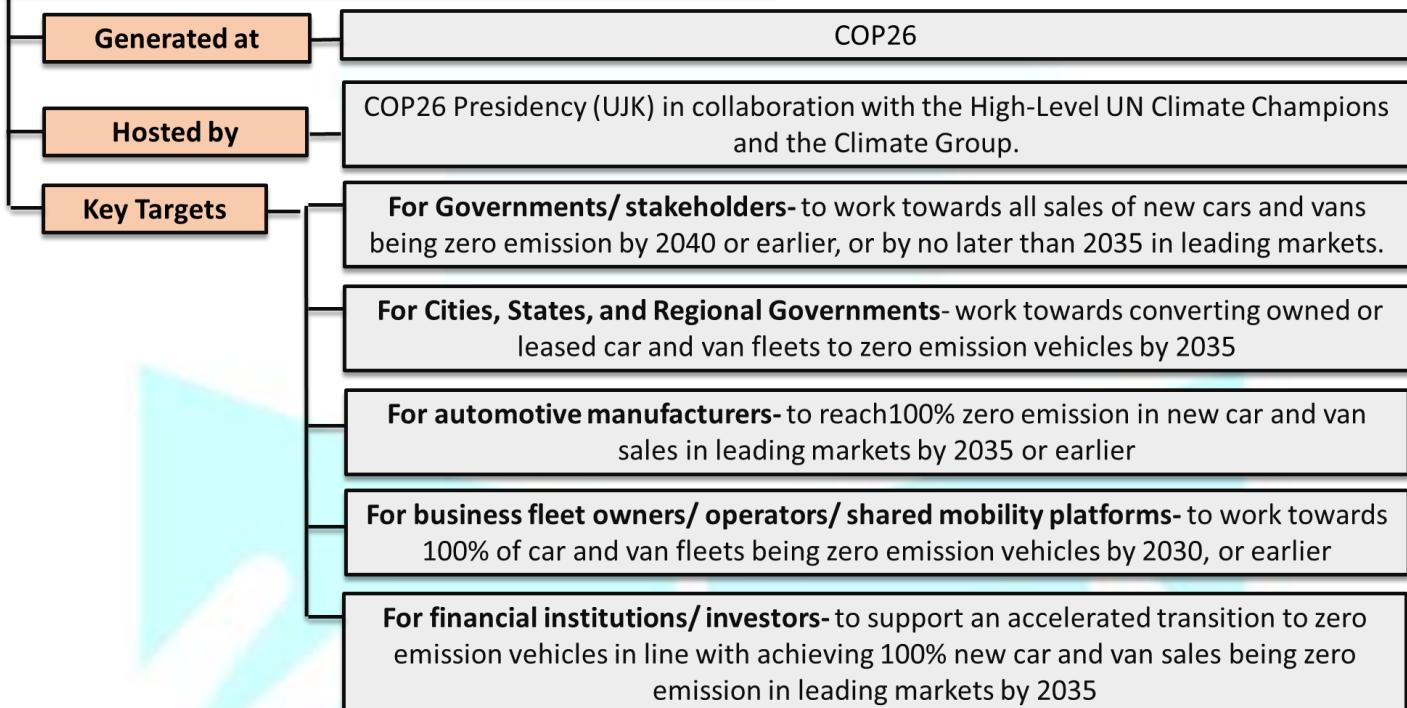
### Accelerating to Zero (A2Z) Coalition

	World's largest transportation coalition
Launched by	COP26 Presidency (United Kingdom), The Climate Change High-Level Champions, the International Council on Clean Transportation, Climate Group, and the Drive Electric Campaign
objective	to drive global transition to zero-emission vehicle in line with the Paris Agreement
Target	The partners & signatories will work towards the sales of new cars and vans being zero emission no later than <b>2035</b> in leading markets and <b>2040</b> globally.
Signatories	over 200 signatories from Governments and private sector stakeholders
Parent Declaration	Zero Emission Vehicles Declaration ( <b>ZEV Declaration</b> )

### Additional Information

- Transportation accounts for approximately 20% of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

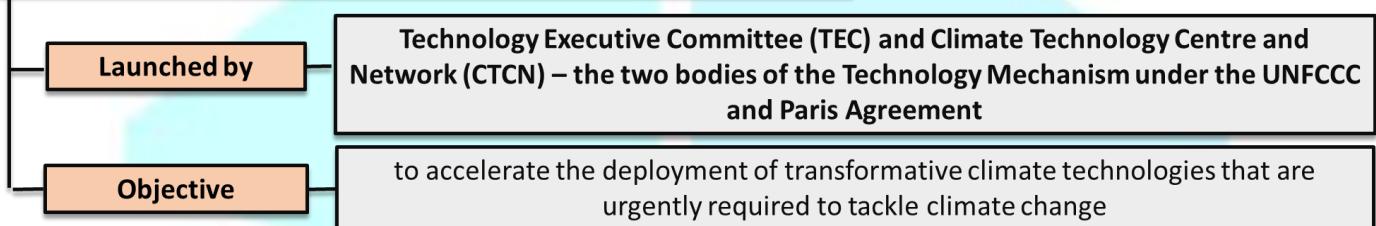
## Zero Emission Vehicles (ZEV) Declaration



### News 17

- Recently, a **new Joint Work Programme of the UNFCCC Technology Mechanism for 2023-2027** was launched at the **COP27**.

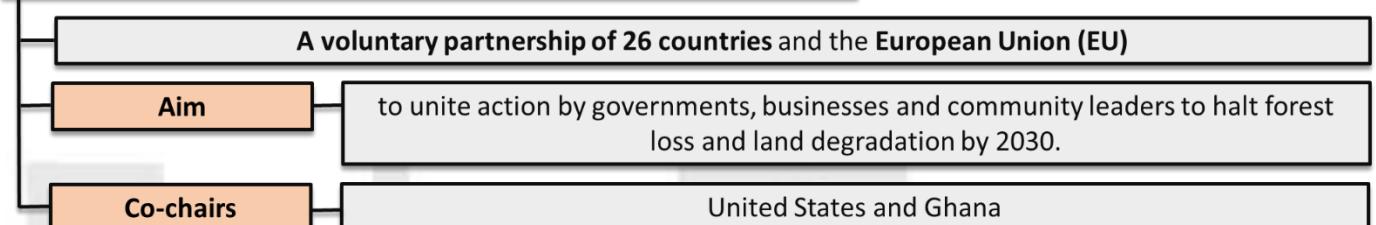
#### Joint Work Programme of the UNFCCC Technology Mechanism for 2023–2027



### News 18

- Recently, the **Forest and Climate Leaders' Partnership (FCLP)** was launched at the **COP27**.

#### Forest and Climate Leaders' Partnership (FCLP)



### News 19

- Recently, **Global Shield against Climate Risks** was launched at the **COP 27** by **Group of Seven (G7)** and the **Vulnerable Twenty (V20)**

### Global Shield against Climate Risks

Initiative of	G7 & V20 Group
Key Feature	It will provide pre-arranged financial support designed to be quickly deployed in times of climate disasters
Initial Funding	over USD 200 million
First Beneficiaries	Pakistan, Bangladesh, Costa Rica, Fiji, Senegal, Philippines and Ghana

The World Bank has launched **Global Shield Financing Facility** to support the Initiative

#### About G7

- **Establishment:** 1975; **Members:** Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the UK, the US & the EU

#### About V20 Group

- **Establishment:** 2015; **Secretariat:** Geneva, Switzerland

## News 20

- Recently, the Action for Water Adaptation and Resilience (**AWARe**) initiative was launched at the COP27.

### Action for Water Adaptation and Resilience (**AWARe**)

Initiative of	COP 27 Presidency (Egypt) & World Meteorological Organisation (WMO)
Objective	to address water security as part of climate change adaptation.
Three Priority Areas for Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Decrease water losses worldwide and improve water supply</li><li>Promote mutually agreed, cooperative water adaptation action</li><li>Promote cooperation and interlinkages between water and climate action to achieve Agenda 2030, in particular sustainable development goal (SDG)- 6 (clean water and sanitation for all)</li></ul>

## News 21

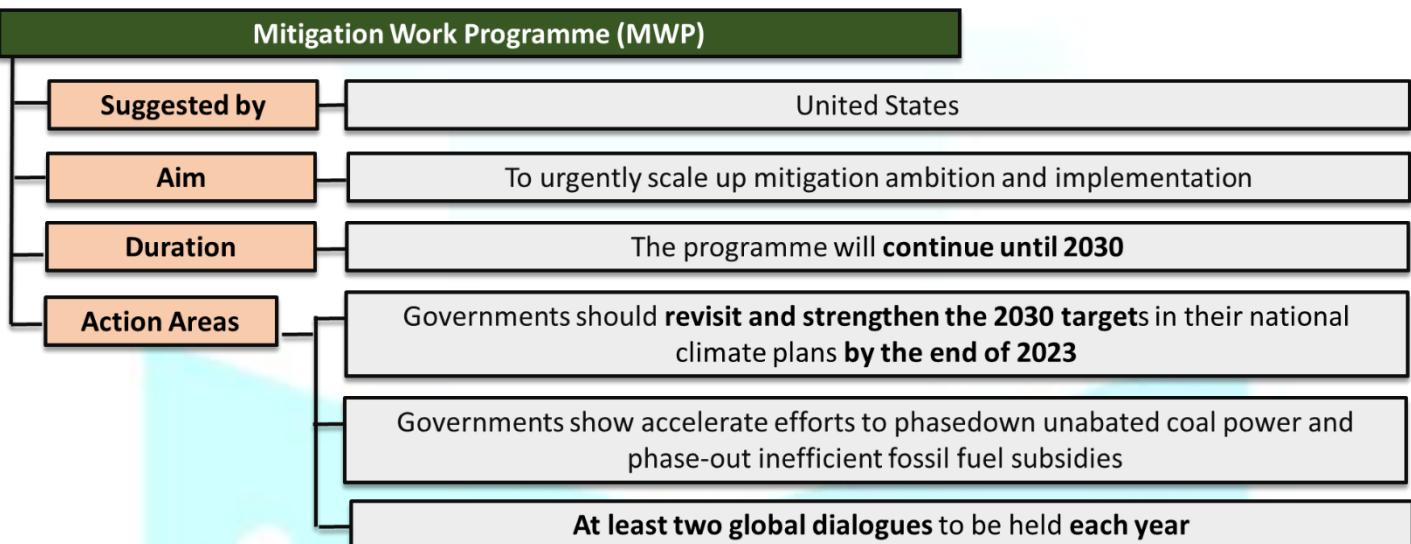
- Recently, a **package of 25 new collaborative actions to be delivered by COP28 under the breakthrough agenda** was launched at the COP27.

### Breakthrough Agenda

Initiated by	UK COP26 Presidency partnership with the Race to Zero and the UN Climate Change High Level Champions,
Initial Launch	COP26 World Leaders' Summit by 45 Countries (including India)
Overseen by	Mission Innovation and Clean Energy Ministerial from COP27 through to COP28.
Key Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A 12 month action plan to accelerate decarbonization of five key sectors</li><li><b>Five Key Sectors</b> power, road transport, steel, hydrogen and agriculture</li><li><b>Total Priority Actions</b> 25</li></ul>
Target	to work together this decade to scale and speed up the development and deployment of clean technologies to help keep the 1.5 degree Celsius goal in reach

## News 22

- Recently, the **Mitigation Work Programme (MWP)** was launched at the **COP 27**.



## News 23

- Recently, the **second technical dialogue** of the **first global stocktake of the Paris Agreement** was held at the **COP27**.
- Key Information Shared:** The UN Secretary-General will convene a climate ambition summit at COP28.

### What is global stocktake?

- It is the process for taking stock of the **implementation of the Paris Agreement**.
- Aim:** to assess the world's collective progress towards achieving the purpose of the agreement and its long-term goals.
- The first global stocktake has started in 2021 and will end in 2023 & will be repeated every 5 years thereafter.**

## News 24

- Recently, **Indian Oil** has organized a session as a part of side events at the **Indian Pavilion at COP27**.
- Scope:** The session covered IndianOil's initiatives on biofuels, sustainable solar based cooking, carbon efficient refinery technologies and its initiatives in energy transition.

### Key Sustainable Initiatives of Indian Oil

Particulars	Key Information
<b>Key Target</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Indian Oil has set target to <b>achieve Net Zero Scope 1&amp;2 emissions by 2046</b></li></ul>
<b>Surya Nutan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>An <b>indigenous solar cookstove</b> developed by <b>IndianOil and Ministry of Petroleum &amp; Natural gas</b></li></ul>

## News 25

- The **Nature Conservancy India** hosted a **discussion** at the **India Pavilion** on the sidelines of **COP27**.
- Discussion Topic:** "Climate Smart Urban Development: An Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) for Enhancing Climate Resilience in India."
- Two reports by Nature Conservancy India** were launched during the event, viz,
  - "An integrated approach for urban wetland restoration – A case study of Sembakkam Lake, Chennai, Tamil Nadu"
  - "Greenprint for Chennai – Integrating natural infrastructure for city planning".

### Key Information Shared

Particulars	Key Information
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India's Land Restoration Target

- India aims to restore 26 million hectares of degraded land by 2030

#### About The Nature Conservancy (TNC)

- Establishment:** 1951; **Headquarters:** Virginia, United States.

#### News 26

- India & Sweden** hosted the **LeadIT (Leadership for Industry Transition) Summit** on the side-lines of COP27.

##### Leadership Group for Industry Transition (LeadIT)

Launched in	September 2019 during the United Nations (UN) Climate Action Summit
Initiative of	Governments of India & Sweden
Feature	It gathers countries and companies that are committed to action to achieve the Paris Agreement.
Key Target	The members of LeadIT are committed to reaching net-zero carbon emissions from industry by 2050.

#### News 27

- Brazil, South Africa, India and China (BASIC) Ministerial Meet** was organized on the sidelines of COP27.
- Chaired by:** Barbara Creecy, Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (South Africa).
- BASIC Ministerial Joint Statement** was adopted at the meeting.

#### Key Information Shared

Particulars	Key Information
Blended capital thematic funds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Government of India would be setting up blended capital thematic funds in the 'sunrise' sectors of climate action, agriculture and deep technology.</li> <li>The Government's share would be limited to 20%.</li> <li>Funds would be managed by private fund managers.</li> <li>The idea was proposed during the Union Budget 2022-23 announcement.</li> </ul>

##### BASIC - a bloc of four large newly industrialized countries

Establishment	November 2009
Members	Brazil, South Africa, India and China

#### News 28

- COP 27 Young Scholars Award 2022** was presented to **four young scholars** by **UNDP India & United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF India)**.

**Note:** COP27 discussed in 8<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> November 2022 CA Magazine (News 2.6)

#### 2.9 Trees Outside Forests in India (TOFI) Programme

##### Why in News?

- Recently, the **Government of Haryana & U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)** has launched Trees Outside Forests in India (**TOFI**) programme in **Haryana**.

**Note:** TOFI programme discussed in October CA Magazine (News 2.77).

## 2.10 Jal Jeevan Survekshan 2023

### Why in News

- Recently, for the first time, the monthly ranks were announced under Jal Jeevan Survekshan 2023 by the **Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation (DDWS)**.
- It is announced for the **month of October 2022**.

### Key details

- It is started by the **DDWS** as part of the **Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)**.
- Aim:** To incentivize States/ Districts functionaries to strive for better performances and improved water service delivery in rural areas.
- Evaluation process:** The districts are evaluated on the basis of **self-reporting in IMIS (Integrated Management Information System) portal of JJM** and **assessment of the functionality of tap connections and ground verification**, through an **independent agency**.
- The districts are categorized under **five heads** based on the **proportion of households with functional tap connections**.

Best Performing Districts				
Category	Functional Tap Coverage	Rank 1	Rank 2	Rank 3
Front Runners	100%	Ambala (Haryana)	Rohtak (Haryana)	Faridabad (Haryana)
High Achievers	75% to 100%	Kolasib (Mizoram)	Serchhip (Mizoram)	Ranipet (Tamil Nadu)
Achievers	50% to 75%	Champhai (Mizoram)	Mamit (Mizoram)	Mayiladuthurai (Tamil Nadu)
Performers	25% to 50%	Kallakurichi (Tamil Nadu)	East Jaintia Hills (Meghalaya)	Mon (Nagaland)
Aspirants	0% to 250%	Shahjahanpur (UP)	Bulandshahr (UP)	Bareilly (UP)

Fast Moving Districts			
Category	Rank 1	Rank 2	Rank 3
Achievers	Leh (Ladakh)	Kargil (Ladakh)	Gangtok (Sikkim)
Performers	Mon (Nagaland)	East Jaintia Hills (Meghalaya)	Mahoba (UP)
Aspirant	Shahjahanpur (UP)	Mirzapur (UP)	Bulandshahr (UP)

Graduating Districts	
Category	Number of Districts
Graduating to Front Runners	13
Graduating to High Achievers	6
Graduating to Achievers	4
Graduating to Performers	7

### Additional information

- Jal Jeevan Survekshan (JJS) Toolkit – 2023** has been launched by the Vice-President of India in October 2022.
  - Developed by: **Ministry of Jal Shakti**.

## 2.11 CEO round table on Sustainable Tourism

### Why in News

- Recently, the Ministry of Tourism has organised a '**CEO (Chief Executive Officer) round table on Sustainable Tourism**' in New Delhi.
- Organised in collaboration with: **United Nations Environment Program (UNEP)** and **Responsible Tourism Society of India (RTSOI)**.
- Aim:** To enhance awareness of industry stakeholders on national and global priorities for sustainable tourism and share and promote best practices on sustainable tourism.
- It was organised in alignment with the **National Strategy for Sustainable Tourism**.
- Following three important initiatives on sustainable Tourism was signed by participants:
  - **Travel for LiFE Pledge**
  - **Resposible Traveller Campaign.**
  - **Global Tourism Plastic Initiative.**

### About Responsible Tourism Society of India (RTSOI)

- Establishment: **2008**.
- It is a non-profit organization formed at the behest of **Ministry of Tourism**.
- It was formerly known as the **Ecotourism Society of India (ESOI)**.
- Aim:** To promote and ensure environmentally responsible and sustainable practices in the tourism industry.

## 2.12 Special meeting of UN Country Team (UNCT)

### Why in News?

- Recently, a **Special Meeting** of the **United Nations Country Team (UNCT)** was held at the UN House, **New Delhi**.
- The meeting deliberated **the key themes and takeaways from 27<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties (COP 27)**.
- A Climate Change Photo Exhibition was inaugurated with the **Swiss Embassy** at the **UN House in New Delhi**.

### About UNCT

- UNCT includes all the **UN entities** working on **sustainable development, emergency, recovery and transition in programme countries**.
- UNCT is **functional in 132 countries**, covering all of the 162 countries where there are UN programmes
- Led by:** UN Resident Coordinator (representative of the UN Secretary-General in a country).

## 2.13 COP 19 to the CITES

- Recently, the 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (**CoP 19**) to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (**CITES**) or the **World Wildlife Conference** was held at **Panama City, Panama**.
- The CoP is being **convened every two to three years** to review the implementation of the Convention.

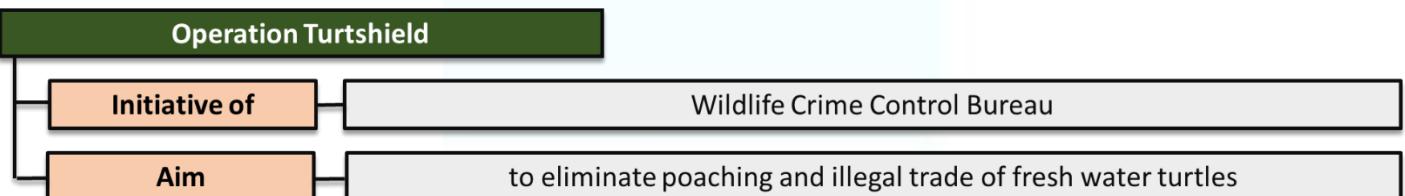
### Key Highlights

- Two Indian Turtles** facing **high risk of extinction** viz, red-crowned roofed turtles (**Batagur kachuga**) and Leith's soft-shell turtle (**Nilssonia leithii**) have been moved from Appendix II to **Appendix I of the CITES**.

Turtle Species	Habitat
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Batagur kachuga	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Found in <b>India, Nepal and Bangladesh.</b></li> <li>Spotted widely in the <b>Ganga and Brahmaputra river basins in India.</b></li> </ul>
Nilssonia leithii	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Found in <b>Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu.</b></li> </ul>

- Operation Turtshield** was appreciated at the event.

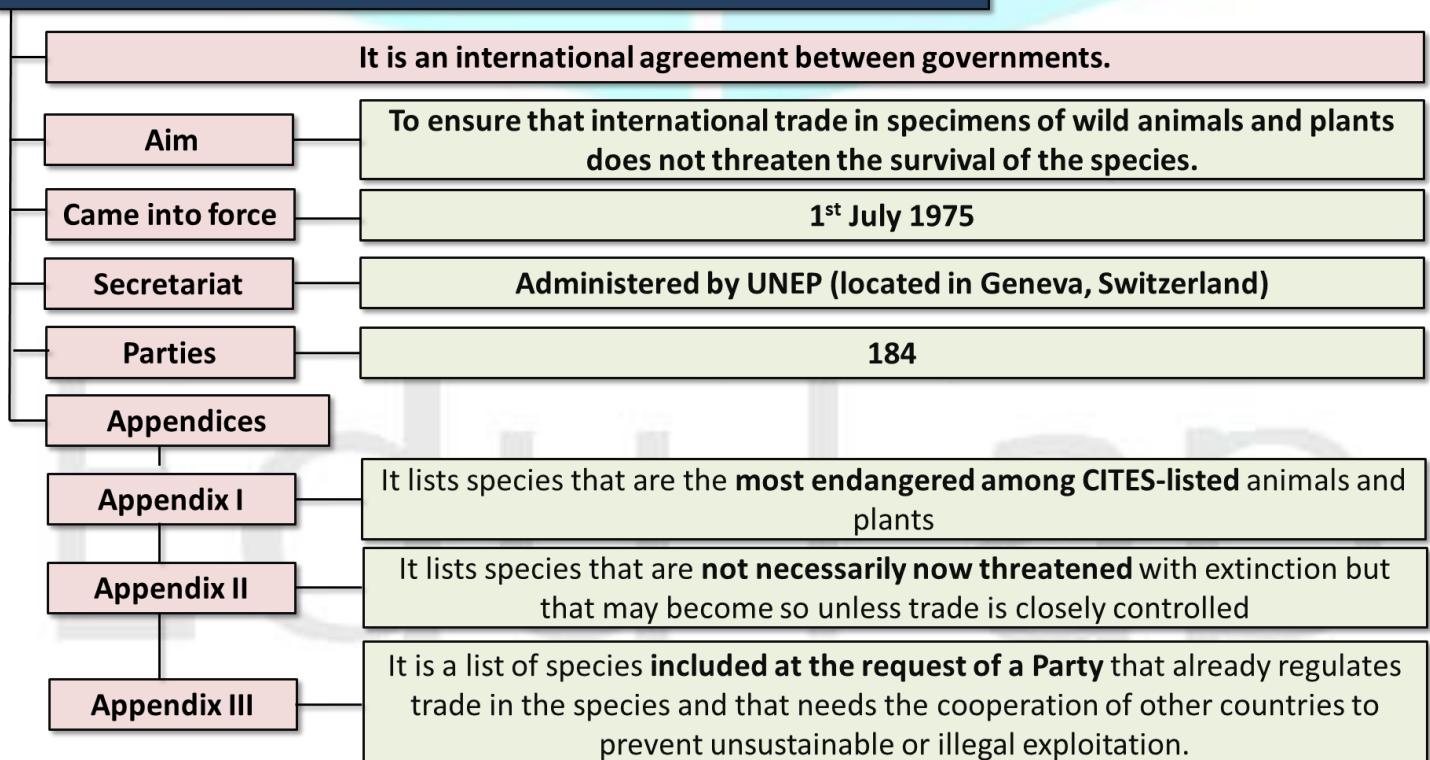


- The **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change** announced that **any number of Dalbergia sissoo timber-based items** can be **exported as a single consignment** in a shipment **without CITES permits** if the weight of each individual item of this consignment is **less than 10 kg**.
- It will solve the **problem of Indian artisan communities** to a great extent and will give a tremendous **boost to exports** of articles produced by them.

#### Background

- In the **17<sup>th</sup> COP** of CITES held at Johannesburg, South Africa in 2016, all the species of **Genus Dalbergia** are included in **Appendix II** of the convention.
- Consequently, the species **Dalbergia sissoo (North Indian Rosewood or Shisham)** which is found in abundance in India, also included in the **Appendix II of convention**.
- As of now**, every consignment containing material made up of **Dalbergia sissoo** of weight **above 10 kg** requires a **CITES permit**.
- Due to this restriction, **exports of furniture and handicrafts** made of **Dalbergia sissoo** from India has been **continuously falling** from an estimated **1000 crore Indian Rupees (~129 million USD)** per annum before the listing, to **500-600 crore Indian Rupees (~64 to 77 million USD)** per annum after the listing (affected the livelihoods of around 50,000 artisans).

#### Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species



## 2.14 Ganga Utsav: The River Festival 2022

### Why in News

- Recently, it was organised by the **National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG)**, Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation under the Ministry of Jal Shakti in New Delhi.
- Objective:** To celebrate our rivers and spread **awareness on the significance of river rejuvenation** across river basins in India.
- The events will be organised at **75 places** dedicated to **75 years of Indian Independence (Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav)**.
- Focus area** of this utsav: **Arth Ganga initiative**, as it **aims** to establish **people-river connects**.

### Additional Information

- This festival was started in 2017 as '**Ek Shaam Ganga Ke Naam**', and the **event subsequently** developed into '**Bal Ganga Mela**' in 2018 and into **Ganga utsav in 2021**.

