

**RBI GR B SEBI GRA NABARD GR A /B**

# CURRENT AFFAIRS MONTHLY MAGAZINE

## 3 Sections

- GA in News ( Relevant for Phase 1 )  
RBI Gr B, NABARD Gr A & B, SEBI Gr A
- GA + ESI ( Relevant for Phase 1 & Phase 2 )  
RBI Gr B, NABARD Gr A & B, SEBI Gr A
- GA + Finance ( Relevant for Phase 1 & Phase 2 )  
RBI Gr B, NABARD Gr A & B & SEBI Gr A

01<sup>st</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>  
September  
2022

## OUR RISING STARS



RAJENDRAN SUNDAR  
2018



MR. HARINATH K  
2020



MR. SIDDHARTH KAIN  
2020



MS. KOMAL KHANDEKAR  
2019



MR. AL NIHAD  
2019



MR. SALIL  
2019



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# 1 GA in News:

## First in News

S.No	News	Place/Developed by/Launched by	Key Features/Miscellaneous Facts
1.	First of its kind <b>intranasal COVID-19 Vaccine.</b> Named: BBV154	Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), Department of Biotechnology (DBT)	It is an <b>intranasal replication-deficient chimpanzee adenovirus SARS-CoV-2 vectored vaccine</b>
2.	India's 1 <sup>st</sup> <b>indigenously designed and built aircraft carrier 'INS Vikrant'</b>	Designed by: Indian Navy's in-house Warship Design Bureau (WDB) Built by: Cochin Shipyard Limited	Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has supplied the entire <b>30000 Tonnes</b> of the Defence Metallurgical Research (DMR) grade specialty steel for INS Vikrant.
3.	India's first-ever Night Sky Sanctuary – "Dark Sky Reserve"	To be set up in: Ladakh To be set up by: Department of Science & Technology (DST), Govt of India	It is to be set up as a part of <b>Changthang Wildlife Sanctuary</b> . It will be <b>one of the world's highest-located sites for optical, infra-red, and gamma-ray telescopes</b> .
4.	First Ever Visit by Indian Defence Minister to strategic East Asian Country	Mongolia	Indian Defence Minister recently visited <b>Mongolia</b> with an aim to give boost to strategic partnership with East Asian countries.
		<b>Cyber Security Training Centre</b> , built with assistance from Government of India, at <b>National Defence University</b> in Ulaanbaatar was inaugurated by Indian Defence Minister.	
5.	First acquisition of a power asset by NTPC (National Thermal Power Corporation) through National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT)	--	NTPC has successfully acquired 50% of Jhabua Power Limited (JPL) through the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process (CIRP).
6.	First Indian to win the prestigious Diamond League Trophy, 2022: Neeraj Chopra (Javelin Throw)	Held at: Zurich	He won the prestigious Diamond Trophy with a <b>best attempt</b> of <b>88.44m</b> .
7.	First ever agreement by the Indian armed forces for sourcing power from Renewable Energy sources	--	NTPC Ltd. has entered into an agreement to supply <b>Renewable Energy Power</b> to the <b>armed forces (Military Engineering Services)</b> .
8.	Indian Railways invites private players for the first time to make 80,000 'Make in India' wheels	Ministry of Railways	Indian Railways needs <b>two lakh wheels per year</b> . As per the plan, the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) will provide <b>one lakh wheels</b> , the rest will be provided by a new 'Make in India' plant.
9.	First Indian Army Logistics seminar	Ministry of Defence	Theme: <b>Samanjasya Se Shakti</b>

10.	India's first CNG truck in the medium and heavy commercial (M&HCV) vehicle segment	TATA Motors	--
11.	First-ever Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) Under 17 Women's World Cup 2022 to be hosted	India	Financial outlay of Rs. 10 crore assistance to All India Football Federation (AIFF) for this by the government.
12.	First public sector bank to go live on Income Tax Department's new Direct Tax Collection System Tin 2.0	Bank of India	Taxpayers can now make the direct tax payment at any branch of the Bank of India
		Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tax Information Network, TIN 2.0 (e-filing) is the official portal of the Income Tax Department to provide taxpayers with single window access to income tax-related services including tax payments.</li> <li>• The portal has been developed by the Income Tax Department as a Mission Mode Project under the National E-Governance Plan.</li> </ul>
13.	First-ever Mountain Bicycle, MTB, World Cup – the 'UCI MTB Eliminator World Cup, 2022	1. Organized by: Cycling Association of India, Ladakh Administration and Ladakh Police	To be hosted by: Leh, Ladakh
14.	India's first Lithium Cell Manufacturing Plant	Place: Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh  2. Set-up by: Chennai based Munoth Industries Limited	Outlay: Rs. 165 crores  India has set the target of \$300 billion worth of electronics manufacturing and exports by 2025-26.
15.	First Indian city to get digital address system	Indore	Indore Smart City Development Limited (ISCDL) signed an MoU to launch mobile application — 'Pataa'
16.	First Inter-modal digital TIR (International Road Transports)-based pilot transport	India to Iran through International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC)	Flagged off from: Jawaharlal Nehru Port, Maharashtra
17.	First of its kind Inter Ministry, Bar & Bench Badminton Championship	Fit India Mission (Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports) and Ministry of Law and Justice	To be held at: New Delhi
18.	India's 1 <sup>st</sup> cities to join UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities (GNLC)	Nilambur and Thrissur in Kerala	A total 77 cities from 44 countries have joined the UNESCO (GNLC) in recognition of their outstanding efforts to make lifelong learning a reality for all at the local level.
19.	India's first 3D-printed post office	Halasuru's Cambridge Layout Bengaluru, Karnataka	To be built by: Larsen & Toubro Construction Cost: Rs 25 lakh
20.	India's first Electronic Bank Guarantee (e-BG)	HDFC Bank and National E-Governance Services Limited (NeSL)	e-BG will simplify the paper-based, time-consuming process and eliminate the possibility of fraud and manipulation.
21.	India's first High Throughput Satellite (HTS) broadband service	Hughes Communications India Private Limited	This service is provided using the Indian Space Research Organization's GSAT-11 and

			<b>GSAT-29 communication satellites.</b>
22.	<b>India's first Dugong Conservation Reserve</b>	Government of Tamil Nadu	<p><b>Location of the reserve:</b> Palk Bay covering Thanjavur and Pudukottai districts in Tamil Nadu</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dugongs are the <b>largest herbivorous marine mammals in the world.</b></li> <li>They are protected under <b>Schedule 1 of the Wild Life Protection Act, 1972.</b></li> <li>Out of the 240 estimated dugongs in India, majority are located at <b>Palk Bay, Tamil Nadu</b></li> </ul>
23.	<b>India to host maiden MotoGP World Cup Championship race in 2023</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dorna Sports</li> </ul>	<p><b>Championship Name:</b> Grand Prix of Bharat.</p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Buddh International Circuit in Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh.</p>
24.	<b>First-of-its-kind female camel riding squad in the world</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Launched by: <b>Border Security Force (BSF)</b></li> </ul>	To be deployed along the <b>India-Pakistan border</b> in <b>Rajasthan and Gujarat.</b>
25.	<b>First-ever floating photo exhibition</b>	<p>Organized at: <b>Loktak Lake, Manipur</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organized by: <b>Central Bureau of Communication, Ministry of Information &amp; Broadcasting</b></li> </ul>	As many as <b>88 Manipuri language creatives</b> of "Eight years of Seva, Sushasan, Garib Kalyan" and around creatives of <b>11 unsung Manipuri freedom fighters</b> are being displayed in the exhibition.
26.	<b>First of its kind medical partnership between states for recruitment and training of medical professionals</b>	--	Signed between <b>Meghalaya &amp; Tamil Nadu Governments</b>
27.	<b>First multiplex movie theatres opened in Kashmir</b>	--	<p><b>Opened by</b> INOX Multiplex in Srinagar.</p> <p>The cinemas in Kashmir are opened after a gap of 33 years.</p>
28.	<b>India's first Bio-Village setup</b>	<b>Daspara, Tripura</b>	The concept of <b>Bio Village 2.0</b> developed by the state government has been recognized as one of the <b>best practices</b> to attain <b>sustainable development goals.</b>
29.	<b>First of its kind avalanche monitoring radar installed in North Sikkim</b>	Installed by: <b>Indian Army and Defence Research and Development Organisation's (DRDO) lab named Defence Geoinformatics and Research Establishment (DGRE)</b>	The radar can <b>detect an avalanche</b> in under <b>three seconds.</b>
30.	<b>First-ever visit by any Indian Naval Ship (INS) to Gabon</b>	Place: <b>Port Gentil, Gabon</b>	Visit made by: <b>INS Tarkash</b> The visit is a part of her ongoing deployment in the <b>Gulf of Guinea</b> for <b>anti-piracy patrol.</b>

31.	First-time 'Gurjar Muslim' nominated to Rajya Sabha	Nominated member: Gulam Ali	Gurjar is the most populous Scheduled Tribe in Jammu & Kashmir.
32.	First village in Uttar Pradesh to have RO water in every household	Bhartaull, Bareilly district	--
33.	First Oil Marketing Company to produce and market AVGAS 100 LL in India	Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOCL)	Until now, AVGAS was completely imported.
		About AVGAS 10 LL: It is a special aviation fuel meant for piston engine aircrafts and Unmanned Arial Vehicles (UAVs).	
34.	First police force to make collection of forensic evidence mandatory	Delhi Police	This is to be mandatory for the crimes punishable by more than six years
35.	First-ever Cinematic Tourism Policy of Gujarat	Launched at: Ahmedabad, Gujarat	Aim: To strengthen film infrastructure in Gujarat. Policy period: 5 years (2022-2027)
36.	India's First Flex-Fuel Vehicle (FFV) to be received	To be imported from: Brazil	The Flex Fuel Strong Hybrid Electric Vehicle (FFV-SHEV) can run on ethanol-blended petrol and battery. It will be used to assess the reduced carbon emission performance.
37.	First life insurer with foreign partner as majority stakeholder – Ageas Federal Life Insurance (AFLI)	--	74% stake were held by Belgium-based Ageas Insurance International after it completed the acquisition of the 25% stake in the life insurance joint venture (JV) from IDBI Bank.
38.	First tiger reserve in Bundelkhand, Uttar Pradesh	Ranipur Tiger Reserve	To be notified under: Wildlife Protection Act, 1972
39.	First-of-its-kind unified platform to offer one-stop solution from searching to buying a home – 'Open Doors'	Launched by: Axis Bank and Square Yards (a real estate platform)	'Open Doors' is a co-branded home buyer ecosystem.
40.	India's First & one of the world's largest Carbon Fibre plants	To be developed by: Reliance Industries To be developed at: Hazira, Gujarat	The plants will have a capacity of 20,000 Million Tonnes Per Annum (MTPA) based on Acrylonitrile feedstock.
41.	World's first cloned wild Arctic wolf 'Maya'	Developed by: Scientists from China	The first animal created using cloning: Sheep named 'Dolly' in 1996
42.	India's first Liquified Natural Gas (LNG)-fueled green truck manufacturing facility	Launched by: Blue Energy Motors Launched at: Chakan, Pune (Maharashtra)	--

## Government Initiatives

S.No.	Initiatives/Programmes in News	Developed by/Launched by	Key Features
1.	e-Awas Web-Portal	Launched by: Ministry of Home Affairs	Aim: To operationalize the improved policy of allocation and to also increase transparency in the allocation process.

2.	Rashtriya Puruskar Portal	Developed by: <b>Ministry of Home Affairs</b>	Aim: To bring together all the <b>Awards</b> of the various <b>Ministries/Departments/Agencies</b> of the <b>Government of India</b> under <b>one platform</b> to ensure transparency and public partnership ( <b>Jan Bhagidari</b> ).
3.	Delhi Model Virtual School	<b>Delhi Government</b>	The school will be for <b>classes IX to XII</b> and will be affiliated to <b>Delhi Board of School Education</b> .
4.	A program to support and accelerate <b>XR technology startups</b> across India	<b>MeitY Startup Hub and Meta</b>	--  <b>Additional Information:</b> The <b>MeitY Startup Hub</b> , an initiative of <b>Ministry of Electronics &amp; information Technology (MeitY)</b> , is a national platform focused on <b>promoting technology innovation, start-ups, and the creation of intellectual properties</b> .
5.	Dashboard of <b>Department of Science &amp; Technology</b>	<b>Ministry of Science &amp; Technology</b>	Details of each of the schemes and programmes for any group in every State can be accessed on a real time basis.
6.	'No-bag day' rule in schools along with a <b>mandatory games period</b> at least <b>once a week</b>	<b>Government of Bihar</b>	Aim: To engage students in activities that can positively impact their learning.
7.	<b>India</b> has become the <b>largest bilateral lender</b> to Sri Lanka	--	<b>India surpassed China</b> by disbursing a total of <b>\$968 million</b> in loans in <b>four months of 2022</b> .
8.	Operating a <b>2.7-km-long</b> freight train named ' <b>Pinaka</b> ' by combining <b>four trains</b>	<b>Indian Railways (North Central Railway)</b>	It was formed from <b>Chunar</b> to fetch coal for <b>UP Power Plant</b> .
9.	' <b>Hamar Beti, Hamar Maan</b> ' campaign and helpline	Launched by: <b>Chhattisgarh Government</b>	Under this, girls will be <b>educated</b> about several important and necessary subjects including their <b>legal rights, good touch-bad touch</b> and <b>sexual crimes</b> .
10.	' <b>Sign Learn</b> ' App	Launched by: <b>Ministry of Social Justice &amp; Empowerment</b>	It is an <b>Indian Sign Language (ISL) dictionary</b> mobile application based on the dictionary of <b>Indian Sign Language Research &amp; Training Centre</b>
11.	Amendment of the <b>Central Motor Vehicles Rules (CMVR), 1989</b> .	<b>Ministry of Road Transport &amp; Highways</b>	It has been decided to implement the proposal mandating a <b>minimum of 6 Airbags</b> in <b>Passenger Cars (M-1 Category)</b> w.e.f. <b>October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023</b> .
12.	<b>Vande Bharat Express 2.0</b>	<b>Ministry of Railways</b>	Passage: <b>Gandhinagar (Gujarat)</b> to <b>Mumbai (Maharashtra)</b> The train shall also come with a befitting <b>Health-Conscious Low Calorie Millet Rich Regional menu</b> , commemorating <b>2023 as International Year of Millets</b> .
13.	<b>Ahmedabad Metro Rail project, Gujarat</b>	Government of India	Flagged off by: <b>Prime Minister</b> Flagged off from: <b>Kalupur station to Doordarshan Kendra metro station</b>  <b>About Ahmedabad Metro Rail project:</b> It is a monumental boost to multimodal infrastructure connectivity. <b>Phase-I</b> of the

		Ahmedabad Metro project comprises <b>about 32 km</b> of the <b>East-West corridor</b> and <b>19 km</b> <b>North-South corridor</b> .	
14.	'Operation Garuda'	Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)	Aim: The initiative has been launched against <b>illicit drug trafficking network</b> to disrupt, degrade and dismantle drug networks with international linkages through coordinated law enforcement actions across international jurisdiction through <b>Interpol</b> .
15.	Achieve <b>Rs 35,000 crore</b> defence exports target by <b>2025</b>	Ministry of Defence	Amount released to the <b>Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs)</b> for <b>2021-22</b> and <b>2022-23</b> for <b>modernization</b> : <b>Rs 2,953 crore</b> Amount to be released to the DPSUs <b>up to 2026-27</b> for <b>capital expenditure</b> : <b>Rs 6,270 crore</b>
16.	'Operation Megha Chakra'	Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)	CBI searched at several locations in <b>20 States and Union Territories</b> in connection with cases of circulation of <b>Child Sexual Abuse Material online</b> as part of this Operation.
17.	e-governance portal 'Samarth'	Government of Uttarakhand	It will provide <b>all administrative and educational updates</b> including information about exams, salary, etc.
18.	Amendment of the <b>Constitution of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA)</b>	--	Task to be led by: Justice L. Nageswara Rao
19.	AmazeWIT Circles	Amazon	It is a <b>dedicated networking virtual event</b> to educate women and prepare them for careers in technology.

### MoUs and Agreements

S.No	MoU/Agreement in News	Signatories	Key Features
1.	MoU on cooperation in the field of Education	India and United Arab Emirates (UAE)	Period of MoU: <b>5 years</b>
2.	MoU on cooperation in the field of Disaster Management.	National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), India and Maldives	--
3.	MoU to make Green Hydrogen	POSCO Ltd. and ZeroC, a subsidiary of renewable energy company Greenko	India has set a target to produce <b>5 million tonnes (mt) of green hydrogen by 2030</b> .
4.	MoU to start a biogas demonstration project	Suzuki Motor Corporation (SMC) and National Dairy Development Board (NDDB)	Aim: To accelerate carbon neutrality in India.
5.	Partnership agreement to accelerate digital creativity skills across the country	All-India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) and Adobe	Aim: To empower educators across higher education institutions with essential digital creativity skills by <b>2024</b> .
6.	Partnership to support and promote supply chain finance (SCF) solutions in India	IndusInd Bank and Asian Development Bank (ADB)	Initial Outlay: <b>USD 70 million</b>

7.	Partnership to expand its money remittance services between Indo-Nepal corridor.	Muthoot FinCorp and IME India Pvt Ltd	Banking Partners: IDFC First Bank, India and Global IME Bank Ltd., Nepal.
		<b>Additional Information:</b> Muthoot FinCorp has been assisting the Nepali community in India in remitting money through their existing partner – <b>Prabhu Money Transfer Pvt Ltd.</b>	
8.	<b>MoU</b> for offering advanced, high-energy scanning systems to the Indian market	Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) and Smiths Detection	Period of MoU: 5 years
9.	<b>Naga Ceasefire Agreement</b>	Government of India and National Socialist Council of Nagaland (K) Niki group	The agreement got extended for a period of one year with effect from 08.09.2022 to 07.09.2023.
10.	Title sponsor for BCCI for all international, domestic, and junior cricket matches	Mastercard and Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)	--
11.	<b>MoU</b> to strengthen capacity building of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs)	Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) and Institute of Rural Management Anand (IRMA), Gujarat	The collaboration is in Gram Panchayat Development Planning for Localization of Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs) through PRIs.
12.	<b>Partnership</b> to strengthen cyber-security in Karnataka	CySeCK, Karnataka government's centre of excellence (CoE) for cybersecurity and Dell Technologies India	Dell Technologies through its "Tech for Social Good" initiative will roll out interactive courses on cyber hygiene best practices for school students.
13.	<b>MoU</b> for the manufacture of semiconductor and display fab	Government of Gujarat and Vedanta-Foxconn Group	Investment: Rs 1.54 lakh crore
14.	<b>MoU</b> for the promotion of sports in India	NTPC Ltd. and REC Ltd. with National Sports Development Funds (NSDF) and Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports	Total investment by NTPC and REC: Rs. 215 Crores NTPC: National Thermal Power Corporation(formerly) REC: Rural Electrification Corporation (formerly)
15.	<b>MoU</b> to establish academic linkages in niche domains, such as, 5G Technology and IoT, Control System Integration etc.	Indian Navy and Amity University Uttar Pradesh (AUUP).	--
16.	<b>Partnership</b> to support impact tech companies on their impact measurement and management	Mastercard Lighthouse MASSIV and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	Lighthouse MASSIV is a free of charge startup partnership program dedicated to helping one billion people live more prosperous and secure lives by 2025.
17.	<b>MoU</b> to synergize academic, research and executive education programmes in business management and corporate affairs	Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) and Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu	--
18.	<b>MoU</b> to drive excellence in Cancer Care in India	Tata Memorial Centre (TMC), Mumbai and Vedanta Medical	--