**Note:** Arth Ganga Initiative is under Namami Gange Programme. Please refer **SchemesTap** of August 2022.

## 2.15 National Workshop on 'Localization of Sustainable Development Goals in Gram Panchayats'

### Why in News

- Recently, it was organised in **Kochi, Kerala**.

### Key details

- Focus Area:** **Theme 1: Poverty Free and Enhanced Livelihood in Gram Panchayats**.
- Organised by:** **Ministry of Panchayati Raj** in collaboration with **Local Self Government Department (LSGD), Government of Kerala** and **Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA)**, Thrissur, Kerala.
- Aim:** To create awareness on national level importance of addressing the following issues:

<b>Marginalisation</b>	Inclusion and access to basic services, social safety nets and protection systems
<b>Livelihoods</b>	The role of Panchayats in addressing income inequality & poverty, eradicating extreme poverty and improving employment opportunities for poor, vulnerable and marginalized sections
<b>Building resilience of vulnerable communities</b>	Against the sudden shocks brought about by disasters and extreme climate events.

## Localization of Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs)



## 2.16 India Water Week (IWW) 2022

### News 1

- Recently, the curtain raiser event of **7<sup>th</sup> edition of India Water Week (1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> November)** was inaugurated by the President of India in **Uttar Pradesh**.

### About IWW 2022

India Water Week	
Aim	To raise awareness, conserve and use water resources in an integrated manner
Organised by	Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation under Ministry of Jal Shakti
Theme	Water Security for Sustainable Development and Equity
Partner Country	Denmark, Singapore and Finland
Participating country	Denmark, Finland, Germany, Israel and European Union

### Additional Information

- Union Minister of Jal shakti declared the vision of **ensuring 100% water availability across the country by 2024**.
- India achieved the target for ODF by 2019, 11 years ahead of the time set by UN for 2030.

### News 2

- A technical Session on "**Rural WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) Partnerships – the way forward**" was organised by **Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation (DDWS)** under **Ministry of Jal Shakti**.
- Chaired by:** Union Minister of Jal Shakti.

- **Objective:** How to achieve the targets of the two flagship programs of DDWS: **Jal Jeevan Mission** and the **Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen phase-II**.

### New 3

- Union Minister also launched the **toolkit for Swachh Survekshan Grameen (SSG) 2023** and the **web portal** for the '**Twinpit to Retrofit Abhiyan**' at the session.

#### About 'Twinpit to Retrofit Abhiyan'

- It was launched on **Swachh Bharat Diwas (2<sup>nd</sup> October)**.
- **Objective:** Promoting simple on-site technologies through retrofitting the existing single pit toilets into twin pit toilets.

#### About Swachh Survekshan Grameen (SSG) 2023 Toolkit

- It comprises information on various stages of **assessment, baseline rankings of the Panchayats and Districts** based on their ODF Plus progress as reported on SBM-G Integrated Management Information System (IMIS).

## Employment Generation in India

### 2.17 First Virtual Global Skill Summit (VGSS)

#### Why in News

- Recently, the **first Virtual Global Skill Summit** was organised with the **Indian Ambassadors /High Commission** representing India Missions from **ten nations**.
- It is in alignment with the **Prime Minister's One Govt One Mission approach** and **3T (Trade, Tourism and Technology) strategy**.

#### Key details



#### Additional Information

- NSDC International has recently conducted a study to assess skilled demand in 16 destination countries (2022-2027).
  - Employability and high-quality skilled workforce will be the key challenge in the coming years.
  - **United Arab Emirates, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Germany** are the top countries demand for the most skilled workforce in the future.

### 2.18 Women's Involvement in Science and Engineering Research (WISER) program

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the first 11 awardees of the Women Involvement in Science and Engineering Research (WISER) programme were felicitated.

### Women's Involvement in Science and Engineering Research (WISER) Programme

A first-of-its-kind programme to promote women in the field of research and development (R&D) through lateral entry

Launched in	November 2021
Launched by	Indo-German Science & Technology Centre (IGSTC)
Objective	To encourage women researchers in joint R&D projects
Eligibility	Women with regular/long-term research position in academia or research institute/industry can apply  No age limit; Preference provided to Early/Mid-career researcher
Features	<b>Tenure:</b> 3 years or till completion of the project whichever is earlier and will cover one visit per year for short stay up to 1 month.  Open to <b>all the areas</b> of Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics ( <b>STEM</b> )  <b>Maximum Grant for three years :</b> Rs 39 Lakh (India) & Euro 48000 (Germany)  WISER program offers <b>20 awards per year</b>

#### About Indo-German Science & Technology Centre (IGSTC)

- Set up by: Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India and the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Government of Germany.

### 2.19 ESIC Online Maternity Benefit Claim Portal

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the Employees' State Insurance Corporation's (**ESIC**) has launched the **ESIC Online Maternity Benefit Claim Portal**.
- By using this portal, women can avail maternity benefits at their convenience.
- The portal was launched during the commemoration of the **102<sup>nd</sup> birth anniversary of Dattopant Thengadi**, the founder of Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh, Swadeshi Jagran Manch and Bharatiya Kisan Sangh.

#### Additional Information

Particulars	Key Details
<b>Maternity Benefits offered to the insured women by ESIC</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Payment at the rate of <b>100% of wages</b> is paid for of <b>26 weeks</b></li> </ul>

### 2.20 Rozgar Mela

#### Why in News

- Recently, the Prime Minister of India distributed about **71,000 appointment letters** to newly inducted recruits under **Rozgar Mela**.
- Earlier in October, 75,000 appointment letters were handed over to newly inducted appointees under Rozgar Mela.
- In June, the Prime Minister announced that **10 lakh existing Central Government vacancies** will be filled by **December 2023**.

## About Karmayogi Bharat technology platform

- It is also launched by the Prime Minister of India at Rozgar Mela.
- It will provide online courses for government officials.
- **Karmayogi Prarambh module:** It is an online orientation course for all new appointees in various Government departments.
  - It will include a code of conduct for Government servants, workplace ethics & integrity, human resource policies and other benefits and allowances that will help them to get acclimatized to the policies and transition smoothly into the new roles.

## 2.21 10<sup>th</sup> International Tourism Mart for the North East Region

### Why in News?

- Recently, the **Union Ministry of Tourism** has organized the **10<sup>th</sup> International Tourism Mart (ITM)** for the **North East Region** at Aizawl, Mizoram.
- Mizoram has hosted the event for the **first time**.
- **Objective:** to highlight tourism potential of the Northeast region in domestic and international markets.

### Key Information Shared

Particulars	Key Details
<b>Investor's Conclave 2023</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>India will be hosting</b> this event to promote global investments and Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions (<b>MICE</b>) tourism into the tourism sector</li></ul>
<b>Contribution of Tourism Industry towards Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of India</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>around 4.7 %</b></li></ul>
<b>100 view-points in North East region</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Developed by:</b> Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) and Ministry of Road Transport &amp; Highways</li></ul>
<b>Border Roads Organisation (BRO) cafes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• BRO cafes are being built in 75 locations in the first phase.</li><li>• BRO cafes are being built at <b>25 locations in the North East Region</b>, in the states of <b>Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Manipur, Nagaland and Assam</b>.</li></ul>

## 2.22 National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF)

### Why in News

- Recently, the Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs chaired the **5th meeting** of the **Governing Council (GC)** of **National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF)**, in New Delhi.
- NIIF has also proposed its **first bilateral fund with Japan** through a Memorandum of Understanding between **NIIF Limited (NIIFL)** and **Japan Bank for International Development (JBIC)**.
  - It will make **equity investments in environmental preservation** and **low-carbon emission strategies**.

### Key Details

## National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF)

It is a collaborative investment platform for international and Indian investors	
Anchored by	Government of India (Announced in the Union Budget of 2015-16)
Established	In 2015
Investment in	Infrastructure and Growth Equity
Governing Council	Provides guidance on the overall strategy of NIIF Chaired by Union Finance Minister (Meets annually)
Manages 3 types of funds	Master Fund, Fund of Funds and Strategic Fund

### Additional Information

- The two infrastructure Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs), where NIIF has majority stakes, have increased their combined loan book from ₹4,200 crore to ₹26,000 crore (around 6 times) in 3 years without experiencing any non-performing loans (NPLs) till date.
- The two NBFCs are NIIF Infrastructure Finance and Aseem Infrastructure Finance.

## Gendre Issues

### 2.23 Campaign: Nai Chetna-Pahal Badlav Ki

#### Why in News

- Recently, the Union Minister for Rural Development has launched a month-long campaign titled, “Nai Chetna-Pahal Badlav Ki”.

#### Key Details

Nai Chetna-Pahal Badlav Ki	
	It is a community-led national campaign against gender-based discrimination
Organised by	Ministry of Rural Development
Organised under	Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY NRLM)
Duration	25 <sup>th</sup> November (International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women) to 23 <sup>rd</sup> December
Theme	Elimination of Gender-Based Violence
Key highlights	It will be triggered and mobilised by the Central government and will be joined by 30 State Missions

#### Key data shared at the occasion

Particulars	Key Figures
As per National Crime Records Bureau’s “Crime in India 2021” report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Cases registered for rape</li><li>Crime against women lodged/ hour</li></ul>	31677 (an average 86 daily) 49

Percentage of married women, who faces some kind of violence	30% of all married women between 15 to 49 years of age and 45% people see this as normal.
As per NHFS (National Family Health Survey) 5: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Percentage of women, who never sought any help from anyone about the violence inflicted on them.</li> </ul>	77%

Note 1: NHFS 5 has been covered comprehensively in course under ESI Reports and Schemes.

Note 2: DAY NRLM will be covered in SchemesTap – November 2022.

## Social Justice: Positive Discrimination in favour of the under privileged

### 2.24 National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation (NMDFC)

#### Why in News

- Recently, the National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation (NMDFC) was accorded a rating of A (Outlook: Stable) by CARE Ratings Pvt. Ltd.

#### Key Details

- The rating has been given to NMDFC for market borrowing upto Rs. 100 crore in long term category.
- Significance:** It will help NMDFC in providing small credit needs of the minority community.
- Presently, NMDFC is utilizing equity contributed by Central, State Governments and UTs, repayments and surplus generated through its operations to extend concessional credit to targeted Minority Communities.

#### National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation (NMDFC)

It is a National Level Apex Body for the benefit of Minorities as defined under the National Commission for Minorities Act 1992.

It is a not for profit company, under Section-8 of Companies Act, 2013

**Establishment** → On 30<sup>th</sup> September 1994

**Ministry** → Ministry of Minority Affairs

**Objective** → To provide concessional finance to the Minorities for self employment/income generation activities with preference being given to occupational groups & women.

#### Additional Information

- Notified Minorities as per the National Commission for Minorities Act 1992: Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists, Parsis and Jains.

### 2.25 GHAR Portal

#### Why in News

- Recently, the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) launched the GHAR (GO Home and Re-Unite) Portal on the occasion of World Children's Day (20<sup>th</sup> November).
- Objective of this portal: Restoration and Repatriation of Child.
- Important features of this portal:
  - Digital tracking and monitoring of children who are in the Justice Juvenile system and have to be repatriated to another Country/State/District.

- **Digital transfer of cases of children** to the concerned JJB/CWC (Child Welfare Committees) of the State.
- **Request** will be made to the concerned State Government, where there is a **requirement for a translator/interpreter/expert**.
- CWCs and DCPOs (**District Child Protection Officers**) can ensure proper restoration and rehabilitation of children by digitally monitoring the progress of the case of the child.
- **A Checklist format will be provided in the forms** so that the children who are being hard to repatriate or children who are not getting their entitled compensation or other monetary benefits **can be identified**.
- A list of **Government implemented schemes will be provided** so that at the time of restoration the **CWCs can link the child with the schemes** to strengthen the family and ensure that child remains with his/her family.

#### **About NCPCR**

- It is a **statutory body** constituted under **Section 3** of the **Commission for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005**.
- **Establishment: March 2007**.
- Concerned Ministry: **Ministry of Women and Child Development**.
- **Aim:** To protect the **child's rights** and other related matters in the country.
- It is mandated **to monitor the proper and effective implementation** of the following:
  - Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015.
  - Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012.
  - Right to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009.

#### **Additional Information**

- A child is defined as a person falling in the age group of 0 to 18 years

### **2.26 Campaign for the Submission of Digital Life Certificates (DLC)**

#### **Why in News**

- Recently, the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions announced a **Nationwide Campaign for Submission of Digital Life Certificates** and use of **face authentication app** by Pensioners in the month of November.
- **Aim:** To encourage the facility of **Face Authentication technology/ Biometrics** and enhance '**Ease of Living**' of Central Government pensioners.

#### **Background**

- Every year, pensioners have to submit their Life Certificates in the **month of November (Person above 80 years in the month October)** to ensure continuity of their pension.

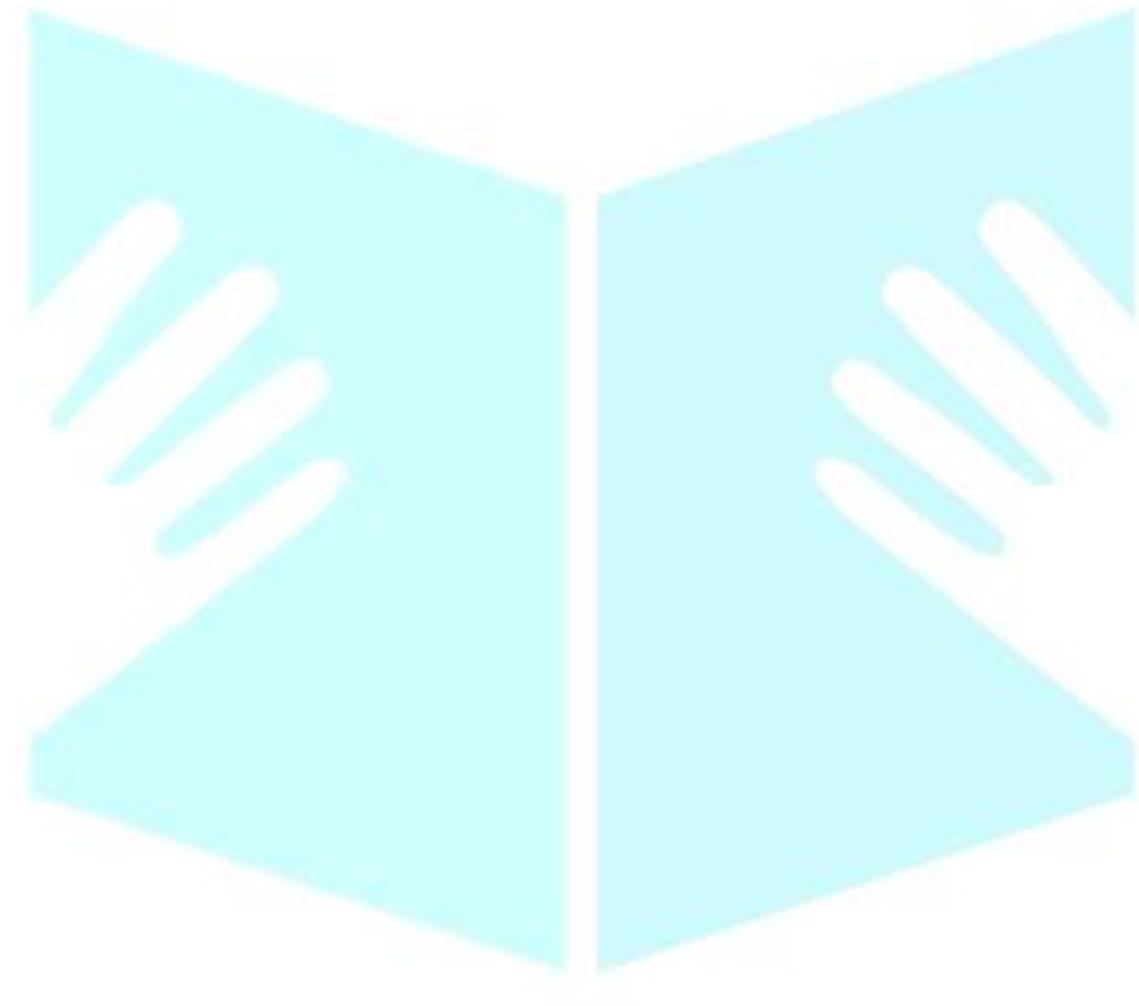
#### **Key details**

- In the process **Face Authentication by mobile**, the details regarding Aadhaar Number, Mobile Number for OTP (One time password), PPO (pension Payment order) Number and Account Number with Bank/Post Office are required for the **first time**.
- This facility is also available to **the employees of the State Government** and the disbursing authority in the form of the Treasury Office of the State.

#### **2 New Initiatives has been launched on this occasion**

##### **1<sup>st</sup> Initiative**

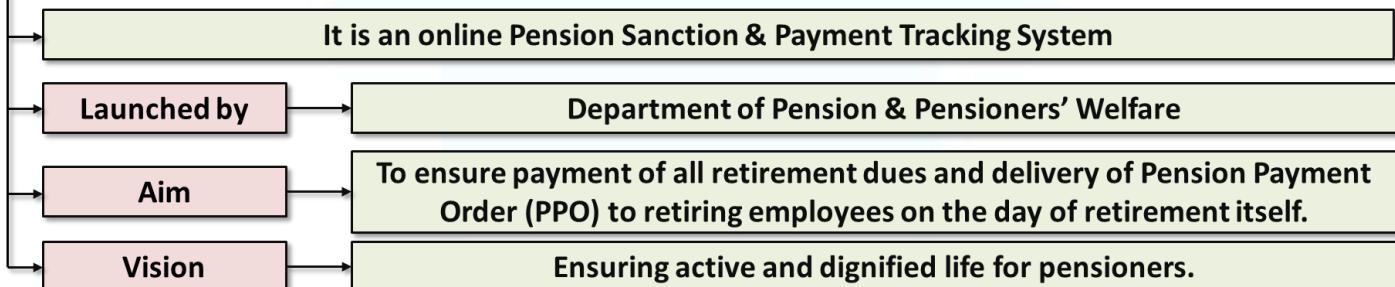
- The Government will initiate efforts for **universalization of the Integrated Pensioners' Portal** as **Bhavishya 9.0 version**.
- Aim: "Ease of Living" for the Central Government Pensioners by **incorporating various stand-alone Portals of Pensions department and 17 Pension Disbursing Banks' portals** to provide multiple services from a **single window with a single login**.
- After this integration the retirees **can choose a Bank and Branch for opening an online Pension Account**, check their monthly pension slips, Form 16, Status of Life Certificate as well as change their Pension Disbursing **Bank through BHAVISHYA portal**.



EduTap

## About BHAVISHYA Portal

### BHAVISHYA PORTAL



#### 2<sup>nd</sup> initiative

- The National Anubhav Awardees Webinar Series will be launched by Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare in the month of November 2022.
- It will be held on a monthly basis and will feature two Anubhav Awardees/ webinar as speakers to share their experience.
- Aim: To showcase significant achievements made by the Pensioners/ Retiring Employees and their contribution in enhancing the effectiveness of the various Government policies during their service period through write-ups submitted on the Portal.

### ANUBHAV Portal



#### Additional Information

- State Bank of India is the first pension disbursing Bank to integrate its Pension Seva Portal with BHAVISHYA in October, 2022.

## 2.27 SPARSH

#### Why in News

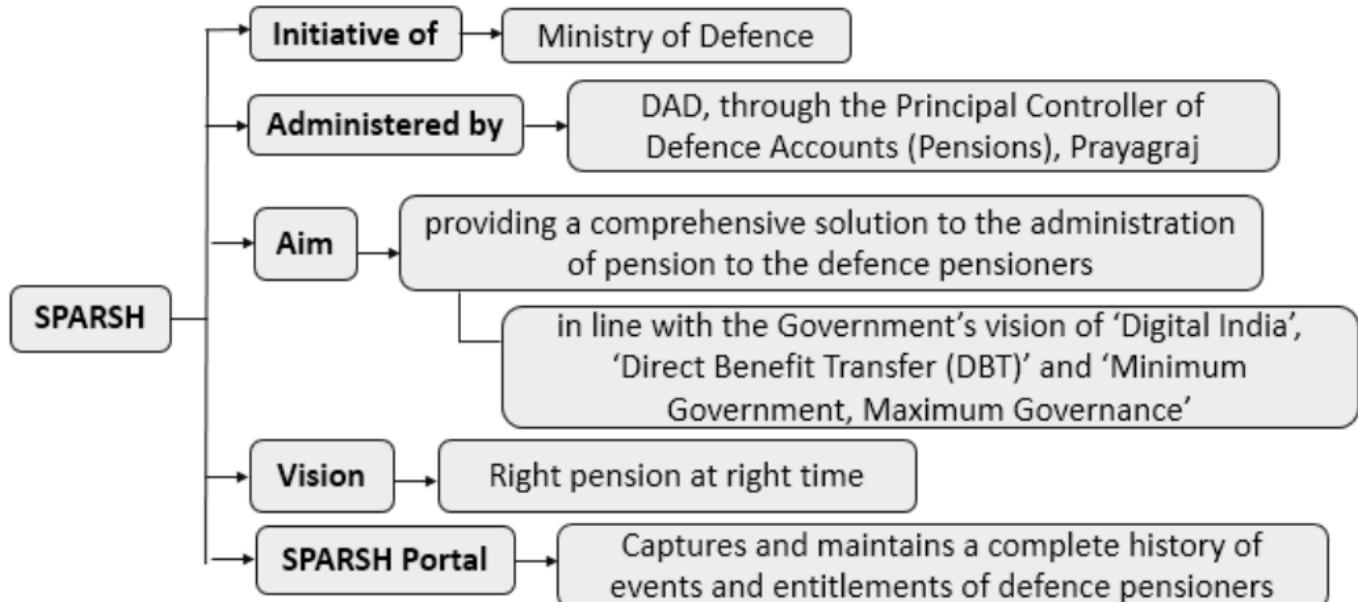
- Recently, the Ministry of Defence has approved the extension of pension payment for three months for banks' pensioners, who migrated to SPARSH (System for Pension Administration (Raksha)).
- It is applicable to the defence pensioners, whose identification was due in November 2022.
- Now, they have to complete their annual identification/life certification by February 2023.

#### Key details

- The process of Annual Identification/Life Certification is a statutory requirement for continued and timely credit of monthly pension.
- Annual Identification/Life Certification can be done via the following means:

- Via the **Digital Jeevan Pramaan online/Jeevan Pramaan Face App**.
- Via **SPARSH portal** using **DLC (Digital Life Certificate)** or **MLC (Manual Life Certificate)**.
- Pensioners may visit nearest **Common Service Centres (CSCs)**, Defence Accounts Department **Service Centre** and **Service centres** established by **SBI, PNB, Bank of Baroda, HDFC Bank and Kotak Mahindra Bank**.
- **Legacy Pensioner (pre-2016 Retiree)** who has not yet migrated to SPARSH can perform their Life Certification as was being done by them in previous years

#### About SPARSH Initiative



\* DAD: Defence Accounts Department.

## Globalization

### 2.28 India U.S. CEO Forum

#### Why in News

- Recently, the India US CEO (Chief Executive Officer) forum discussed the ways to further strengthen economic ties between the two countries.
- **Co-chaired by:** Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, India and Secretary of Commerce, US.
- It was convened **6<sup>th</sup> time** after the reconstitution in December 2014.

#### Key Details

India US CEO Forum	
It comprises of CEOs from leading Indian and US based companies,	
It is an effective platform for dialogue across key sectoral themes and to identify areas for closer collaboration for mutual benefit of both economies	
Co Chair	Mr. N. Chandrasekaran, Chairman of Tata Sons, India
	Mr. James Taiclet, President and CEO, Lockheed Martin, US
Reconstituted	In December 2014 (initially created in July 2005)

#### Additional information

Particulars	Key Figures (2021-22)
-------------	-----------------------

Bilateral trade between India and US	USD 119.42 Billion
India's exports to the US	USD 76.11 Billion
India's import from US	USD 43.31 billion
Trade surplus of India	USD 32.8 billion

## Monetary and Fiscal Policy

### 2.29 GST compensation to states/UT

#### Why in News

- Recently, the Central Government released an amount of **Rs. 17,000 crore to States/UTs** towards the balance GST (Goods and Services Tax) compensation for the **period April to June, 2022**.
- The total amount of compensation released so far, during 2022-23: **Rs.1,15,662 crore**.
- Objective:** To assist the states in managing their resources and ensuring that their programmes especially the expenditure on capital are carried out successfully during the financial year.

#### Background

- As per the provisions of the **GST (Compensation to States) Act, 2017**, the State Governments were **assured for compensation for loss of any revenue** arising on account of implementation of GST for a **period of five years**.
- Compensation to be paid to the states **assuming revenue growth rate of 14%** (Base year **2015-16**).
- To provide compensation, **cess is being levied on certain goods** (To form **GST Compensation Fund**).

#### Additional Information

- GST was introduced in India with effect from **1st July 2017**.
- Earlier in this year, the **45<sup>th</sup> GST Council** has decided to extend the **levy of GST compensation cess till March 2026 (about 4 years)**. It was going to end on June 30, 2022.

### 2.30 National Conclave of State Finance Commissions (SFC)

#### Why in News

- Recently, a National Conclave of State Finance Commissions (SFC) has been organized by the **National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRD&PR)**.
- It is supported by: **Ministry of Panchayati Raj**.

#### Key details

- Focus areas of Conclave:** Divisible pool of the State Revenues, requirements of PRIs (Panchayati Raj Institutions), compilation of data on Panchayats finances, Devolution formula, Professionalization of SFCs, potential OSR (Own Source Revenue).

#### Key data Shared

- 15<sup>th</sup> Central Finance Commission has recommended enhancing the existing professional tax from existing limit of **Rs. 2500 to Rs. 18000 per annum** and that the Panchayats should mandatorily collect property tax.
- Only **9 States** have constituted **6<sup>th</sup> SFC** and another **7** have constituted **5<sup>th</sup> SFC**.

#### About NIRD&PR

- It is an **autonomous organisation** under the **Union Ministry of Rural Development**.
- Establishment:**

Timeline

Progress

<b>1958</b>	Establishment of <b>Central Institute of Study and Research in Community Development in Mussoorie</b> and <b>Institute for Instruction in Community Development in Dehradun</b> .
<b>1962</b>	Merger of both the institutes with the name <b>National Institute of Community Development (NICD)</b> .
<b>1977</b>	Renamed as <b>National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD)</b>
<b>2014</b>	Renamed as <b>National Institute of Rural Development &amp; Panchayati Raj</b> .

- It is also recognized internationally as one of the **UN-ESCAP (United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific) Centres of Excellence**.
- Location:** Hyderabad, Telangana.
- It has North-Eastern Regional Centre at **Guwahati, Assam** to meet the NE-regional needs.

## Growth and Development (Measurement of growth)

### 2.31 Government-e-Marketplace (GeM)

#### Why in News

- Recently, the GeM platform has crossed **Rs. 1 Lakh crore Gross Merchandise value (GMV)** till **29th November 2022** for the financial year 2022-2023.

#### Key details

Particulars	Key Data
GMV of GeM in FY 2021-2022	Rs. 1.06 lakh crore
Government buyer organization on GeM	Over 63000
Sellers/Service providers on GeM	Over 54 lakhs
Target of GMV for FY 2022-23 (As per CEO, GeM)	Rs 1.5 lakh crore

#### Additional Information

- Top 3 such platforms:** 1. **KONEPS** (South Korea), 2. **GeBIZ** (Singapore) and 3. **GeM (India)**.
- Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh** were the leading states that have scaled up purchases through GeM.

**Note:** GeM has been covered in **October CA Magazine 2022** (Article No – 2.111).

## Export-Import Policy

### 2.32 Apparel Industry Sustainability Action (AISA) 2022–2023

#### Why in News

- Recently, the **Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC)** has launched **Apparel Industry Sustainability Action (AISA) 2022–2023**.

## Apparel Industry Sustainability Action (AISA) 2022–2023



- AEPC will provide **Sustainability awards** to the companies which will be showcased on the dedicated **sustainability social media platform** for wide publicity.
- The **Award-winning Indian companies** will get an **opportunity** to showcase their collection in '**Sustainability Corner**' of India Pavilion in 2023 at "**Pure London**", UK and **Who's Next, Paris, France**, the world's biggest fashion hub.

### About AEPC

- It was incorporated in **1978**.
- It is the official body of **apparel exporters in India**.
- It provides invaluable assistance to Indian exporters as well as importers/international buyers who choose India as their preferred sourcing destination for garments.

### Additional Information

- As per the chairman of AEPC, the global garment production is expected to increase by **63% by 2030**.

## International Economic Institutions (IMF and World Bank – WTO) (Regional Economic Cooperation)

### 2.33 India-Kyrgyz Republic Inter-Governmental Commission

#### Why in News

- Recently, the 10<sup>th</sup> session of the **India-Kyrgyz Republic Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation (IKIGC)** was organised.
- **Co-Chaired by:** Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, India, and Minister of Digital Development of the Kyrgyz Republic (Kyrgyzstan).

#### India and Kyrgyzstan Relations

- Diplomatic relations were established in **March 1992**.
- In June 2019, they established **Strategic Partnership** and signed the **Joint Declaration on Establishing Strategic Partnership**.
- The year **2022 marked the 30th anniversary** of diplomatic relationships.

### 2.34 Special Meeting of the Counter Terrorism Committee (CTC)

#### Why in News?

- Recently, **India** hosted the **special meeting** of the United Nations Security Council's Counter Terrorism Committee (CTC) at Mumbai & New Delhi.
- The meeting was hosted under **India's Chair of the CTC**.

- This is the **first time** such an event is being held outside of the UN's headquarters in New York.
- **Plenary Session Theme:** "Countering the use of new and emerging technologies for terrorist purposes".

### Key Announcement

- India will contribute **USD 500,000** to the **United Nations Trust Fund for Counter Terrorism** in **2022** to aid **capacity-building support** to member states to **fight terrorism**.

**Note:** UNSC & CTC discussed in October 4<sup>th</sup> Week CA Magazine (News 2.26).

### 2.35 Group of Twenty (G20)

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the Prime Minister of India has unveiled the **logo, theme and website of India's G20 Presidency**.
- **Theme:** "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" or "One Earth One Family One Future".
- A **mobile app - G20 India** has also been released.



G20					
Establishment	26 September 1999				
Total Members	19 countries + European Union (EU)				
Presidency	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>2022</td><td>Indonesia</td></tr> <tr> <td>2023</td><td>India (from 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022 to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023)</td></tr> </table>	2022	Indonesia	2023	India (from 1 <sup>st</sup> December 2022 to 30 <sup>th</sup> November 2023)
2022	Indonesia				
2023	India (from 1 <sup>st</sup> December 2022 to 30 <sup>th</sup> November 2023)				
India's Sherpa	Amitabh Kant				
G20 Troika	Current, previous and incoming G20 presidencies viz, Indonesia (2022), Italy (2021) & India (2023)				
Significance	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>G20 represents around <b>85% of the global GDP</b></td></tr> <tr> <td>It represents over <b>75% of the global trade</b></td></tr> <tr> <td>It represents about two-thirds of the global population</td></tr> </table>	G20 represents around <b>85% of the global GDP</b>	It represents over <b>75% of the global trade</b>	It represents about two-thirds of the global population	
G20 represents around <b>85% of the global GDP</b>					
It represents over <b>75% of the global trade</b>					
It represents about two-thirds of the global population					

#### Additional Information

- **G20 Troika (Current, previous and incoming G20 presidencies) under India's G20 Presidency:** India (2023), Indonesia (2022) & Brazil (2024)
- **Note: G-20 Theme for 2022 - 'Recover Together, Recover Stronger'.**

### 2.36 Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)

#### News 1

- Recently, **19th Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)-India Summit** was held at **Phnom Penh, Cambodia**.
- **Indian Delegation was led by the Vice President of India.**
- **Key Outcome:** A joint statement announcing the elevation of the existing Strategic Partnership to Comprehensive Strategic Partnership was adopted by ASEAN & India.

#### News 2

- Recently, an additional contribution of **USD 5 million** to the **ASEAN-India science and technology fund** has been announced by India.
- Objective:** To enhance cooperation in sectors of public health, renewable energy and smart agriculture.

### Key Details

#### Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)

Establishment	1967
Headquarters	Jakarta, Indonesia
Ten Members	Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam
Chairmanship-2022	Cambodia
Theme-2022	"ASEAN A.C.T.: Addressing Challenges Together",

#### ASEAN-India Science & Technology (S&T) Collaboration

Started in	1996 with establishment of <b>ASEAN India S&amp;T working group (AIWGST)</b>
➤ A dedicated <b>ASEAN India S&amp;T Development Fund (AISTDF)</b> with an equivalent amount of <b>USD 1 million</b> was established jointly by <b>MEA</b> (Ministry of External Affairs) and <b>DST</b> in <b>2008</b>	
➤ It was enhanced to an equivalent amount of <b>USD 5 Million</b> through an announcement by the Prime Minister of India on sidelines of <b>ASEAN-India Summit in Malaysia in November 2015</b> .	
➤ The <b>ASEAN-India Innovation Platform</b> is the major <b>element</b> of enhanced <b>AISTDF</b> .	

**Note:** Indian – ASEAN relations discussed in October 2022 CA Magazine (News 2.35).

### 2.37 India- Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA)

#### Why in News

- Recently, the Australian parliament has ratified the **Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA)** with India.
- It is the **first bilateral trade agreement** of India with a developed country in the last decade.
- It was signed on **2<sup>nd</sup> April 2022**.
- It will come into effect from **29<sup>th</sup> December 2022**.

#### Key details shared about this agreement

Sectors	Outcomes/Expectations from the Agreement
Trade/ Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The total bilateral trade will cross <b>USD 45-50 billion</b> in 5 years from existing USD 31 billion.</li> <li>India's <b>Merchandise Exports</b> is likely to increase by <b>10 billion</b> by <b>2026-27</b>.</li> <li>Duty elimination on <b>100% tariff lines with no restrictions</b>.</li> <li>It will provide <b>duty-free access</b> to over <b>6,000 broad categories</b> of Indian products in the Australian market.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indian industries will get <b>cheaper raw materials</b> (As around 96% of Australia's exports are raw materials and intermediate products).</li> <li>• Australia has offered wide ranging commitments in around 135 sectors for trade in services.</li> <li>• The <b>Most Favoured Nation (MFN) status</b> will be granted in <b>about 120 sub-sectors</b> covering key areas of India's interest such as IT, ITES (Information Technology Enabled Services), education, health and audio-visuals.</li> <li>• Australia will also <b>allow duty-free import of Indian wines</b>, while India will reduce import duties from <b>150% to 100%</b> on <b>Australian wines of \$5 per bottle</b>, down to 50% in 10 years.</li> </ul>
<b>Employment Generation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>10 lakh jobs</b> are estimated to be created by this Agreement.</li> <li>• <b>Annual Visa quota of 1800</b> is to be instituted for <b>India Yoga teachers and Chefs</b>.</li> <li>• Over 1 lakh Indian students would benefit from post-study work visa (1.5-4 years) under the ECTA.</li> </ul>
<b>Pharmaceuticals sector</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Drugs approved</b> in other developed jurisdiction <b>will get fast track approval</b> for patented, generic and biosimilar medicines.</li> </ul>
<b>Other Benefits</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issue under <b>Double taxation related to IT/ITES</b> has been resolved under this Agreement which will provide a <b>financial savings of more than USD 200 million per year</b>.</li> <li>• It will also benefit to more than <b>seven lakhs of Australia's Indian diaspora</b>, second highest taxpaying diaspora.</li> </ul>

#### Additional Information

- Out of India's **coal trade deficit of USD 24 billion**, Australia accounts for **USD 11 billion**.
- India and Australia are partners in **the trilateral Supply Chain Resilience Initiative (SCRI)** arrangement along **with Japan** which seeks to enhance the resilience of supply chains in the **Indo-Pacific Region**.

### 2.38 Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI)

#### Why in News

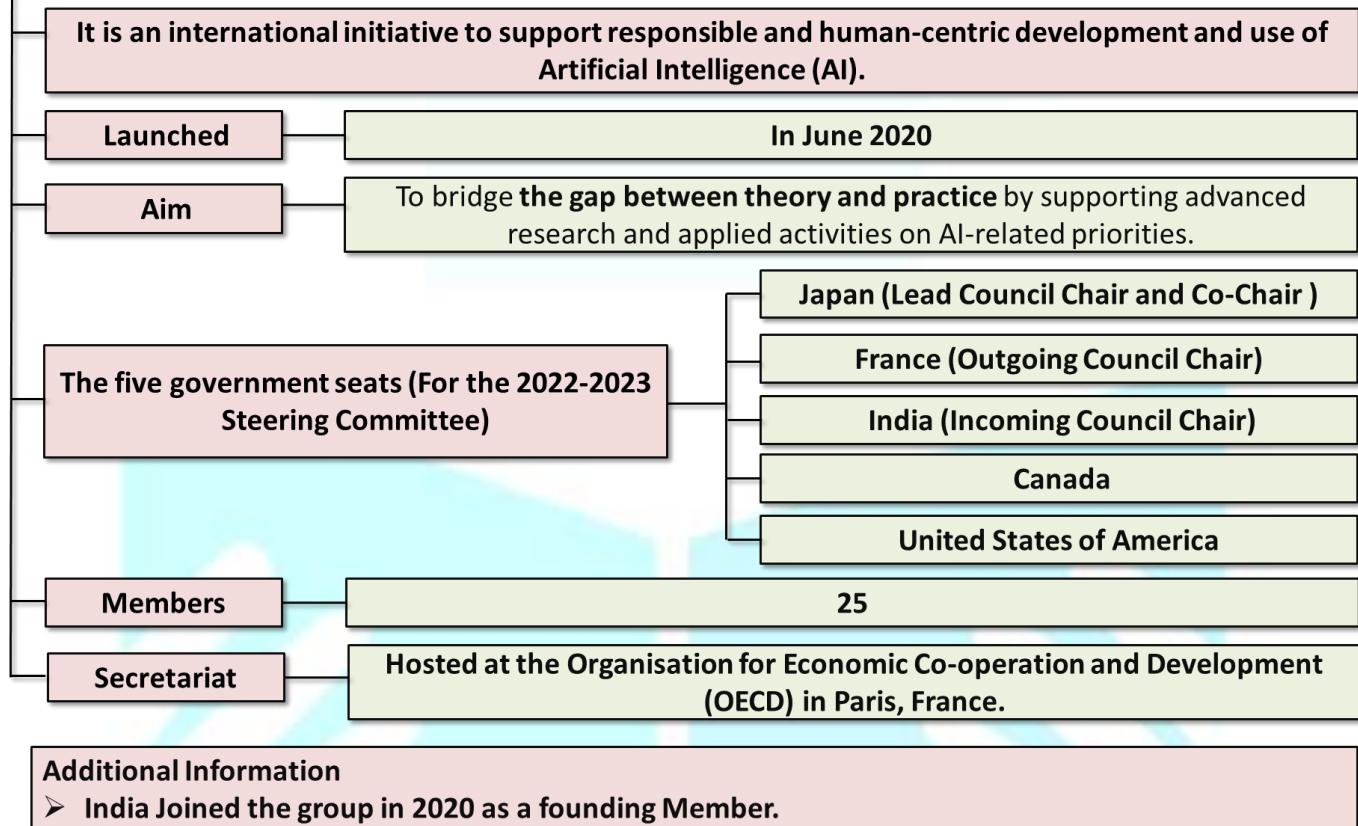
- Recently, the **Union Minister of Electronics & Information Technology** has represented India at the **Tokyo Summit of Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI)**.
- Also, **India** has taken over the Council Chair of **GPAI** from France.

#### Key details shared

Indian Economy	Target Year
It is expected to add <b>USD 967 Billion (AI contribution)</b> .	By 2035
<b>USD 450–500 Billion</b> to India's GDP ( <b>AI contribution</b> ). (10% of the country's <b>USD 5 Trillion GDP target</b> ).	By 2025
<b>USD 1 Trillion Digital Economy goal</b>	By 2025

#### About GPAI

## Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI)



### 2.39 INDO-PACIFIC REGIONAL DIALOGUE (IPRD-2022)

#### Why in News

- Recently, it was organised in New Delhi.

#### Key Details

##### INDO-PACIFIC REGIONAL DIALOGUE (IPRD-2022)- 4<sup>th</sup> Edition



#### About Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI)

- It was articulated by the **Prime Minister of India** in Bangkok at **14th East Asia Summit (EAS)** on **04 November 2019**.
- It focuses on the vision of **SAGAR i.e., Security and Growth for All in the Region**.



### About National Maritime Foundation

- Established in 2005.
- It is the **nation's sole maritime think-tank** that concentrates upon the entire gamut of activities relevant to India's maritime interests.

### Additional Information

- As per the Chief of naval staff, IPRD represented the **Samvad or 'Dialogue' aspect** of the **5 Ss (Vision for foreign policy)** enunciated by the Prime Minister of India at UNSC in 2020.
  - The 'five S' comprises of **Samaan** (Respect), **Samvaad** (Dialogue), **Sahyog** (Cooperation), **Shanti** (Peace) and **Samriddhi** (Global Prosperity).

## 2.40 India-Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)

### Why in News

- Recently, the **Union Minister of Commerce and Industry** and **Secretary General of GCC** announced the intent to pursue/resume negotiations on the India-GCC FTA (Free Trade Agreement).
- Currently, the **GCC is India's largest trading partner bloc**.

### Key details shared

Sectors	Key figures
Bilateral trade with GCC Bloc	<b>Over USD 154 billion (2021-2022).</b> Exports: Around USD 44 billion Imports: Around USD 110 billion
Bilateral trade in services with GCC Bloc	<b>Around USD 14 billion (2021-2022).</b> Exports: USD 5.5 billion Imports: USD 8.3 billion
GCC contribution in India's oil imports	<b>35%</b>
GCC contribution in India's gas imports	<b>70%</b>
India's overall crude oil imports	<b>USD 48 billion (2021-2022)</b>
LNG and LPG imports	<b>USD 21 billion (2021-2022)</b>
Investments from the GCC in India	<b>Over USD 18 billion at present</b>

### About Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)

## Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)

It is a union of six countries from the gulf region	
Establishment	25 May 1981
Member	6 (UAE, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Qatar, Kuwait)
Structure	Supreme Council (highest authority), the Ministerial Council and the Secretariat General
Secretariat	Riyadh, Saudi Arabia (Headquarter)
Secretary General	Dr. Nayef Falah M. Al-Hajraf

### 2.41 India Africa Hackathon

#### Why in News

- Recently, the **UNESCO India Africa Hackathon** was inaugurated at **Gautam Buddha University, Uttar Pradesh.**

#### Key details

UNESCO India Africa Hackathon	
	<b>It is an annual</b> 36 hours <b>event</b> that brings together <b>students, educators, teachers, and the research community</b> of India and <b>its African partners.</b>
	It provides a platform allowing <b>young innovators</b> to come together and find solutions for <b>social, environmental and technical problems</b> faced by the <b>collaborating nations.</b>
Organised by	The Ministry of Education (MoE) along with the Ministry of External Affairs and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
Aim	To <b>tackle the common challenges</b> faced by countries/mankind and serves as a facilitator for <b>cultural amalgamation</b> between <b>India &amp; Africa</b>
Participants Country	22 African countries & India (Host)
Themes (5)	Education, Energy, Drinking Water and Sanitation, Agriculture, Health and Hygiene.

### 2.42 International Maritime Organisation (IMO)

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the **128<sup>th</sup> Session** of the **Council of International Maritime Organisation (IMO)** was held at **London, United Kingdom.**

#### Key Information Shared

- The United Arab Emirates (**UAE**) has proposed to **include digitization** in the **IMO Strategic Plan.**
- UAE** has proposed the **Capacity-Building Decade 2021-2030** strategy including the concept of **no one should be left behind.**
- The **Government of India** has **supported** the adoption of a **maritime single window system.**

## Maritime Single Window System

Initiative of	International Maritime Organization (IMO)
Recommended by	IMO's Facilitation Convention
Key Feature	a software to perform different tasks within the realm of ship reporting and information exchange

### About IMO

- Establishment: 1958; Headquarters: London, United Kingdom

## Industrial Developments in India

### 2.43 Charging Infrastructure for Electric Vehicles

#### Why in News

- Recently, the amendment in the revised consolidated Guidelines & Standards for Charging Infrastructure for Electric Vehicles has been issued by the **Ministry of Power**.
- Earlier, the revised consolidated Guidelines & Standards for Charging Infrastructure for Electric Vehicles (EV) was released in **January 2022**.
  - **Objective:** To enable **faster adoption of electric vehicles** in India by ensuring safe, reliable, accessible and affordable Charging Infrastructure and eco-system.

#### Amendments

- The public charging stations shall have the **feature of prepaid collection of service charges** with the time of the day rates and discounts for solar hours
- A committee under **Central Electricity Authority (CEA)** will **periodically recommend** to the State Government the **ceiling limit of service charges** to be levied.
- This Committee shall also recommend "**time of the day rate**" for service charges as well as the discount to be given for charging during solar hours.

### 2.44 Regulatory Framework for Promoting Data Economy

#### Why in News

- Recently, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has released its recommendations on '**Regulatory framework for promoting data economy** through establishment of **Data Centres (DCs)**, **Content Delivery Networks (CDNs)**, and **Interconnect Exchanges (IXPs)** in India'.
- **National Digital Communications Policy (NDCP) 2018** envisages about this framework.
- Objective of these recommendations: **To boost to digital infrastructure ecosystem** in the country including DCs, CDNs and IXPs.

#### Salient features of the recommendations

Particulars	Key Information
<b>Data Centre</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Data Centre Incentivization Scheme (DCIS):</b> it has been recommended for establishing <b>Data Centres (DCs)</b> and <b>Data Centre Parks (Dc Parks)</b>. It will have two lists:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Certain Centre specific fiscal and non-fiscal incentives and can be rolled out by the Central Government.</li><li>✓ The other in form of a guideline to the States, leaving flexibility to States to announce fiscal incentives through their policies.</li></ul></li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Data Centre specific portal</b> on National Single Window System (NSWS) for time-bound single window clearances, mandatory online registration of new DCs/DC Park operators, etc.</li> <li>○ A national level <b>DC Readiness Index (DCRI) framework</b> to be implemented by Central Government.</li> <li>○ Establish <b>DC Economic Zones (DCEZs)</b> - Out of suggested list of 33 SEZs which are located in areas with abundant power and water.</li> <li>○ BIS (<b>Bureau of Indian Standards</b>) should be entrusted upon for developing different India-specific building standard for construction of DCs and to develop India specific standard-based certification framework for the DCs.</li> <li>○ <b>TEC (Telecommunication Engineering Centre) and STQC (Standardisation Testing and Quality Certification)</b> should jointly work to develop <b>DC security certification</b> framework based on third party Audits.</li> <li>○ For coastal states intending to promote setting up of new CLS (<b>Connectivity to Cable Landing Stations</b>), it has been recommended that they may consider incentives and facilitations of CLSs.</li> <li>○ DC and DC Park sites should be allowed <b>to operate as backup power infrastructure</b> without any hindrance from pollution control boards.</li> <li>○ <b>Indian Green Building Council (IGBC)</b> along with TEC should be entrusted with task of framing certification standards of green DCs in India.</li> <li>○ A statutory body <b>Data Digitization and Monetization Council (DDMC)</b> for steering the data digitization drive.</li> <li>○ Government should put in place a <b>data sharing and consent management framework</b> on lines of DEPA (<b>Data Empowerment and Protection Architecture</b>) framework.</li> <li>○ <b>DDMC</b> should also be entrusted with responsibility of putting in place <b>an overarching framework for ethical use of data</b> both by Government as well as by corporate in India.</li> </ul>
<b>Content Delivery Networks (CDNs)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CDN players should be registered with DoT (<b>Department of Telecommunication</b>) through an online registration process with one time registration fee of <b>Rs 10,000</b>.</li> <li>• CDNs play an important role in the value chain of content delivery ecosystem.</li> </ul>
<b>Interconnect Exchanges Providers (IXPs)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To promote setting up of IXPs in <b>Tier-II and Tier-III cities</b>, TRAI has recommended that a separate authorization in <b>Unified License</b> may be created for IXPs with terms and conditions that are <b>less complicated</b> than ISP license authorization. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Entry Fee:</b> Rs. 20,000.</li> <li>○ <b>Application processing fee:</b> Rs. 10,000.</li> <li>○ <b>PBG (Performance Bank Guarantee):</b> Rs. 10,000.</li> <li>○ <b>FBG (Financial Bank Guarantee):</b> Rs. 2,000.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• All existing players, including, NIXI should be brought within this licensing framework in a <b>stipulated time not exceeding six months</b>.</li> <li>• Government should <b>extend the existing list of products under PLI and PPP-PMI schemes</b> to explicitly include classifications of equipment related to CDN and IXP.</li> </ul>

## Urbanisation and Migration

### 2.45 Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference & Expo 2022

Why in News

- Recently, the **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** in collaboration with the **Government of Kerala** organised the **15<sup>th</sup> edition** of UMI Conference & Expo in Kochi, Kerala.
- Theme: “**Azadi@75 – Sustainable AatmaNirbhar Urban Mobility**”.
- Objective:** To disseminate information about the latest and best urban transport practices globally.
- It is organised annually as an initiative taken under **National Urban Transport Policy (NUTP), 2006**.
- It is in line with the Central government's objective of ‘moving people rather than vehicles’.