		<b>Research Foundation's</b> <b>flagship initiative, BALCO</b> <b>Medical Centre (BMC),</b> <b>Raipur, Chhattisgarh</b>	
19.	<b>MOU</b> for enhancing cooperation in the crucial arena of <b>training of diplomats</b>	India and Madagascar	--
20.	<b>Partnership</b> to advance quantum computing skill development and research in India	International Business Machines (IBM) and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras	--
21.	'Letter of Award' (LoA) of ₹ 612 crore for setting up a 100 MW ground-mounted solar project	Given to: Tata Power Solar Systems Given by: Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN) Limited	--
22.	'Letter of Award' (LoA) of ₹596 crore for setting up a 125MW floating solar project	Given to: Tata Power Solar Systems Given by: Narmada Hydroelectric Development Corporation (NHDC) Ltd.	--
23.	<b>Partnership</b> to deploy computing platform enabling enterprises including manufacturing and automotive to accelerate innovative solutions	IBM and Bharti Airtel	1 <sup>st</sup> beneficiary to use this edge platform: Maruti Suzuki
24.	<b>Partnership</b> to skill students for entry level cloud jobs	Google Cloud and FutureSkills Prime, an Information Technology (IT) Ministry and National Association of Software and Services Companies (Nasscom) digital skilling initiative.	Aim: To provide participants an opportunity to experience cloud computing, cloud basics, big data and machine learning (ML).
25.	<b>MoU</b> to strengthen defence ties and enhance conduct of joint exercises and exchange of personnel for training	Defence Ministries of India and Egypt	--
26.	<b>Partnership</b> to set up charging infrastructure for 2-wheeler electric vehicles (EVs) in India	Hero MotoCorp and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL)	--
27.	<b>MoU</b> for the development of Multi Modal Logistics Park (MMLP) at Jalna in Maharashtra	National Highways Logistics Management Limited and Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT)	Aim: To promote the export of Agro products.
28.	<b>Data and Technology agreement</b>	HDFC Bank and Refinitiv (London Stock Exchange Group business)	The Bank will get comprehensive access to Refinitiv's data and products under the agreement.
29.	<b>Partnership</b> to set up a Centre of Excellence (CoE) to undertake collaborative research projects	Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras and Accenture (Information Technology (IT) consulting firm)	Specific areas of collaboration will include autonomous robotics systems (ARS), industrial internet of things (IIoT), etc.
30.	<b>MoU</b> on cooperation in the <b>healthcare</b> sector	National Small Industries Corporation Ltd. (NSIC)	--

		and Andhra Pradesh Medtech Zone Limited (AMTZ)	
31.	<b>MoU to empower the youth with industry relevant skills in emerging technology domains to enhance their employability</b>	Electronics Sector Skill Council of India (ESSCI) and Samsung India	The programme is named 'Samsung Innovation Campus'.
32.	<b>MoU on research, development and deployment of sustainable aviation fuels</b>	Air India, AirAsia India and Vistara airlines with Council Of Scientific And Industrial Research– Indian Institute Of Petroleum (CSIR-IIP)	
33.	<b>MoU to bring best practices to Indian football</b>	DFL (organizing body of German football leagues) and Football Sports Development Limited (FSDL)	--
34.	<b>MoU to Set up Four Surface Coal Gasification (SCG) Projects</b>	Coal India Limited (CIL) with Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL), Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) and GAIL (India)	Ministry of Coal has set a target for achieving 100 million tonne coal gasification by 2030.
35.	<b>MoU for cooperation in various areas of Telecom spanning Internet of Things (IoT)/ Machine to Machine (M2M), Cyber Security and 5G &amp; Beyond technologies</b>	Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) and Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi (IITD)	Aim: To evolve a mutually productive framework for collaboration between R&D and academia to spur the design & development of wholly indigenous Telecom solutions, including Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning (AI/ML).
36.	<b>Partner votes to separate into two distinct, multi-disciplinary organizations</b>	Ernst & Young (EY)	--
37.	<b>MoU to expand business to International Markets (Nepal)</b>	Ola Electric and CG Motors, Nepal	--
38.	<b>Acquisition of Ambuja Cements and its subsidiary ACC Ltd.</b>	Acquirer: Adani Group Acquired from: Switzerland's Holcim Group	Acquisition Cost: US\$ 6.4 billion This was India's largest ever Mergers & Acquisition transaction in the infrastructure and materials space.
39.	<b>MoU to diversify crude oil sourcing in India</b>	Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) and Petrobras (Brazilian Oil Company)	For the first time, India is to ink a long-term supply deal with Petrobras.
40.	<b>Status of Combined Reciprocal Common Transport Agreement (CRCTA)</b>	Haryana, Delhi, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh	Under CRCTA, all public vehicles including motor cabs, rickshaws, taxis, stage carriage buses, National Capital Region (NCR) public vehicles etc. will have single point taxation, which

			eventually will help ease traffic congestion and pollution.
41.	<b>Acquisition of share capital of Diliigent Power Private Limited (Diliigent Power) and DB Power Limited (DB Power)</b>	Acquirer: Adani Power Limited	Proposed Combination involves the acquisition of the <b>100% of the share capital and economic rights</b> of the Targets by the Acquirer.
42.	<b>Acquisition of assets of Essar Group</b>	Acquirer: ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel India Limited	--
43.	<b>Partnership for availing unsecured financing for solar projects</b>	WAAREE and State Bank of India (SBI)	WAAREE intends to leverage over <b>Rs. 500 Cr</b> of a credit line through <b>Surya Shakti Solar Finance Scheme</b> (an SBI initiative).

### Summits & Conference

S.No.	Summit/Conference/Conclave	Venue	Key Facts
<b>International Summits</b>			
1.	Plenipotentiary Conference 2022 of International Telecommunication Union (ITU)	Bucharest, Romania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme: "Building Better Digital Future"</li> </ul>
2.	42 <sup>nd</sup> Session of International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) Assembly	Montreal, Canada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MoU signed between International Solar Alliance (ISA) and ICAO for it to be a partner organization of ISA.</li> </ul>
3.	Cyber Security Exercise for 26 Countries	--	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Designed &amp; conducted by: India's National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) and United Kingdom (UK) Government in collaboration with BAE Systems.</li> <li>Conducted as a part of the International Counter Ransomware Initiative-Resilience Working Group led by India under the leadership of National Cyber Security Coordinator (NCSC).</li> <li>Based on Energy Sector</li> </ul>
4.	Cyber Security Exercise "Synergy"	--	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Designed &amp; conducted by: Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In), in collaboration with the Cyber Security Agency of Singapore.</li> <li>Theme: Building Network Resiliency to counter Ransomware Attacks</li> <li>Conducted for: 13 Countries</li> <li>It was a part of the International Counter Ransomware Initiative- Resilience Working Group.</li> </ul>
5.	India-Japan '2+2' meet	Tokyo, Japan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parties Involved: Defence Ministers of India and Japan</li> <li>Aim: To deepen cooperation on defence.</li> </ul>
6.	International Dairy Federation World Dairy Summit (IDF WDS) 2022	Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organized by: International Dairy Federation (IDF)</li> <li>Theme: "Dairy for Nutrition and Livelihood"</li> </ul>

7.	20 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD)	--	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>India's Presidency of the prestigious AIBD has been extended for one more year.</li> </ul>
8.	20 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of Prosecutors General of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)	Astana, Kazakhstan	<p><b>Additional Information</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AIBD was established in 1977 under the auspices of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).</li> <li>AIBD currently has 26 Full Members nations, represented by 43 Organisations, and 50 Affiliate Members (organizations) with a total membership of 93.</li> </ul>
			<p><b>Additional Information:</b> The meet discussed issues pertaining to the growth of transnational economic crime in the world and their experience of recovery of proceeds of crime from the states.</p>
<b>National Summits</b>			
9.	National Expo on alternatives to banned single use plastics items and Conference of Startups -2022	Chennai, Tamil Nadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organized by: Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and Government of Tamil Nadu.</li> </ul>
10.	13 <sup>th</sup> Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) Global Skills Summit 2022	New Delhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme: "Education to Employability - Making It Happen"</li> </ul>
11.	40 <sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL)	Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>During the financial year (FY) 2021-22, the Company achieved highest turnover of ₹28,215 Crores since inception, with a growth of 57% over the previous year.</li> </ul>
12.	4 <sup>th</sup> National Youth Superintendents of Police Conference and Police Expo	New Delhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inaugurated by: BPR&amp;D (Bureau of Police Research and Development)</li> <li>Theme: Innovation and Research in Cybercrime Management, Drones and Counter Drones</li> </ul>
13.	Swasth Sabal Bharat' Conclave	--	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organized by: Ministry of Health &amp; Family Welfare</li> <li>Aim: To discuss the present situation of body-organ-eye donation in India and find solutions to the challenges ahead in future.</li> </ul>
14.	6 <sup>th</sup> All India Prison Duty Meet	Kankaria, Ahmedabad (Gujarat)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organized by: Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&amp;D)</li> <li>Aim: To promote sportsmanship in a positive way and also to benefit the prison administration by the interaction and exchange of successful experiences between the participants.</li> </ul>
15.	Startup Symposium	Bengaluru, Karnataka	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organized by: Indian Army</li> <li>Participants: 25 companies/startups with domain specialization in Drones, Aviation, Artificial Intelligence, Communication, Surveillance and Manufacturing.</li> </ul>
16.	Ayurveda Day 2022 programme	--	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organized by: All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) under Ministry of AYUSH</li> <li>Theme: "Har Din Har Ghar Ayurveda"</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Ministry of AYUSH</b> celebrates Ayurveda Day on <b>October 23</b> every year.</li> </ul>
17.	Annual Flagship Event 2022 of Digital Infrastructure Providers Association (DIPA)	--	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organized by: <b>Department of Telecommunications</b></li> <li>Theme: "<b>Gati Shakti Vision For 5G &amp; Beyond</b>"</li> <li>DIPA is an apex industry body representing <b>Digital Infrastructure providers</b> industry in India.</li> </ul>
18.	"Aavartan" event	Bangalore International Centre (BIC) Bengaluru, Karnataka	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organized by: Centre of Excellence for Khadi</li> <li>The event is to showcase <b>home and apparel collections</b> designed for a pan-generational audience by the <b>in-house designers of CoEK</b>.</li> </ul>
19.	"Interventions Required for Strengthening the PPP Ecosystem (Partners in Progress)" Workshop	--	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organized by: Infrastructure Finance Secretariat (IFS), Dept. of Economic Affairs (DEA).</li> <li>Aim: To acknowledge role of <b>Public Private Partnership (PPP)</b> to leverage <b>private sector investment</b> and operational efficiencies in the provision of <b>affordable and sustainable</b> public assets and services.</li> </ul>
20.	75 <sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of Indian Banks' Association	Mumbai, Maharashtra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Indian Banks' Association (IBA)</b></li> </ul>
21.	Seminar on the 6th Foundation Day of Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA)	--	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organized by: IEPFA and the <b>National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER)</b></li> <li>Aim: To <b>promote financial literacy and investor awareness and protection</b> among investors</li> </ul> <p>         • The IEPFA was set up in <b>2016</b>, under the <b>Ministry of Corporate Affairs</b> for administering the <b>Investor Education and Protection Fund</b> to investors.          • NCAER is <b>India's oldest and largest independent economic think tank</b>, set up in <b>1956</b> to inform <b>policy choices</b> for both the public and private sectors.       </p>

## Banking & Finance

S.No	Program/Initiative/Landmarks	Launched/Developed/Achieved by	Miscellaneous Facts
<b>Banking and Finance Initiatives</b>			
1.	Face authentication-based Aadhaar e-KYC	Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited (KMBL)	Authentication done via a mobile application developed by <b>Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)</b> .
2.	Snapdeal BoB JCB RuPay Credit Card	Bank Of Baroda (BOB) Financial Solutions Ltd (BFSL), Snapdeal in partnership with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and Japan's JCB International Co. Ltd.	Card launched on the <b>RuPay network</b> . It will be usable at <b>international merchants and ATMs</b> through the extensive JCB global network.
3.	Extension of the group health insurance policy to include members of LGBTQIA+ community.	Edelweiss General Insurance	--

4.	Pension Fund Management Business	<b>TATA Asset Management Company (TATA AMC)</b>	Tata Pension secured a license for pension fund management and started operations.
5.	'Bank on Wheels' service in Gujarat	<b>HDFC Bank</b>	This initiative is part of a pilot project to offer banking services in unbanked locations.
6.	Boosting Priority Sector Lending (PSL)	<b>Axis Bank and PayNearby</b>	Axis Bank aims to meet its priority sector lending targets in an organic manner, taking advantage of the PayNearby's distribution-as-service network.
7.	'Agribazaar Kisan Safalta Card'	Agribazaar (a private sector electronic agri mandi)	'Kisan Safalta' card is a quick and hassle-free instrument that helps farmers meet their pre- and post-harvest farm requirements and allied expenses.
8.	Rainbow Savings Account	<b>ESAF Small Finance Bank</b>	The account has been launched exclusively for the transgender community.
9.	Artificial Intelligence (AI)-powered digital voice agent	ICICI Lombard in collaboration with Skit.ai, an AI-based voice automation platform	The new feature will assist customers with the status of their insurance claims for health and motor insurance policies.
10.	Hits Rs. 5 trillion market capital	<b>State Bank of India (SBI)</b>	SBI becomes the third lender in the country to cross the market cap of Rs 5 trillion. 1. HDFC Bank: Rs. 8.38 trillion ICICI Bank: Rs. 6.33 trillion
11.	'HDFC Bank Chair of Banking and Finance' to carry out independent research	<b>HDFC Bank and Institute of Economic Growth (IEG)</b>	Bank will provide funding support of Rs 6.75 Crore for over five years.
12.	A technology platform that will aid in digitization.	<b>HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company and Google Cloud</b>	--
13.	FASTags recharge through WhatsApp	<b>IDFC First Bank and 'payments on WhatsApp'</b>	The bank's customers will now be able to recharge their FASTags right within IDFC FIRST's WhatsApp chatbot and complete the transaction from within the chat thread
14.	US\$150 million loan to Punjab	<b>World Bank</b>	Maturity period of loan: 15 years Areas on focus: Improving service delivery of municipal corporations and water delivery systems.
15.	US\$350 million loan to Gujarat	<b>World Bank</b>	Maturity period: 18 years Areas on focus: Healthcare Services
16.	Credit Card payment through UPI and UPI Lite	<b>Union Bank of India</b>	Through Unified Payment Interface (UPI), Union Bank Rupay Credit Card holders can seamlessly make payments.
17.	US\$ 2 billion aid to flood-hit Pakistan (increased from US\$ 850 million)	<b>World Bank</b>	The aid is for reconstruction and rehabilitation for most recent devastating floods.

18.	Ethical Hacking Lab	Union Bank of India	Inaugurated at: Cyber Security Centre of Excellence (CCoE), Hyderabad (Telangana)
		About Ethical Hacking Lab: The lab with cyber defence mechanism will protect the bank's information system, digital assets, and channels, against potential cyber threats.	
19.	'Click2Protect Optima Secure'	HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company Limited and HDFC Life	It is a financial protection plan offering health and life insurance to its beneficiaries, with a minimum sum assured of Rs. 50,000.
20.	Micro-ATMs launched for tier II cities and semi-urban regions	Airtel Payments Bank (APB)	To facilitate the micro-ATM transactions, APB is now integrated with the National Payments Corporation of India's (NPCI) - National Financial Switch (NFS).
21.	'Carbon Calculator' for Indian Customers	Mastercard in collaboration with Swedish fintech Doconomy	It offers consumers an estimated carbon footprint for each of their purchases.
22.	'Cashback SBI Card'	State Bank of India (SBI)	Aim: To enable cardholders to earn 5% cashback on all online spending without any merchant restrictions.
23.	US\$ 1 billion loan to provide guarantees against defaults on loans taken to buy electric two or three-wheelers	World Bank, Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) and Government of India	Project Facilitating Agency: National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog
<b>Mergers/ Acquisitions</b>			
24.	Indialdeas.com Limited (IIL) acquired by PayU Payments Private Limited (PayU India)	IIL uses the name "BillDesk" as its trading/ business/ brand name in India.	
25.	PayU acquires online payments firm Billdesk (Indialdeas.com)	Acquisition Cost: US\$4.7 billion	
<b>Others</b>			
26.	Reserve Bank of India cancels the license of The Laxmi Co-operative Bank Limited, Solapur (Maharashtra)	Reason: Inadequate capital and less earning prospects. License cancelled as per: Banking Regulation Act, 1949	
27.	National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) International Payments Ltd. (NIPL) partnered with TerraPay to enable Unified Payment Interface (UPI) transactions globally	TerraPay is a cross-border payments company. Headquarters of TerraPay: Amsterdam, Netherlands	
28.	Uco Bank and Yes Bank tie up with Russian Banks for payments to step up the trade with Russia	Uco Bank ties up with: Gazprom Bank Yes Bank ties up with: Petersburg Social Commercial Bank (PSCB)	
29.	Yubi Co.Lend (earlier, CredAvenue) partnered with State Bank of India (SBI)	Aim: To help grow SBI's co-lending portfolio. This will enable SBI to collaborate with multiple partners and disburse joint loans to the priority sector.	

## Science & Technology

S.No.	News/Technology	Developed by/Launched by/Informed by/Partnership	Key Features/Miscellaneous Facts
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1.	<b>James Webb telescope</b> has captured a direct image of a planet outside our solar system.	Informed by: National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)	The exoplanet in Webb's image, called <b>HIP 65426 b</b> . It is about <b>6 to 12 times</b> the mass of <b>Jupiter</b> , and about <b>15 to 20 million years old</b> , compared to our <b>4.5-billion-year-old Earth</b> .
2.	A vaccine for <b>Diphtheria, Pertussis and Tetanus (Tdap)</b>	Serum Institute of India (SII)	--
3.	<b>Hindustan Aeronautics (HAL)</b> and <b>Larsen &amp; Toubro (L&amp;T)</b> awarded contract for the next five <b>Polar Satellite Launch Vehicles (PSLVs)</b>	Project Awarded by: NewsSpace India (NSIL), Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)	Period: <b>4 years</b> Awarded for – RS 860 crore.
4.	Two new "super-Earth" planets	National Aeronautics & Space Administration's (NASA) Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite and the University of Liège	The planets are just <b>100 light-years away</b> .
5.	<b>Patent on design and manufacturing of single-piece rocket engines</b>	Agnikul Cosmos	Headquarters: <b>Chennai, Tamil Nadu</b> <b>Agnilet</b> , designed by <b>Agnikul</b> , was the world's first single-piece 3D printed rocket engine fully designed and manufactured in India.
6.	<b>Asteroid Dubbed 2005 RX3</b> to whiz past the earth	--	The asteroid ( <b>210m</b> ) is even larger than Gujarat's Statue of Unity.
7.	<b>Inflatable Aerodynamic Decelerator (IAD)</b> tested from Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station (TERLS), Kerala	Indian Space Research Organization's (ISRO) Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre	Purpose: For landing payloads on <b>Mars and Venus</b> in future
8.	China's first fully solar-powered unmanned aerial vehicle <b>Qimingxing-50</b> or <b>Morning Star-50</b> .	China	It can fly for months and can function even as a satellite if required.
9.	Batch of low-Earth orbit (LEO) satellites arrived in India.	Developed by: <b>OneWeb</b> , the UK-based satellite operator	They'll be launched by <b>Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)</b> 's <b>Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV)-MkIII</b> rocket
10.	<b>NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar Mission (NISAR)</b>	Developed by: National Aeronautics & Space Administration (NASA) and Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)	NASA will use this SAR to <b>measure changes</b> in the surface of earth.
11.	<b>Mars oxygen in-situ resource utilization experiment (Moxie)</b>	Developed by: NASA	The Moxie is <b>creating oxygen</b> on Mars using its carbon-dioxide rich atmosphere.
12.	Real Time Train Information System (RTIS)	Developed by: <b>Indian Railways</b> in collaboration with Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)	The technology would be used for <b>real time train tracking</b> .
13.	<b>Starlink internet service</b> is now available on all seven continents, including Antarctica.		Starlink is a part of Elon Musk's <b>Space Exploration Technologies Corp. (SpaceX)</b>

14.	<b>Integrated Cryogenic Engine Manufacturing Facility</b>	Developed by: <b>Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. (HAL)</b>	Inaugurated at: <b>Bengaluru, Karnataka</b> Inaugurated by: <b>President of India</b>
15.	<b>Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART) spacecraft</b>	Developed by: <b>National Aeronautics &amp; Space Administration (NASA)</b>	The spacecraft intentionally crashes into a small asteroid named <b>Dimorphos</b> . The only instrument on DART, DRACO is to capture images of <b>Didymos</b> and <b>Dimorphos</b> , 9.6 million kilometres away.
16.	<b>Shiyan-14</b> and <b>Shiyan-15</b> experimental satellites launched	Launched by: <b>China</b> Launched through: <b>Kuaizhou-1A (KZ-1A) carrier rocket</b>	<b>Shiyan-14:</b> Mainly to be used to conduct scientific experiments and verify new technologies <b>Shiyan-15:</b> To provide data in the fields of land survey, urban planning, and disaster prevention and mitigation.
17.	<b>NROL-91 Spy Satellite</b> launched	Launched by: <b>United States of America (USA)</b> Launched through: <b>Delta IV Heavy rocket</b>	The spy satellite was launched for the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) and US Space Systems Command (SSC) from California.
18.	<b>Anti-ship missile 'Gabriel-V'</b> test fired by Israeli Navy	Developed by: <b>Israeli Aerospace Industry (IAI)</b> and <b>Israeli Defence Ministry's Directorate of Research &amp; Development (MAFAT)</b>	It is a surface-to-surface missile, also known as <b>Blue Spear</b> .
19.	<b>Microprocessor-controlled knees (MPKs)</b> developed	Developed by: <b>Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC), Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)</b>	Weight: <b>1.6kg</b> VSSC developed the MPK under an MoU with <b>National Institute for Locomotor Disabilities (NILD)</b> , Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya National Institute for Persons with Physical Disabilities and Artificial Limb Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO).

## Mergers & Acquisitions

S.No	News	Miscellaneous Fact
1.	<b>Adani Group</b> recently completed the <b>acquisition</b> of <b>Ambuja Cements</b> and its subsidiary <b>ACC Ltd.</b>	Acquired from: <b>Switzerland's Holcim Group</b> Acquisition Cost: <b>US\$6.4 billion</b>
2.	<b>Amalgamation</b> of the <b>Jio Cinema OTT platform</b> with <b>Viacom 18 Media Private Limited (Viacom18)</b>	This is following an investment by <b>BTS Investment 1 Pte. Ltd. (BTS1)</b> and <b>Reliance Projects &amp; Property Management Services Limited (RPPMSL)</b> .

## Defence

S.No	Defence Exercises		
	Exercise	Countries Involves	Miscellaneous Facts
1.	Operational Deployment in the Pacific Ocean	Indian Naval Ship visited Fiji.	<b>INS Satpura</b> is currently on one of the <b>longest deployments by the Indian Navy</b> in the 75 <sup>th</sup> year of India's Independence.
2.	<b>Exercise Pitch Black, 2022</b>	Hosted by: <b>Australian Air Force</b>	The exercise saw the participation of <b>17 Air Forces</b> , including <b>Indian Air Force</b> .
3.	<b>Exercise Kakadu, 2022</b>	Hosted by: <b>Australian Navy</b>	The exercise saw the participation of <b>14 navies</b> , including <b>Indian Naval Ship (INS) Satpura</b> .
4.	<b>JIMEX 2022</b> maritime exercise	<b>India and Japan</b>	<b>JIMEX 22</b> involves <b>two Phases</b> : exercises at sea and a harbour phase at <b>Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh</b> .

5.	Exercise 'Gagan Strike'	Indian Army and Indian Air Force	To be conducted in: <b>Punjab</b> Participating Weaponry: <b>Apache 64E and Advanced Light Helicopter WSI</b>
6.	Joint Maritime Exercise	Indian Navy and Nigerian Navy	<b>INS Tarkash</b> was deployed in the <b>Gulf of Guinea (GoG)</b> for <b>anti-piracy operations</b> . The exercise marks the <b>first joint operational deployment</b> by <b>India and Nigeria</b> , in support of <b>Anti-piracy operations</b> , in the <b>GoG</b> .
7.	Exercise <b>Vostok</b> , 2022	7-day <b>Russian military exercise</b>	<b>Indian Army contingent</b> is represented by the troops from <b>7/8 Gorkha Rifles</b> .
8.	Parvat Prahar, 2022	Indian Army	Held at: <b>Ladakh</b>
9.	Abhyas-01/22	Indian and American (USA) Coast Guards	Held at: <b>Chennai, Tamil Nadu</b>
10.	Operation Southern Readiness of Combined Maritime Forces (CMF)	USA, Italy, Australia, Canada, New Zealand and ship participation from UK, Spain & India.	Held at: <b>Seychelles</b> <b>Indian Naval Ship (INS) Sunayna</b> from Indian Navy participated.
11.	Multinational Maritime Exercise Kakadu 2022	Hosted by: Royal Australian Navy	A <b>P8I Long Range Maritime Patrol Aircraft</b> of the <b>Indian Navy</b> participated along with <b>INS Satpura</b> . The exercise had the participation of <b>34 aircraft from over 20 nations</b> .

#### Defence Initiatives/Technologies

S.No	Initiative/Missile/Technology	Launched/Developed by	Key Information
12.	New Naval Ensign (Nishaan) launched	Indian Navy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comprises of two main constituents - the <b>National Flag</b> in the <b>upper left canton</b>, and a <b>Navy Blue - Gold octagon</b> at the <b>centre of the fly side</b> (away from the staff).</li> <li>• The Octagon is encompassing the <b>golden National Emblem (Lion Capital of Ashoka – underscribed with 'Satyamev Jayate' in blue Devnagri script)</b></li> <li>• The <b>motto</b> of the Indian Navy '<b>Sam No Varunah</b>' is also inscribed</li> </ul>
13.	MAROON BERET Ceremonial Parade	Indian Air Force	Held at: <b>Chandinagar (Uttar Pradesh)</b>
14.	Quick Reaction Surface to Air Missile (QRSAM) system	Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)	<b>DRDO</b> and <b>Indian Army</b> have successfully completed <b>six flight-tests</b> of <b>QRSAM</b> system from <b>Chandipur, Odisha</b> .
15.	Early Intervention Centre-Prayas	Ministry of Defence	<p>Established at: <b>Army Hospital (Research &amp; Referral)</b></p> <p>The "<b>Early Intervention Centre</b>" is a <b>comprehensive state-of-the-art facility</b> which is dedicated to the <b>children with special needs</b>.</p>
16.	Indigenous components critical to Sukhoi SU-30MK1 Aircraft & 1500 HP Battle Tank Engine	M/s Ghaziabad Precision Products Private Limited, (GPP), Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh	<p>Funded by: <b>Technology Development Board (TDB), Department of Science and Technology (DST)</b></p> <p>TDB has approved assistance of <b>₹5.5 crores</b> out of <b>₹14.2 crores of the total project cost</b>.</p>
17.	Kibithu military garrison named after India's first Chief of Defence Staff Gen Bipin Rawat	Indian Army	The military garrison looks after the <b>Line of Actual Control (LAC)</b> on the banks of <b>Lohit Valley (Arunachal Pradesh)</b>

18.	Satellite-based internet service on the Siachen Glacier	Indian Army and Fury Corps	--
19.	Tejas Mark-2 project	Approved by: Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS)	It is an advanced version of Tejas Light Combat Aircraft. CCS approved ₹6,500 crore for prototypes, flight testing and certification
20.	India's third stealth frigate 'Taragiri' of the Indian Navy's Project 17A	Designed by: Bureau of Naval Design Launched by: Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders (MDL), Mumbai, Maharashtra	The first stealth ship launched under Project 17A was the Nilgiri and the second ship was Udaygiri.
21.	Dual-role capable Surface to Surface BrahMos missile	Developed by: M/s BrahMos Aerospace Pvt. Ltd. (BAPL)	Ministry of Defence (MOD) signed a contract with BAPL for acquisition of the missiles. Acquisition Cost: ₹ 1700 Crore
22.	Nistar & Nipun	Built by: Hindustan Shipyard Ltd, Visakhapatnam Launched by: Indian Navy and Ministry of Defence	These are the two Diving Support Vessels.
23.	Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) project to coach and mentor less-privileged girl students	Indian Army and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL)	The CSR project will be taken place in Kargil.
24.	Indian Naval Ship (INS) Ajay (P34) decommissioned after 32 Years	Developed by: Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers	Decommissioned from: Mumbai's Naval Dockyard
25.	Test flight of Very Short-Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS) missile	Defence Research & Development Organization (DRDO)	The missile was tested from Integrated Test Range, Chandipur, off the coast of Odisha.
26.		Additional Information: VSHORADS is a Man Portable Air Defence System (MANPAD) designed and developed indigenously by DRDO's Research Centre Imarat (RCI), Hyderabad in collaboration with other DRDO laboratories and Indian Industry Partners.	
27.	Operational Deployment of INS Satpura in the Pacific Ocean	Indian Navy	INS Satpura visited Suva, Fiji
28.	An indigenous loitering munition – ALS 50	Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL)	Range: 1,000km Load Carrying Capacity: 23kg Tested at: Pokhran, Rajasthan

## Sports

S.No	Event	Place	Winner/Loser	Key Facts
1.	36 <sup>th</sup> National Games, 2022	Ahmedabad, Gujarat	--	Macot: Saavaj (lion in Gujarati) Games Anthem: Judega India, Jitega India sung by Sukhwinder Singh
2.	70 <sup>th</sup> TRI-Services Cricket Championship	Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh)	--	
3.	Abu Dhabi Masters Chess Tournament	Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (UAE)	Winner: Arjun Erigaisi (India) He defeated: China's Wang Hao	--
4.	22 <sup>nd</sup> Dubai Open chess tournament	Dubai, UAE	Winner: Grandmaster Aravindh Chithambaran	7 Indians finished in the top 10.

			<b>2<sup>nd</sup>: R Praggnanandhaa</b>	
5.	Japan Open badminton, 2022	Osaka, Japan	Men's Singles: Japan's <b>Kenta Nishimoto</b> defeated Taiwan's <b>Chou Tien-Chen</b> Women's Singles: Japan's <b>Akane Yamaguchi</b> defeated South Korea's <b>An Se-young</b>	--
6.	Asia Cup, 2022	Dubai, UAE	Winner: Sri Lanka Sri Lanka defeated <b>Pakistan</b> to win the trophy.	--
7.	Malaysian Age Group Rapid Chess Championship, 2022	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	<b>Under-6 Open category</b> Gold Medal: <b>Anishka Biyani</b>	
8.	U.S. Open 2022	New York, United States of America (USA)	<b>Carlos Alcaraz (Spain)</b> has defeated <b>Casper Ruud (Norway)</b>	This is Carlos' first grand slam.
9.	Italian Grand Prix, 2022	Monza, Italy	Red Bull's <b>Max Verstappen</b> defeated <b>Charles Leclerc</b> of <b>Ferrari</b> .	--
10.	World Youth Chess Championship, 2022	Mamaia, Romania	<b>Pranav Anand</b>	He became India's 76 <sup>th</sup> Grandmaster.
11.	South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) under-17 Championship, 2022	Colombo, Sri Lanka	<b>India</b> defeated <b>Nepal</b> to clinch the trophy.	Most Valuable Player: <b>India's captain Vanlalpeka Guite</b>
12.	SAFF Women's Championship, 2022	Kathmandu, Nepal	<b>Bangladesh</b> defeated <b>Nepal</b> to clinch the trophy.	Most Valuable Award ( <b>Golden Boot</b> ): <b>Sabina Khatun</b> (Captain, Bangladesh)
13.	World Wrestling Championships, 2022	Belgrade, Serbia	<b>Vinesh Phogat</b> and <b>Bajrang Punia</b> won the Bronze medal.	<b>Vinesh</b> becomes the <b>1<sup>st</sup> Indian woman</b> to win 2 medals on this platform.
14.	Durand Cup, 2022	Kolkata, West Bengal	<b>Bengaluru FC</b> defeated <b>Mumbai City FC</b>	<b>Bengaluru FC</b> won its First Durand Cup. Durand Cup is a football tournament.
15.	Duleep Trophy, 2022	Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu	<b>West Zone</b> defeated <b>South Zone</b>	<b>Duleep Trophy</b> is a cricket tournament.

## Awards & Milestones

S. No	Award	Category	Awardee	Miscellaneous
1.	<b>National Awards to Teachers</b>	Outstanding Principal	Shri Sidharth Yonzone, Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS) Gangyap, Sikkim	Organized by: <b>Department of School Education &amp; Literacy, Ministry of Education</b> The purpose of the <b>National Awards to Teachers</b> is to celebrate and honour the <b>unique contribution</b> of some of

				the <b>finest teachers</b> in the country. Awarded to <b>45 most talented teachers</b> .
2.	<b>Pingat Jasa Gemilang (Tentera) [Meritorious Service Medal (Military)]</b>	--	Admiral Sunil Lanba (Retd), Indian Navy	Awarded by the <b>Government of Singapore</b> The award is a recognition of <b>strong bilateral defence ties between India and Singapore</b> .
3.	<b>Coveted Green Channel Certification</b>	--	Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd., (GRSE)	Awarded by: <b>Ministry of Defence</b> Awarded for supply of <b>Portable Steel Bridges (Bailey Type)</b> of various spans and configurations to <b>Indian Army</b> .
4.	<b>Sahitya Puraskar of the Lok Nayak Foundation, 2022</b>	--	Telugu actor, Tanikella Bharani	--
5.	<b>Times Now Amazing Indians Awards 2022</b>	--	--	Presented by: <b>Vice President of India</b>
6.	<b>WorldSkills Competition 2022 (WSC2022)</b>	Skill of Prototype Modelling	Likith YP (Bronze Medal)	<b>WorldSkills India</b> of <b>National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)</b> under the aegis of <b>Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE)</b> is the implementing body for conducting <b>skill competitions in India</b> and training of youth to represent country in <b>International Skill Competitions</b> .
7.	<b>31<sup>st</sup> Vyas Samman</b>	--	Dr. Asghar Wajahat (Hindi writer)	The <b>Vyas Samman</b> is given by <b>K K Birla Foundation</b> for an <b>outstanding literary work in Hindi</b> authored by an <b>Indian citizen</b> published during the last <b>10 years</b> .
8.	<b>Emmy Awards 2022</b>	Outstanding lead actor in a comedy series	Jason Sudeikis- <b>Ted Lasso</b>	--
		Outstanding lead actress in a comedy series	Jean Smart- <b>Hacks</b>	
		Outstanding comedy series	<b>Ted Lasso</b>	
		Outstanding lead actor in a drama series	Lee Jung-jae- <b>Squid Game</b>	
		Outstanding lead actress in a drama series	Zendaya- <b>Euphoria</b>	
		Outstanding drama series	<b>Succession</b>	
		Outstanding narrator for a docu-series	Barack Obama ( <b>Our Great National Parks</b> )	

		Television movie	<b>Chip 'n' Dale: Rescue Rangers</b>	
		Animated program	<b>Arcane</b>	
		Outstanding directing for a drama series	<b>Squid Game- Hwang Dong-hyuk</b>	
9.	<b>Rajbhasha Keerthi Puraskar</b>	'C' category (non-Hindi speaking states of the India)	<b>Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL)</b>	Awarded for the implementation of Hindi language.
		Hindi In-House magazine category	<b>RINL's Hindi magazine 'Sugandh'</b>	The award distribution was jointly organized with <b>2<sup>nd</sup> All-India Rajbhasha Sammelan</b> .
		1 <sup>st</sup> position (overall)	<b>Council of Scientific &amp; Industrial Research (CSIR)'s Science Magazine "Vigyan Pragati"</b>	
10.	<b>International Travel Award 2023</b>	Best Destination for Culture	<b>West Bengal</b>	Awarded by: <b>Pacific Area Travel Writers Association</b> The award will be conferred at the <b>World Tourism and Aviation Leaders' Summit</b> in Berlin in March, 2023.
11.	<b>Honorary Rank of General of the Nepal Army</b>	--	<b>Gen. Manoj Pande</b> (Chief of Army-Staff, Indian Army)	--
12.	<b>64<sup>th</sup> Ramon Magsaysay Award 2022</b>	--	<b>Sotheara Chhim</b> (Cambodia)	Ramon Magsaysay Awards Foundation (RMAF), is widely regarded as the "Nobel Peace Prize of Asia".
			<b>Bernadette Madrid</b> (Philippines)	
			<b>Tadashi Hattori</b> (Japan)	
			<b>Gary Bencheghib</b> (Indonesia)	
13.	<b>Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur (Knight of the Legion of Honour)</b>	--	<b>Dr. Swati Piramal</b>	She is an Indian scientist and industrialist. She is the Vice Chairman of Piramal Foundation.
		About Award: <b>Legion of Honour</b> is the highest civilian award given by the <b>French Republic</b> for outstanding service to France, regardless of nationality.		
14.	<b>AIBD Lifetime Achievement Award, 2022</b>	--	<b>Mayank Agarwal</b>	He is the Chief Executive Officer, Prasar Bharati and President of Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD).
15.	<b>ET Ascent National Awards for Excellence</b>	Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Sustainability	<b>NMDC (National Mineral Development Corporation)</b>	--
16.	<b>Confederation of Indian Industry Godrej Green Business Centre Awards</b>	Excellent Energy Efficient Unit Award	<b>Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL)</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> time in a row</b>
		National Energy Leader Award		<b>4<sup>th</sup> time consecutively</b>

17.	<b>Goalkeepers Global Goals Awards by Bill &amp; Melinda Gates Foundation (Held at USA)</b>	--	<b>Radhika Batra (India)</b> <b>Zahra Joya (Afghanistan)</b> <b>Vanessa Nakate (Uganda)</b> <b>Ursula von der Leyen (European Union Chief)</b>	Batra is the <b>co-founder of 'Every Infant Matters'</b> . She was conferred with the award for her work in providing last-mile health solutions to disadvantaged children in India. <b>Additional Information:</b> Award has been given in recognition of the work done to advance progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in their communities and around the world.
18.	Queen Elizabeth II Woman of the Year award	--	<b>Suella Braverman (Indian-origin British Home Secretary)</b>	This is the <b>first-ever Queen Elizabeth II Woman of the Year award</b> .
19.	68 <sup>th</sup> National Film Awards	Dadasaheb Phalke Award, 2020 Best Feature Film Best Film on Environment Conservation/Preservation Best Film on Social Issues Best Actor Best Actress Best Director Best Popular Film Providing Wholesome Entertainment	<b>Asha Parekh</b> <b>Soorarai Pottru (Tamil Film)</b> <b>Taledanda (Kannada Film)</b> <b>Funeral (Marathi Film)</b> <b>Ajay Devgan (Tanhaji: The Unsung Warrior)</b> <b>Suriya (Soorarai Pottru)</b> <b>Aparna Balamurali (Soorarai Pottru)</b> <b>Sachidanandan KR (Ayyappanum Koshiyum)</b> <b>Tanhaji: The Unsung Warrior (Hindi Film)</b>	Held at: <b>New Delhi</b> Presented by: <b>President of India</b>
20.	National Tourism Awards, 2018-19	Best State/Union Territory: Comprehensive Development of Tourism Best District Tourism Promotion Council Best Tourist Friendly Railway Station Best Tourist Friendly Airport (Class X cities) Best Tourist Friendly Airport (other) Best Heritage City Best State for Adventure Tourism Best Heritage Walk	<b>Uttarakhand</b> <b>Kozhikode, Kerala</b> <b>Secunderabad, Telangana</b> <b>Kolkata, West Bengal</b> <b>Indore, Madhya Pradesh</b> <b>Ahmedabad, Gujarat</b> <b>Uttarakhand Tourism Development Board</b> <b>Ahmedabad Heritage Walk</b>	<b>81 awards</b> were given this year highlighting the achievements of the industry in <b>2018-19</b> .