#### Key detail shared at the conference

Particulars	Key Facts
As of September 2022, status of Metro line in India	<b>810 kms of metro line are operational</b> in 20 cities.
<b>Rank of India in the world in terms of Metro Network</b>	5th (1 <sup>st</sup> China)
<b>Kochi Water Metro project</b>	It will connect <b>10 islands through 15 routes</b> and will cater to more than 100,000 people across 78 kilometers of network.
<b>Percentage of the population will be in urban areas in 2047</b>	<b>Nearly 50 %</b>

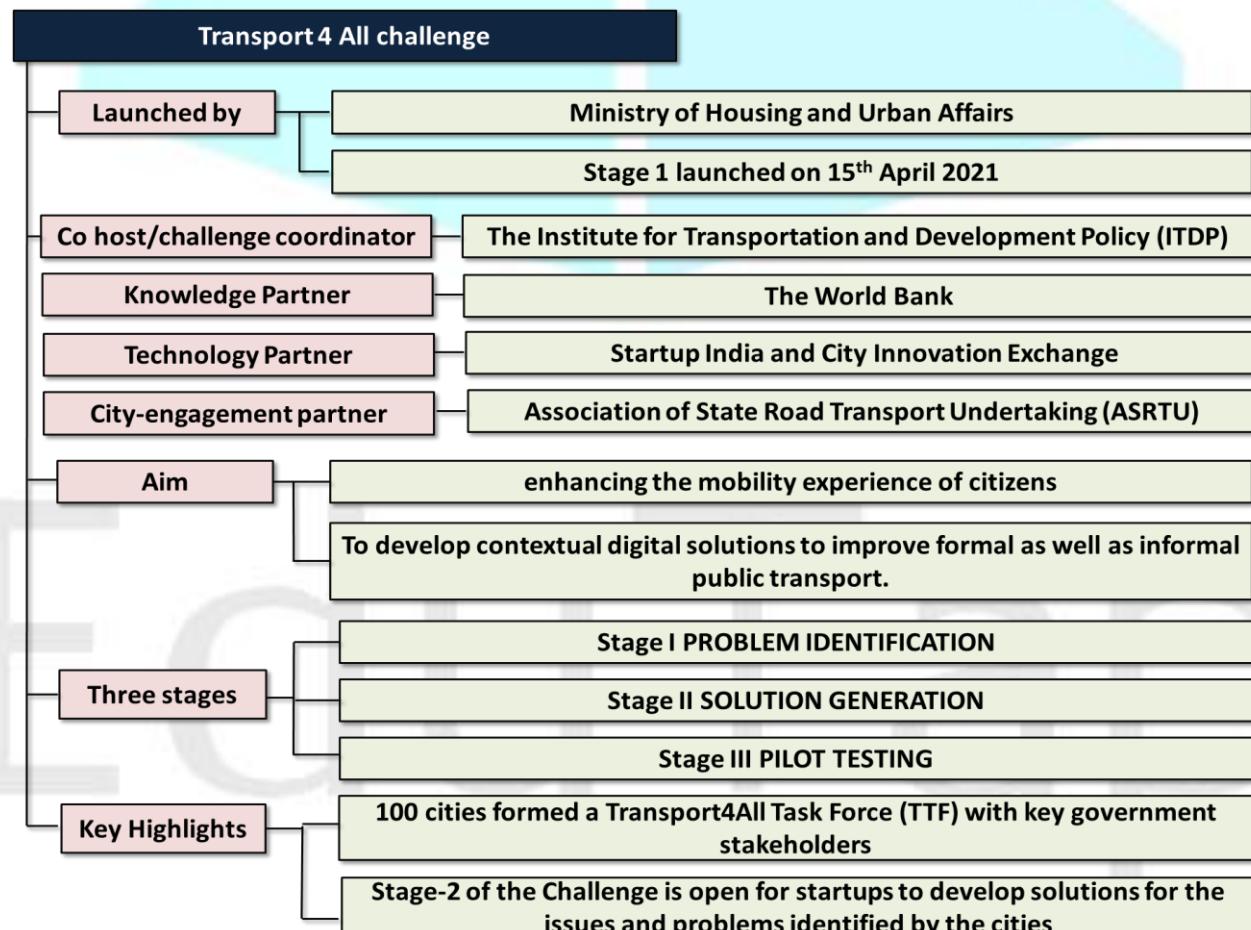
#### About National Urban Transport Policy

- It was launched in **2006 by the Ministry of Urban Development** (Revised in 2014).
- Objective:** To bring comprehensive improvements in urban transport services and infrastructure.

#### 2.46 Transport 4 All Challenge

- Recently, the **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** launched the **Transport 4 All Challenge Stage-2**.

#### Key details



## Social Movements

### 2.47 Citizen Engagement and Communication Programme

#### Why in News

- Recently, it was launched in **Meghalaya state** by the Chief Minister of Meghalaya.
- Aim:** Grassroots penetration of all schemes so that governance is improved in all aspects.
- Objective:** To create awareness about the benefits of the schemes being launched by the Government, so that they can avail the benefits.

### 2.48 National Conference of PwD Icons for Accessible Elections

#### Why in News

- Recently, the **first-ever National Conference of PwD (Person with Disability) Icons for Accessible Elections** has been organised by the Election Commission of India (ECI) in New Delhi.
- On the occasion, election commissioners launched the **PwD App 2.0** and a **Training Module To sensitize election personnel towards PwDs and senior citizens.**

#### About PWD app

- It was initially launched in **2019**.
- Aim:** To ensure wider participation of Persons with Disabilities (PwD).
- PwD App 2.0 is more user friendly & have accessible features like, registration, pick and drop facility on the poll day, etc.

#### Additional Information

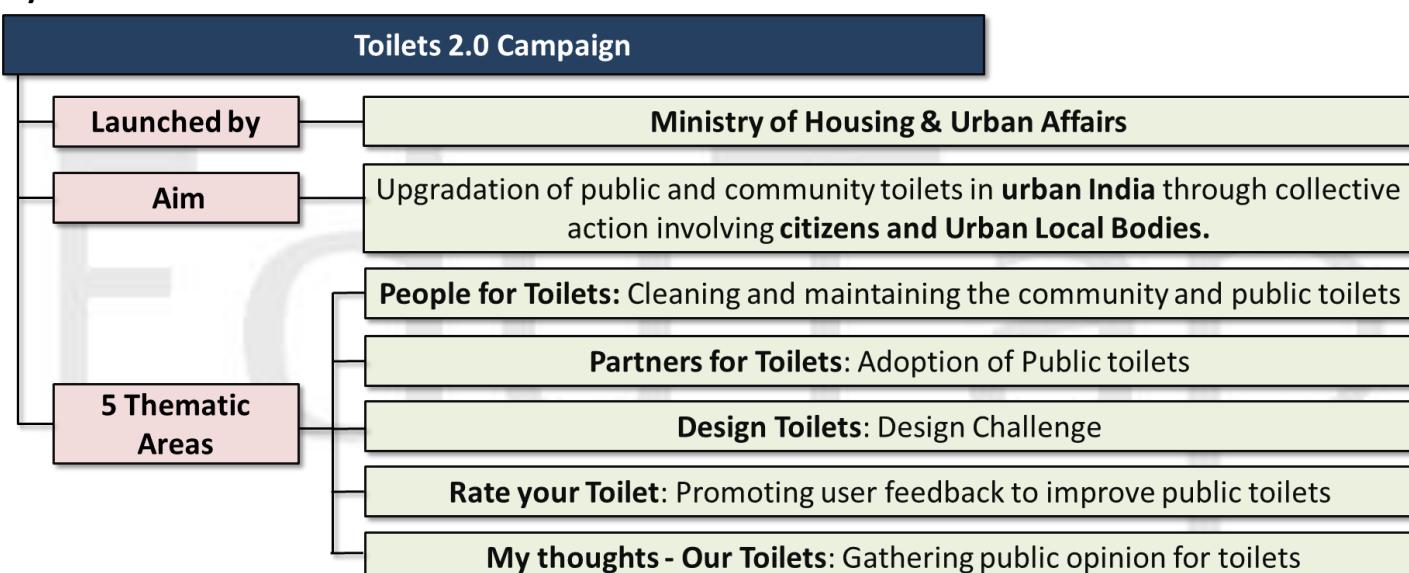
- ECI is also collaborating with the Department of Persons with Disabilities for reaching out to identify more voters with special needs.

### 2.49 Toilets 2.0 Campaign

#### Why in News

- Recently, the Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has launched the **Toilets 2.0 campaign** on the occasion of **World Toilet Day 2022 (19<sup>th</sup> November)**.
- Also, the **MoHUA** in collaboration with **knowledge partner WASH Institute** conducted a capacity-building workshop at Bengaluru, Karnataka to equip States to facilitate **integrated management of used water** in a time-bound manner.

#### Key details



## Additional information

- 25% of our cities have attained the status of ODF++.
- It is expected that 100% of our cities will be certified ODF++ and at least 50% will attain Water+ status by the end of this mission.
- **ODF++ certification** indicates the **safe collection & treatment** of used water as well as **safe management** of faecal sludge.
- **Water+ certification** indicates the **collection, transportation, treatment, and reuse** of both used water and faecal sludge **to prevent environmental pollution**.

## 2.50 Mission Amrit Sarovar

### Why in News

- Recently, the construction of more than 25,000 Amrit Sarovars have been completed within 6 months of the launch of **Mission Amrit Sarovar**.

### Key Details

Mission Amrit Sarovar	
Launch	On 24 <sup>th</sup> April 2022 (National Panchayati Raj Day)
Ministry Involved	The Ministry of Rural Development along with the Ministry of Jal Shakti, Ministry of Panchayati Raj and Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Aim	To develop and rejuvenate 75 water bodies in each district of the country as a part of celebration of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav by 15 August 2023
Target	To build atleast 50,000 Amrit Sarovars by 15th August, 2023
Technical Partner	Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Application & Geoinformatics (BISAG-N)

## Public Finance - Political Economy -- Services sector in India.

## 2.51 Seema Darshan Project

### Why in News

- Recently, the Prime Minister of India has urged the citizens to visit **Nadabet** and other border areas as part of Seema darshan project to encourage tourism.

### About Nadabet

- Nadabet is situated in Gujarat at India-Pakistan Border.
- It was developed as a tourist destination at a cost of **Rs 125 crores** on the pattern of Wagah Border, Punjab.

### About Seema darshan project

- The **Gujarat State Tourism Department** and the **Border Security Force (BSF) Gujarat Frontier** have jointly launched the '**Seema Darshan Project**' at Nadabet in April 2022.
- **Aim:** To provide an opportunity to the people so that they can visualize the life and work of the BSF personnel on our border.

## 2.52 Tax devolution to State Governments

### Why in News

- Recently, the union government has released **two installments of tax devolution** to State Governments amounting to **Rs. 1,16,665 crores** against normal monthly devolution of Rs. 58,333 crores.
- Objective:** To accelerate capital and developmental expenditure of states.

#### About Tax Devolution

- It is one of the core tasks of the **15th Finance Commission (FC)**.
- Currently, **41% of taxes** collected by the Centre is distributed in **14 installments among States** in a fiscal year.

#### About 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission

Particulars	Data
Article under which 15 <sup>th</sup> FC was constituted	<b>Article 280 (3) of the Constitution.</b>
Chairman	<b>N K Singh</b>
Duration	<b>2021–2022 to 2025–2026</b>

## International Economic Issues

### 2.53 India- ROK CEPA

#### Why in News

- Recently, the **9<sup>th</sup> round of India-Republic of Korea (ROK) Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)** up-gradation negotiation was held in Seoul, South Korea.
- Chief Negotiators:** Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce, Government of India and Director General, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (MOTIE), Government of the Republic of Korea.
- India raised serious concerns on the **growing trade deficit between the two countries**, which stood at about **\$9.5 billion in 2021-22**.

#### About India- ROK CEPA

- It was signed in **August 2009** (Came into effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2010).
- Aim:** To lower or eliminate import tariffs on a wide range of goods and expand opportunities for investments and exchanging services.

#### About India – ROK relations

- The bilateral consular relations were established in **1962** but were **upgraded to Ambassador-level on 10th December in 1973**.
- Year **2023 will be celebrated as 50th anniversary** of Korea-India Diplomatic Relations.
- Recently, the Korean embassy appointed a team of Indian graduates as **Dosti Supporters** to strengthen the ties of friendships between the two countries.

#### Additional Information

- 10<sup>th</sup> round** of CEPA upgradation negotiations will be **hosted by India** in early **2023**.

### News From Other Sources

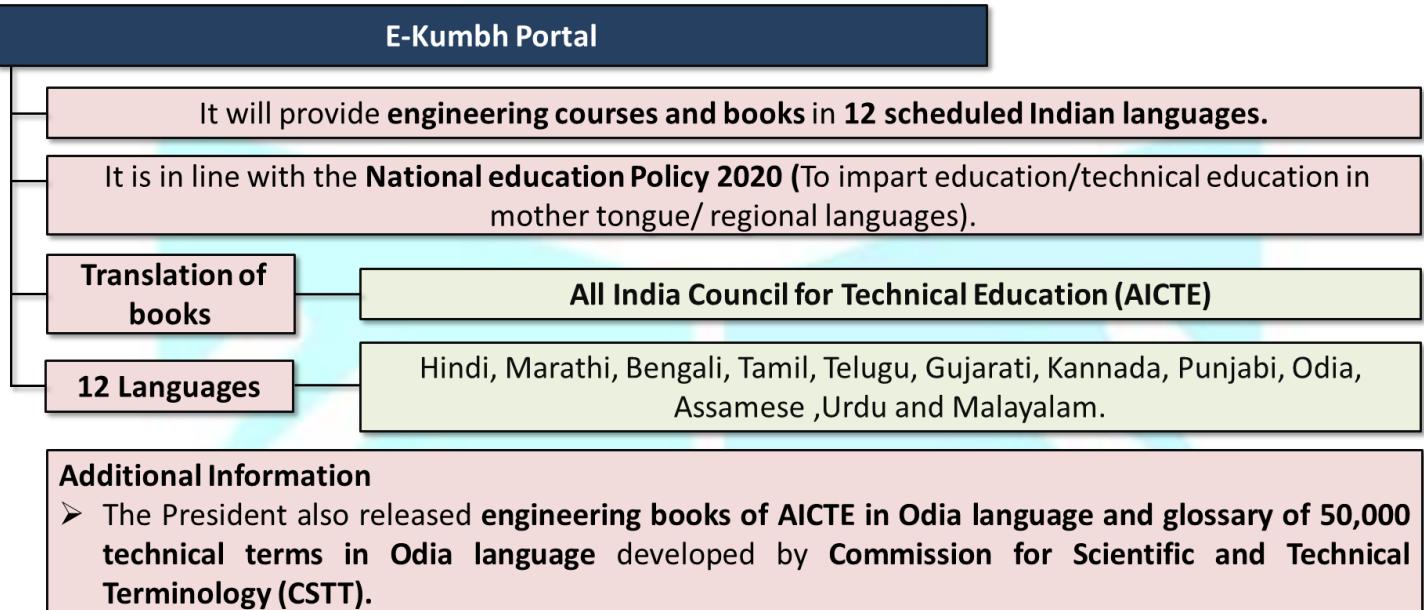
## Social Sectors in India - Education

### 2.54 e-KUMBH portal

#### Why in News

- Recently, the President of India launched the **e-KUMBH (Knowledge Unleashed in Multiple Bharatiya Languages) portal.**

#### Key details



## Sustainable Development and Environmental issues

### 2.55 STREET project

#### Why in News

- Recently, the **STREET Project** of Kerala tourism has bagged the prestigious **Responsible Tourism Global award** at the **World Travel Mart** held in London, UK.
- Reason: **Water conservation initiatives** taken under this project.

#### Key Details

## STREET (Sustainable, Tangible, Responsible, Experiential, Ethnic, Tourism hubs) Project

It is inspired by the 'Tourism for Inclusive Growth' slogan of the United Nations World Tourism Organization

**Launch** November 2021 (1<sup>st</sup> Phase)

**Objective** Theme-based street development approach at tourism destinations

To reduce the over-concentration of activities at core centres, widen the area of interest for visitors and maximize the local community benefit.

**Implementation** By Responsible Tourism Mission, Kerala Government

In public-private partnership (PPP) mode, and have local bodies and residents as stakeholders

'Water Street' is a part of the STREET Project, successfully implemented at Maravanthuruthu Panchayat in Kottayam District, Kerala

It is a water protection and conservation project in Tourism sector

**Aim** To deepen the canals and various water bodies and clean them for the purpose of tourism activities.

As part of it, eco-friendly coir cloth (Coir Bhoovastra) is draped over the banks of water bodies to stop erosion in monsoon season.

## 2.56 Global Shield Against Climate Risks Initiative

### Why in News?

- Recently, the **Global Shield Against Climate Risks initiative** was launched at the 27<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties (**COP27**) at Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt.

#### Global Shield against Climate Risks

**Initiative of** Group of Seven (G7) & Vulnerable Twenty (V20) Group

**Coordinated by** Germany (Present G7 President)

**Aim** to provide rapid access for climate-vulnerable countries to insurance and disaster protection funding after floods or drought

**Initial Funding** over USD 200 million

**First Beneficiaries** Pakistan, Bangladesh, Costa Rica, Fiji, Senegal, Philippines and Ghana

The World Bank has launched **Global Shield Financing Facility** to support the Initiative

#### About G7

- Establishment: 1975; Members: Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the UK, the US & the EU

#### About V20 Group

- Establishment: 2015; Secretariat: Geneva, Switzerland; Total Members: 58 climate vulnerable economies

**Note:** COP27 discussed under PIB in [News:- Sustainable Development and Environmental Issues](#).

## Employment Generation in India

## 2.57 Employee Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) coverage

### Why in News?

- Recently, the Employee Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has released the EPFO Vision @ 2047 document.

### Key Findings

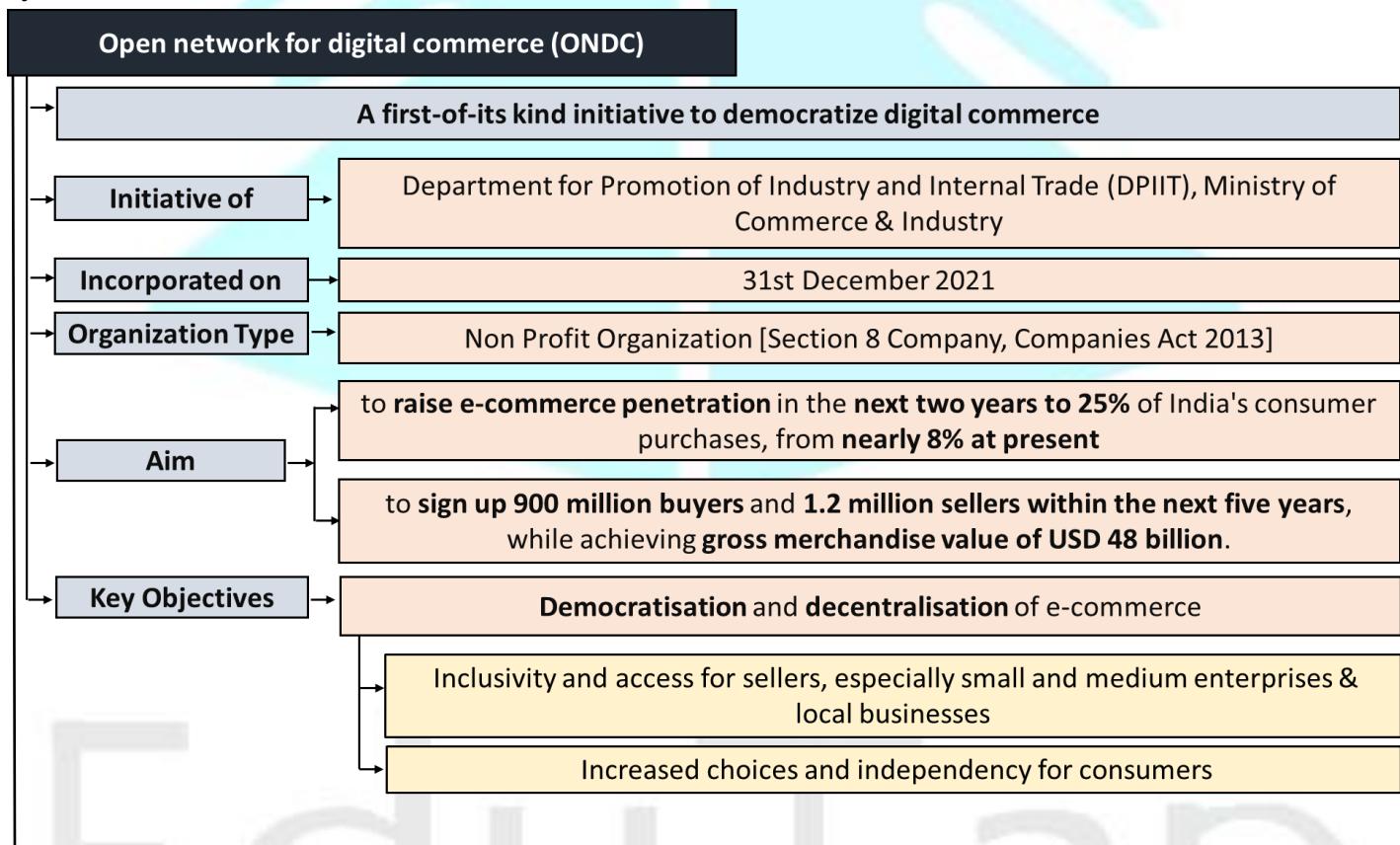
Particulars	Key Details
EPFO Coverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Top 3 States/ UTs:</b> Delhi (61.5% of working population), Goa (51.4%) &amp; Haryana (35.3%)</li> <li><b>Bottom 3 States/ UTs:</b> Tripura (2.1%), Assam &amp; Meghalaya (2.8% each) &amp; Bihar (3.5%)</li> </ul>
Absolute number of working age population covered by EPFO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Top 3 states:</b> Maharashtra, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.</li> </ul>
All India working population (2021)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>432,234,000</li> </ul>
EPFO subscribers (2021)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>58,559,734</li> </ul>
Population covered by EPFO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>13.55%</li> </ul>

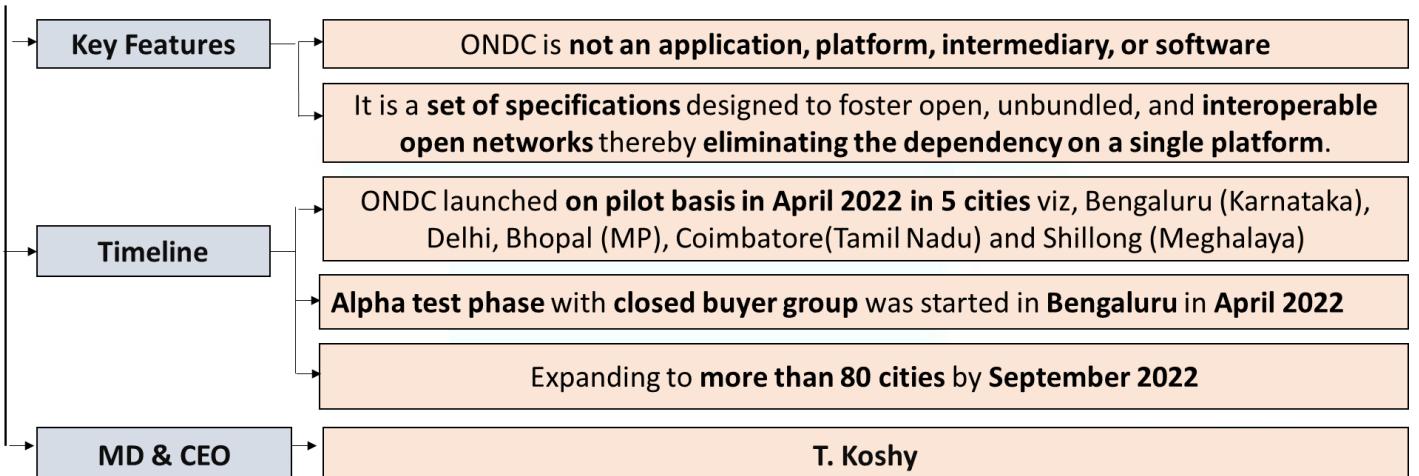
### 2.58 Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)

#### Why in News

- Recently, an e-commerce platform 'Meesho' has joined the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) to help connect buyers with hyperlocal sellers.
- Earlier, Paytm, Shiprocket and Dunzo have joined ONDC.

#### Key details





## 2.59 Amar Sarkar Portal

### Why in News?

- Recently, the **Government of Tripura** has launched **Amar Sarkar portal**.
- The portal **connects public and the Government**.
- It would ensure that all central and state-sponsored schemes reach every doorstep in the state.

## Social Justice: Positive Discrimination in favour of the under privileged

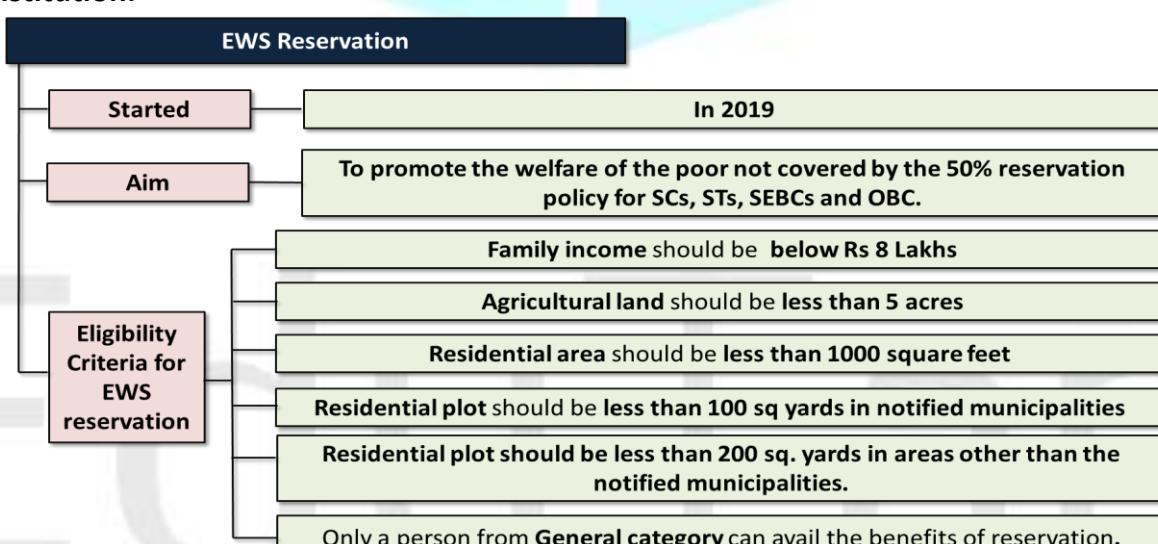
## 2.60 Economically Weaker Section

### Why in News

- Recently, a Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court (SC) upheld the validity of the **103rd Constitutional Amendment** which provides **10% reservation in government jobs and educational institutions** to the '**economically weaker sections**' of the society.

### Key Details

- The SC excluded the 'poorest of poor' among Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBC) and Other Backward Classes (OBC) from its scope.
- 103<sup>rd</sup> Constitutional (Amendment) Act 2019:** Amended **Articles 15 and 16** of the **Indian constitution**.



#### Additional Information

- Here the family will include the person who seeks benefit of reservation, his/her parents and siblings below the age of 18 years as also his/her spouse and children below the age of 18 years.

## 2.61 Purple Fest

### Why in News?

- Recently, the **Government of Goa** has announced to organize 'Purple Fest-Celebrating Diversity' in **January 2023**.
- It is a **first of its kind inclusive festival** to embrace & celebrate **persons with disabilities**.
- The **logo** of the event has been launched at **Porvorim, Goa**.

## 2.62 National Suicide Prevention Strategy

### Why in News

- Recently, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has announced the '**National Suicide Prevention Strategy**'.