		Swacch Paryatan Sthaan Award (West & Central Region)	Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh	
		Swacch Paryatan Sthaan Award (Northern Region)	Hawa Mahal, Rajasthan	
		Best standalone convention centre	India Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida (Uttar Pradesh)	
21.	11 <sup>th</sup> National Petrochemicals Awards	Life-Time Recognition Award	Rajnikant Shroff	He is the founder and Chairman of UPL Limited. Awarded by: Ministry of Chemical & Fertilizers
22.	Fashion Development's 4 10 <sup>th</sup> Annual First Ladies Luncheon	Philanthropy Award	Sudha Reddy	She is the Chairperson of MEIL Group and Sudha Reddy Foundation.
23.	Honorary rank of General of Nepal Army	--	General Manoj Pande (Chief of Army Staff)	This was his first visit to Nepal as Chief of Army Staff.
24.	India's Official Entry to Oscars, 2022	--	Chhello Show (Last Film Show)	It is a Gujarati film, which was recently selected as India's official entry to Oscars.
25.	'Maharatna' company status	--	REC Ltd. (Formerly known as Rural Electrification Corporation Limited)	For a company to be considered for grant of Maharatna status, it should be listed on an Indian stock exchange and have an average annual turnover of more than Rs 25,000 crore during the last three years.
26.	Airport Service Quality Award-2022	5-15 million passenger Category in Asia-Pacific Region	Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL)	CIAL was awarded for its implementation of a programme, 'Mission Safeguarding' implemented in 2021-22 to ensure seamless traffic and reinforced passenger satisfaction in the aftermath of the pandemic.  <b>Additional Information:</b> The award instituted by Airport Council International (ACI) is considered as the highest honour in the global aviation sector owing to its extensive survey methodology practices.
27.	Federation of Indian Publishers' (FIP) 42nd Annual Awards for Excellence in Book Production 2022	General and Trade Books (English) 1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	Balancing the Wisdom Tree (DPD)	Directorate of Publications Division (DPD) won nine awards in total, in various categories for its titles.
		General and Trade Books (Hindi) 1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	Bharat Vibhajan Ki Kahani (DPD)	
		Art and Coffee Table Books (Regional Languages) 1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	Courts of India (Marathi) (DPD)	
		Reference Books (English) 1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	India 2022 (DPD)	
		Scientific/Technical/Medical Books (Hindi) 1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	Covid-19: Vaishik Mahamari (DPD)	
		Journals and House Magazines (Hindi) 1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	Kurukshestra (DPD)	

		<b>Additional Information:</b> DPD is a <b>repository</b> of books and journals, established in <b>1941</b> , which highlight the subjects of <b>national importance</b> and India's rich cultural heritage.		
28.	National Lata Mangeshkar Award	For 2019	Shailendra Singh	--
		For 2020	Anand-Milind	
		For 2021	Kumar Sanu	
29.	Breakthrough Prizes, 2023	Mathematics	Daniel Spielman (Yale University)	For multiple discoveries in <b>theoretical computer science and mathematics</b> .
		Fundamental Physics	Charles Bennett, Gilles Brassard, David Deutsch and Peter Shor	For their work in <b>quantum information</b> .
		Life Sciences	Clifford Brangwynne and Anthony Hyman	For discovering a <b>new mechanism</b> of cellular organization.
			Demis Hassabis and John Jumper	For developing <b>AlphaFold</b> , which predicts the <b>structure of proteins</b>
			Emmanuel Mignot and Masashi Yanagisawa	For discovering the causes of <b>narcolepsy</b> .
		About the award: <b>The Breakthrough Prizes</b> , also known as the ' <b>Oscars of Science</b> ' created in <b>2010</b> by a group of Silicon Valley entrepreneurs, are the <b>most richly endowed awards in science</b> , disbursing more than the Nobel prizes.		
30.	United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDG) Action Awards	'Changemaker' Award	Srishti Bakshi	She is an Indian women's rights activist
31.	German PEN Award - Hermann Kesten Prize		Meena Kandasamy	She is an <b>Indian Author and Poet</b>
		About the award: The <b>Hermann Kesten Prize</b> honours personalities who, in the spirit of the charter of the <b>PEN association</b> , stand up for the <b>rights of persecuted authors and journalists</b> .		
32.	South Indian International Movie Awards (SIIMA), 2022	Best Film	Pushpa: The Rise (Telugu)	--
		Best Actor	Allu Arjun (Telugu)	
			Late Puneeth Rajkumar (Kannada)	
			Sivakarthikeyan (Tamil)	
			Tovino Thomas (Malayalam)	
		Best Actress	Pooja Hegde (Telugu)	
			Ashika Ranganath (Kannada)	
			Kangana Ranaut (Tamil)	
			Nimisha Sajayan (Malayalam)	
		Best Director	Sukumar for Pushpa: The Rise (Telugu)	
			Tharun Sudhir for Robert (Kannada)	
			Lokesh Kanagaraj (Tamil)	
			Mahesh Narayan (Malayalam)	

## Appointments

S. No.	Person	Position	Organization/ Country/ Company/State	Outgoing Person	Miscellaneous
1.	<b>Liz Truss</b>	Prime Minister	United Kingdom	<b>Boris Johnson</b>	--
2.	<b>Suella Braverman</b>	Home Secretary	United Kingdom	<b>Priti Patel</b>	--
3.	<b>Justice M. Duraiswamy</b>	Chief Justice	Madras High Court, Chennai (Tamil Nadu)	<b>Justice Munishwar Nath Bhandari</b>	--
4.	<b>H. E. William S Ruto</b>	President	Kenya	<b>Uhuru Kenyatta</b>	--
5.	<b>Rajesh Kumar Srivastava</b>	Interim Chairman	Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC)	<b>Alka Mittal</b>	--
6.	<b>Laxman Narasimhan</b>	Chief Executive Officer (CEO)	Starbucks	<b>Howard Schultz</b>	--
7.	<b>Kalyan Chaubey</b>	President	All India Football Federation (AIFF)	<b>Praful Patel</b>	He became the first player in the federation's 85-year history to become the president.
8.	<b>Petrus Johannes Theodorus Elbers (Pieter Elbers)</b>	CEO	IndiGo	<b>Ronojoy Dutta</b>	--
9.	<b>Anushka Sharma</b>	Brand Ambassador, India	L'Oréal Paris	--	--
10.	<b>Santosh Iyer</b>	Managing Director (MD) & CEO	Mercedes-Benz	<b>Martin Schwenk</b>	--
11.	<b>Binesh Kumar Tyagi</b>	Chairman and Managing Director (CMD)	Shipping Corporation of India (SCI)	<b>H.K. Joshi</b>	--
12.	<b>Prince Charles</b>	King	United Kingdom	--	--
13.	<b>Ashish Kumar</b>	Chief Financial Officer (CFO)	SpiceJet	<b>Sanjeev Taneja</b>	--
14.	<b>Sanjay Khanna</b>	Chief Executive Officer (CEO)	American Express, India	<b>Manoj Adlakha</b>	--
15.	<b>Sibi George</b>	Indian ambassador	Japan	<b>Sanjay Kumar Verma</b>	--
16.	<b>Prakash Chand</b>	Indian ambassador	Eritrea	<b>Subhash Chand</b>	--
17.	<b>Mukul Rohatgi</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> Attorney General	India	<b>KK Venugopal</b>	--
18.	<b>Sunil Chhetri</b>	Brand ambassador	Pintola	--	Pintola is an Indian FMCG (Fast-Moving Consumer Goods) Brand.
19.	<b>Shaji Prabhakaran</b>	Secretary General	All India Football Federation (AIFF)		--
20.	<b>Volker Turk</b>	UN High Commissioner	United Nations (UN)	<b>Michelle Bachelet</b>	--

		for Human Rights			
21.	<b>H.E. Joao Manuel Goncalves Lourenco</b>	President	Angola	--	Re-elected
22.	<b>Sanjay Kumar Rakesh</b>	Managing Director (MD)	Common Service Centres (CSC) e-Governance, India	<b>Dinesh Tyagi</b>	--
23.	<b>Sanjay Kumar Verma</b>	High Commissioner of India to Canada	--	<b>Anshuman Gaur</b>	--
24.	<b>Joao Manuel Goncalves</b>	President	Angola	--	Re-elected
25.	<b>BP Kanungo</b> <b>Kaushik Dutta</b>	Independent Directors	BharatPe	--	--
26.	<b>Pralay Mondal</b>	MD & CEO	CSB Bank Limited	<b>CVR Rajendran</b>	--
27.	<b>Vinod Aggarwal</b>	President	Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (Siam)	<b>Kenichi Ayukawa</b>	Vinod is the <b>MD &amp; CEO</b> of <b>Volvo Eicher Commercial Vehicles Ltd (VECV)</b> .
28.	<b>Vanessa Nakate</b>	Goodwill Ambassador	United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	--	She is a <b>Ugandan climate activist</b> .
29.	<b>Sumant Kathpalia</b>	MD & CEO	IndusInd Bank	--	Re-appointed
30.	<b>Vijoy Kumar Singh</b>	Secretary	Ex-Servicemen Welfare, Ministry of Defence	--	--
31.	<b>Thomas M. Devasia</b>	Member (non-life)	Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)	--	--
32.	<b>Dhruv Anand</b>	Country Head & Managing Director for operations in Japan	Wipro Limited	--	--
33.	<b>Sanjai Kumar</b>	Chairman & Managing Director (CMD)	RailTel	<b>Aruna Singh</b>	--
34.	<b>Lt General Anil Chauhan (Retired)</b>	Chief of Defence Staff (CDS)	<b>Indian Armed Forces</b>	<b>Late General Bipin Rawat</b>	--
35.	<b>Dilip Tirkey</b>	President	<b>Hockey India</b>	--	He is Hockey India's first player president.
36.	<b>Dr. Rajiv Bahl</b>	Director General	<b>Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)</b>	<b>Dr. Balram Bhargava</b>	--
		Secretary	<b>Department of Health Research , Ministry of</b>		

			Health & Family Welfare		
37.	Atul Chaturvedi	Chairman	Asian Palm Oil Alliance (APOA)	--	He has been elected as the 1 <sup>st</sup> chairman of APOA.
Members of APOA: India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal					
38.	Sunil Barthwal	Secretary	Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry	Subrahmanyam	--
39.	NS Rajan	Chairman	Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI)	Subhash Kamath	--
40.	Mohammed bin Salman	Prime Minister	Saudi Arabia	Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud	--
41.	R Venkataramani	Attorney General	India	K K Venugopal	--
42.	Rajneet Singh Kohli	Chief Executive Officer (CEO)	Britannia Industries Ltd.	Varun Berry	Varun Berry elevated as executive vice-chairman and managing director.
43.	Rajendra Kumar	Director General	Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC)	Neelam Shami Rao	--
44.	C S Rajan	Non-Executive Chairman	IL&FS Ltd	--	--
45.	Volker Türk (Austria)	Human Rights Chief	United Nations (UN)	Michelle Bachelet (Chile)	--
46.	Dr Vasudha Gupta	Director General, News Services Division	All India Radio	N Venudhar Reddy	--
47.	Yamuna Kumar Chaubey	CMD	NHPC Ltd. (formerly known as National Hydro Power Corporation Ltd.)	Abhay Kumar Singh	--
48.	BVR Subrahmanyam (Commerce Secretary)	Chairman	India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO)	LC Goyal	BVR has been given additional charge as ITPO chairman.
49.	Arun Kumar Mishra	Member of Governance Committee	Asia Pacific Forum (APF)	--	--
		Member of Global Alliance	National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI)		
50.	Bharat Lal	Director General	National Centre for Good	--	--

			Governance (NCGG)		
51.	<b>Joseph Gebbia</b>	Board member	Tesla Inc.	--	He is the co-founder of Airbnb Inc.
52.	<b>Bandaru Wilsonbabu</b>	Ambassador of India	Republic of Madagascar	Abhay Kumar	--
53.	<b>Dr M Srinivas</b>	Director	All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS)	Dr Randeep Guleria	Appointed by Appointment Committee of the Cabinet (ACC)
<b>Composition of ACC:</b> Prime Minister of India (Chairperson) & Union Minister for Home Affairs.					

### Persons in News

S. No.	Name	About	Miscellaneous
1.	<b>Rana Kapoor</b>	Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) recently imposed a <b>penalty of ₹2 crore</b> on him, in a case of <b>mis-selling of additional tier-1 (AT1) bonds</b> to investors.	He is the <b>former managing director (MD)</b> and <b>chief executive officer</b> of Yes Bank Ltd.
2.	<b>Colin de Grandhomme</b>	He announced his <b>retirement from international cricket</b> .	He is a <b>New-Zealand Cricketer</b> .
3.	<b>Mushfiqur Rahim</b>	He announced his <b>retirement from T20 international cricket</b>	He is a <b>Bangladeshi Cricketer</b> .
4.	<b>Cyrus Pallonji Mistry</b>	Recently passed away	He was a <b>businessman</b> and <b>Former Chairman of TATA sons</b> .
5.	<b>Queen Elizabeth II</b>	Recently passed away	She was the <b>longest serving monarch</b> of the <b>United Kingdom</b> .
6.	<b>Sheikh Ali Saheb</b>	Recently passed away	He was an <b>Indian Historian</b> .
7.	<b>Braj Basi Lal</b>	Recently passed away	He was a <b>renowned archeologist</b> .
8.	<b>Swami Swaroopanand Saraswati</b>	Recently passed away	He was a Dwarka Sharda Peeth Shankaracharya.
9.	<b>Bhupen Hazarika</b>	96 <sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary	He was a <b>singer, composer, and filmmaker</b> .
10.	<b>Virat Kohli</b>	<b>First cricketer to have 50 million followers on Twitter</b>	--
11.	<b>Ramchandra Manjhi</b>	Recently passed away	He was a renowned <b>bhojpuri folk dancer</b> .
12.	<b>Robin Uthappa</b>	Retires from all forms of Cricket	He is an <b>Indian Cricket player</b> .
13.	<b>Aaron Finch</b>	Retires from One-Day International (ODI) Cricket	He is an <b>Australian Cricketer</b> .
14.	<b>Uppalapati Krishnam Raju</b>	Recently passed away	He was a <b>Telugu Actor</b> and <b>Former Union Minister</b> .
15.	<b>Tun Dr. S. Samy Vellu</b>	Recently passed away	He was the <b>Former Cabinet Minister of Malaysia</b> . He was the <b>first Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awardee from Malaysia</b> .
16.	<b>Jean-Luc Godard</b>	Recently passed away	He was a <b>French-Swiss film director</b> .
17.	<b>Suresh Raina</b>	Retires from all forms of Cricket	He is an <b>Indian Cricket Player</b> .
18.	<b>Justice KN Singh</b>	Recently passed away	He was the <b>22<sup>nd</sup> Chief Justice of India</b> and he had <b>shortest tenure of 22 days</b> .

19.	<b>Birju Sah</b>	Recently passed away	He was the <b>first Indian boxer</b> to win two medals at both Commonwealth and Asian Games.
20.	<b>Aaron James Finch</b>	Retires from One-Day Cricket	He is an <b>Australian Cricketer</b> .
21.	<b>Roger Federer</b>	Retires from professional tennis	He is a <b>Swiss Tennis Player</b> .
22.	<b>Rachel Haynes</b>	Retires from international cricket	She is an <b>Australian Cricket player</b> .
23.	<b>Naresh Kumar</b>	Recently passed away	He was an <b>Indian Tennis player</b> and former India's Davis Cup captain.
24.	<b>Raju Srivastava</b>	Recently passed away	He was a <b>renowned Comedian</b> .
25.	<b>Iqbal Singh Lalpura</b>	Held a meeting of National Commission for Minorities	He is the <b>Chairman of National Commission for Minorities</b>
26.	<b>Neha Narkhede</b>	India's youngest self-made woman entrepreneur in IIFL WEALTH HURUN INDIA RICH LIST 2022	She is the co-founder of <b>Confluent</b> , a streaming data technology company.
27.	<b>Kristalina Georgieva</b>	Managing Director (MD), International Monetary Fund (IMF)	She recently called on President Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi.
28.	<b>Edward Snowden</b>	Former U.S. security contractor	He was recently granted with <b>Russian citizenship</b> .
29.	<b>Sunil Chhetri</b>	Indian Football player	He recently got recognized as the <b>third highest scoring active men's international player</b> by International Federation of Association Football (FIFA).
30.	<b>Jhulan Goswami</b>	Indian Cricket Player	She recently announced her <b>retirement</b> from International Cricket. She is the <b>only woman cricket player</b> to bowl <b>most number of balls</b> in women's One Day International (ODI) – 10005 balls
31.	<b>Estelle Louise Fletcher</b>	American Actress	She recently <b>passed away</b> . She won an <b>Oscar</b> for Best Actress in 'One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest' in 1976.
32.	<b>Anil Khanna</b>	Senior sports administrator	He recently resigned as acting president of the <b>Indian Olympic Association (IOA)</b> .
33.	<b>Mukul Rohatgi</b>	He has declined the Government of India's offer to take over as the attorney general of India.	<b>Attorney General of India (Present): KK Venugopal</b>
34.	<b>Archana Gulati</b>	Resigned from the role of public policy head at Google India	--

## Books and Authors

S. No	Book Title	Author	Publisher	Miscellaneous
1.	<b>When the Heart Speaks: Memoirs of a Cardiologist</b>	Dr. Upendra Kaul	Konark Publishers	Autobiography
2.	<b>India's Economy From Nehru To Modi: A Brief History</b>	Prof. Pulapre Balakrishna	Permanent Black Publications	--
3.	<b>Forging Mettle: Nrupender Rao and the Pennar Story</b>	Pavan C. Lall	HarperCollins India	--

4.	<b>Will Power</b>	Sjoerd Marjine	HarperCollins India	Sjoerd is the <b>former Indian women's hockey team coach</b> .
5.	<b>Rajini's Mantras: Life lessons from India's most-loved Superstar</b>	PC Balasubramanian	Jaico Publishing	The book is about the actor <b>Rajinikanth</b> .
6.	<b>Ambedkar and Modi: Reformer's Ideas Performer's Implementation</b>	Bluekraft Digital Foundation	Prabhat Prakashan Pvt. Ltd.	--
7.	<b>Hemkosh – Assamese Dictionary</b>	Hemchandra Barua	Hemkosh Printers (Published in 1900)	PM received a copy of the <b>Braille version</b> of 'Hemkosh'.
8.	<b>Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas Sabka Vishwas - Prime Minister Narendra Modi Speaks (May 2019 - May 2020)</b>	--	Publications Division, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting	The book is a collection of <b>selected speeches of Prime Minister of India</b>
9.	<b>She Is–Women in STEAM</b>	ElsaMarie D'Silva and Supreet K Singh	--	Launched by: <b>Principal Scientific Adviser Prof. Ajay Sood</b> and <b>British High Commissioner Alex Ellis</b> The book honors <b>75 women in STEAM</b> (fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics)
10.	<b>GoBeyond:75 Experiences of North India</b>	--	<b>Ministry of Tourism</b>	This <b>e-book</b> was launched by the ministry on World Tourism Day, 2022.
11.	<b>Wildlife India@50: Saving the Wild, Securing the Future,</b>	Edited by: Manoj Kumar Misra	<b>Rupa Publications India Pvt. Ltd</b>	--
12.	<b>Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay - Jeevan Darshan Aur Samsamyikta</b>	Dr Bajrang Lal Gupta (Chief Editor of the book)	--	--

### Fairs and Festivals

S.No	Festival	State	Miscellaneous Facts
1.	<b>"Kalam no Carnival Book Fair"</b>	Ahmedabad, Gujarat	Organized by: <b>Navbharat Sahitya Mandir</b>
2.	An art exhibition of Paintings	New Delhi	Organized by: <b>Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR)</b> and the <b>Embassy of the Republic of El Salvador</b> in collaboration with the <b>Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts (IGNCA)</b> The exhibition featured the works of the renowned artist <b>Mr. Rodolfo Vega Oviedo</b> from El Salvador.
3.	Exhibition and a Fashion Show 'Aheli Khadi'	National Institute of Fashion Technology, Gandhinagar (Gujarat)	Organized by: <b>Khadi India, Ministry of Micro, Small &amp; Medium Enterprises</b>
4.	First-ever Naga Mircha (Naga King Chilli) Festival	Seihama, Nagaland	Naga Mircha was the <b>first product</b> to receive a <b>Geographical Indication (GI) tag</b> from Nagaland.