### Key details

National Suicide Prevention Strategy	
It is <b>India's first suicide prevention policy</b> with <b>time bound</b> action plans and <b>multi-sectoral collaborations</b> .	
Launch by	<b>Ministry of Health and Family Welfare</b>
Aim	To achieve reduction in suicide <b>mortality by 10% by 2030</b> .
vision	to create a society, where people value their lives and are supported when they are in need.
In line with	<b>WHO's South East-Asia Region Strategy for suicide prevention</b>
Key Features	It broadly seeks to establish effective surveillance mechanisms for suicide within the next three years.
	It will establish <b>psychiatric outpatient departments</b> that will provide suicide prevention services through the <b>District Mental Health Programme</b> in all districts within the <b>next five years</b> .
	It will integrate a <b>mental well-being curriculum</b> in all <b>educational institutions</b> within the <b>next eight years</b> .
	It envisages <b>developing guidelines for responsible media reporting of suicides</b> , and restricting access to means of suicide.

### Additional information

Particulars	Key figures
Deaths due to suicide in India	Over 1 lakh
Top category (Age wise)	Age 15-29
The suicide rate has increased in last 3 years	From 10.2 to 11.3 per 1,00,000 population.
Most common reasons for suicide	Family problems (34%) and Illnesses (18%)

- Psychiatrist **Lakshmi Vijayakumar**, founder of Sneha Foundation, is credited with the writing of the first draft of the strategy.
- According to the annual report of the **National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)**, released in August, **1.64 lakh people died by suicide in 2021**, an increase of **7.2%** from 2020.

# Indian Political System

## 2.63 Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act (PESA Act)

### Why in News

- Recently, the **Madhya Pradesh Government** has notified its **PESA Rules** on the occasion of **Janjatiya Gaurav Divas** on **15<sup>th</sup> November 2022**.

### Key Details

- It will **empower the Gram Sabhas to take decision** on the rules and regulations with regard to all natural resources in the forest areas.
- It will give **more constitutional rights to the tribal people** to reap the benefits of natural resources from the forest areas

### About PESA Act

#### PESA Act 1996

It is an Act to provide for the extension of the provisions of **Part IX of the Constitution** relating to the **Panchayats to the 5<sup>th</sup> Scheduled Areas**

**State Legislatures** have been **empowered to frame all laws** concerning to this act, subject to such exceptions and modifications as are provided in **section 4 of the Act**.

**Ten PESA States** → Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Telangana

In the States of **Jharkhand and Odisha** the process of inter-Departmental consultation is still in progress.

**9 out of 10 states** have incorporated the provisions of **PESA 1996** in their respective **State Panchayati Raj Acts**.

Only the **Rajasthan**, has notified “**The Rajasthan Panchayat Raj (Modification of Provisions in their Application to the Scheduled Areas) Act 1999**”.

At Present only these 10 states have 5<sup>th</sup> Scheduled Areas.

➤ Article 244 (1) of the Indian Constitution **defines Scheduled Areas** as the areas defined so by the President of India and are mentioned in the fifth schedule of the Constitution.

➤ National Conference on the PESA act 1996

- Recently, organised to commemorate the **25th year of enactment** of the PESA Act 1996.
- Organised by: **Ministry of Panchayati Raj** in collaboration with **Ministry of Tribal Affairs** and **National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj**.
- Objective:** To evaluate the **progress of States in implementation of PESA** as well as fostering a shared outlook on its impact at the grassroots level.

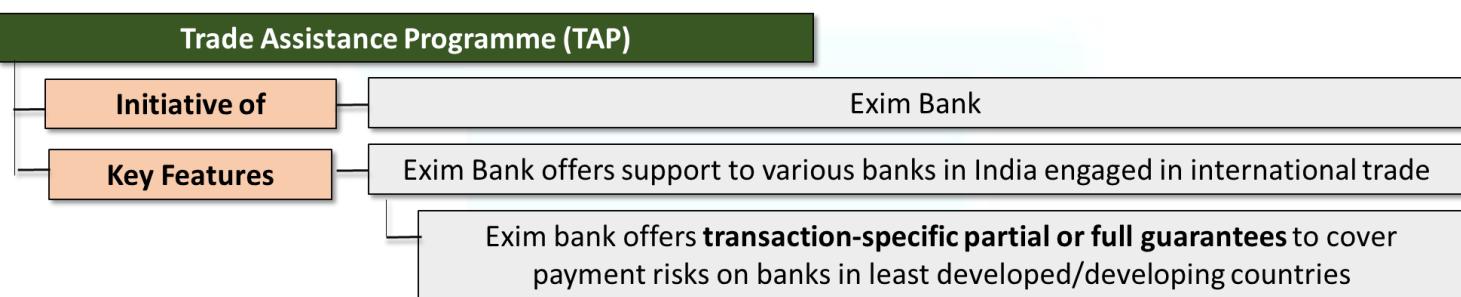
## Globalization

## 2.64 Export-Import Bank of India (EXIM Bank)

### Why in News?

- Recently, the Export-Import Bank of India (**Exim Bank**) has concluded a **Master Risk Participation Agreement** with South Africa based **FirstRand Bank (FRB)** to support trade transactions.
- The agreement was signed under EXIM Banks's **Trade Assistance Programme**

- Exim Bank's study titled 'Reinvigorating India's Economic Engagements with Southern Africa' was released during the event.



## 2.65 India-US Economic and Financial Partnership

### Why in News?

- Recently, the 9<sup>th</sup> Ministerial meeting of the India-United States (US) Economic and Financial Partnership (EFP) was held at New Delhi.
- Indian Delegation led by: Dr Nirmala Sitharaman, Union Minister for Finance
- US Delegation led by: Dr. Janet Yellen, Treasury Secretary
- Key Outcome: Joint Statement of 9<sup>th</sup> India-US EFP meeting was released during the meeting.

### Key Information Shared

Particulars	Key Details
Climate Finance Target	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developed countries to jointly mobilize USD 100 billion every year till 2025</li> </ul>

### About India-US Economic and Financial Partnership



## Monetary and Fiscal Policy

### 2.66 Monetary Policy Committee (MPC)

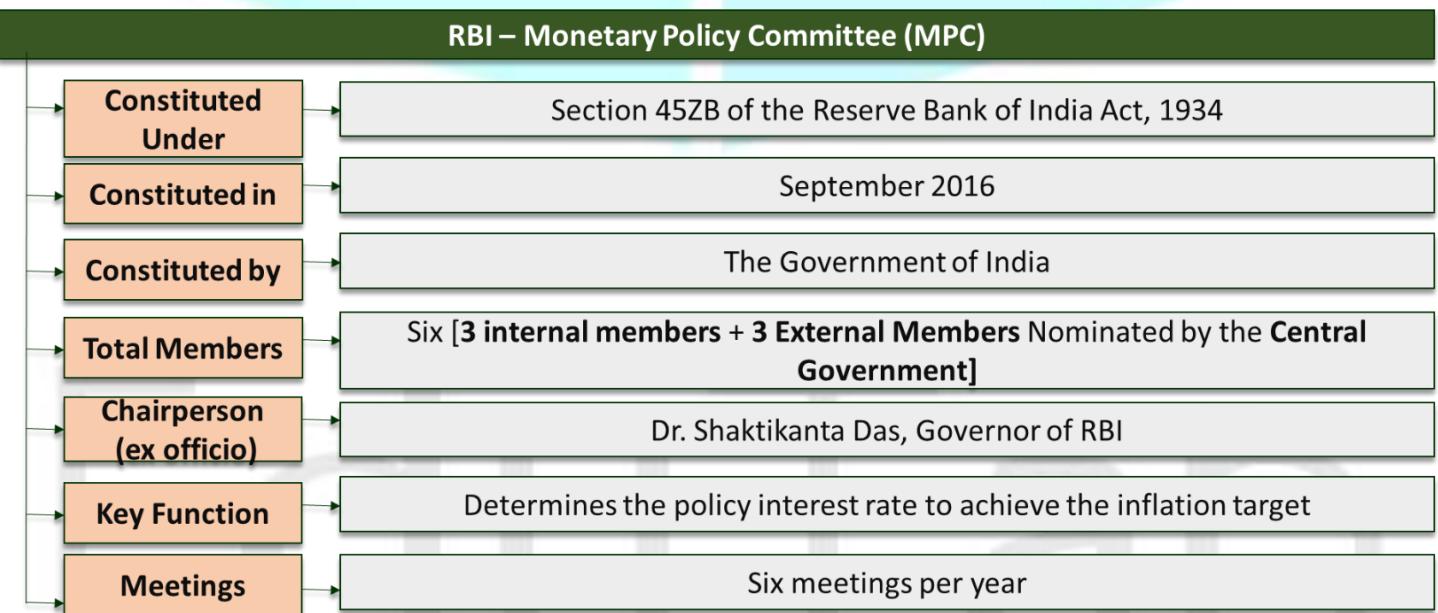
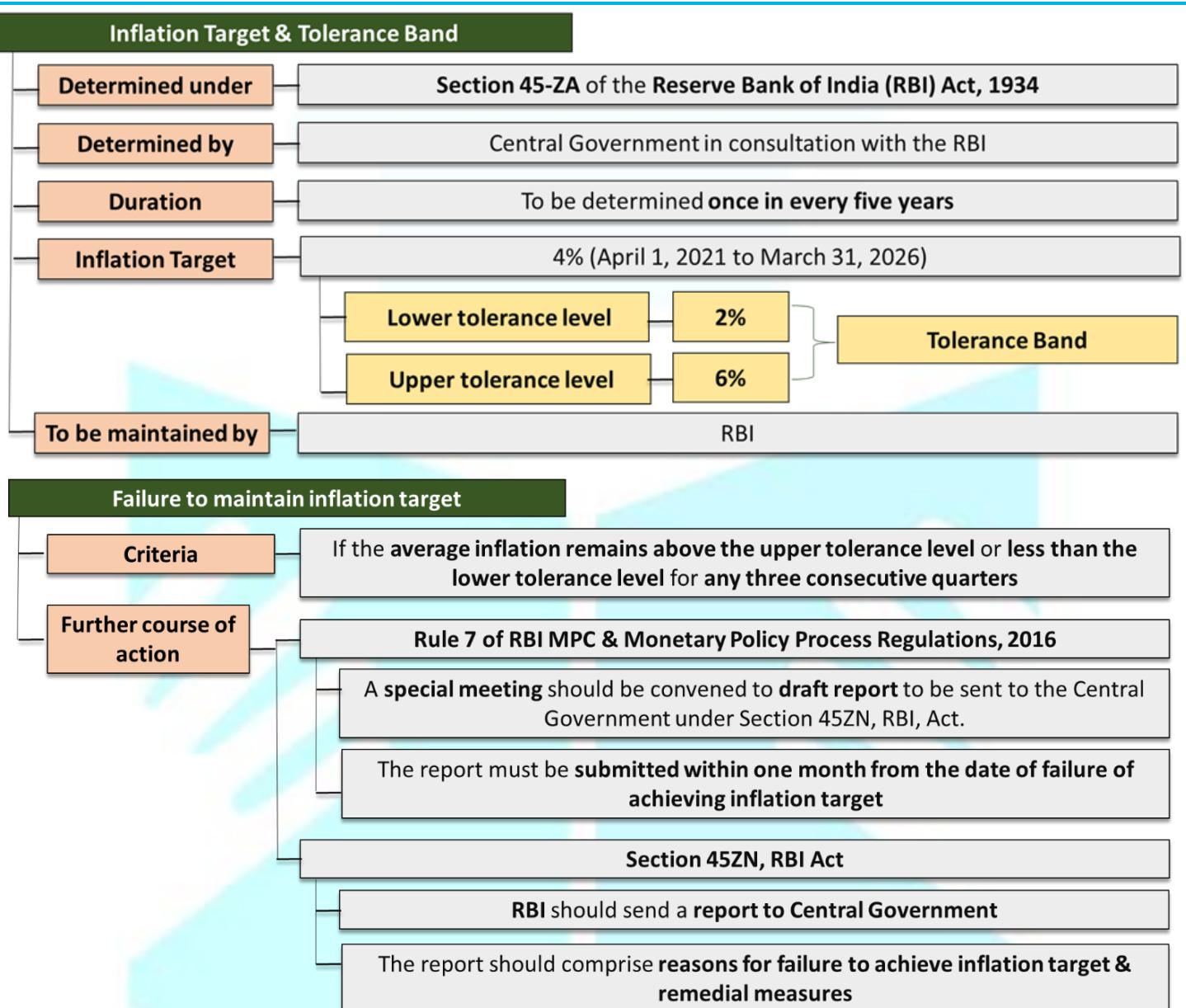
- Recently, the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has convened a special off-cycle meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 2022.
- The meeting was organized under the provisions of Section 45ZN of the RBI Act, 1934.
- Meeting Agenda: to discuss and draft the report to be sent to the Central Government by the RBI for having missed the inflation target as mandated by the MPC framework.
- Meeting Chaired by: Shaktikanta Das, Governor, RBI

### Significance

- This is for the first time, a special MPC meeting has been convened under Section 45ZN, RBI Act since the adoption of new MPC framework in 2016.
- It is also the second off-cycle meeting of MPC in 2022, the first being held in May 2022.

### Background

- The consumer price based inflation (CPI), or retail inflation has remained above the inflation target for three consecutive quarters, or nine straight months from January to September 2022.



## 2.67 Anti-Profiteering mechanism of GST

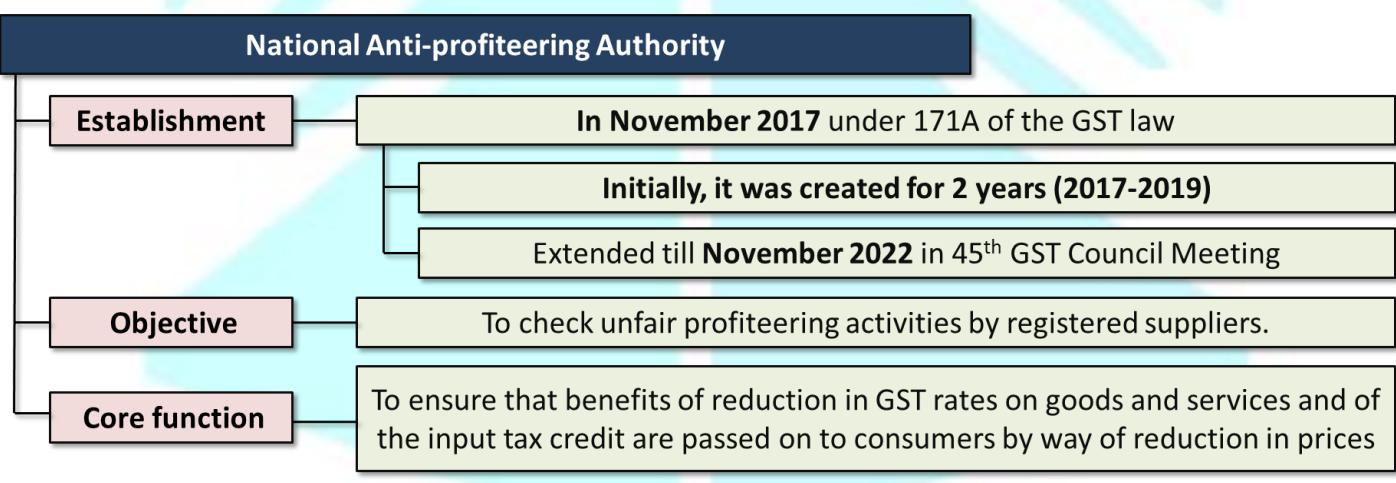
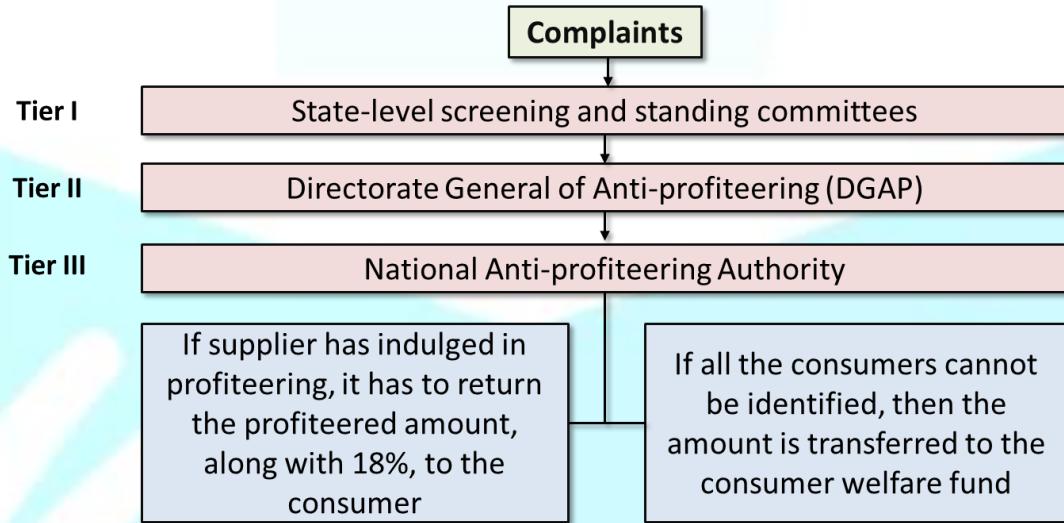
### Why in News

- From 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022, all Goods & Services Tax (GST) anti-profiteering complaints would be dealt by the **Competition Commission of India (CCI)**.

- As the extended tenure of the **National Anti-profiteering Authority** ends in November this year.

### Key Details

- Henceforth, all investigations will be done by the **Directorate General of Anti-profiteering (DGAP)**, which will then **submit a report to CCI**.
- As per the GST law, a **three-tier structure** was set up for the investigation and adjudication of the profiteering complaints.



## Growth and Development (Measurement of growth)

### 2.68 Latest Gross Domestic Product (GDP)/ Growth Forecasts for India

S.No	Agency/ organization Name	GDP Forecast	Previous Estimate
1.	Crisil	7% (2022-2023)	7.3%

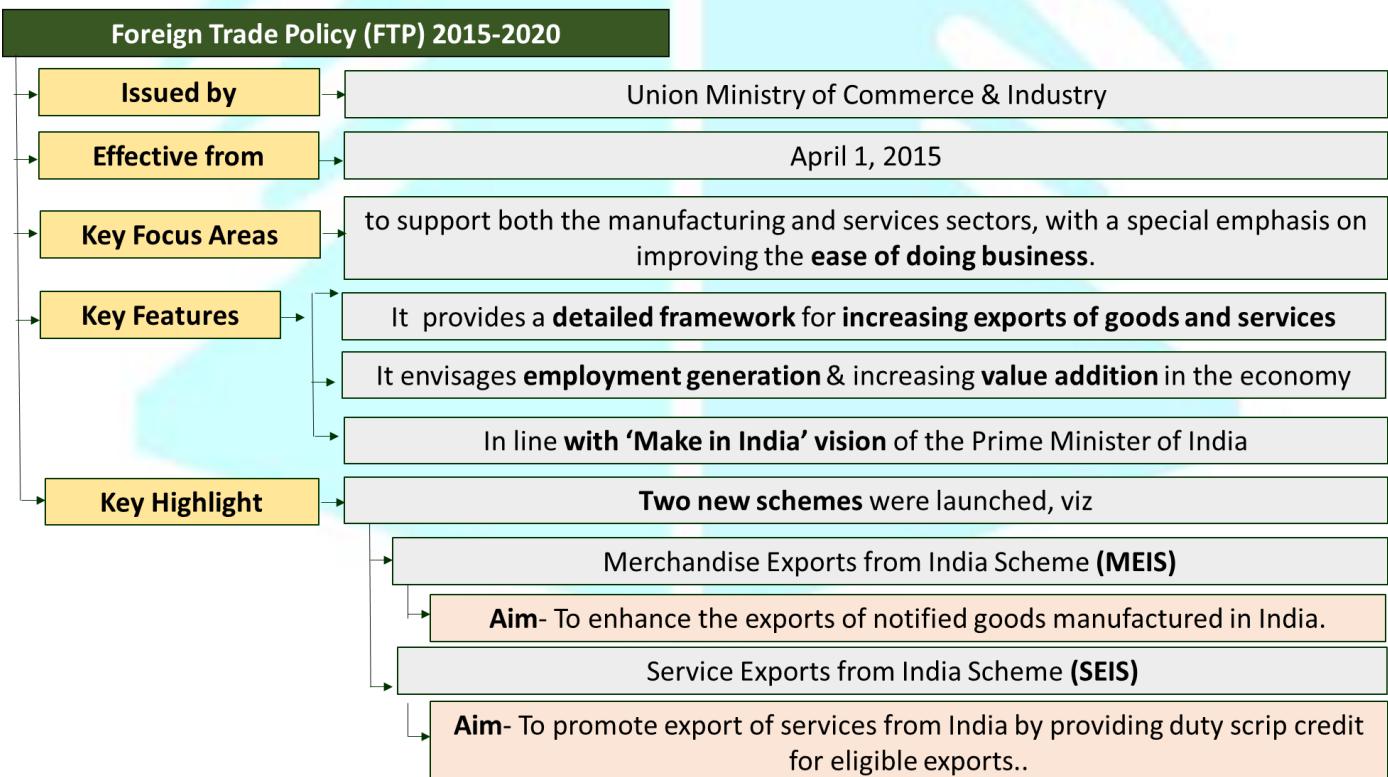
		6.5% (Q2 of 2022-23)	
2.	ICRA	6.5% (Q2 of 2022-23)	-

## Export-Import Policy

### 2.69 International Trade Settlements in Indian Rupees

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the **Government of India** has **allowed invoicing, payment, and settlement of exports / imports in Indian Rupees** for export promotion schemes under the **Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2015**
- In this regard, the Government of India has **amended the FTP and Handbook of Procedures**.
- The changes would be **applicable to the following transactions/schemes-**
  - imports for exports
  - export performance for recognition as Status Holders
  - Realisation of export proceeds under Advance Authorisation (AA)
  - Duty Free Import Authorisation (DFIA) schemes
  - Realisation of Export Proceeds under Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) Scheme
- The move envisages to **facilitate and ease international trade transactions in Indian Rupees**.



## International Economic Institutions (IMF and World Bank – WTO) (Regional Economic Cooperation)

### 2.70 Asian Development Bank (ADB)

#### Why in News

- Recently, it has signed a **USD 40 million financing package** with Maharashtra based **GreenCell Express Private Limited (GEPL)** for Safer E-Buses in India, especially **for women commuters**.

#### Key details

Package Details	Key facts
-----------------	-----------

<b>Number of electric battery-powered buses (e-buses) to be developed</b>	<b>255</b>
<b>Beneficiary</b>	<b>5 million people a year on 56 intercity routes.</b>
<b>Emissions reduced by this project</b>	<b>14,780 tons a year.</b>

- One of the important features of this project is the **CIDF (Climate Innovation and Development Fund)** grant which will partially finance the decarbonization of 100 out of the 255 e-buses.
- This project has qualified for a **2x gender financing rating**, a challenge launched at the **G7 summit in 2018** to encourage gender lens investing among development finance institutions.

#### About GreenCell Express Private Limited (GEPL)

- It is a wholly owned subsidiary of **GreenCell Mobility Private Limited (GreenCell)**, a platform company of Green Growth Equity Fund (GGEF).
- GGEF is an Indian **alternative investment fund in India** managed by **EverSource Capital** with a mandate to mobilize institutional capital into green infrastructure in India.

#### About Asian Development Bank (ADB)

<b>Asian Development Bank (ADB)</b>	
It is a regional development bank.	
<b>Establishment</b>	<b>1966</b>
<b>Objective</b>	To achieve a prosperous, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable Asia and the Pacific, while sustaining its efforts to eradicate extreme poverty.
<b>Members</b>	68 (49 are from within Asia and the Pacific and 19 outside)
<b>President</b>	Masatsugu Asakawa
<b>Headquarter</b>	Mandaluyong(Manila), Philippines
<b>Key Highlights</b>	it assists members and partners by providing loans, technical assistance, grants, and equity investments to promote social and economic development.
India's Shareholding in ADB is 6.3% (As of 31 December 2021)	

#### Additional information

- In 2020, road transport accounted for **87% of all passenger trips, 18% of total energy consumption, and 11.7% of greenhouse gas emissions**.

### 2.71 Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)

#### Why in News

- Recently, the Defence Minister has participated in the **9th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) Plus in Siem Reap, Cambodia**.
- Co-chair of **maiden India-ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting: India and Cambodia**.
- Chair of the Meeting (ADMM+): **Cambodia**

#### Key details

- India made two proposals for expanding the scope/depth of the India-ASEAN Defence relations at the inaugural **India-ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting**:

**Proposals**

**Key Suggestions**

India-ASEAN Initiative for women in UNPK (United Nations Peace Keeping) operations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct courses for women peacekeepers of ASEAN member states.</li> <li>Conduct a '<b>Table Top Exercise</b>' in India for <b>women officers</b> from ASEAN incorporating facets of UNPK challenges</li> </ul>
Initiative on marine plastic pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordination between the <b>NCC (National Cadet Corps)</b> and the equivalent youth organisations of ASEAN countries.</li> <li>Establishment of an <b>India-ASEAN marine pollution response centre</b> at <b>Chennai</b> by the <b>Indian Coast Guard</b>.</li> </ul>

- The First India-ASEAN maritime exercise is planned to be conducted in May next year.

#### About ADMM Plus

- It is an annual meeting of **Defence Ministers** of **10 ASEAN countries** and its **8 dialogue partner countries** (**India, USA, Russia, China, Australia, Japan, New Zealand and South Korea**).

#### Additional Information

- India and Cambodia celebrating **70 years of diplomatic relations** this year.
- The year 2022 also marks the **30th Anniversary of India-ASEAN relations**.

### 2.72 Cooperation on High-Performance Computing and Quantum Technologies

#### Why in News

- Recently, India and the EU signed an '**Intent of Cooperation on High Performance Computing and Quantum Technologies**'.
- Aim: Facilitating collaboration on high-performance computing applications using **Indian and European supercomputers** in areas such as **bio-molecular medicines, Covid-19 therapeutics, mitigating climate change, predicting natural disasters and quantum computing**.

#### Key details

- Signed by: **Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY), India** and the **Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology (DG CONNECT), European Commission**.
- The signing of the agreement assumes significance in the context of the decision to set up the **EU-India Trade and Technology Council (TTC)**.

#### About India-EU Trade and Technology Council

- The President of the European Commission and the Prime Minister of India **agreed to launch the EU-India Trade and Technology Council in April this year**.
- It is a strategic mechanism that gives **India access to advanced technologies** and allows the two sides to set standards in crucial areas such as **5G and artificial intelligence**.
- It will seek to deepen cooperation in **trade and security** between India and the EU.
- It is the **first such trade and technology council set up by India** with any of its partners.
- For the EU, it is only the second such body, following the first one set up with the US.

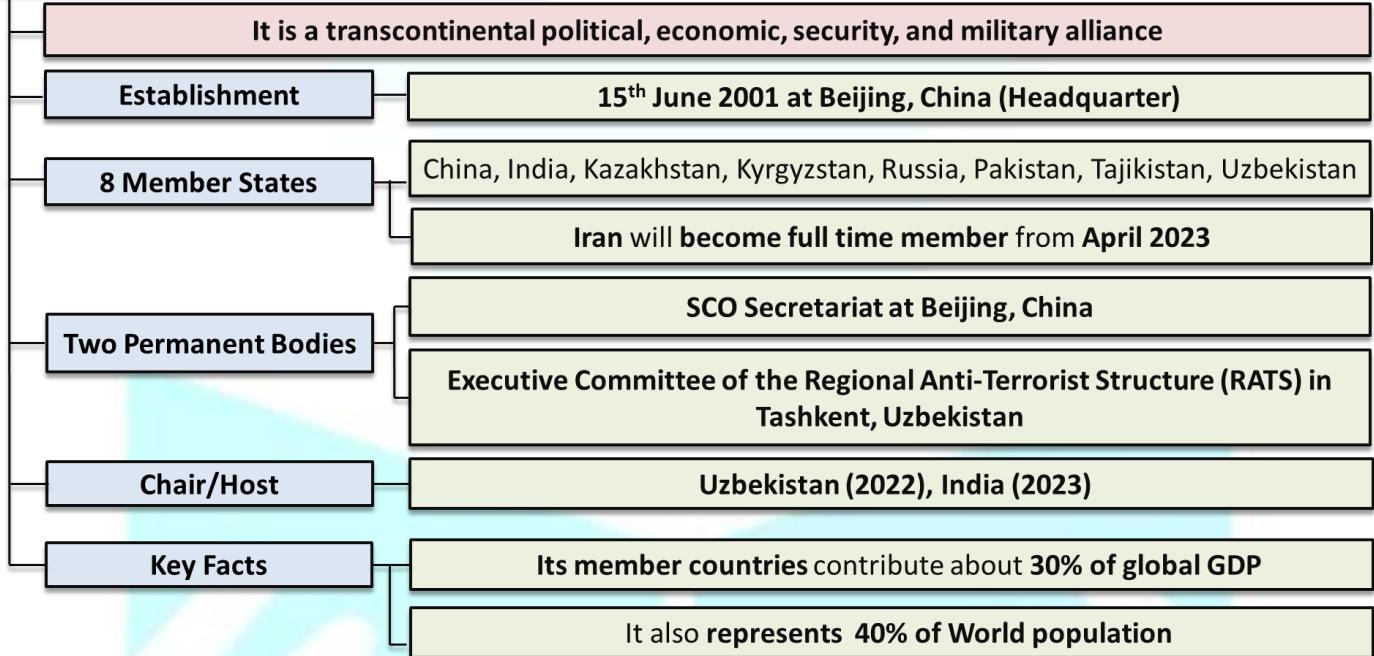
### 2.73 Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)

#### Why in News

- Recently, India has launched the **official website** of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) as it will host the next **SCO summit** as a chairman of organisation in 2023.

#### Key Details

## Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)



### Additional information

- The Prime Minister of India floated the concept of **SECURE** at the SCO summit in China in 2018.
  - 'S' for **security for citizens**, 'E' for **economic development**, 'C' for **connectivity** in the region, 'U' for **unity**, 'R' for **respect of sovereignty and integrity**, and 'E' for **environment protection**.
- India's national coordinator for SCO** is **Yojna Patel**.
- India, along with Pakistan** became a member of the grouping in 2017.
- Currently, **6 countries have Dialogue Partners Status** and **4 countries have observer status** of the SCO.

## 2.74 Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)

### Why in News

- Recently, the **22<sup>nd</sup> Council of Minister's meeting** of the **Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)** was held at **Dhaka in Bangladesh**.

### Key details

- The Indian delegation was led by Minister of State (MoS) for External Affairs.
- Outcomes:**
  - Dhaka Communique** was adopted.
  - The Council of Ministers adopted the '**IORA's Outlook on the Indo-Pacific**' (**IOIP**) which would guide enhancement of IORA's engagement in the Indo-Pacific region.
- India is setting up an **e-Office** at the **IORA Secretariat**.
- MoS announced provision of **e-subscription by India** to **Mahatma Gandhi Library** at IORA Secretariat.
- MoS highlighted the country's contributions as **coordinator of the IORA priority areas of Disaster Risk Management and Science, Technology and Innovation** towards capacity building and strengthening of IORA Secretariat.

## Indian Ocean Rim Association

It is an Inter-governmental organisation of the countries around the Indian Ocean Region

Establishment	7 March 1997
Aim	To strengthen regional economic cooperation and sustainable development within the Indian Ocean Region.
Member Countries	23 countries (Including India)
Dialogue Partner	10 countries
Secretariat	Mauritius
Apex Body	Council of Foreign Ministers (COM) which meets annually
Chair	Bangladesh (November 2021 to November 2023)

↓

Theme adopted by Bangladesh for its chairship:  
**“Harnessing the opportunities of the Indian Ocean sustainably for inclusive development”**

### 2.75 China-Indian Ocean Region Forum

#### Why in News

- Recently, China has organized the first high-level China-Indian Ocean Region Forum on Development Cooperation with 19 countries from the region except for India.
- Location: Kunming, China.
- Theme: “Shared Development: Theory and Practice from the Perspective of the Blue Economy”.
- Hosted by: China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA).
- Outcome: China's proposed to establish a marine disaster prevention and mitigation cooperation mechanism between China and countries in the Indian Ocean region.

#### About China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA)

- Founded in 2018.
- It formulates policies and coordinates major foreign aid issues for China.

### 2.76 East Asia Summit (EAS)

#### Why in News

- Recently, the Vice President of India participated in the 17<sup>th</sup> East Asia Summit organised in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

#### Key details

## East Asia Summit

It is a forum of 18 countries of the Asia-Pacific region

It is an initiative of ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations)

It was first promoted in 1991 by the then Malaysian Prime Minister, Mahathir bin Mohamad

Establishment 2005

Members 10 ASEAN Countries

8 partner countries viz. Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Russia and the USA.

### Additional Information

- In 2021 EAS members represented **53.1% of the world's population** and accounted for **59.5% of global GDP** (Around USD 57.2 trillion).
- India recorded the highest GDP growth of **8.7%** among EAS economies in 2021.

## Indian Agriculture

### 2.77 Odisha Millet Mission

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the **Government of Odisha** has observed **Mandia Divas (Millet Day)** on **10<sup>th</sup> November 2022** to promote millets as a highly nutritive and eco-friendly food product.
- The **Government of Odisha** has announced to spend **Rs 2,800 crores in five years** towards **Odisha Millets Mission**.

#### Odisha Millets Mission

Launch Year 2017

Launched by Government of Odisha

Aim to improve livelihoods of vulnerable rain-fed farmers by reviving millets

#### Additional Information

- The Government of India had observed **National Year of Millets** in **2018**
- **Odisha** was the **first state to include ragi laddu** in Integrated Child Development Scheme (**ICDS**) through support of **District Mineral Foundations**.
- Under the Public Distribution System (PDS), **Odisha** is providing **ragi** at the rate of **Rs. 2 per kg** to ration cardholders.

## Social Movements

### 2.78 Special Campaign 2.0

#### Why in News

- Recently, the Union Minister for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions announced that this campaign was highly successful.

#### Key details

## Special Campaign 2.0

Launched by	Government of India
Aim	For Swachhata in government offices and disposal of pending matters
Duration	Implementation phase: 2 <sup>nd</sup> October to 31 <sup>st</sup> October
Implemented by	All Ministries/ Departments
Supervised by	Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG), Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions
Highlights	<p>It has focused more on remote field/outstation offices in addition to the Ministries/ Departments and their attached/subordinate offices.</p> <p>It was <b>15 times larger</b> than Special Campaign of 2021 in terms of cleanliness campaign sites (Total sites covered: 99633).</p>
Outcome	over Rs. 364 crores earned from scrap disposal and over 88.05 lac sq feet of space freed during the campaign.

## 2.79 Digital Shakti Campaign

### Why in News

- Recently, the National Commission for Women (NCW) launched the **fourth phase** of the **Digital Shakti Campaign (Digital Shakti 4.0)**.

### Key Details

Digital Shakti Campaign	
It is a pan-India project on digitally empowering and skilling women and girls in the cyberspace	
Launch	June 2018 (1 <sup>st</sup> Phase), Feb 2020 (2 <sup>nd</sup> Phase), March 2021 (3 <sup>rd</sup> Phase)
About Digital Shakti 4.0	
Launched by	The National Commission for Women in collaboration with CyberPeace Foundation and Meta.
Aim	To sensitize more than <b>1 million women</b> across India on how to be safe online The campaign is launched in <b>English</b> along with <b>5 other Indian languages</b> to maintain inclusivity.
Key Highlights	Through this project, <b>over 3 Lakh women across India</b> have been made aware of cyber safety tips and tricks. It is helping women in <b>reporting &amp; redressal mechanisms, data privacy and usage of technology</b> for their benefits.
Additional Information	
➤ In 3 <sup>rd</sup> Phase, a <b>Resource Center</b> was also developed under the project to provide information on all the avenues of reporting in case a woman faces any cyber crime.	

## 2.80 Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan / Accessible India Campaign

### Why in News

- Recently, the **Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) (Divyangjan)**, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment shared information about this campaign.
- Also, it is going to complete **7 years in December 2022**.

### Key Details

Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan	
Launched	3rd December 2015 (International Day of Persons with Disabilities)
Ministry	Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
Aim	To provide universal accessibility to persons with disabilities.
3 main pillars	Built-Up Environment, Transportation System and Information & Communication (ICT) ecosystems.

## 2.81 Campaign for the Submission of Digital Life Certificates (DLC)

### Why in News

- Recently, this Campaign was organised by the **Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare** under the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions.
- Objective:** To promote the use of **Face Authentication technology/ Biometrics** for submission of DLC, thereby ensuring transparency and “Ease of Usage”/ “Ease of Living”.

### Key details

- It was conducted with the help of the **State Bank of India (SBI)** & **Punjab National Bank (PNB)**, who sponsored the campaign sites.
- The department roped in the **50 registered Pensioners' Associations** to promote DLCs.
- Department further associated with the **Indian Post & Payment Bank (IPPB)** to include DLC among **one of the door-step services** provided through the agency of its **Gramin Dak Sevaks**.

**Note:** This Campaign is also covered in **November 1<sup>st</sup> week (Article: 2.15)**.

## Indian Money and Financial Markets: Linkages with the economy

## 2.82 Self Reliant India (SRI) Fund

- Recently, it was informed that, so far, **SRI Fund** has committed over 50% of its corpus to **38 daughter funds** for investment in MSMEs in a year since its launch.

### Key Details

## Self Reliant India (SRI) Fund

It is a **Category II Alternative Investment Fund** to make **equity investments in micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs)**

**Set up by** Central government under the aegis of the **Ministry of MSME**

**Anchored by** **NSIC Venture Capital Fund Limited (NVCFL)**, a wholly-owned subsidiary of **The National Small Industries Corporation Limited (NSIC)**.

**Investment Manager** **SBICAP Ventures Limited**

**Total Corpus** **Rs 10,000 crores (By Central Government)**

**Structure** '**Mother Fund-Daughter Fund**' structure

**SRIF** (the mother fund) invests up to 20% of the corpus of the Daughter Fund, which raises the balance 80% of the capital from outside sources,

**Other Highlights** It gets leveraged **five times**, taking the total value of investible funds into MSMEs to **₹50,000 crore**

## Public Finance - Political Economy - - Services sector in India

### 2.83 Aadhaar (Enrolment and Update) Regulations

#### Why in News

- Recently, the government has amended the Aadhaar Regulations.

#### Key Details

- According to the amendment, "Aadhaar number holders may, on completion of **every 10 years** from the **date of enrolment for Aadhaar**, update their **supporting documents** in Aadhaar, at least once, by submitting **Proof of Identity (POI) and Proof of Address (POA) documents**".
- Objective: To ensure "**continued accuracy**" of Aadhaar related information in the **Central Identities Data Repository (CIDR)**.

### 2.84 National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP)

#### Why in News

- Recently, the Union Finance Minister reviewed the progress of **National Monetisation Pipeline**.
- Under this NMP, government expects to garner about **₹6 lakh crore** by leasing public assets in sectors **such as airports, railways, roads and shipping**, to the private sector.
- Objective:** Funds generated under NMP will be used for new **infrastructure creation in the country**.

#### Key Details

- Under the union budget 2021-22, **monetization of assets** was identified as **one of the three pillars for enhanced and sustainable infrastructure financing** in the country

Particulars	In 2021-22 (Actual)	Budget Estimate (2021-22)
Amount collection under NMP	Rs 96,000 Crores	Rs 88,000 Crores

Note: Refer **National Monetisation Pipeline** from October CA magazine (Article 2.52).

### 2.85 Critical Information Infrastructure (CII)

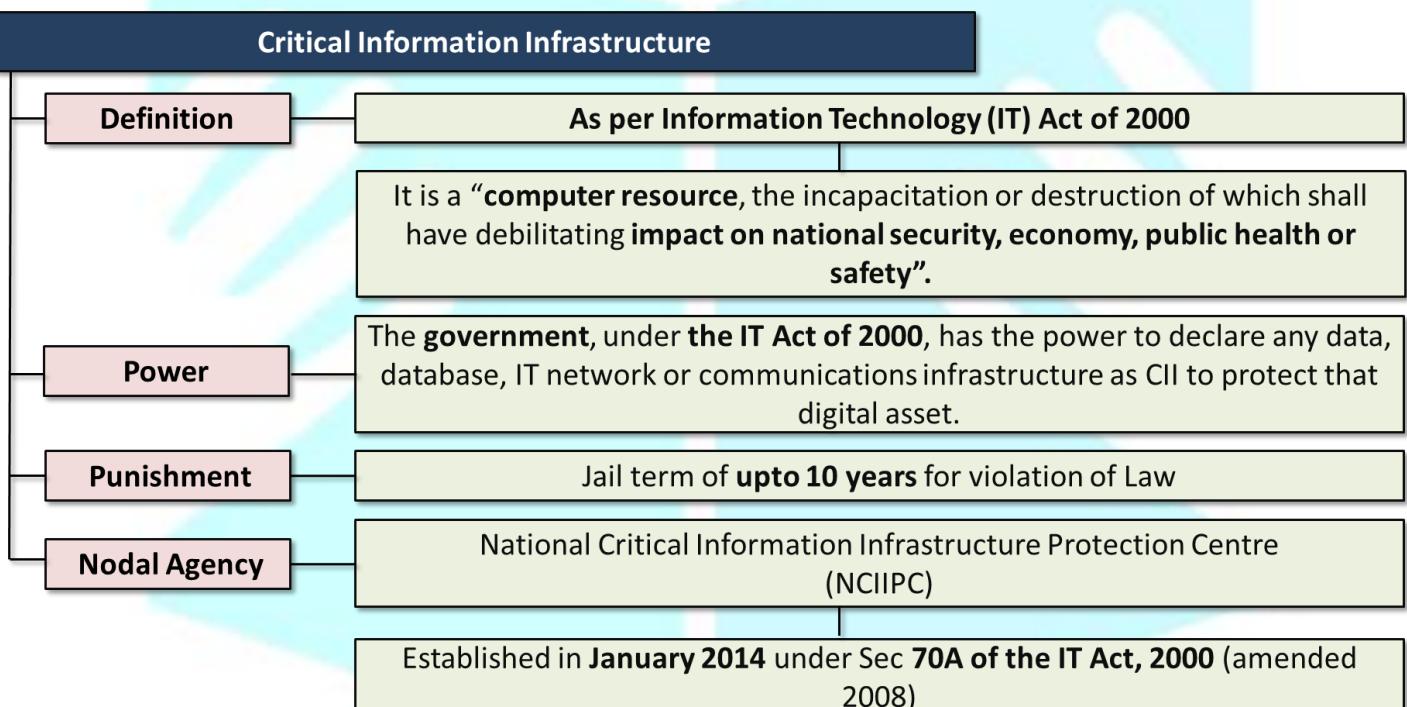
#### Why in News

- Recently, the Union Home Ministry, in a notification declared **Census and NPR (National Population Register) database** as 'Critical Information Infrastructure'.

### Key details

- Along with Census and NPR database following have been also declared as CII:
  - Census Monitoring and Management System, Self Enumeration and Civil Registration System (CRS) web portals, Mobile applications for house listing, population enumeration.**
  - Computer resources at **National Data Centre, Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner, Delhi.**
  - Disaster Recovery Sites.**
  - Data Centres at Bengaluru and Lucknow.**
- The computer resources of all associated dependencies of the aforementioned entities have also been declared as "**protected systems**".

### About Critical Information Infrastructure



## 3 GA + Finance in News

### Primary and Secondary Markets

#### 3.1 Sovereign Green Bonds Framework

##### Why in News?

- Recently, the **Union Minister for Finance** has approved India's First Sovereign Green Bonds Framework.
- The framework is aligned with **Panchamrit Targets**.
- It complies with **four components** of the **ICMA Green Bond Principles** viz, Use of proceeds, Project evaluation and selection, Management of proceeds & Reporting.

##### About Sovereign Green Bonds Framework

Particulars	Key Details
-------------	-------------

<b>Prepared by</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance</li> </ul>
<b>Purpose</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sovereign Green Bonds will be issued for <b>mobilising resources for green projects.</b></li> <li>The <b>proceeds from the issue</b> will be deployed in <b>Public Sector projects</b> which help in <b>reducing carbon intensity of the economy.</b></li> </ul>
<b>Mobilization Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to <b>mobilise Rs 16,000 crore</b> from the <b>maiden issuance of green bonds</b> during the second half of 2022-23 (H2 FY23)</li> <li>It is part of the <b>Government Borrowing Plan for H2 FY23</b></li> </ul>
<b>Eligible Projects</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The proceeds would be used to fund renewable energy, energy efficiency, clean transportation, water and waste management, pollution prevention and control and green buildings among others.</li> </ul>
<b>Excluded Projects</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nuclear power generation, landfill projects, alcohol/weapons/tobacco/gaming/palm oil industries and hydropower plants.</li> </ul>
<b>Eligible Green Expenditure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Once the <b>Finance Bill</b> is passed, <b>Ministry of Finance will inform Reserve Bank of India (RBI)</b> regarding the <b>amount of eligible green expenditure</b> for which proceeds from green bonds can be utilised</li> </ul>
<b>Equity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Allowed only in the sole case of metro projects</b> under the '<b>Clean Transportation</b>' category</li> </ul>
<b>Green Finance Working Committee (GFWC)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <b>important decisions</b> on issuance of Sovereign Green Bonds will be <b>validated by GFWC</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Constituted by:</b> Ministry of Finance</li> <li><b>Chairperson:</b> Chief Economic Advisor</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Functions of GFWC</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To <b>meet atleast twice a year</b> to support <b>Finance Ministry to select &amp; evaluate projects.</b></li> <li>GFWC must <b>review the allocation of proceeds</b> from the issue</li> <li>It must ensure that the <b>allocation of proceeds is completed within 24 months from the date of issuance.</b></li> <li>To release an <b>annual report on the allocation of proceeds</b> to the eligible projects along with details of projects financed, status of implementation, and unallocated proceeds.</li> <li>For every year, GFWC will meet to identify a fresh set of eligible expenditures in line with the framework in consultation with line Ministries</li> </ul>
<b>Allocation Mechanism</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The proceeds will be deposited to the <b>Consolidated Fund of India (CFI).</b></li> <li>From the CFI, the proceeds will be made available for eligible green projects</li> </ul>

#### Evaluation of India's green bonds framework

- The Government of India has appointed Norway based Center for International Climate Research (**CICERO**) to evaluate **India's green bonds framework** and **certify alignment of the framework with International Capital Market Association's (ICMA's) Green Bond Principles.**
- CICERO** has rated India's Green Bonds Framework as '**Medium Green**' with a "**Good**" governance score.

#### Background

- In **Union Budget 2022-23**, the Union Minister for Finance has announced that Sovereign Green Bonds will be issued for mobilizing resources for green projects.

#### About Green Bonds

- Green bonds are financial instruments that generate proceeds for investment in environmentally sustainable and climate-suitable projects.

#### Panchamrit (Five Nectar Elements of India's climate action)

Announced by	The Prime Minister of India
Announced at	26 <sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties (COP26) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) at Glasgow, UK in 2021
Significance	India's <b>updated</b> Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)
Five Targets	<p>To reach non-fossil energy capacity to 500 GW by 2030</p> <p>To meet 50% of energy requirements from renewable energy by 2030</p> <p>To reduce the total projected carbon emissions by one billion tonnes from now onwards till 2030.</p> <p>To reduce carbon intensity of the economy by 45 % by 2030, over 2005 levels</p> <p>To achieve net zero emissions by 2070</p>

### 3.2 Electronic Bank Guarantees (E-BGs)

#### Why in News?

- Recently, National Highways Authority of India (**NHAI**) has started accepting **Electronic Bank Guarantees (E-BGs)**.

#### Bank Guarantee

a commercial instrument used as a legal contract
A bank ( <b>guarantor</b> ) undertakes an <b>obligation to pay the beneficiary a certain amount of money</b> specified in the guarantee if the <b>debtor</b> from the original contract <b>does not fulfill his contractual obligations</b>

#### Electronic Bank Guarantee (E-BG)

Issued by	National e-Governance Services Limited (NeSL)
Issued through	Digital Document Execution (DDE) platform of NeSL
Key Features	<p>substitute to paper-based bank guarantees</p> <p>Can be processed, stamped, verified and delivered instantly with enhanced security</p> <p>Eliminates the possibility of fraud and manipulation</p>

#### Additional Information

- In September 2022, **HDFC bank** issued **India's first E-BG** in partnership with NeSL

### 3.3 Vostro Account

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) has approved **HDFC Bank** and **Canara Bank** to open a **special vostro account** for trade in rupees with Russia.
- So far, **five Indian banks** have received **regulatory clearance** for such trade.

- UCO Bank was the **first Indian bank** to receive the RBI's approval to **open a special Vostro account with Russia's Gazprombank**.
- The other two banks are **Union Bank**, and **IndusInd Bank**.
- In addition, two Russian banks viz, **Sber Bank and VTB** have received RBI's approval **to open special vostro accounts** in their respective branches in Delhi.
- **Russia is the first country to facilitate rupee-based export-import transactions**

## Background

- In July 2022, **RBI** introduced a **new arrangement** for **settling international trades in Rupees** to promote trade.
- Earlier, **RBI** had **approved nine Russian banks** to **open special Vostro accounts** for **Rupee trade**.

## What is a Vostro Account?

- A Vostro account is **an account that a domestic bank holds for a foreign bank** in the **domestic bank's currency**.

## 3.4 Infrastructure Bonds

### Why in News?

- The State Bank of India (**SBI**) has recently announced **plans to raise Rs 10,000 crore via infrastructure bonds**.
- It will also **include a greenshoe option of Rs 5,000 crore**.

### About Infrastructure Bonds

- Infrastructure bonds are bonds issued to **raise finance for long-term infrastructure development projects** viz, construction of roads, railways, etc.

### About Greenshoe option

- A Green Shoe option allows the underwriter of an Initial Public Offering (IPO) to sell additional shares to the public in case of increased demand.
- Usually, the underwriter can sell **additional shares upto 15% of the issue size in case of an IPO**.

## 3.5 Online Bond Platform Providers (OBPPs)

### Why in News?

- Recently, the Securities & Exchange Board of India (**SEBI**) has issued a detailed **regulatory framework for Online Bond Platform Providers (OBPPs)** to streamline their operations.
- To this effect, **SEBI** has amended **NCS (Issue and Listing of Non-Convertible Securities) Regulations**.
- The framework came into effect from **9<sup>th</sup> November, 2022**.

### Framework for OBPPs

Particulars	Key Details
<b>Definition of online bond platform</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Any electronic system, other than a recognised stock exchange or an electronic book provider platform, on which the debt securities which are listed or proposed to be listed, are offered and transacted.</li> <li>● Any person operating or providing such platform is known as an OBPP</li> </ul>
<b>Eligibility for an entity to operate as an OBPP</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Such entity should be <b>incorporated in India</b></li> <li>● It should be <b>registered as stock brokers</b> in the <b>debt segment of the stock exchange</b></li> <li>● After obtaining the registration, an entity must apply with the SEBI to act as an OBPP.</li> </ul>

- An OBPP without registration certificate prior to the date of this regulation coming into force can continue to do so for a period of three months.

### 3.6 Mutual Funds

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (**SEBI**) has introduced a credit-rating based single issuer limit for actively managed mutual fund schemes.
- Aim: to avoid inconsistency in Mutual Fund investments in debt instruments.