5.	Bathukamma Festival	Telangana & some parts of Andhra Pradesh	A flower festival celebrated during Navratri
6.	Made in India - Trade Show Exhibition	Guatemala City, Guatemala	<p><b>Organized by:</b> Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH) in association with Indian mission in the Guatemala (Latin America)</p> <p><b>Additional Information</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EPCH- Nodal Agency for promoting Handicrafts Exports from India.</li> <li>• <b>India's Handicrafts exports during 2021-22:</b> Rs. 33253.00 Crores (USD 4459.76 Million).</li> <li>• <b>Year-on-year Growth Rate of India's Handicrafts exports during 2021-22:</b> 29.49% (in terms of dollar) &amp; 28.90% (in terms of rupees).</li> </ul>

## Places in News

S.No	Place	Why in News	Miscellaneous Facts
1.	Chunar Logistics Park	<p>Foundation Stone laid at Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh</p> <p>Inaugurated by: <b>Ministry of Commerce &amp; Industry</b> with the cooperation from <b>Ministry of Railways</b></p>	Aim: To ensure the <b>development of the region</b> and provide employment opportunities to the people
2.	Kartavya Path	Prime Minister (PM) of India recently inaugurated 'Kartavya Path', and statue of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose at India Gate	Kartavya Path symbolizes a <b>shift</b> from erstwhile Rajpath being an icon of power, to Kartavya Path being an example of public ownership and empowerment.
3.	Shokhuvi, Nagaland	Nagaland recently got its <b>second railway station</b> after a gap of <b>more than 100 years</b> .	The first, Dimapur Railway Station was inaugurated in <b>1903</b> .
4.	El Salvador	It marks the <b>1<sup>st</sup> year</b> of Bitcoin use as a legal tender.	El Salvador became the <b>first country</b> to accept <b>Bitcoin as legal tender in 2021</b>
5.	Kuno National Park, Madhya Pradesh	Indian Oil Corp. is to provide <b>₹50 crore</b> , over <b>four years</b> , as a part of its <b>corporate social responsibility (CSR)</b> towards the <b>Cheetah Reintroduction Project</b> .	Under the project, a source population of 15-20 cheetahs will be flown in from <b>Namibia and South Africa</b> and will be introduced at the Kuno National Park.
6.	Nanjarayan Tank, Tiruppur (Tamil Nadu)	Tamil Nadu government recently issued an order to set up a <b>bird sanctuary</b> here.	Funding: <b>Rs. 7.5 crore</b>
7.	Haridwar	<p>It was declared <b>India's Best Aspirational District</b> by <b>National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog</b> based on <b>five parameters</b>, viz,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health &amp; Nutrition (30%).</li> <li>• Education (30%).</li> <li>• Agriculture &amp; Water Resources (20%).</li> <li>• Financial Inclusion &amp; Skill Development (10%).</li> <li>• Infrastructure (10%).</li> </ul>	It got <b>first rank in basic infrastructure theme</b> and has become entitled to receive <b>additional allocation of ₹3 crore</b> .
8.	Chenab Bridge (Jammu & Kashmir)	It will be the <b>World's highest railway bridge</b> once completed.	The Chenab Bridge ( <b>1315m long</b> ) is part of the <b>Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla rail link (USBRL)</b> project.
9.	Manasbal lake (Jammu & Kashmir)	The lake is <b>opened</b> for the <b>boats</b> to be rowed by <b>National Cadet Corps (NCC) cadets</b> after <b>33 years</b> of being closed.	--

10.	Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park (PNHZP), Darjeeling (West Bengal)	The Darjeeling zoo has been adjudged the <b>best zoo in the country</b> , as per the ranking list released by the <b>Central Zoo Authority</b> .	There are around <b>150 zoos</b> across the country. The <b>Red Panda</b> is one of the top attractions of PNHZP.
11.	'Gayaji Dam', Falgu River, Bihar	India's longest rubber dam 'Gayaji Dam' recently inaugurated on the Falgu River.	Estimated Cost: ₹324 crore
12.	Tajpur deep sea port, West Bengal	To be developed by: <b>Adani Ports &amp; Special Economic Zone Ltd.</b>	The greenfield project will entail a <b>total investment of ₹25,000 crore (\$3.1 billion)</b>
13.	Astana, Kazakhstan	Named as the <b>capital</b> of Kazakhstan.	Previous Capital: Nur-Sultan
14.	Oval Cricket Ground, London (UK)	To host the <b>International Cricket Council (ICC) World Test Championship (WTC) Final in 2023</b>	--
15.	Lord's Cricket Ground, London (UK)	To host the <b>International Cricket Council (ICC) World Test Championship (WTC) Final in 2025</b>	--
16.	Zunheboto, Nagaland	Union Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship visited this place, becoming the <b>first Union Minister</b> to do so in a span of <b>four decades</b> .	He visited the <b>Sumi Baptist Church</b> in Zunheboto, known as the <b>largest Baptist church in Asia</b> .
17.	Hungary	<b>European Union (EU)</b> announced that Hungary is <b>no longer a full democracy</b> .	Hungary is declared as a <b>hybrid regime of electoral autocracy</b> by the EU.
18.	River Kushiyara (Distributary river between Assam and Bangladesh)	Withdrawal of upto <b>153 cusecs</b> of water each by <b>India and Bangladesh</b> from common border river <b>Kushiyara</b> has recently been approved.	An MoU was signed between the two countries for the same.
19.	Bandhavgarh Forest Reserve, Madhya Pradesh	<b>Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)</b> recently unraveled remarkable <b>Archaeological remains</b> here.	<b>26</b> ancient temples/relics of Kalachuri period, <b>26</b> caves, <b>2</b> monasteries, <b>2</b> stupas, <b>24</b> Brahmi inscriptions, <b>46</b> sculptures, <b>20</b> scattered remains and <b>19</b> water structures are recorded.
20.	Desar, Gujarat	World-class " <b>Swarnim Gujarat Sports University</b> " recently inaugurated.	Inaugurated by: <b>Prime Minister of India</b>
21.	Sela Tunnel Project, Arunachal Pradesh	Progress of the tunnel reviewed by: <b>Director General Border Roads (DGBR)</b>	Total cost: <b>Rs 687.12 crore</b> Sela tunnel will be the <b>longest bi-lane tunnel in the world</b> at an altitude above <b>13,000 feet</b> .
22.	Lata Mangeshkar Chowk, Ayodhya (Uttar Pradesh)	Recently inaugurated in commemoration of <b>93<sup>rd</sup> birth anniversary</b> of renowned Indian Singer, Late <b>Lata Mangeshkar</b> .	Inaugurated by: <b>Prime Minister of India</b>
23.	Leh, Ladakh	It recently achieved <b>100% digitization of banking operations</b> .	<b>Leh</b> is the <b>highest located district</b> in India.
24.	Kagoshima, Japan	Typhoon Nanmadol, Japan's <b>14<sup>th</sup></b> typhoon recently made a landfall here.	The typhoon took over the <b>western island of Kyushu</b> and the <b>main island of Honshu</b> .
25.	National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC), Lothal (Gujarat)	This centre is to be built by <b>Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways</b>	This centre will showcase India's rich and diverse <b>maritime heritage</b> .
26.	Kaziranga National Park	Reopened for tourists	Located at: Nagaon and Golaghat districts in Assam.
27.	Chandigarh Airport	Re-named after <b>Shaheed Bhagat Singh</b>	--

## Days in News

S. No.	Days	Date	Theme & Misc.
1.	National Small Industry Day	August 30	--
2.	World Coconut Day	September 2	Theme: "Cultivate coconut for a happy life and future"
3.	International Vulture Awareness Day	September 3	--
4.	International Day of Charity	September 5	This date was chosen to celebrate the day because it is Mother Teresa's death anniversary.
5.	National Teachers' Day	September 5	Theme: Teachers: leading in crisis, reimagining the future Teachers' Day is celebrated on the birth anniversary of the former President of India, Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan.
6.	3 <sup>rd</sup> International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies	September 7	Theme: The Air We Share India organized it as 'Swachh Vayu Diwas ("Swachh Vayu Neel Gagan") to raise awareness and facilitate actions to improve air quality under National Clean Air Programme (NCAP).
7.	World Physical Therapy (PT) Day	September 8	Theme: Prevention and Management of Osteoarthritis
8.	National Nutrition Week, 2022	September 1 – September 7	Aim: To raise awareness about the importance of nutrition for the human body. Theme: Celebrate a World of Flavours
9.	World Electric Vehicle (EV) Day	September 9	Aim: To emphasize the importance of e-mobility.
10.	World First Aid Day	September 10	Theme: "Lifelong First Aid Learning"
11.	National Forest Martyrs Day	September 11	--
12.	Hindi Diwas	September 14	--
13.	Engineers Day	September 15	The day is celebrated to honour and commemorate the birth anniversary of Bharat Ratna Sir Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya.
14.	International Day of Democracy	September 15	Theme: The importance of media freedom to democracy, peace, and delivering on the Sustainable Development Goals
15.	World Ozone Day	September 16	2022 edition: 28 <sup>th</sup> Theme: Montreal Protocol@35: global cooperation protecting life on earth
16.	World Patient Safety Day	September 17	Theme: Medication without Harm
17.	Swachhta Pakhwara	September 16 – October 2	Across: Indian Railways, Ministry of Communications, and Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology
18.	International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) Day	September 17	2022 edition: 37 <sup>th</sup> Theme: "Clean Coast, Safe Seas", "Swachh Sagar, Surakshit Sagar"
19.	Hyderabad Liberation Day	September 17	Hyderabad got liberated from Nizams 13 months after the Indian Independence.

20.	World Bamboo Day	September 18	Conceptualized by: <b>World Bamboo Organization (WBO)</b>
21.	World Water Monitoring Day	September 18	--
22.	International Red Panda Day	September 18, 2022	Every third Saturday of September.
23.	38 <sup>th</sup> Raising Day of Railway Protection Force	September 20	Organized at: <b>Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh</b> This is the <b>first time</b> that a <b>National Level Parade of RPF</b> was organized <b>outside New Delhi</b> .
24.	National Voter Registration Day	September 20	This day is observed to celebrate the <b>US citizen's fundamental right to vote</b> thereby serving as the foundation for liberty.
25.	International Non-Fungible Tokens (NFT) Day	September 20	The term <b>NFT</b> was officially <b>coined by</b> Dapper Labs Chief Technology Officer <b>Dete Shirley</b> .
26.	World Alzheimer's Day	September 21	Theme: <b>know dementia, know Alzheimer's</b>
27.	International Day of Peace	September 21	Theme: <b>End racism. Build peace.</b>
28.	World Rhino Day	September 22	<b>Theme:</b> 'Five Rhino Species Forever'
29.	Sign Language Day	September 23	To be conducted by: <b>Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment</b> Theme: <b>Sign Languages Unite us</b>
30.	<b>World Rose Day</b>	September 22	It is also called ' <b>Day of welfare for Cancer Patients</b> '.
31.	<b>World Pharmacist Day</b>	September 25	Theme: <b>Pharmacy united in action for a healthier world</b>
32.	<b>Antyodaya Diwas</b>	September 25	The day is celebrated to <b>commemorate the birth anniversary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya</b> . He proposed the concept of " <b>Antyodaya</b> " which means " <b>the rise of the last person</b> "
33.	<b>World Rivers Day, 2022</b>	September 25	Celebrated on <b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of September</b> Theme: <b>The importance of Rivers to Biodiversity</b>
34.	<b>International Day for total elimination of Nuclear Weapons</b>	September 26	--
35.	<b>World Contraception Day</b>	September 26	Aim: To <b>educate the youth</b> about <b>sexual awareness</b> and the <b>importance of contraception</b> .
36.	<b>World Environment Health Day</b>	September 26	Theme: <b>Strengthening Environmental Health Systems for the implementation od Sustainable Development Goals</b>
37.	<b>World Tourism Day</b>	September 27	Theme: <b>Rethinking Tourism</b>
38.	<b>International Day for Universal Access to Information</b>	September 28	Theme: <b>Artificial Intelligence, e-Governance and Access to Information</b>
39.	<b>18th National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) Formation Day</b>	September 28	Theme: <b>Volunteerism in Disaster Management</b>
40.	<b>16<sup>th</sup> World Rabies Day</b>	September 28	Theme: <b>One Health, Zero Death</b>

41.	<b>World Heart Day</b>	September 29	Theme: <b>Use Heart for Every Heart</b>
42.	<b>International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste</b>	September 29	Theme: <b>Stop Food Waste! For People and Planet!</b>

### **Miscellaneous News**

S.No.	Miscellaneous News	Key Facts
1.	<b>Popular Front of India (PFI)</b> and its affiliates declared as “ <b>Unlawful Association</b> ”	<b>Declared by:</b> Ministry of Home Affairs  About PFI: PFI is an Indian Muslim political organization, founded in 2006, that engages in a radical and exclusivist style of Muslim minority politics.

**Following are the YouTube reference videos for this month, 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
1 <sup>st</sup> September	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oH7ATdQNxac">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oH7ATdQNxac</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GSLDGzbOAYc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GSLDGzbOAYc</a>
4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> September	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Zf5G3Sba80">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Zf5G3Sba80</a>
6 <sup>th</sup> September	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fjrUkVckkjo">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fjrUkVckkjo</a>
7 <sup>th</sup> September	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xssXUPo09uM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xssXUPo09uM</a>
8 <sup>th</sup> September	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MzsW7Z8gF1g">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MzsW7Z8gF1g</a>
9 <sup>th</sup> September	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gkXGoK33vPM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gkXGoK33vPM</a>
10 <sup>th</sup> & 11 <sup>th</sup> September	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hqh0HkcpvGk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hqh0HkcpvGk</a>
12 <sup>th</sup> September	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aNesMGU0zds">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aNesMGU0zds</a>
13 <sup>th</sup> September	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ls_11EAf2q8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ls_11EAf2q8</a>
14 <sup>th</sup> September	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HztnQ7ipk_4">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HztnQ7ipk_4</a>
15 <sup>th</sup> September	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ri9z48RsWas">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ri9z48RsWas</a>
16 <sup>th</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup> September	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fL2xzAO20yk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fL2xzAO20yk</a>
18 <sup>th</sup> to 21 <sup>st</sup> September	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lq2w_U2WCvA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lq2w_U2WCvA</a>
22 <sup>nd</sup> & 23 <sup>rd</sup> September	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RkKRqpo3u6A">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RkKRqpo3u6A</a>
24 <sup>th</sup> to 26 <sup>th</sup> September	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ATuJ3ISbb6s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ATuJ3ISbb6s</a>
27 <sup>th</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup> September	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GneDf7dQKFY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GneDf7dQKFY</a>
29 <sup>th</sup> & 30 <sup>th</sup> September	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oiXX4Fy-Twc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oiXX4Fy-Twc</a>

## **2 GA + ESI in News**

### PIB News

#### **Social Sectors in India – Health**

##### **2.1 India launches first indigenously developed cervical cancer vaccine- “CERVAVAC”**

- **Vaccine Developer:** Pune based Serum Institute of India.

- CERVAVAC is an outcome of a partnership of Department of Biotechnology (**DBT**) and Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (**BIRAC**) with **Grand Challenges India- a partnership programme of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation**

#### **Additional Information**

- Cervical cancer ranks as the **2nd most prevalent cancer** among women between **15 and 44 years** of age in India.

### **2.2 Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS)**

#### **News 1**

- Recently, the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (**CCRAS**), has developed the Studentship Program for Ayurveda Research Ken (**SPARK**) programme & **SPARK application portal**.
- **Objective:** to Support Innovative Research in Ayurveda
- **Beneficiaries of the programme:** Students studying Bachelor of Ayurvedic Medicine and Surgery (**BAMS**) course.
- **Features of the Programme**
  - A financial support of **Rs.50,000** will be offered for selected fellows.

#### **News 2**

- Recently, **the Secretary, Ministry of Ayush** has visited CCRAS to review the functioning of the Council

#### **About CCRAS**

- It is a **research council** (autonomous body) under the **Ministry of Ayush, established in 1978**.
- It is an **apex body** in India for the formulation, coordination, development, and promotion of research on scientific lines in Ayurveda
- It has received ‘**Best Institution for Research in the field of Ageing**’ award in 2019.
- So far, 3 of its labs have got **NABL (National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories) accreditation**.
- It has collaborated with eminent institutions of **US, UK, Latvia, and Germany**.

### **2.3 Union S&T Minister Addresses 14th CII Global MedTech Summit**

- Recently, the Union Minister for Science & Technology has addressed the **14<sup>th</sup> Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Global MedTech Summit**.
- **Summit title/theme:** “Seizing the Global Opportunity”; **Venue:** New Delhi.

#### **Key Information Shared**

Sector	Targets	Year
Indian healthcare (expected)	Size of USD 50 Billion	2025
Telemedicine	USD 5.5 Billion	2025
Reduce import dependence on Telemedicine	80% to 30%	Next 10 years
Global market share of the medical devices sector industry	Achieve 10-12% of global market share. Become USD 100-300 billion industry.	

### **2.4 National Institute of Sowa Rigpa**

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

- Recently, the **foundation stone** of the **news complex** of National Institute of Sowa Rigpa (**NISR**) was laid at **Saboo Thang area in Leh, Ladakh**.
- **New Complex to be developed by:** Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC).
- It would act as the **premier centre of Sowa Rigpa in India**.

## About NISR

- Establishment: 2020; Headquarters: Leh, Ladakh

## About Sowa Rigpa

- Originated in Tibet, it is a traditional medicine system of Himalayan Belt States viz, Himachal Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Ladakh.

## Additional Information

- NISR to be developed as a Centre of Excellence to promote Sowa Rigpa globally.
- NISR, with support from the Ministry of Ayush, to set up a Trans Himalayan Herbal Medicinal Garden at Leh.

## 2.5 National Lists of Essential Medicines (NLEM) 2022

### Why in News?

- Recently, the Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has released the National Lists of Essential Medicines (NLEM) 2022.
- Recommended by: Standing National Committee on Medicines (SNCM).

### Key Features

- Total Drugs included in NLEM 2022: 384, including 34 new drugs.
- Categorization of drugs:
  - Categorized on the basis of healthcare system viz, P- Primary; S- Secondary and T- Tertiary.
  - Total categories: 27 therapeutic categories.

### National Lists of Essential Medicines (NLEM) 2022

Initiative of	Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
First Formulated in	1996
Revised in	2003, 2011, and 2015
Primary Purpose	to promote rational use of medicines considering three important aspects i.e., cost, safety and efficacy.

### About Standing National Committee on Medicines (SNCM)

- Constituted in: 2018; Constituted by: Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
- Chairman: Prof. Balram Bhargava

## 2.6 Pradhan Mantri TB (Tuberculosis) Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan

### Why in News?

- Recently, President of India has launched this campaign along with Ni-kshay Mitra initiative
- Ministry associated: Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- Vision: To bring together all community stakeholders to support TB patients and accelerate the country's progress towards TB elimination.

### About Ni-kshay Mitra initiative

- Objective: It will allow individuals to adopt Tuberculosis (TB) patients and look after nutritional and medical needs in a bid to break the stigma surrounding the disease in India.
- The Ni-kshay 2.0 portal will facilitate in providing additional patient support to improve treatment outcome of TB patients, by community involvement and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) opportunities.
  - Around 13.5 lakh TB patients are registered in the Nikshay portal.

- Under **Ni-kshay Poshan Yojana**, Rs. 500 is provided to those on TB treatment as nutritional support.
  - From 2018, around ₹1,707 crore has been disbursed to more than 65 lakh people.

#### About JEET (Joint Effort for Elimination of Tuberculosis) initiative

- It is the largest **private health sector** engagement initiative for tuberculosis (TB).
- Under this, **Patient Provider Support Agencies (PPSAs)** have been rolled out across 250 districts.
  - Consequently, 32% of all TB patients have been notified from the private sector.

#### About Universal Drug Susceptibility Testing (UDST)

- It is for resistance testing for **Rifampicin (antibiotic used to treat several types of bacterial infections)**, mandatory for all notified TB patients.
- Government has added **3,760 NAAT (Nucleic Acid Amplification Test) machines** across the country till 2021 ensuring that patients are diagnosed with drug-resistant TB.

#### Additional Information

- India has more than **25% of the total TB patients** of the world.
- Target of eradicating TB in India: **2025**, five years ahead of the **global goal of 2030**.
- Over 1,50,000 **Ayushman Bharat - Health and Wellness Centres** will be established by December 2022.

**Note:** Nikshay Mitra is covered in Detail in July 2022 Magazine in Article 2.16

## 2.7 Model District Disability Centre (DDRCs)

#### Why in News?

- Recently, **Union Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment** inaugurated the **9 Model DDRCs**.
- **Objective:** To strengthen and conversion of DDRCs into Model DDRCs at their existing locations to provide effective and qualitative rehabilitation services to PwDs (Person with Disability).

#### Key Details

- It has been conceptualised by the **Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disability**.
- The **9 DDRC includes: 4 in Uttar Pradesh** (Badaun, Pilibhit, Barielly, and Rampur) and **1 each in Assam** (Golaghat), **Gujarat** (Ahmedabad), **Himachal Pradesh** (Kullu), **Madhya Pradesh** (Balaghat), and **Maharashtra** (Amravati).
- In the model DDRCs, services like **hearing aids test lab, speech therapy room**, visual therapy room, psychologist room, physiotherapist room, gait practice parallel bar and **tele-medicine/tele-therapy** etc. will be made available.
- It will also assist PwDs in **registration of UDID (Unique Disability Identity Card) portal**.
  - It is being implemented with a view of **creating a National Database for PwDs**, and to issue a UDID to each person with disabilities.

#### About DDRCs

- It is providing effective rehabilitation services to the persons with disabilities.
- They are run jointly by **District Management Team** headed by **DM/Collector** and a reputed NGO (Usually Indian Red Cross Society).

## 2.8 Rashtriya Poshan Maah (National Nutrition Month)

#### Why in News?

- Recently, **Ministry of Women and Child Development (MoWCD)** has organised the **5<sup>th</sup> Rashtriya Poshan Maah** in the month of **September**.
- Aim: To convert 'Jan Andolan' into 'Jan Bhagidari' to fulfill the vision of a '**Suposhit Bharat**'.

- **Objective:** To organise **Poshan Maah** through **Gram Panchayats** as '**Poshan Panchayats**'.
- **Key focus/Theme:** "**Mahila aur Swasthya**" and "**Bacha aur Shiksha**" - Sashakst Naari, Saakshar Bacha, Swastha Bharat.

### Key Initiatives

- It will specially focus on **pregnant and lactating women, children below six years and adolescent girls**, in order to realise the vision of '**Swasth Bharat**'.
- Growth Measurement drives under '**Swasth Balak Spardha**' will be conducted in the states with the help of Anganwadi workers, ASHA workers, district functionaries etc.
- Under the State level activities, '**Amma ki Rasoi**' or **Grandmother's Kitchen** of traditional nutritious recipes will be organised.

## 2.9 COVID Vaccination Amrit Mahotsava

### Why in News?

- Recently, the **COVID Vaccination Amrit Mahotsava** got concluded.

#### COVID Vaccination Amrit Mahotsava- special COVID vaccination drive

<b>Initiative of</b>	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
<b>Duration</b>	75 days [15 <sup>th</sup> July to 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2022]
<b>Aim</b>	to increase uptake for the Precaution Dose of COVID Vaccine among the eligible adult population
<b>Objective</b>	to provide free precaution dose at all Government Covid Vaccination Centres (CVCs) for persons aged 18 years &above
<b>Key Highlight</b>	Drive organized as a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav ( <b>AKAM</b> ) celebrations
<b>Impact</b>	Administration of precaution dose <b>increased to 27%</b> , as compared to <b>8% at the start of the drive</b>
<b>Eligibility Criteria for Precaution Dose</b>	all persons of ≥18 years who have completed 6 months (or 26 weeks) from the date of administration of 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose

## Social Sectors in India - Education

### 2.10 Cytrain Setu Virtual Event – 2022

### Why in News?

- Cytrain Setu is an **online Post-Graduate Diploma (PGD) Programme** in Cyberlaw, Cyber Crime Investigation & Digital Forensics offered by **National e-Governance Division (NeGD)** in collaboration with **National Law Institute University (NLIU)**, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.
- Recently, Union Minister for Electronics and IT has inaugurated the 2<sup>nd</sup> batch of this program.
- Enrolled trainees will undergo training at a **Cyber Forensics Lab** established at **NLU (National law University) Delhi** for continuous training in a hybrid mode.

### Background

- 1<sup>st</sup> batch of the programme was launched in November 2020.

### 2.11 National Curriculum Frameworks (NCF)

### Why in News?

- As a follow-up of the National Education Policy 2020, **following 4 National Curriculum Frameworks (NCF)** are being developed using **bottom-up approach**.

- NCF for **School Education (NCFSE)**,
- NCF for **Early Childhood Care & Education (NCFECCE)**
- NCF for **Teacher Education (NCFTE)**
- NCF for **Adult Education (NCFAE)**.
- A Tech Platform has been built to facilitate the entire process of development of NCFs in a paperless manner by using Machine Learning (ML).
- **Digital Survey for National Curriculum (DiSaNC)**: It is collecting suggestions and feedback from public at large to obtain inputs for formulation of the NCFs.
- An interaction with **Awardee Teachers** has been organised on the occasion of **Shikshak Parv, 2022** to take inputs for NCFs.

#### **Additional information**

- Ministry of Education is celebrating **Shikshak Parv, 2022**.
- All the States and UTs are participating in this event to mark the occasion and show respect to our teachers following the **Guru-shishya Parampara** of our country.

### **2.12 Awakening Programme**

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

- Recently, **Ramakrishna Mission** has launched **Awakening Programme** for **students of classes I to V**.
- It ensures **holistic personality development of a child** aligned with **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020**.

#### **Promotion of value based education in NEP 2020**

- NEP 2020 promotes **value-based education** rooted in Indian culture
- NEP 2020 provides to **include in the curriculum ethical reasoning, traditional Indian values and all basic human and Constitutional values**.



### **Sustainable Development and Environmental issues**

### **2.13 Location-tracking device must for vehicles carrying hazardous goods**

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

- Recently, the **Union Ministry of Road, Transport & Highways** has made it **mandatory** for **goods vehicles**, used for **carrying dangerous or hazardous materials** to be fitted with **location tracking device** as per **Automotive Industry Standard (AIS) 140**

- **Applicability of the Guidelines:** Vehicles of categories N2 and N3, manufactured **on and after the 1st September, 2022 (new models)** and **1st January, 2023 (existing models)**, carrying dangerous or hazardous goods.
  - **N2 vehicles:** motor vehicles used for carriage of goods with a gross vehicle weight exceeding 3.5 tonnes but not exceeding 12 tonnes.
  - **N3 vehicles:** vehicles used for carriage of goods with a gross vehicle weight exceeding 12 tonnes.

## 2.14 First National Conference on Sustainable Coastal Management in India

### Why in News?

- Recently, it was organised by the **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC)** and the **Green Climate Fund** supported project “**Enhancing Climate Resilience of India’s Coastal Communities**” at **Bhubaneswar, Odisha**.
- **Objective:** To focus on the three inter-related themes: 1. **coastal and marine biodiversity**, 2. **Climate mitigation and adaptation** and 3. **Coastal pollution**.
- Indian Coastline **of 7,500 km (9 Coastal state and 4 UTs)** is the **seventh longest in the world**, and is home to **20%** of the country's population.
- It supports more than **17,000 species** of plants and animals.

### About Enhancing Climate Resilience of India’s Coastal Communities

- It is a **6-year (2019-24) project**, implemented by the **MoEF&CC** with support from UNDP (United Nation Development Programme) in the states of **Odisha, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu**.
- **Aim:** To enhance the climate resilience of the most vulnerable populations, particularly women, in the **coastal areas** of India.

### About Green Climate Fund

- It was established in **2010** by **194 Countries**.
- **Aim:** To limit or **reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions** in **developing countries** under the framework of the **UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change)**.

## 2.15 Mineral Concession Rules, 1960

### Why in News?

- Recently, the **Ministry of Coal** has amended **Mineral Concession Rules, 1960 (MCR)** to promote ease of doing business.

### Key Amendments

- **68 provisions decriminalized & penalty reduced for 10 provisions.**
- **Introduction of express provision** - to adjust additional or shortfall royalty.
- **Rate of penal interest** for delayed payments **reduced from 24% to 12%**.

### About Mineral Concession Rules, 1960

- It regulates the application and grant of mineral concessions viz, reconnaissance permit, prospecting license, and mining lease.

## 2.16 Shoonya Campaign

### Why in News?

- Recently, **one-year anniversary** of the **Shoonya campaign** was celebrated by **NITI Aayog**.

### Key Highlight

- The National Programme on Advanced Chemistry Cell (ACC) Energy Storage (Part III) report was launched during the event
  - Report Released by:** NITI Aayog, RMI India.
  - Key Highlight:** India's **USD 2.5-billion Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme** for ACC energy storage is critical to meet the **projected cumulative battery demand of 106–260 GWh by 2030** to realize the vision for Electric Vehicles (EV) adoption and grid decarbonisation.

#### Shoonya- India's zero pollution e-mobility campaign

Initiative of	NITI Aayog, RMI, and RMI India
Launched In	September 2021
Aim	to reduce air pollution by promoting the use of electric vehicles (EVs) for ride-hailing and deliveries
Industry Partners	130

### 2.17 ANGAN (Augmenting Nature by Green Affordable New-habitat) 2022

#### Why in News?

- Recently, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of ANGAN 2022 (International Conference) was organised.
- Organised by: **Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)**, Ministry of Power, in collaboration with **Swiss Agency for Development & Cooperation (SDC)** under the **Indo-Swiss Building Energy Efficiency Project (BEEP)**.
- Title:** "Making the Zero-Carbon Transition in Buildings".
- Objective:** To promote a healthy ecosystem which was mentioned at COP 26 in Glasgow by the Prime Minister of India on **LiFE (Lifestyle and Environment)** and **Panchamrit**, aiming to make India Net Zero by 2070.

#### About Indo-Swiss Building Energy Efficiency Project (BEEP)

- It is a collaborative project between the Governments of India and Switzerland **established in 2011**.
- Objective:** To help India in **Energy-Efficient and Thermally Comfortable (EETC)** Building Designs for both commercial and residential buildings.
- Implementing Agency: **Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)**.
- It has provided technical support to BEE in the formulation of:
  - Eco-Niwas Samhita** (energy conservation building code for residential buildings).
  - Designing of around 50 buildings and training of building sector professionals.

#### Additional Information

- The winners of the BEE's 1st **National Energy Efficiency Roadmap for Movement towards Affordable and Natural habitat (NEERMAN) Awards** were also felicitated at the event.
- NEERMAN Awards Objective:** To acknowledge **exemplary building designs** complying with BEE's **Eco-Niwas Samhita (ENS)** and **Energy Conservation Building Code (ECBC)**.

### 2.18 Puneet Sagar Abhiyan

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the National Cadet Corps (**NCC**) and the United Nations Environment Programme (**UNEP**) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**).
- MoU Objective:** to tackle the issue of plastic pollution and achieve the universal goal of clean water bodies through **Puneet Sagar Abhiyan** and **Tide Turners Plastic Challenge programme**.

### Puneet Sagar Abhiyan- a nationwide flagship campaign

Initiative of	National Cadet Corps (NCC)
Launch Date	1 <sup>st</sup> December, 2021
Aim	to clean sea shores of plastic & other waste material, while raising awareness about the importance of cleanliness
Aligned with	Panchamrit targets
Implementation Period	Initially launched for a month; later extended as a Pan-India round-the-year campaign to cover rivers and other water bodies.

#### About Tide Turner Plastic Challenge Programme

- Initiative of: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
- A global youth movement that educates young people about plastic pollution.

Note: Panchamrit targets discussed in July 2022 CA Magazine (News 2.76).

## 2.19 Localization of Sustainable Development Goals [SDG]

### Why in News?

- Recently, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj (**MoPR**) has organized a **National Workshop on Localization of Sustainable Development Goals in Panchayats (LSDGs)** in Pune, Maharashtra.
- It is the 2<sup>nd</sup> in the series of **National Workshops on LSDGs**.
- **Focus Areas:**
  - **Theme 4:** Water Sufficient Village & **Theme 5:** Clean and Green Village.

### Localization of Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs)

Adopted by	Ministry of Panchayati Raj ( <b>MoPR</b> ) at the <b>grassroot level</b> by empowering Panchayats / Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI) & other stakeholders.
Nine themes of LSDGs	<b>Theme 1:</b> Poverty Free and Enhanced Livelihoods in Village
	<b>Theme 2:</b> Healthy Village
	<b>Theme 3:</b> Child-Friendly Village
	<b>Theme 4:</b> Water Sufficient Village
	<b>Theme 5:</b> Clean and Green Village
	<b>Theme 6:</b> Village with Self-Sufficient Infrastructure
	<b>Theme 7:</b> Socially Secured and Socially Just Village
	<b>Theme 8:</b> Village with Good Governance
	<b>Theme 9:</b> Women Friendly Village

## 2.20 Global Clean Energy Action Forum (GCEAF) 2022

### News 1

- Recently, the **Minister of State for Science and Technology** has headed the Joint Ministerial delegation of **Ministry of Power, New & Renewable Energy** and **Ministry of Science & Technology** for the **GCEAF** organised at **Pittsburg, USA (United States of America)**

### News 2

- Recently, Union Minister of Science and Technology has addressed **the Joint Ministerial Plenary of Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM13)** and **Mission Innovation (MI-7)** at the "GCEAF 2022".

### Key Details Shared

- He emphasized upon **Sustainable Biofuels** to reduce Green House Emission (GHG).
  - India has established **5 Bioenergy Centers**.
  - The **Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology** has been supporting R&D innovations in Advanced Biofuels and Waste to Energy technologies.
  - The Mission Integrated Biorefineries** was jointly launched by the **India and Netherlands** at the MI (Mission Innovation) Annual Gathering 2022.
- Government of India is ensuring the **funding for clean energy innovations** as envisioned under **Mission Innovation 2.0** through **Public-Private Partnerships**. Examples:
  - The "**Clean Energy International Incubation Centre**", a unique Research and Innovation (R&I) model platform, set up with **private partner Tata Trusts**, which has resulted in more than **20 clean energy solutions** to help standalone researchers, which is a unique achievement.
  - The **Joint Centre of Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs)** that led to development of **2G ethanol technology**.
- The **One Sun One World One Grid Declaration (OSOWOG)** was jointly released by **Prime Minister of India and United Kingdom (UK)** at the **COP26 Climate Meet** in Glasgow, UK.
- India is **founding and active member** of both **Mission Innovation (MI)** & **Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM)** since launch.

### About Global Clean Energy Action Forum (GCEAF)

- It is a joint convening of the **Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM13)** and **7<sup>th</sup> Mission Innovation Ministerial (MI-7)**.

### About CEM

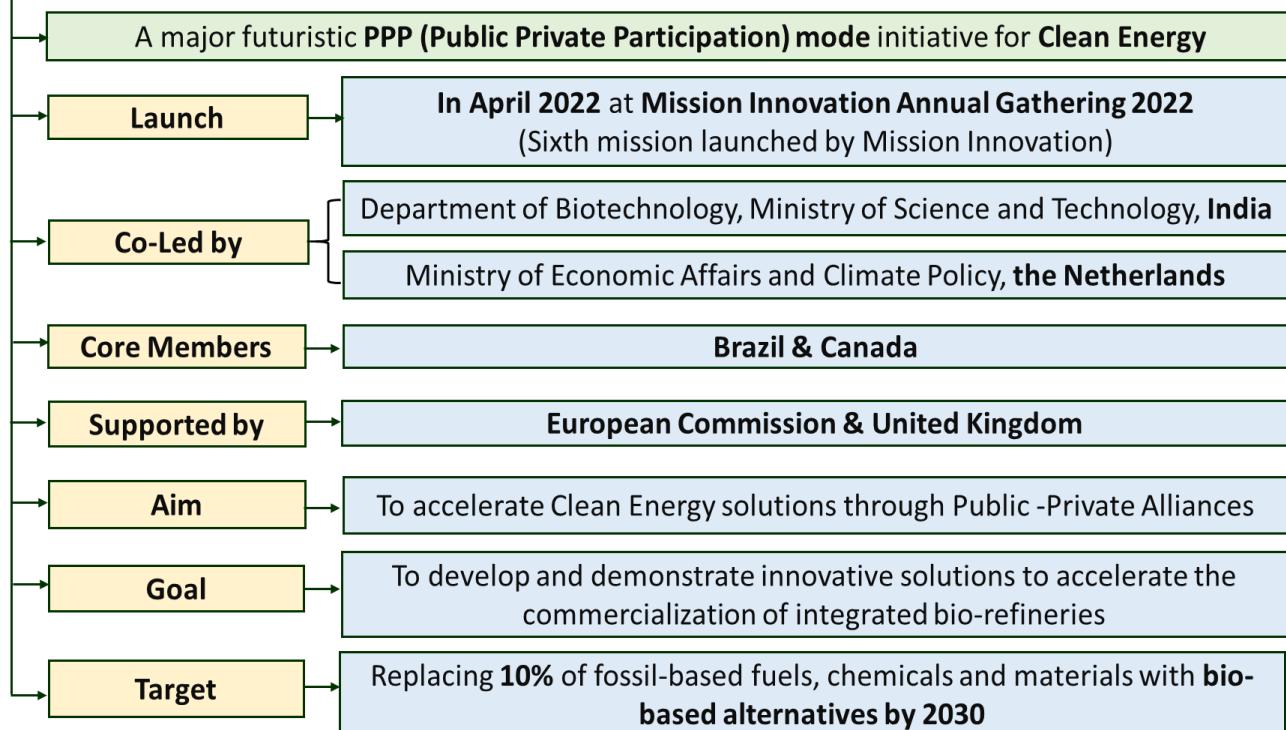
- It brings together the world's largest and leading countries, international organisations and companies to achieve a single mission: **Accelerate clean energy transitions**.
- Its Secretariat is housed within the International Energy Agency (IEA) in Paris, France.
- India will be the host of next CEM and MI (2023)**.

### About Mission Innovation (MI)

- It was announced at **COP21, Paris in 2015**.
- It is a global initiative of **22 countries** and the **European Commission**.
- They are investing in research, development and demonstration to make clean energy affordable, attractive and accessible for all.