#### Key Guidelines

Particulars	Key Details	
<b>Single Issuer Limit</b>	<b>Credit Rating</b>	<b>Maximum Investment/ Exposure by Asset Management Companies (AMCs)</b>
	AAA-rated debt and money market securities	10% of the scheme's net asset value (NAV)
	AA-rated companies	8%
	A-rated companies	6%
<b>Extension of Single Issuer Limit</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The above limits can be extended by another 2% with prior approval of the board of trustees and the board of directors of the AMC.</li> <li>However, it should be compliant with the overall 12% specified in clause 1 of Seventh Schedule of MF Regulation</li> </ul>	
<b>Applicability</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The new limits are applicable for all new mutual fund schemes launched from 29<sup>th</sup> November 2022.</li> <li>Existing schemes will be exempt until the maturity of the underlying debt and money market securities.</li> </ul>	

### 3.7 Non-Convertible Securities

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the Securities & Exchange Board of India (**SEBI**) has released the uniform format for reporting over-the-counter (OTC) trades in listed non-convertible securities.
- The new guidelines would come into effect from January 1, 2023.
- The following details should be disclosed in the new format
  - Deal type (whether brokered or direct)
  - International Securities Identification Number (**ISIN**)
  - listed or unlisted security, issuer name, coupon rate, issue description
  - Traded price, traded yield, trade date and time, settlement date, settlement status
  - Reported trade executed on **RFQ** (Request for Quote) platform

### About Non Convertible Securities

According to SEBI, Non Convertible Securities include the following-

- Debt securities
- Non-convertible redeemable preference shares
- Perpetual non-cumulative preference shares
- Perpetual debt instruments
- Any other securities as specified by the SEBI

### About OTC trades

- OTC trades are generally executed between two market entities without others being aware of the price at which the transaction was effected.

## 3.8 Disinvestment of PSUs

### Why in News?

- Recently, the Securities & Exchange Board of India (**SEBI**) has **amended Substantial Acquisition of Shares and Takeover Regulations, 2011** or the **Takeover Code**
- **Objective:** to facilitate transactions involving change in control/ disinvestment of State-owned enterprises/ Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs).

### Key Changes

- SEBI has **removed the requirement to calculate 60 days volume-weighted average market price (VWAMP)** to determine open offer price in case of disinvestment of PSU Companies.
- This would provide flexibility for acquirers in pricing their open offers for minority shareholders.

#### About volume-weighted average price (VWAP)

- It is the average price of a security, adjusted for its volume.

## 3.9 Alternative Investment Funds (AIF)

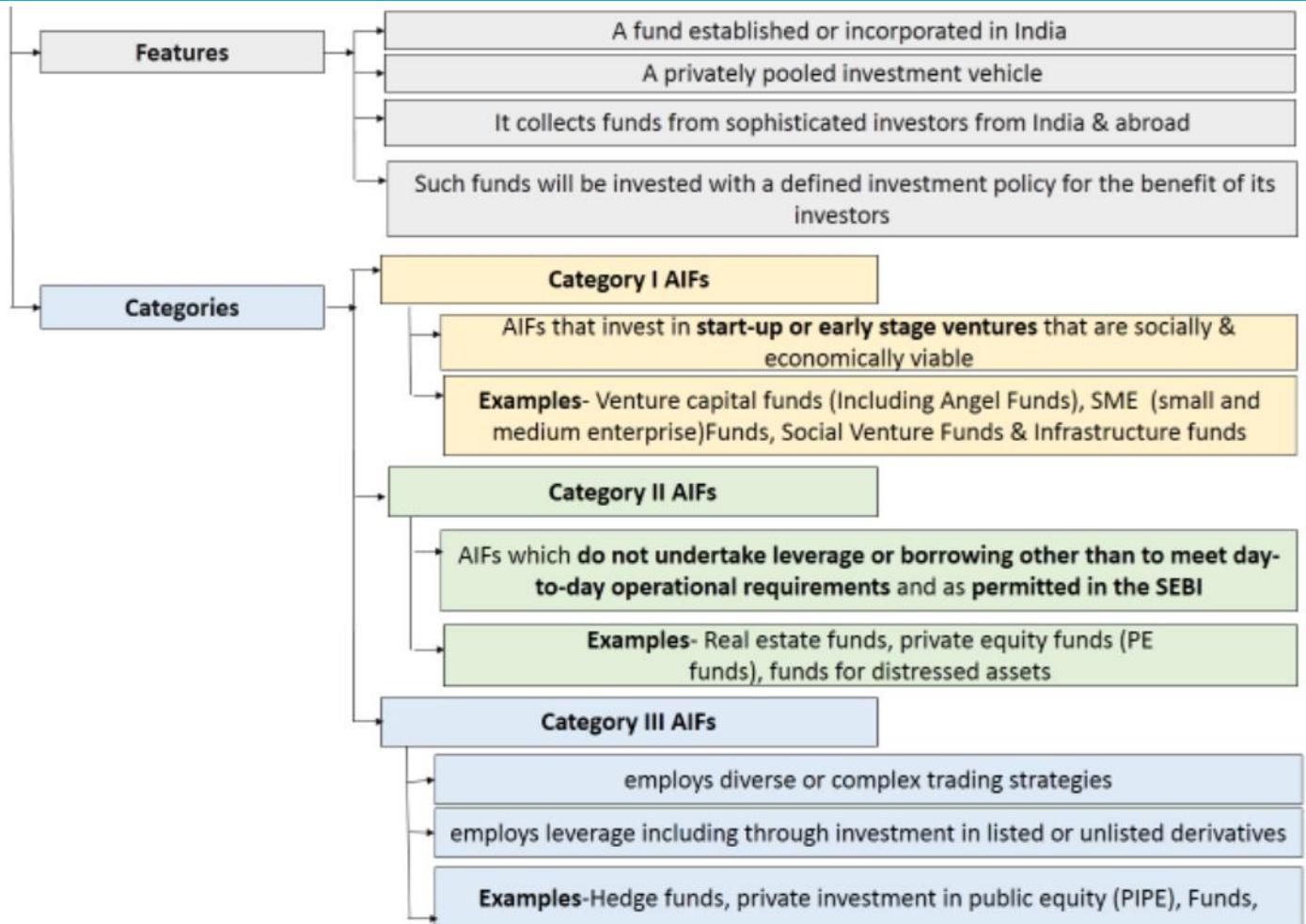
### Why in News?

- Recently, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (**SEBI**) has restricted **Alternative Investment Funds (AIF) schemes** having **priority distribution model** from **making investments in a new investee company**.
- As per the guidelines, with respect to investment by the sponsor or manager in the AIF, **the sharing of loss by the sponsor or manager** would **not be less than pro rata to their holding in the AIF** vis-a-vis other unit holders.
- The restriction came into effect from **23<sup>rd</sup> November 2022**.

### Background

- SEBI has noted that certain schemes of AIFs have adopted a distribution waterfall in such a way that **one class of investors** (other than the sponsor or manager) **share loss more than pro rata to their holding in the AIF** compared to other classes of investors.

### About AIFs:



#### About Priority Distribution Model

- It allows some investors to exit a scheme ahead of others.

### 3.10 Stock Brokers

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the Securities & Exchange Board of India (**SEBI**) has revised the **framework for approving changes in control of stock brokers & other intermediaries in the stock market**.
- The revised framework will **come into effect from 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022**.

#### Revised Framework for Stockbrokers

Particulars	Key Details
<b>Applicability</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stock broker/clearing member, depository participant, investment adviser, research analyst or research entity, registrar to an issue and share transfer agent and KYC (Know Your Client) Registration Agencies (KRAs).</li> </ul>
<b>Key Guidelines</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An intermediary should <b>apply online for SEBIs prior approval</b>.</li> <li>Along the with the application, the concerned entity should submit the following details <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current and proposed shareholding pattern</li> <li>Information/declaration/undertaking about the entity, the acquirer/person as well as the director/partner of the acquirer/person who will have the control.</li> </ul> </li> <li>The <b>prior approval granted by SEBI</b> shall be valid for a <b>period of six months</b> within which the entity shall file application for fresh registration pursuant to change in control.</li> </ul>

- The '**fit and proper person**' criteria should also be complied with.
- If the entity is a **registered stock broker, clearing member or a depository participant**, a **NOC (No Objection Certificate)** should be obtained from all stock exchanges/clearing corporations/depositories where the entity is a member/depository participant.
- For cases involving **schemes of arrangements** that need National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) approval, the **application should be filed with SEBI** prior to filing the application with NCLT.
  - An **in-principle approval** will be granted for **three months** provided all other regulatory compliances are met.
  - **Within 15 days** from the date of the NCLT's order, the intermediary should submit an **online application for SEBI final approval**.

## Banking System in India

### 3.11 Credit Cards

#### Why in News?

- Recently, credit card issuers witnessed a significant decline in their card base during the July-September 2022 quarter.
- The decline comes in the backdrop of Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) rule to **deactivate credit cards that have been inactive for a year**.

#### Background

- In **April 2022**, RBI issued a **master direction on credit and debit card issuance**.
- As per the guidelines, if a **credit card has been inactive for more than one year**, the **process to close the card** should be **initiated after intimating the cardholder**.
- If **no reply** is received from the cardholder **within 30 days**, the **card account has to be closed** by the **card issuer**, subject to payment of all dues by the cardholder.
- Subsequently, **Information about closure of the card account** has to be **updated with the Credit Information Company** within a period of **30 days**.

## FinTech

### 3.12 Payment Aggregators

#### Why in News?

- Recently, **Infibeam Avenues** has received **in-principle approval** from the Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) to operate as a **Payment Aggregator (PA)**.

#### Who is a Payment Aggregator?

- An entity that enable e-commerce sites and merchants to accept various payment instruments from customers for completion of their payment obligations, without the need for merchants to create a separate payment integration system of their own

#### Eligibility to apply for PA Licence

Particulars	Key Details
<b>Net Worth Requirements for Existing PSA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Rs 15 crore by March 31, 2022</b></li> <li>• <b>Rs 25 crore by the end of third financial year i.e. on or before March 31, 2023.</b></li> </ul>

- Thereafter, PA's must maintain a net worth of **Rs 25 crore at all times.**

## Background

- Online PAs were brought under the **Purview of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in 2020**
- In **2020**, **RBI** had issued guidelines that said **only firms approved by RBI can acquire and offer payment services to the merchants**
- **Banks do not need separate approvals** for such services.
- **Non-bank entities offering payment aggregator services** had to **apply for authorisation to the RBI** by June 2021, which was later extended.
- **RBI** had extended the deadline to **September 30, 2022** for **PAs existing as of March 2020** to apply for the PA licence
- **RBI** had allowed them continue their operations till they received communication from **RBI** regarding the status of their application.
- If the application gets **rejected**, a PA should **discontinue their operations within six months** from the date of return of application.

### 3.13 Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC)/ Digital Rupee (e₹)

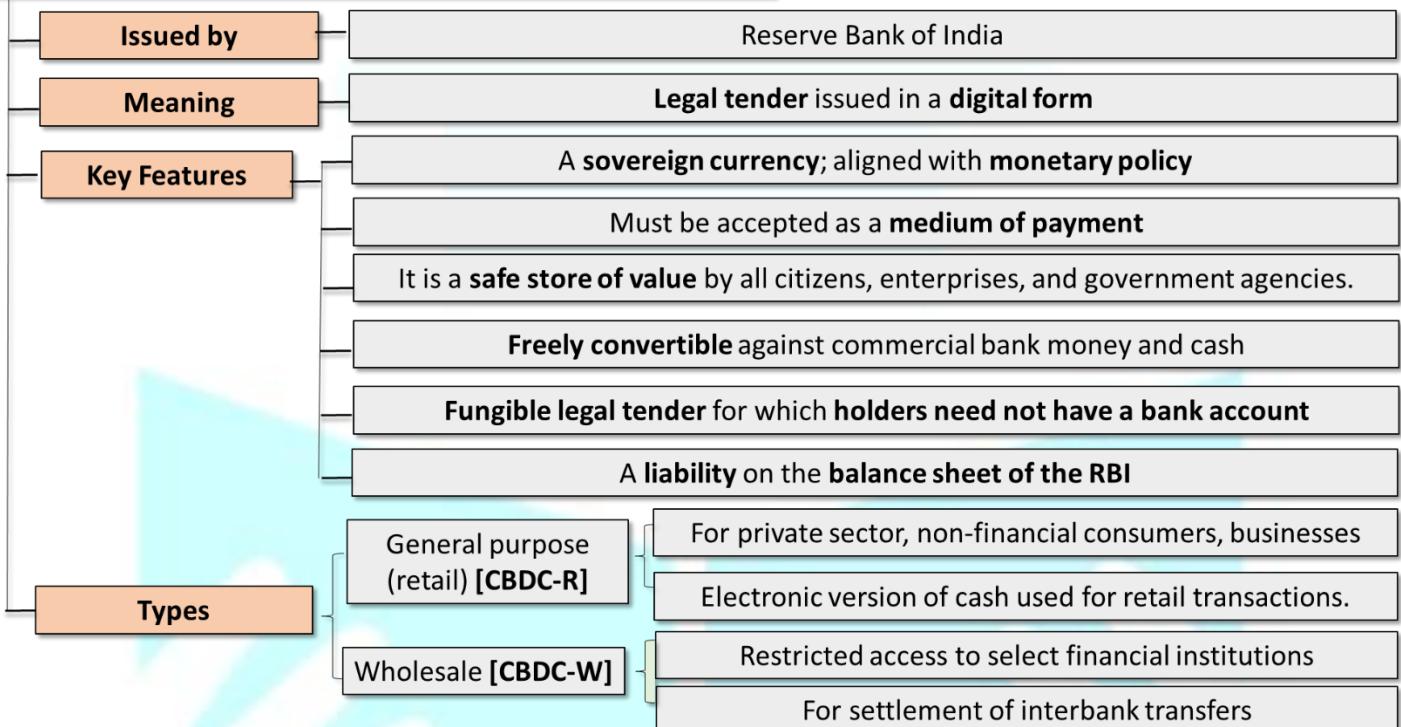
#### Why in News?

- Recently, the Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) has launched the **first pilot in the Digital Rupee - Wholesale segment (e₹-W) on November 1, 2022.**
- **RBI** has also **planned to launch the first pilot in the Digital Rupee-Retail segment** within a month in select locations.

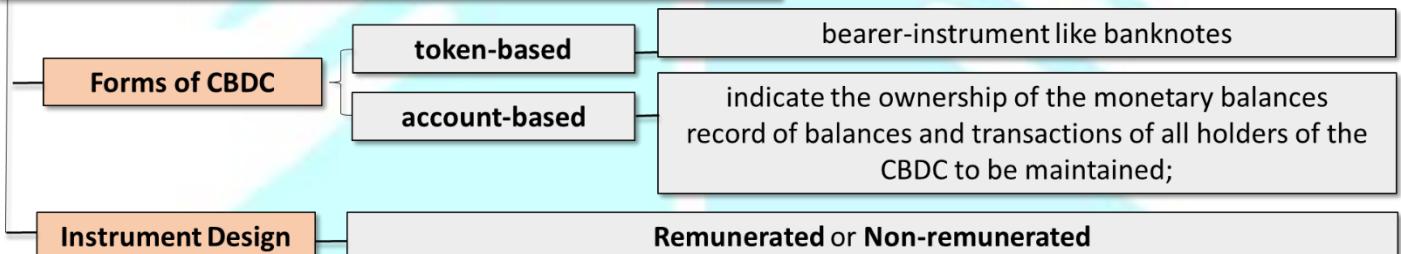
#### Key Details

Particulars	Key Details
<b>Transaction Type</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• e₹-W in the pilot phase would be used for <b>settlement of secondary market transactions in government securities.</b></li> </ul>
<b>Participating Banks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Nine participating banks</b> have been identified viz, State Bank of India, Bank of Baroda, Union Bank of India, HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Yes Bank, IDFC First Bank and HSBC.</li> </ul>

## Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC)/ Digital Rupee



## Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC)/ Digital Rupee



## CBDC Issuance Models

Aspect	Direct Model	Indirect Model	Hybrid Model
Liability	Central Bank	Central Bank	Central Bank
Issuer	Central Bank	Central Bank issues and intermediaries distribute it	Central Bank Issues and Intermediaries distribute it for retail use
Operations	Central Bank	Intermediaries	Intermediaries
Ledger	Central Bank	Intermediaries	Intermediaries as well as Central Bank
Settlement Finality	Yes	No	Yes

**Note:** CBDC also discussed in October CA Magazine (News 3.17)

### 3.14 UPI 123 Pay

**Why in News?**

- Recently, the National Payments Corporation of India (**NPCI**) has enabled electricity bill payments service on **UPI 123Pay**.
- This particular facility is powered by **Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS)**.

### UPI 123Pay (or) Unified Payment Interface (UPI) for feature phones

Launched in	March 2022
Launched by	Reserve Bank of India (RBI), in collaboration with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)
Key Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>It works without internet</li><li>It uses four different technologies viz,</li><li>Interactive Voice Response (IVR) numbers, apps on feature phones (yet to be implemented), proximity sound-based payments &amp; missed call approach</li></ul>
First to offer service under UPI 123 Pay	Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) in collaboration with UltraCash Technologies launched a voice-based digital payment facility to book cylinders

### 3.15 Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM)

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has launched the **open source licence model** for its **Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM) App**.
- Under the new model, the **source code of the BHIM app** will be **licensed to regulated entities** participating in the **Unified Payments Interface (UPI) ecosystem**.
- This model would be beneficial for many banks not having their own banking apps.
- NPCI would extend all the readily available features of UPI to such entities through this new model.

### Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM)

Developed by	National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)
Launched in	December 2016
Objectives	to facilitate e-payments directly through banks; encourage cashless transactions.
Feature	an UPI enabled payment application

### National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)

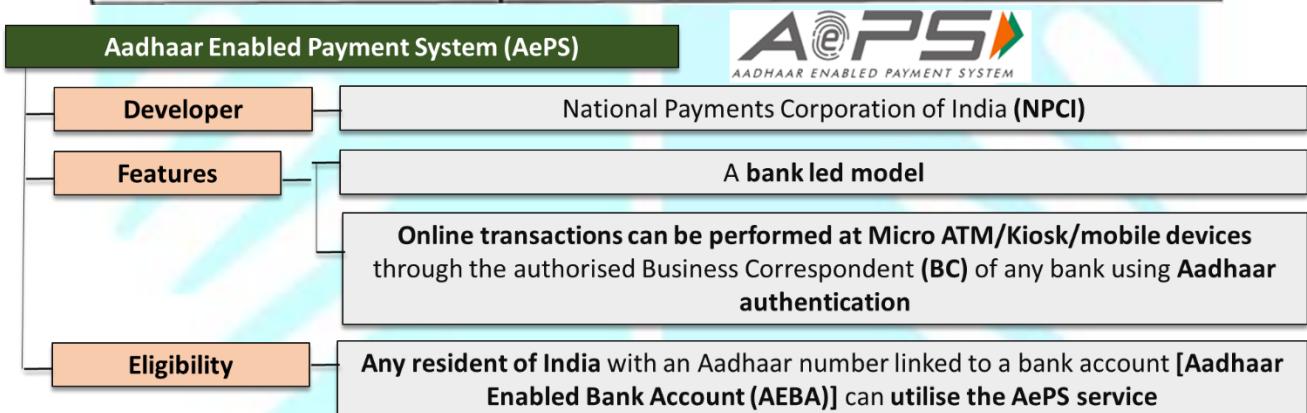
Establishment	2008
Initiative of	Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Indian Banks' Association (IBA)
Set up under	Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007
Headquarters	Mumbai, Maharashtra
Key Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Umbrella organisation</b> for operating <b>retail payments and settlement systems and infrastructure</b>.</li><li>Incorporated as a <b>specialised division</b> of the <b>RBI</b></li></ul>
Products managed by NPCI	RuPay card, Immediate Payment Service (IMPS), Unified Payments Interface (UPI), Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM), BHIM Aadhaar, National Electronic Toll Collection (NETC FasTag) and Bharat BillPay.

### 3.16 Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AePS)

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the India Post Payments Bank (**IPPB**) has **revised** Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (**AePS**) service charges.
- The revised service charges will come into effect from **December 1, 2022**

AePS Issuing Transaction Charges	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 1 Transaction is free over Non-IPPB Network (Issuer Transactions) per month (including AePS Cash Deposit, Withdrawal and Mini-Statement): IPPB Customer transacting on other bank network</li> </ul>	
Account Type	Charges
AePS Cash Withdrawal	Above free limit, Rs. 20/- (plus GST) per transaction.
AePS Cash Deposit	Above free limit, Rs. 20/- (plus GST) per transaction.
AePS Mini Statement	Above free limit, Rs. 5/- (plus GST) per transaction.



### 3.17 Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC)/ Digital Rupee (e₹)

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) has **shortlisted at least five banks** to work with it on the **pilot project** for the **Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC)/ Digital Rupee-Retail segment (e₹-R)**.
- The five banks include **State Bank of India, ICICI Bank, IDFC First Bank, HDFC Bank and Yes Bank**.
- National Payments Corporation of India (**NPCI**) & **RBI** would help shortlisted banks to run the pilot.

#### Additional Information

- According to the **concept note on CBDC** released in October 2022, **RBI** considers **anonymity for CBDC retail payments valued under Rs 50,000**.

**Note:** CBDC discussed in 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> November 2022 CA Magazine (News 2.4).

### 3.18 Third-party app providers (TPAP)

#### Why in News?

- The National Payments Corporation of India (**NPCI**) is in discussion with the Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) regarding the **implementation of its proposed 31 December deadline** for **limiting player volume**.
- In order to avoid concentration risk, **NPCI** earlier proposed a **30% volume cap** for **Third-Party App Providers (TPAPs)**.

#### Present Scenario

- At present, there is **no volume cap** for **TPAP** for Unified Payment Interface (**UPI**) transactions.

- Google Pay and PhonePe hold about 80% market share.

## Background

- In 2020, NPCI issued a directive to cap the share of transactions a TPAP could process at 30% of the volume of transactions handled on UPI, effective January 1, 2021.
- The cap should be calculated on the basis of the volume of transactions processed during the preceding three months.
- Existing TPAPs were offered two years more to comply with the orders.

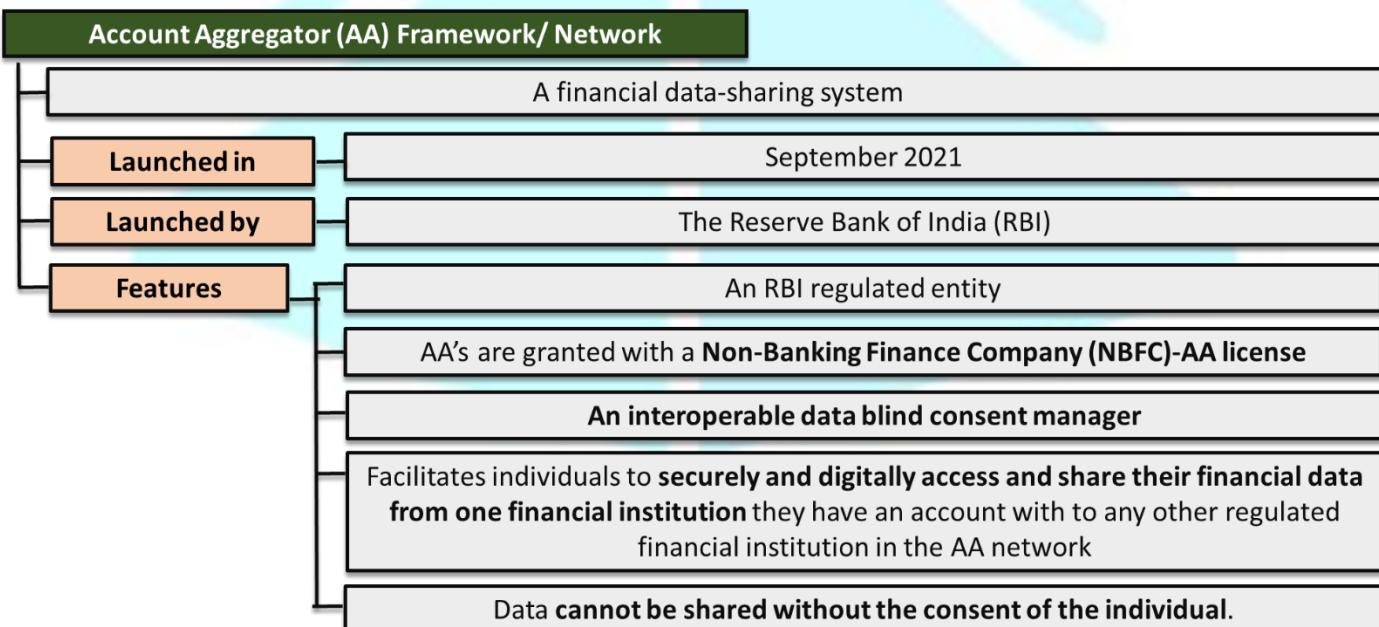
## Additional Information

- RBI had released a consultation paper on charges in payment systems, which made a case for a tiered charge to be imposed on UPI transactions in line with Immediate Payment Service (IMPS) transactions.
- The Government of India later announced that UPI is a digital public good with productivity gains for the economy, so there are no plans to levy charges for UPI services.