## About Mission Integrated Biorefineries

### Integrated Bio-refineries Mission



### Additional Target Information

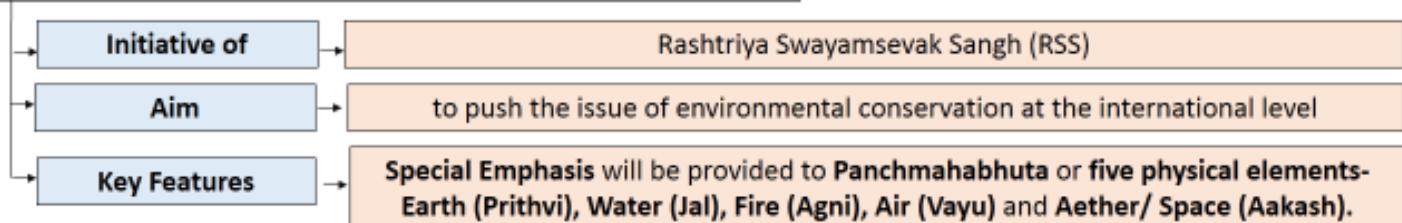
Sector	Target Year
500 GW of installed electricity capacity from non-fossil fuel. (Currently, It is at 175 GW).	2030
Reduction of the projected emissions by one billion tonnes.	2030
Net Zero Emissions.	2070
Bio-based economy (USD 150 Billion).	2025
Reducing emission intensity by 33-35% against the levels of year 2005. (As per Nationally Determined Contributions).	2030

## 2.21 Agni Tattva Initiative

### Why in News?

- Recently, **Agni Tattva - Energy for LiFE** (Lifestyle for the Environment) initiative was launched under the **umbrella campaign of Sumangalam**.
- During the launch event, **Power Foundation of India** in association with Vijnana Bharati (**VIBHA**) organized various events to **create awareness about the core concept of Agni Tattva**

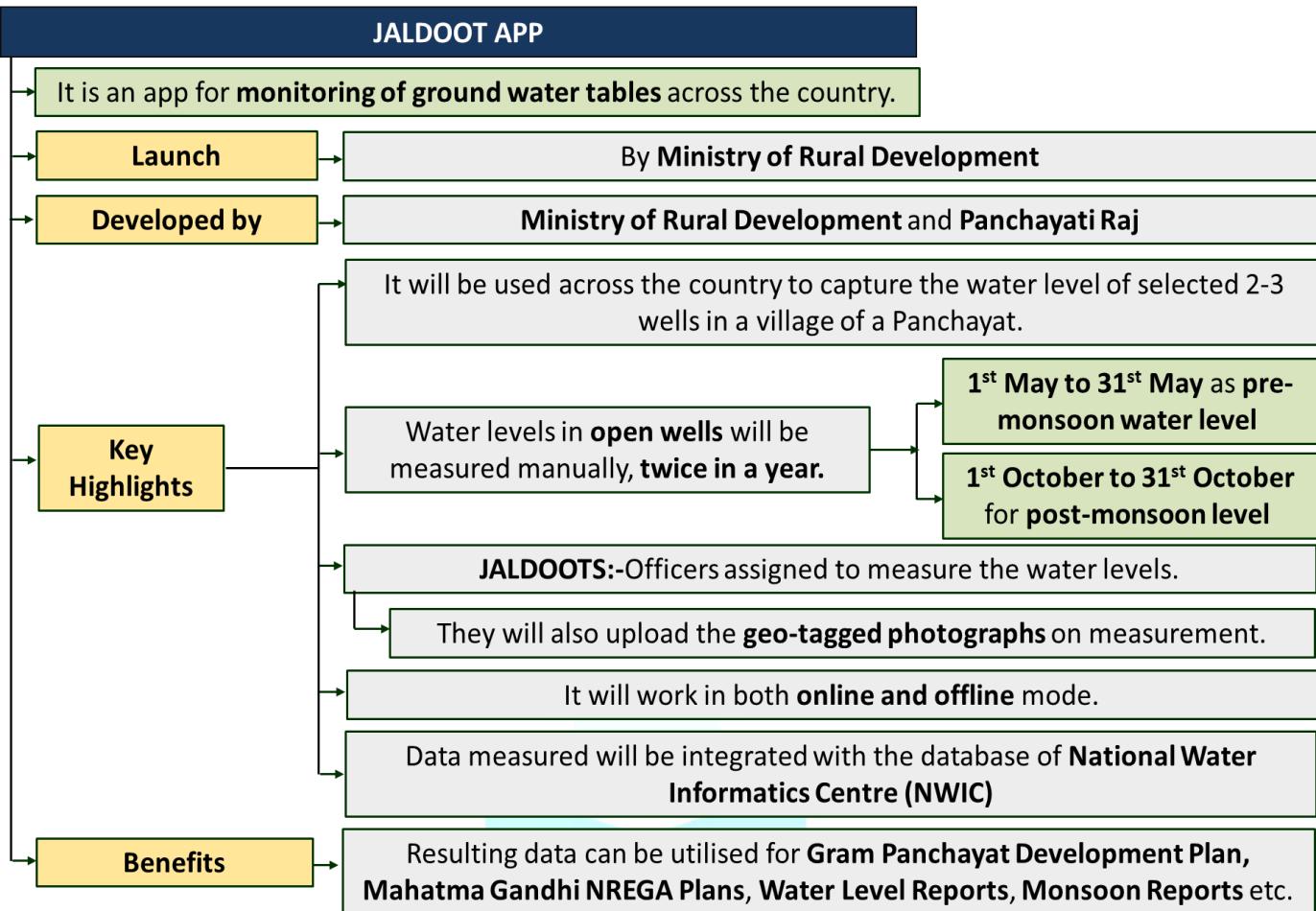
### Sumangalam Campaign



## 2.22 JALDOOT App

### Why in News

- Recently, this app has been launched by the **Union Minister of State for Rural Development**.



## 2.23 Swachh Toyathon

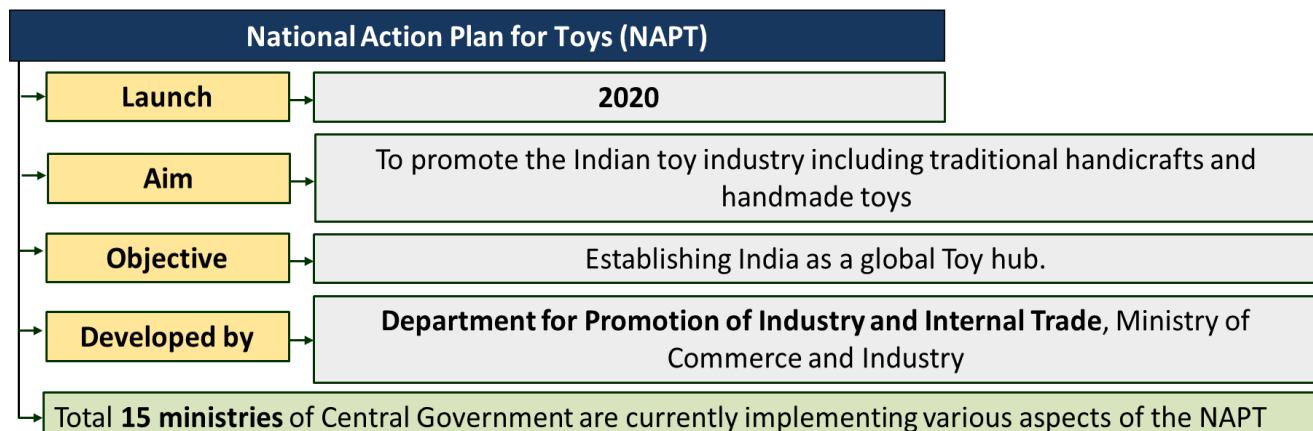
### Why in News

- Recently, the **Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs** launched the '**Swachh Toyathon**', a unique competition to make **toys from 'Waste'**.

### Key details

- It was launched under the '**Swachh Amrit Mahotsav**', a fortnight of activities to encourage action around Swachhata from 17<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2022 (**Seva Diwas**) till 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct. 2022 (**Swachhata Diwas**).
- It is a convergence between the **NAPT (National Action Plan for Toys)** and **SBM (Swachh Bharat Mission) 2.0** that seeks to explore solutions for use of waste in creation or manufacturing of toys.
- It will be hosted on **MyGov's Innovate India portal**.
- Knowledge partner for this initiative: **Center for Creative Learning, IIT Gandhinagar, Gujarat**.

### About NAPT (National Action Plan for Toys)



## Additional Information

- In 2021, **85% of the toys** in the country are sourced from abroad.
- The Central Government has graded the toy industry in **24 major sectors**.

**Note:** SBM 2.0 is covered in our **SchemesTap Document** of this Month.

## 2.24 National Conference of Environment Ministers

### Why in News

- Recently, **National Conference of Ministers of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC)** from across the country was inaugurated by the Prime Minister of India.
- Location: **Ekta Nagar, Gujarat**.

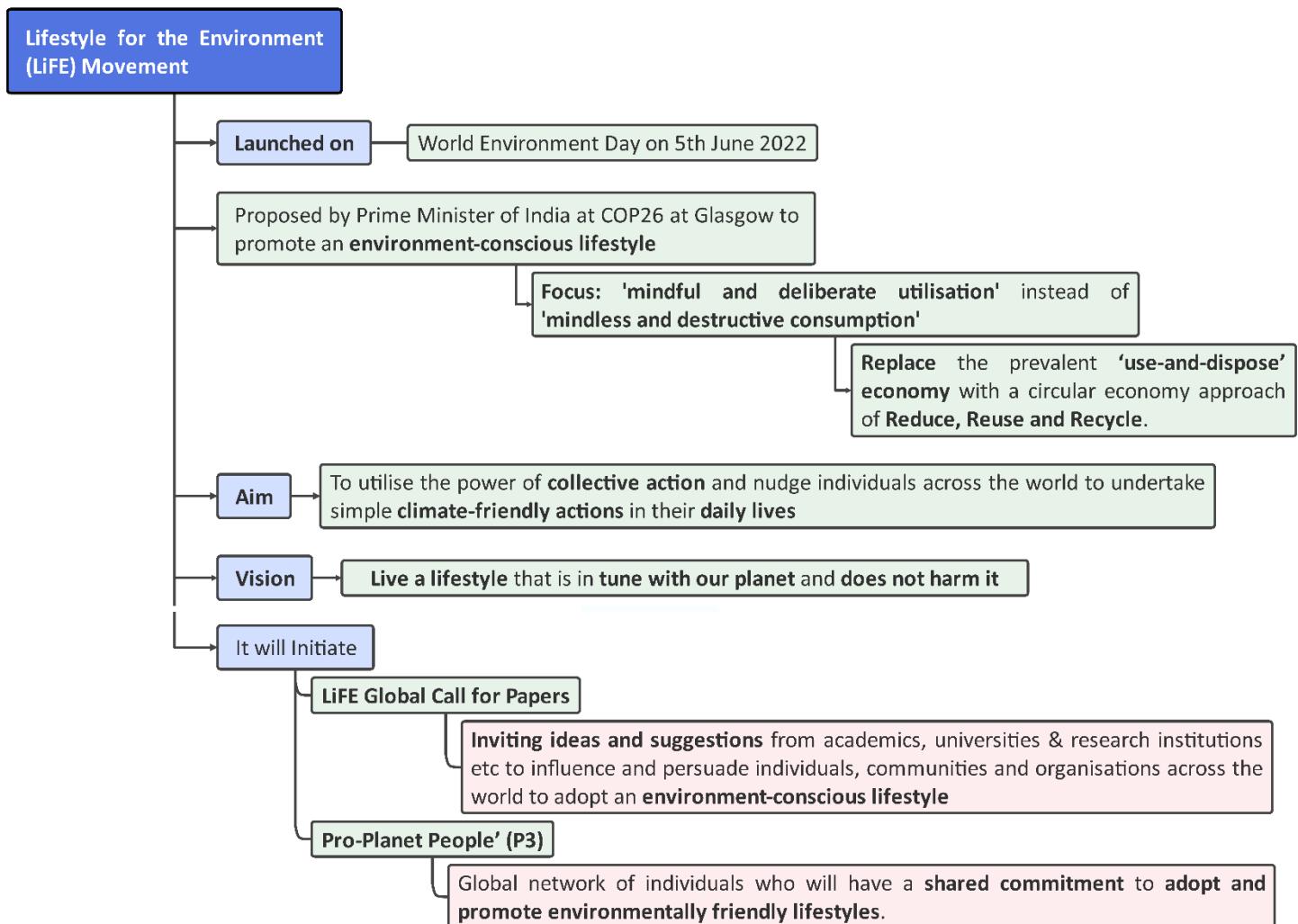
### Key details shared in the conference

- There are 6 thematic sessions in the conference focusing on LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment):-

Themes	Key Points
Combating Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• India's <b>National Action Plan for Climate Change (NAPCC)</b> provides the policy framework for climate change mitigation and adaptation.</li><li>• India has updated its <b>National Determined contributions for 2021-2030</b> in August 2022.</li></ul>
PARIVESH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• It was launched <b>in 2018</b>.</li><li>• PARIVESH stands for <b>Pro-Active and Responsive facilitation by Interactive, Virtuous and Environmental Single-window Hub</b>.</li><li>• It is a <b>Single Window System</b> for Integrated Green Clearances.</li><li>• Aim: To reduce the time taken for <b>granting Environment Clearances (EC)</b> and <b>Forest clearances (FC)</b>.</li></ul>
Agro-Forestry Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Goal:</b> To bring <b>one third of the area under forests and tree cover</b>.</li><li>• MoEF&amp;CC has also brought out the <b>Accredited Compensatory Afforestation Mechanism</b> under the provisions of <b>Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2022</b> to encourage individuals to raise vegetation on their land and sell it to persons who need to meet compensatory afforestation targets.</li><li>• <b>National Transit Pass System (NTPS):</b> It is for inter-state and intra-state movement of <b>timber and forest produce</b> with an aim to <b>one nation-one pass</b>.</li></ul>
Prevention and Control of Pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Focus was on <b>National Clean Air Programme</b>.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Goal: To Achieve <b>40% Reduction</b> in Particulate Matter Concentrations by <b>2026</b> (Base year 2017).</li></ul></li></ul>
Wildlife Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• At present, there are <b>28 SBBs (State Biodiversity Boards), 8 UTBCs (Union Territory Biodiversity Councils)</b>.</li><li>• For the conservation and management of wetlands, <b>MoEF&amp;CC</b> undertook a <b>four-point approach</b> comprising of: 1. <b>regulatory frame work</b>, 2. <b>Capacity building and outreach</b>, 3. Implementation of <b>National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic ecosystems (NPCA)</b> and 4. Subsequent alignment with the Ramsar Convention.</li></ul>
Plastics and Waste Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The <b>Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016</b> provides the regulatory framework of management of plastic waste in the country.</li><li>• <b>Two pillars</b> for tackling plastic waste: 1. <b>Ban on single use plastic items</b> and 2. Implementation of <b>Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)</b>.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Aim of LiFE Mission:</b> To mobilize <b>2/3rd of the India's Population</b> to become <b>pro-planet</b> and to partner with at least <b>80 countries</b> to make it <b>global Jan-Andolan</b> in the period of <b>2022 -28</b>.</li></ul>	

- Initial Focus Areas of LiFE Mission: 75 LiFE actions across 6 priority categories (e-waste, plastic waste, energy saving, water saving, recycling & reuse, and avoiding food wastage).

## About LiFE



**Note:** NAPCC is covered in July 2022 Magazine in Article no 2.111.

## 2.25 National/State Disaster Mitigation Fund (NDMF / SDMF)

### Why in News

- Recently, Union Home Minister has approved the release of **Rs. 488.00 crore** as **central share** of the SDMF to the **three States of Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Goa** for the year 2021-22.

### Key details

- Central Government has allocated the fund on the basis of recommendations of the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission for the years **2021-22 to 2025-26**. Detail in the table Below:

Category	Fund Allocated
SDMF (State Disaster Mitigation Fund)	Rs. 32,031 crore
NDMF (National Disaster Mitigation Fund)	Rs 13,693 crore

- After the Constitution of SDMF, the Central Government has already released an amount of **Rs. 3,382.24 crore** as Central share of SDMF to **21 States**.

### About NDMF

- It was set up by central government in **February 2021**.
- It is in line with the provisions of the **Disaster Management Act, 2005**.

- **Objective:** These funds are used for undertaking **mitigation activities**, involving **local level and community-based interventions**, which will reduce the risks from disasters and promote environment-friendly settlements and livelihood practices.

## Employment Generation in India

### 2.26 Kaushal Deekshant Samaroh

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the **first Kaushal Deekshant Samaroh** has been organized.

First Kaushal Dikshant Samaroh (Convocation Ceremony) of Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs)	
→ <b>Convened by</b>	Union Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship
→ <b>Convened On</b>	Vishwakarma Jayanti (17 <sup>th</sup> September 2022)
→ <b>Venue</b>	New Delhi
→ <b>Aim</b>	<p>To boost the morale of students in the entire skilling ecosystem</p> <p>To inspire students from the skilling ecosystem to work towards the vision of building an Aatmanirbhar Bharat</p>
→ <b>Key Highlight</b>	MoU signed between Media and Entertainment Skill Council and Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)
→ <b>Key Launches</b>	Achievement booklet: Skill India's One India, One Mission, Swavlamban ki Ore: Stories of 75 entrepreneurs, Mai bhi Jal Rakshak Campaign (Water and Plumbing Sector)
<b>India's first ITI established in 1950</b>	

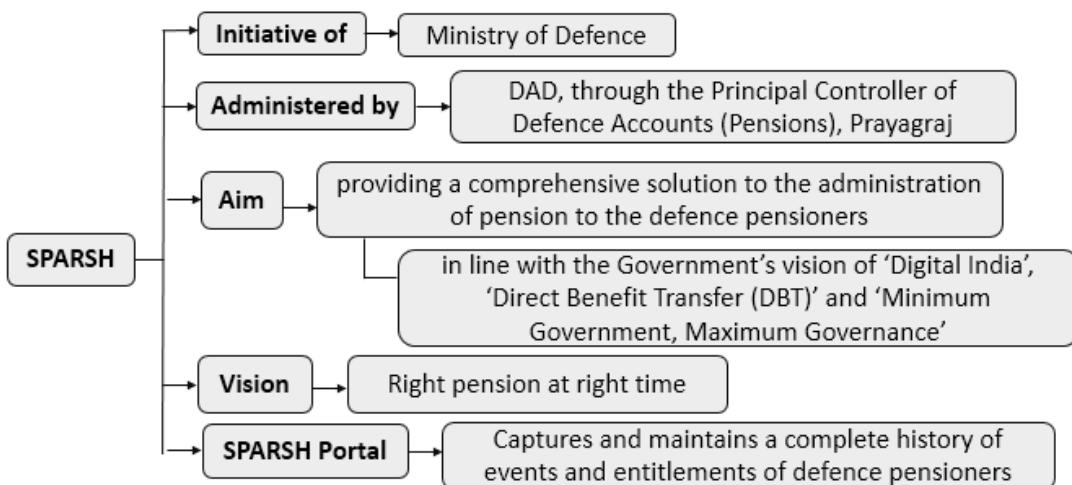
### 2.27 SPARSH Initiative

#### News 1

- According to a recent data released by the **Ministry of Defence**, the **System for Pensions Administration – RakSHA or SPARSH** has **disbursed** more than **Rs 3,090 Crore** to **Defense Pensioners** digitally in **August, 2022**.
- **5,62,946 Defence Pensioners** migrated onto the digital platform of SPARSH in **August 2022**.
- **Total number of pensioners on boarded to Sparsh:** 11 lakh (~33% of the total defence pensioners in India).
- **Rs 11,600 Crores** has been disbursed through the SPARSH in **2021-22**.