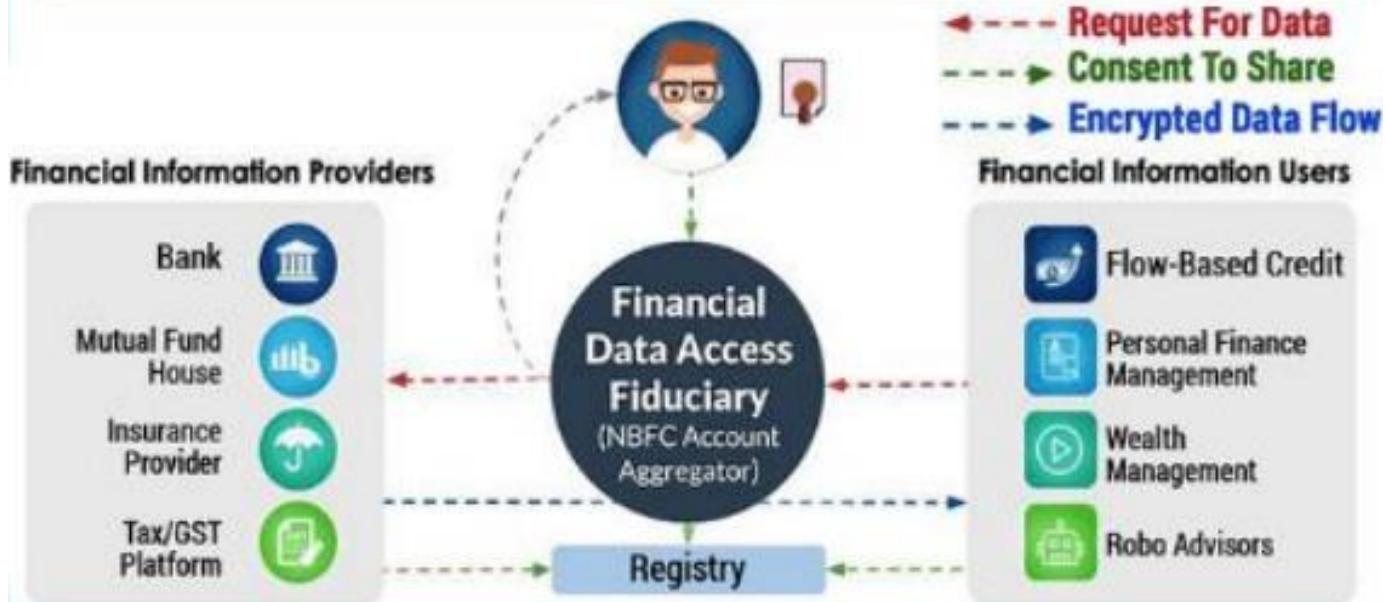
### 3.19 Account Aggregator (AA) Framework

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the Goods and Services Tax network (GSTN) has been included in the Account Aggregator (AA) network as a financial information provider (FIP).
- The Department of Revenue would act as the Regulator of GSTN for this specific purpose.
- Form GSTR-1 and Form GSTR-3B are designated as the financial information.



# HOW ACCOUNT AGGREGATORS WILL WORK



## Goods and Service Tax Network (GSTN)

A non-profit, non-government organization

It manages the entire IT system of the GST portal.

Incorporated in 2013

### 3.20 Payment Aggregators

#### Why in News?

- Recently, neo-banking fintech 'Open' has received **in principle approval** from the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** for a **Payment Aggregator Gateway (PA/PG) license**.

#### About Payment Aggregators (PAs)

- PAs are entities that enable e-commerce sites and merchants to accept various payment instruments from customers for completion of their payment obligations, without the need for merchants to create a separate payment integration system of their own.

#### Additional Information

- In May 2022, **Open** became the **100<sup>th</sup> unicorn from India**.

## Financial Regulators

### 3.21 International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)

- Recently, the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with the Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) for collaboration in the field of **regulation and supervision of regulated entities in their respective jurisdictions**.
- The MoU facilitates technical cooperation and exchange of information.

## International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)

A unified regulator for development and regulation of financial products, financial services and financial institutions in the International Financial Services Centre(s) (IFSC) established in India

Establishment April 27, 2020

Established under IFSCA Act, 2019

Organization Type statutory authority

Headquarters Gujarat International Finance Tech-city (GIFT), Gandhinagar, Gujarat

Chairperson Injeti Srinivas

➤ GIFT IFSC is currently the maiden international financial services centre in India

➤ RBI is the Central Bank and Monetary Authority of India.

➤ RBI regulates & supervises banks and non-banking financial institutions

## Recent Development in Financial Sector

### 3.22 Bima Sugam Portal

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has approved the launch of Bima Sugam Portal.
- Aim: to increase insurance penetration in India.

### Bima Sugam Portal

Developer/Monitor Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)

Launch Date 1 January 2023

Key Features A one-stop destination for all insurance-related services viz, Buy insurance policy, Claim Settlement, Agent Portability & Policy Portability

A Direct-to-Customer Platform

The platform hosts both life & non life insurance products & services

Key Stakeholders Life Insurance Council (30%), General Insurance Council(30%), Online PSBs (35%), Broker Associations (5%)

E-Insurance Account (E-IA)/ E-BIMA A Demat Account for customers to avail services through the portal

Facilitators Web aggregators (such as PolicyX, etc.), brokers, banks and insurance agents will act as facilitators in selling insurance policies

Linkages The portal shall have linkages with Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), Central Depository Services Limited (CDSL) & National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL), etc

### 3.23 Consultative Committee To Increase Health Insurance Coverage

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has constituted a consultative committee to increase health insurance coverage in India.

- Committee Head:** Rakesh Joshi, Member, IRDAI; **Total Members:** 15; **Tenure:** 2 years
- Mandate:** to identify challenges in health insurance business.

### 3.24 Committee to Develop Insurance Cover For Rural Population

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (**IRDAI**) has constituted a committee to develop an affordable and comprehensive cover for the rural population.
- Committee Head:** Thomas M Devasia, Member (non-life), IRDAI; **Total Members:** 24

#### Key Objectives of the Committee

- To develop and suggest the **constitution and operation of Bima Vahak**
- To **develop and suggest an affordable, accessible, and comprehensive cover for the rural population**, on the basis of **Bima Vistaar**
- To recommend a **regulatory framework for Bima Vahak & Bima Vistaar**
- To recommend **how to bring about synergies** in the working and operations of **Bima Vahak, Bima Vistaar, and Bima Sugam**.

#### About Bima Vahak & Bima Vistaar

- Both the initiatives are **proposed by IRDAI**
- Bima Vahak:** a women-centric distribution channel focused on reaching rural and/or untapped areas.
- Bima Vistaar:** a benefit based / parametric structure to determine the cover for rural population.

### 3.25 Credit Rating Agencies (CRAs)

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the Securities & Exchange Board of India (**SEBI**) has issued **new guidelines to standardize the usage of rating scales used by Credit Rating Agencies (CRAs)**.
- SEBI has standardized the **rating symbols & devised definitions** in consultation with the CRAs.
- The new guidelines will come into effect from 1 January 2023

#### Key Definitions

Particulars	Key Details
<b>Rating Outlook</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It indicates CRA's view on the <b>expected direction of the rating movement</b> in the <b>near to medium term</b></li> </ul>
<b>Rating watch</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CRA's view on the <b>expected direction of the rating movement</b> in the <b>short term</b></li> </ul>
<b>Standard descriptors for Rating Watch</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rating watch with positive implications</li> <li>Rating watch with developing implications</li> <li>Rating watch with negative implications</li> </ul>
<b>Standard descriptors for Rating Outlook</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stable, Positive and Negative</li> </ul>

#### Revised Rating Symbols

Rating Symbols	Degree of Safety	Degree of Credit Risk/ Default
	<b>(on the basis of timely servicing of debt obligations)</b>	
AAA	highest degree of safety	lowest credit risk
AA and A	high and adequate degree of safety	low to low credit risk
BBB	moderate degree of safety	moderate credit risk

BB,	--	moderate risk of default
B	--	High risk of default
C	--	very high risk of default
D	--	default or to be in default soon

**Note:** Rating symbols should have CRA's first name as prefix.

### Reporting, Disclose & Monitoring Mechanism

- Post implementing the guidelines, **CRAAs must report to SEBI** their compliance with the norms as ratified by their boards of directors **within one quarter from date of applicability**.
- The implementation of the guidelines should be monitored by **CRAAs** through **half-yearly internal audits**.
- Each CRA** must assign a **rating outlook** and disclose it in a press release.

### About Issuer rating or corporate credit rating

- It indicates **degree of safety of the issuer or the rated entity** with regard to **timely servicing of all its debt obligations**.

### 3.26 Audit Quality Inspection Guidelines

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the National Financial Reporting Authority (**NFRA**) has published its **audit quality inspection guidelines**.
- Objective:** to bring about systemic improvements in the overall financial reporting framework in India.

#### Key Highlights

Particulars	Key Details
<b>Inspection Composition</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Firm-wide review</b> of audit quality (SQC 1)</li> <li><b>Individual file reviews</b> on test-check basis to evaluate the level of compliance with applicable auditing standards and quality control policy and processes.</li> </ul>
<b>Relation between Investigation &amp; Inspection</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inspections by nature are <b>distinct from investigations</b> undertaken under <b>section 132 (4), Companies Act 2013</b>.</li> <li>However, in certain cases, test-check by the inspection teams may provide basis for enforcement or investigation under applicable provisions of the Act and Rules.</li> </ul>
<b>Purpose of Inspection</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to identify areas and opportunities for improvement in the audit firm's system of quality control</li> </ul>

#### Background

- According to the International Forum for Independent Audit regulators (**IFIAR**), audit regulators must conduct **recurring inspections of audit firms** undertaking audits of public interest entities to assess compliance with professional standards, independence requirements and other regulations.
- As a reply to **NFRA's consultation paper -Enhancing Engagement with Stakeholders**, many stakeholders had suggested onsite inspection of audit firms.

## National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA)

	Audit regulator of India
Establishment	01st October, 2018
Established under	132 (1) of the Companies Act, 2013
Ministry	Ministry of Corporate Affairs
Chairperson	Dr Ajay Bhushan Prasad Pandey
Headquarters	New Delhi

### About International Forum for Independent Audit regulators (IFIAR)

➤ Establishment: 2006; Secretariat: Tokyo, Japan; Total Members: 54

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

### Why in News?

- Recently, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has suggested the Government of India to relax the minimum capital requirement of Rs 100 crore for insurers.
- IRDAI has suggested the Government of India to fix the amount based on the business plans of the prospective company.
- The move would enable the entry of small insurers.

## 3.28 Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI)

### Why in News?

- Recently, the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) has amended IBBI (Model Bye-Laws and Governing Board of Insolvency Professional Agencies) Regulations, 2016.
- The regulations deal with the governance structure and provide for model bye laws of the Insolvency Professional Agencies (IPA).

### Key Amendment

- IBBI has subsumed three separate circulars issued in the past, viz,
  - Circular specifying the format for disclosure of relationship by the insolvency professional (IP).
  - Circular mandating IPAs to submit Annual Compliance Certificate in the prescribed format
  - Circular specifying the list of contraventions by IP and penalty to be imposed by IPAs.
    - ✓ Minimum Penalty: Rs 50,000 or Rs 100,000 depending on the contravention
    - ✓ Maximum Penalty: Rs 200,000 or 25% of the fee charged by the professional, whichever is higher.

### About Insolvency Professional Agencies (IPAs)

- IPAs are self-regulatory bodies that enroll, educate, monitor and regulate insolvency professionals.
- IPAs are set up by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), the Institute of Cost Accountants of India and the Institute of Company Secretaries of India.

Regulator for overseeing insolvency proceedings and Insolvency Professional Agencies, Insolvency Professionals and Information Utilities in India.

Establishment	1st October, 2016
Established under	Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016
Headquarters	New Delhi
Chairperson	Ravi Mital

### 3.29 Rules to Setup Insurance Companies

- Recently, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has approved amendments to rules to register and set up new insurance companies.
- The decision is part of IRDAI's Mission- "Insurance for all by 2047"
- Objective:** to promote ease of doing business and simplify the process of setting up an insurance company in India.

#### Key Amendments

Particulars	Key Details
Investment in Insurance Companies by Private equity (PE) funds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PE funds can now directly invest in insurance companies</li> <li>Investments through special purpose vehicles (SPVs) has been made optional <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At present, a PE fund can invest in insurance companies as promoter only through an SPV.</li> <li>However, a PE Fund can directly invest in an insurance company as an investor.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Classification between investor & promoter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A single investor taking 25% in an insurance company will be classified as an investor.</li> <li>Any investment more than 25% will make it a Promoter. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At present, the threshold for being promoter as a single investor is more than 10%.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Dilution of Promoters Stake	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promoters can dilute their stake to 26% under the following conditions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The insurer has a satisfactory solvency record for the preceding 5 years</li> <li>The insurer should be a listed entity. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Earlier, promoters were required to hold on to a 50% stake if it was more than that.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Lock-In Period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to be decided on the basis of the age of the insurer</li> </ul>
Number of tie-ups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Corporate agents can now tie up with nine insurers each (previously three insurers) in the general, life, and health insurance sectors.</li> <li>Insurance-marketing firms can tie up with six insurers each (previously two) in the general, life, and health insurance sectors.</li> </ul>
Solvency Ratio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduced from 0.80% to 0.60% for unit-linked plans of life insurers</li> <li>Reduced from 0.10% to 0.05% for Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY)</li> </ul>
Raising funds through subordinated debt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IRDAI approval not required to raise funds through subordinate debt and/or preference shares</li> </ul>
Role of subsidiary companies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Subsidiary companies can promote insurance companies</li> </ul>

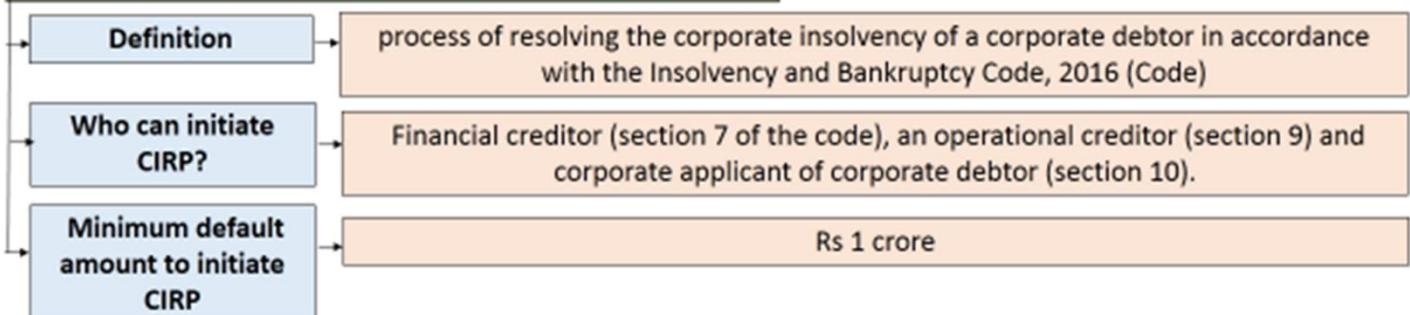
### 3.30 Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process (CIRP)

- Recently, the Securities & Exchange Board of India (**SEBI**) has released a **consultation paper** titled '**Framework for protection of interest of public equity shareholders in case of listed companies undergoing Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process (CIRP)**' under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (**IBC**).

#### Key Proposals

Particulars	Key Details
<b>Participation of existing public equity shareholders in the CIRP Process</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Existing public equity shareholders</b> of the corporate debtor should be provided an opportunity to <b>acquire equity of the fully diluted capital structure of the new entity</b>.</li><li>Such acquisition shall be made in a new entity to the extent of up to the <b>minimum public shareholding percentage (currently 25%)</b>.</li><li>The <b>pricing terms</b> should be the same as agreed upon by the resolution applicant.</li></ul>
<b>Measure to maintain float and liquidity in new entity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>An entity after restructuring will be <b>permitted to continue as a listed entity</b> only if <b>5% of the fully diluted capital structure of new entity is with the public shareholders</b>.</li></ul>

#### Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process (CIRP)



#### About Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) 2016

- It consolidates and amends the laws relating to reorganisation and insolvency resolution of corporate persons, partnership firms and individuals in a time bound manner
- Objective:** maximization of value of assets of such persons, to promote entrepreneurship and availability of credit and balance the interests of all the stakeholders

### 3.31 Appointment & Removal of Independent Directors

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the Securities & Exchange Board of India (**SEBI**) has approved a **new option** for **appointment and removal of independent directors** from the boards of companies.
- In this regard, SEBI has **amended** Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements (**LODR**) Rules, 2015.

#### Present Appointment/ Removal Mechanism

- At present, a **special resolution** is required to appoint, re-appoint or remove independent directors from the board of a company
- 75% of 'yes' votes** are required to pass a special resolution.

#### Proposed Alternative Mechanism

- Two parameters to appoint/remove independent directors**
  - Threshold for ordinary resolution**
  - Threshold for majority of minority shareholders.**

- The proposed **two parameters would be tested** if the **special resolution for appointment/ removal of an independent director does not get the requisite majority.**
- If the **resolution crosses the two thresholds in the same voting process**, then such a resolution for appointment/removal of the independent director would be **deemed to be approved by shareholders.**
- The appointment/ removal of independent directors would also be made under the following cases
  - In case the **special resolution** for the appointment/removal of an independent **director does not get requisite majority of votes**, but the **votes in favour of the resolution exceed the votes cast against the resolution**, and
  - The **votes cast by the public shareholders** in favour of the resolution **exceed the votes cast against the resolution.**

### **3.32 Schemes of Arrangement**

#### **Why in News?**

- Recently, the Securities & Exchange Board of India (**SEBI**) has introduced **provisions pertaining to schemes of arrangement.**
- The provisions are applicable to the following entities
  - Entities having listed debt securities
  - Entities handling of unclaimed amounts pertaining to non-convertible securities of listed entities.

#### **Key Provisions**

- An entity that has **listed non-convertible debt securities or non-convertible redeemable preference shares** intending to undertake a **scheme of arrangement** must file a **draft scheme of arrangement with the stock exchanges, & a non-refundable fee** to obtain the **no-objection letter.**
- The draft scheme of arrangement & non-refundable fee **must be filed before filing of such scheme with the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT).**
- The listed entity must place the **no-objection letter** before the NCLT **while seeking approval for the scheme of arrangement.**
- The **no-objection certification** would be **valid for six months** from the date of issuance.
- **Unclaimed amount in the escrow account for more than seven years** pertaining to non-convertible securities issued by listed entities would be **transferred to SEBI's Investor Protection and Education Fund.**

#### **About Scheme of Arrangement**

- It is a **court-approved agreement** between a **company and its shareholders or creditors**
- It is used to execute a **change in the structure of a company.**

#### **About Escrow Account**

- An escrow account is a **third party account** where funds are placed before they are transferred to the ultimate party.

## 4 Static

### 4.1 List of Important Organizations with Headquarters

S.No.	Organization Name	Headquarters	Establishment Date/Year	Head
1.	WHO	Geneva, Switzerland	1948	Tedros Adhanom (DG)
2.	Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)	Mauritius	March 7, 1997	Current Chair: Bangladesh
3.	ISSF	Munich, Germany	1907	Vladimir Lisin (President)
4.	Stop TB Partnership	Geneva, Switzerland	2000	Dr. Lucica Ditiu (Executive Director)
5.	EXIM Bank	Mumbai	1982	Harsha Bangari (MD)
6.	WMO	Geneva, Switzerland	1950	Petteri Taalas (Secretary General)
7.	UNEP	Nairobi, Kenya	1972	Inger Andersen (Executive Director)
8.	UNICEF	New York, USA	1946	Catherine Russell (Executive Director)
9.	UNDP	New York	1965	Achim Steiner (Administrator)
10.	WEF	Geneva, Switzerland	1971	Klaus Schwab (Executive Chairman)
11.	UNDRR	Geneva, Switzerland	1999	Mami Mizutori
12.	UN	New York	October 24, 1945	Antonio Guterres (Secretary-General)
13.	ADB	Manilla, Philippines	December 19, 1966	Masatsugu Asakawa (President)
14.	CCI	New Delhi	2003	Sangeeta Verma (Acting Chairperson)
15.	UNESCO	Paris, France	4 <sup>th</sup> November 1946	Audrey Azoulay (DG)
16.	SCO	Beijing, China	15 <sup>th</sup> June 2001	Zhang Ming (Secretary General)
17.	GeM	New Delhi	2016	Prashant Kumar Singh (CEO)
18.	International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC)	Geneva, Switzerland	1906	Shu Yinbiao (President)

19.	Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI)	New Delhi	1927	Sanjiv Mehta (President)
20.	National Dairy Development Board (NDDB)	Anand, Gujarat	1965	Maneesh Shah (Chairman)
21.	Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)	Jakarta, Indonesia	August 8, 1967	Lim Jock Hoi (Secretary-General)

#### 4.2 Countries in News

S.No	Country	Currency	Capital
1.	Mongolia	Tugrik	Ulaanbaatar
2.	Kyrgyzstan	Som	Bishkek
3.	South Korea	Korean Won	Seoul
4.	China	Yuan, Renminbi	Beijing
5.	Palestine	Israeli New Shekel	Jerusalem, Ramallah
6.	United Arab Emirates (UAE)	Dirham	Abu Dhabi
7.	Australia	Australian Dollar	Canberra
8.	France	Franc, Euro	Paris
9.	Chile	Chilean Peso	Santiago
10.	Philippines	Peso	Manila
11.	Finland	Euro	Helsinki
12.	Denmark	Danish krone	Copenhagen
13.	Germany	Euro	Berlin
14.	Singapore	Singapore dollar	Singapore
15.	Israel	Sheqel	Jerusalem
16.	Switzerland	Swiss Franc	Bern
17.	United Kingdom	Pound Sterling	London
18.	United States of America	US Dollar	Washington D.C.
19.	South Korea	Won	Seoul
20.	Pakistan	Pakistani Rupee	Islamabad
21.	Austria	Euro	Vienna

22.	West Indies	Jamaican Dollar	Chaguaramas
23.	Japan	Yen	Tokyo
24.	Australia	Australian Dollar	Canberra
25.	France	Franc, Euro	Paris
26.	Slovenia	Euro	Ljubljana
27.	Iraq	Iraqi Dinar	Baghdad
28.	Mexico	Mexican Peso	Mexico City
29.	Thailand	Baht	Bangkok
30.	Italy	Lira	Rome
31.	Kenya	Shilling	Nairobi
32.	Indonesia	Rupiah	Jakarta
33.	Denmark	Danish Krone	Copenhagen
34.	Norway	Norwegian Krone	Oslo
35.	United Arab Emirates	Dirham	Abu Dhabi
36.	Uzbekistan	Uzbekistani Sum	Tashkent
37.	Kazakhstan	Tenge	Astana
38.	Ghana	Cedi	Accra
39.	Brazil	Brazilian Real	Brasilia
40.	Philippines	Peso	Manilla
41.	Cameroon	Central African CFA Franc	Yaoundé
42.	Spain	Euro	Madrid
43.	Qatar	Qatari Riyal	Doha
44.	South Korea	Won	Seoul
45.	Cambodia	Cambodian Riel	Phnom Penh
46.	Russia	Rubble	Moscow
47.	Egypt	Egyptian Pound	Cairo
48.	Australia	Australian dollar	Canberra
49.	Kuwait	Kuwaiti Dinar	Kuwait city

50.	Oman	Omani Rial	Muscat
51.	Saudi Arabia	Saudi Riyal	Riyadh
52.	Bahrain	Bahraini Dinar	Manama
53.	Japan	Japanese Yen	Tokyo
54.	France	Euro	Paris
55.	USA	US Dollar	Washington DC
56.	Canada	Canadian Dollar	Ottawa
57.	Panama	Balboa	Panama City
58.	Kuwait	Kuwaiti Dinar	Kuwait city
59.	Saudi Arabia	Saudi Riyal	Riyadh
60.	UAE	Dirham	Abu Dhabi
61.	Bahrain	Bahraini Dinar	Manama
62.	Cambodia	Riels	Phnom Penh
63.	China	Chinese Yuan	Beijing
64.	Qatar	Qatari Rial	Doha
65.	Portugal	Euro	Lisbon
66.	Ghana	Ghanaian Cedi	Accra
67.	Oman	Omani Rial	Muscat
68.	Indonesia	Rupiah	Jakarta
69.	Italy	Euro	Rome
70.	Serbia	Serbian Dinar	Belgrade
71.	Norway	Norwegian Krone	Oslo
72.	Peru	Sol	Lima
73.	Cameroon	Central African CFA Franc	Yaounde
74.	Lebanon	Lebanese Pound	Beirut
75.	United Kingdom	Pound Sterling	London
76.	China	Yuan, Renminbi	Beijing
77.	Australia	Australian Dollar	Canberra

78.	Switzerland	Swiss Franc	Bern
79.	France	Franc, Euro	Paris
80.	Spain	Euro	Madrid

#### 4.3 Banks in News

S.No	Bank	Headquarters	Managing Director (MD)/Chief Executive Officer (CEO)	Tagline
1.	Bank of Baroda	Vadodara, Gujarat	Sanjiv Chadha (MD & CEO)	India's International Bank
2.	South Indian Bank	Thrissur, Kerala	Murali Ramakrishnan (CEO)	Experience Next Generation Banking
3.	Union Bank of India	Mumbai, Maharashtra	A. Manimekhala (CEO)	Good People to Bank With
4.	HDFC Bank	Mumbai, Maharashtra	Sashidhar Jagdishan (CEO)	We Understand Your World
5.	ICICI Bank	Mumbai, Maharashtra	Sandeep Bakhshi (CEO)	Khayal Aapka
6.	State Bank of India	Mumbai, Maharashtra	Dinesh Kumar Khara (Chairman)	Pure Banking, Nothing Else
7.	Punjab National Bank	New Delhi	Atul Kumar Goel (MD and CEO)	The Name You Can Bank Upon
8.	UCO Bank	Kolkata, West Bengal	Soma Sankara Prasad	Honours your Trust
9.	Canara Bank	Bengaluru, Karnataka	Lingam Venkat Prabhakar	Together We Can
10.	IDFC First Bank	Mumbai, Maharashtra	V. Vaidyanathan (CEO)	Always You First
11.	Axis Bank	Mumbai, Maharashtra	Amitabh Chaudhry (CEO)	Badhti Ka Naam Zindagi
12.	Federal Bank	Aluva, Kerala	Shyam Srinivasan	Your Perfect Banking Partner



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