#### News 2

- Recently, the **Defence Accounts Department** under the **Ministry of Defence** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with **Bank of Baroda** and **HDFC Bank**.
- **MoU objective:** to on board both these banks as Service Centres under the **System for Pension Administration (Raksha)/ (SPARSH) initiative**.



\*DAD- Defence Accounts Department.

## 2.28 Skill Certification Assessment for Leather Employees (SCALE) App

### Why in News?

- The app has been **launched recently**.

#### Skill Certification Assessment for Leather Employees (SCALE) App



#### Key Announcement

- Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (**MSDE**), National Skill Development Corporation (**NSDC**), CLRI and Leather SSC will collaborate to set up **Common Facility and Skilling Centre across India**.

#### Additional Information

- Indian Leather Industry has **one of the youngest and most productive workforces**, with **55% of the workforce under the age of 35**.
- India is the **world's second-largest producer and consumer of shoes**.

## 2.29 Union Commerce Minister launches SETU Programme in San Francisco, USA

### Supporting Entrepreneurs in Transformation and Upskilling (SETU) Programme

Initiative of	Government of India
Aim	to connect start-ups in India to US-based investors and start-up ecosystem leaders
Key Features	<p>SETU will provide <b>mentorship and assistance to startups</b> in various areas including funding, market access and commercialization</p> <p>SETU will <b>break the geographical barriers</b> between mentors based in US and sunrise startups in India.</p>
Mode of Mentorship	Mentorship will be provided through Mentorship, Advisory, Assistance, Resilience, and Growth (MAARG) program/portal

#### About MAARG

- A mentorship portal under the Startup India Initiative.
- A single-stop solution finder for startups in India.
- Key Objective: to provide guidance and support to startups throughout their lifecycle.

## 2.30 National Career Service (NCS) Portal

### Why in News?

- Recently, the active vacancies on the NCS portal has reached an all-time high of **4,82,264** (as of 26<sup>th</sup> September 2022).
  - Previous all-time high active vacancies on the NCS Portal: 3,20,917 (June, 2019).

### Key Highlights

Particulars	Key Information
<b>Top 5 contributing sectors</b> of the active vacancies on the NCS Portal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Finance &amp; Insurance,</li><li>• Operations &amp; Support,</li><li>• Hotel/Food Service &amp; Catering,</li><li>• Health Sector</li><li>• Information Technology &amp; Communication.</li></ul>
<b>Cumulative number of vacancies</b> mobilized over the NCS portal since inception	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>more than 1.09 Crore</b></li></ul>
<b>Number of shortlisted candidates</b> during FY 2022-23 [From 1st April 2022 till 26th September 2022]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Crossed 25 lakhs.</li></ul>

<b>National Career Service (NCS) Portal</b>	a Five Year Mission Mode Project
→ Launched in	July, 2015
→ Implemented by	Directorate General of Employment, Ministry of Labour & Employment
→ Key Feature	a one-stop solution that provides a wide array of employment and career related services
→ Three Pillars	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ NCS portal- a well designed ICT based portal</li> <li>→ Country wide set up of <b>Model Career Centers</b></li> <li>→ Interlinkage with all the <b>states</b> through <b>employment exchanges</b></li> </ul>
→ Portals integrated with NCS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ E-shram &amp; UDYAM Registration portals (<b>Union Budget 2022-23 recommendations</b>)</li> <li>→ Skill India Portal (<b>SIP</b>)</li> </ul>

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

#### News 1

- Recently, **ONDC** has started **beta testing** with consumers across **16 locations in Bengaluru**.
- Consumers can **place orders in two domains** viz, groceries and restaurants through buyer apps participating on the ONDC network.

#### News 2

- Recently, **Bank of India** has acquired over **5.5% stake** in ONDC for **Rs 10 crore**.

<b>Open network for digital commerce (ONDC)</b>	
→	<b>A first-of-its kind initiative to democratize digital commerce</b>
→ Initiative of	Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce & Industry
→ Incorporated on	31st December 2021
→ Organization Type	Non Profit Organization [Section 8 Company, Companies Act 2013]
→ Aim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ <b>to raise e-commerce penetration</b> in the <b>next two years to 25%</b> of India's consumer purchases, from <b>nearly 8% at present</b></li> <li>→ <b>to sign up 900 million buyers and 1.2 million sellers</b> within the <b>next five years</b>, while achieving <b>gross merchandise value of USD 48 billion</b>.</li> </ul>
→ Key Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Democratisation and decentralisation of eCommerce-</li> <li>→ Inclusivity and access for sellers, especially small and medium enterprises &amp; local businesses</li> <li>→ Increased choices and independency for consumers</li> </ul>

## Open network for digital commerce (ONDC)



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

### 2.32 Baal Nidan Portal

#### Why in News?

- Recently, National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has revamped the E-Baal Nidan Portal.
- Purpose:** time bound redressal of grievances against violation of child rights
- Suggested by:** Supreme Court of India for coordinated working of NCPCR and State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCRs).
- SCPCR can now access the portal under Section 13(2) of Commission for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005.**
- New Features:**
  - Option of transferring the registered complaints from NCPCR to the concerned SCPCR, if the State Commission has already taken cognizance of the case.
  - Option of joint inquiry to the State Commissions if they require involvement of NCPCR in complaint resolution.

### E-Baal Nidan Portal

Launch Year	2015
Initiative of	National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR)
Set up under	Section 13, Commission for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005
About	An online complaint mechanism to report violations against children

#### Key Provisions of CPCR Act, 2005

- Sec (13):** NCPCR must examine & review safeguards provided by or under any law for the time being in force for the protection of child rights and recommend measures for their effective implementation.
- Sec 13(2):** NCPCR must not interfere into any matter which is pending before a State Commission or any other Commission duly constituted under any law for the time being in force.

### 2.33 National Commission for Women (NCW) organizes its first-ever Consultation for transwomen

- Theme:** 'Inclusion Amplified, Transwomen in India: Problems & Prospects'.

## 2.34 Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities

### Why in News?

- Recently, the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (**DEPwD**) has signed a **Tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with Skill Council for Persons with Disabilities (**SCPwD**) and **Amazon Seller Private Limited**.
- MoU Objective:** to jointly provide skill training and employment opportunities for persons with disabilities in e-commerce sector.

## Gender Issues

## 2.35 WEST : I-STEM's new initiative to bridge the gender skill-gap

### Why in News?

- Recently, Indian Science Technology and Engineering facilities Map (**I-STEM**), has launched a **special drive** called Women in Engineering, Science, and Technology (**WEST**) on the **occasion of teacher's day**.
- Objective:** to empower women with STEM background to contribute to the science, technology, and innovation ecosystem.

### Key Features of the Programme

- I-STEM** would provide **a separate platform to women with STEM background** to pursue **research in basic or applied sciences in frontier areas of science and engineering**.
- Skill development programmes** would be offered under the initiative which would help women to brush up their knowledge & help restart career after a break.
- I-STEM** shall provide **a platform/forum for women researchers** to deliberate on achievements, issues, and exchange ideas on taking India forward through advances in science, technology, and innovation.
- A digital consortium – '**Connect Quickly**' for **online discussion and immediate support** has also been established through the **I-STEM WhatsApp and Telegram platforms**.
- Women can pursue careers at various levels: Technicians, Technologists, Scientists and Entrepreneurs.**

### About I-STEM Portal

- Launched in:** January 2020.
- Initiative of:** Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA) to the Government of India.
- Launched under:** Prime Minister Science, Technology and Innovation Advisory Council (PM-STIAC) mission
- It is the national web **portal** for sharing **Research & Development facilities**.

## Indian Political System

## 2.36 30<sup>th</sup> Southern Zonal Council (ZC) meeting

### Why in News?

- Recently, Union Home Minister has chaired the 30th Southern Zonal Council (ZC) meeting in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.

### Key details mentioned at the meeting

- 4 States** (out of the 9 coastal States) and **3 Union Territories** are members of the **Southern Zonal Council (SZC)**, i.e. about 4,800 kms (out of 7500 km) coastline comes under SZC.
- Out of 12 major ports of India, 7 major ports are in this Zone.

- Out of the total 3,461 fishing villages in India, 1,763 fishing villages are in this zone.
- Total projects worth more than **Rs. 2,00,000 crore** are being implemented under Sagarmala project for coastal States.
- QR-enabled PVC Aadhar cards have been given to more than **12 lakh fishermen** (for their identification and maritime security).

#### **Additional Information**

- Number of meeting by ZCs has been increased from 2 (before 2014) to 2.7.
- Issues resolved in meetings of ZCs have been increased to 64%, from 43% (Before 2014).

**Note:** Sagramala initiative is covered in Schemes Tap of August Part-2.

### **2.37 Motor Vehicles Non Transport Vehicles Visiting India Rules, 2022**

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

- Recently, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has issued the **Motor Vehicles Non Transport Vehicles Visiting India Rules, 2022**.
- Aim: To formalize the movement of **Non-Transport (Personal) vehicles** registered in **other countries** when entering or plying in the territory of India.

#### **Key Details**

- **Following documents** are required under these rules: 1. Registration certificate, 2. Driving license or International driving permit, 3. Insurance policy and 4. Pollution under control certificate.
- If documents referred above are in a language **other than English**, an authorized **English translation** shall be carried along with the original documents.
- They are **not permitted to transport local passengers and goods** within the territory of India.
- They shall be required to comply with rules/regulations made under **Motor Vehicles Act, 1988**.

### **2.38 National Cooperation Policy**

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

- Recently, the Union Home and Cooperation Minister has announced the constitution of a **National level committee (47 members)** for drafting of the **National Cooperation Policy (NCP)** document.
- **Objective:** To realize the vision of ‘**Sahakar Se Samriddhi**’, strengthening cooperative movement, promoting cooperative-based economic development model, creating an institutional framework to help cooperatives realise their potential.

#### **Key Details**

- Chairmanship: **Shri Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu**.
- This policy will **focus on** free registration, computerisation, democratic elections, ensuring active membership, professionalism, transparency, and accountability.
- The existing Policy on Cooperatives was formulated in 2002.
  - **Objective:** To facilitate all round development and providing necessary support, encouragement and assistance to cooperatives.
- These are engaged in varied activities like agro-processing, dairying, fisheries, housing, weaving, credit, marketing, etc.

**Additional Information:** India has around **8.5 lakh co-operative societies** with a **member base** of around **29 crore**.

### **2.39 National Conference of State Cooperation Ministers**

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

- Recently, Union Minister for Home and Cooperation has addressed a National Conference of State Cooperation Ministers in New Delhi.

#### **Key details mentioned at the conference**

- Ministry of Cooperation was created by Prime Minister on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2021.
- There are **1.5 lakh dairy and housing societies, 97000 PACS (Primary Agricultural Credit Societies), 46000 honey cooperative societies, 26000 consumer societies** etc.
- 51% villages and 94% farmers** are associated with cooperatives in some form or the other
- Contribution of cooperative sector:**
  - 20% of the total agricultural credit of the country, 35% of the fertilizer distribution.
  - 25% of fertilizer production, 31% of sugar production, more than 10% of milk production.
  - More than 13% procurement of wheat and more than 20% of the procurement of paddy.
  - More than 21% of the fishermen's business is done by cooperative societies.
- Now PACS will have to be made multipurpose and at present about 65,000 PACS are under implementation.
- They have set a target of creating **3 lakh new PACS in 5 years** and registering around 2,25,000 PACS.
- 65,000 PACS will be computerized** in the first phase for the new accounting System.
- After this, PACS, District Cooperative Banks, State Cooperative Banks and NABARD, all four will run on the **same software and same type of accounting system**.
- This software will be available in **all languages** of the country and will facilitate **online auditing**.
- Now PACS should also be able to disburse **medium and long term finance** as well.
- NAFED (National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India) will actively integrate the PACS with marketing.
- Government is also going to create a **National Cooperative Data Bank**.
  - It will be provided to the District and its Union and District Cooperative Banks.
- Government has decided that a **National Cooperative University** will be formed.
- Under the aegis of the **state cooperative union**, one affiliated college in every State will be opened.
- Government will also form a **multi-State cooperative - Seed Production Cooperative**.
  - It will also promote and preserve seed breeds and will also create new breeds.
- Under the leadership of **Amul**, organic products will be certified and marketed.
- Amul, IFFCO, NAFED, NCDC and KRIBHCO** are going to form a **multistate export house** which will work to export Khadi products, handicrafts and agriculture products to the worldwide market.
- The **surcharge** on co-operative societies has been reduced from **12% to 7%**.
- MAT (Minimum Alternate Tax)** rate has been reduced from **18.5% to 15%** at the corporate level.
- We are aiming to make cooperative sector a strong pillar of the economy in the **next 100 years**.

## **Human Development**

### **2.40 Cyber Surakshit Bharat Initiative**

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

- Recently, 30th Batch of Chief Information Security Officers' (CISOs) **Deep Dive Training Programme** under **Cyber Surakshit Bharat Initiative** has been organised.
- Organised by:** National e-Governance Division (NeGD), Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY).
- Location:** Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), New Delhi.

#### **Key Details**

- **Aim:** To spread awareness, build capacity as well as enable government departments on steps that need to be taken to create a resilient IT set up.
- This programme was **designed for:**
  - CISOs from Central/State/UT Governments, subordinate agencies/PSUs, including public sector banks and insurance companies, technical wings of police and security forces.
  - CTOs (**Chief Technology Officer**) and members of technical/PMU teams as well as officers responsible to observe security of IT systems in their respective organisations.

#### About Cyber Surakshit Bharat Initiative

- Launched by: MeitY in association with NeGD and industry partners in 2018.
- It is the **first-of-its-kind** of partnership between the **Government** and industry consortium under **Public Private Partnership (PPP) model**.

#### Additional Information

- **ISMS (Information Security Management System) standard:** ISO 27001 is the international standard for creating and maintaining ISMS.

### 2.41 2<sup>nd</sup> Cloud Computing Training for Digital Transformation Leaders

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the National e-Governance Division (NeGD) under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), organised the capacity building programme in Cloud Computing for government officers.
- Location: Administrative Training Institute (ATI), Mysuru, Karnataka.

#### About National e-Governance Division (NeGD)

- It was created by MeitY in **2009**.
- Objective: **Programme Management** and implementation of **e-Governance Projects** and initiatives undertaken by Ministries/ Departments, both at the Central and State levels.

## Globalization

### 2.42 Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL)

#### Why in News?

- Recently, an agreement has signed between the **Institut National de la Propriété Industrielle (INPI)** [The National Industrial Property Institute], **France** and **the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)** on the Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) Access.

#### Key Details

- Through this Agreement, the **INPI gains access to the complete TKDL database** towards examining prior art related to Indian traditional knowledge for the **purposes of patent grant procedure**.
- The TKDL database is available only to **patent offices** through **TKDL Access Agreements**.

#### About TKDL

- Established in **2001**, by collaboration between **CSIR** and **Ministry of AYUSH**.
- **Objective:** To prevent the **erroneous grant of patents** on Indian traditional knowledge (TK) and deter misappropriation of the country's traditional knowledge.
- It contains information on **over 4.2 lakh formulations/techniques** of Indian Systems of Medicine such as Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha, and Sowa Rigpa as well as Yoga from the traditional texts.
- Currently, Information is available in **five international languages** (English, German, French, Japanese and Spanish).

## 2.43 India UAE CEPA

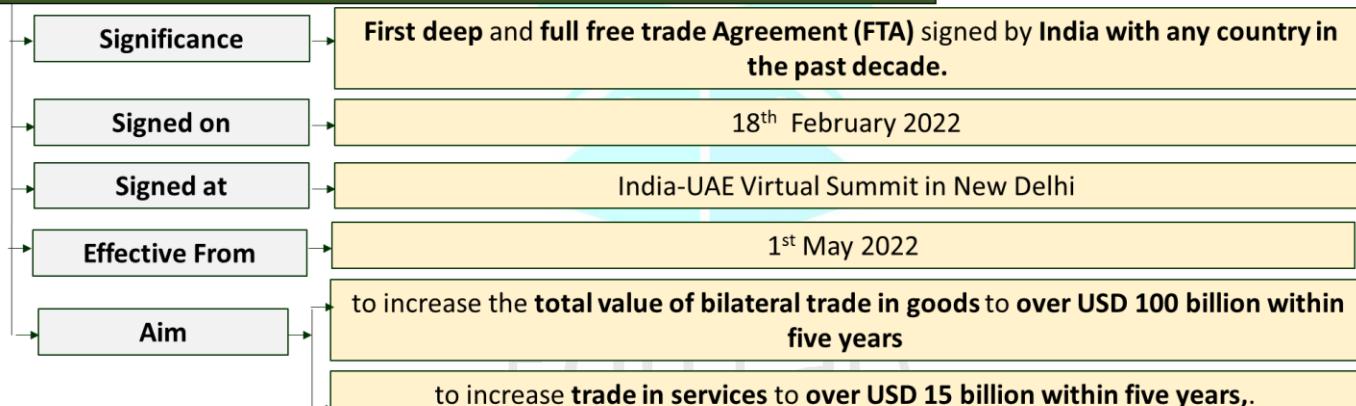
### Why in News?

- Recently, the Union Ministry of Commerce & Industry has released the analysis of the India-United Arab Emirates (UAE) Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) for the period of June-August 2022, excluding oil trade statistics.

### Key Findings

Particulars	Key Information
India's Non petroleum exports to UAE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>June-August 2022: USD 5.92 billion</li><li>June-August 2021: USD 5.17 billion</li><li>Year-on-Year Increase: 14%.</li></ul>
Top 3 sectors contributing sharpest increase in Indian exports to UAE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Sugar (237%), cereals (161%) &amp; vegetables (82%)</li></ul>
India's global non-petroleum exports during Jun-Aug 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Increased by 3% on an annual basis.</li></ul>
India's Non petroleum imports from UAE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>June- August 2022: USD 5.61 billion</li><li>June- August 2021: USD 5.56 billion</li><li>Year-on-Year Increase: 1%.</li></ul>
World Trade Organization (WTO) global trade growth forecast for 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>3%</li></ul>

#### India UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)



## Monetary and Fiscal Policy

## 2.44 Monetary Policy Committee (MPC)

### Why in News?

- Recently, the bi-monthly meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) was chaired by Shaktikanta Das, Governor of RBI.
- Monetary Policy Statement - September 2022 & Statement on Developmental and Regulatory Policies were released.

## Hike in Repo Rate

- RBI has increased the **policy repurchase (repo) rate by 50 basis points**
- It is the **4<sup>th</sup> consecutive hike in repo rate** since May 2022
- The new repo rate came into effect from **30<sup>th</sup> September 2022**
- **Factors that led to increased repo rate:** adverse global environment, resilience in domestic economic activity, uncomfortably high inflation level [breached RBI's upper tolerance limit of 6%.]

## Adjusted Policy Rates

Repo Rate	5.90%
Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) Rate	5.65%
Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) Rate	6.15%
Bank Rate	6.15%
Fixed Reverse Repo Rate	3.35%

## Reserve Ratios

Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR)	4.50%
Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR)	18.00%

## Withdrawal of Accommodative Stance

- MPC to remain focused on **withdrawal of accommodative stance** to ensure that **inflation remains within the target going forward**, while **supporting growth**.

### Gross Domestic Product (GDP) Projection by RBI

2022-23	7.0% (previously 7.2%)
Q2: 2022-23	6.3%
Q3: 2022-23	4.6%
Q4: 2022-23	4.6%
Q1: 2023-24	7.2%

### Retail Inflation Projection by RBI

2022-23	6.7%
Q2: 2022-23	7.1%
Q3: 2022-23	6.5%
Q4: 2022-23	5.8%
Q1: 2023-24	5.0%

- **Real GDP growth in Q1: 2022-23: 13.5%**

### Factors influencing GDP Predictions

- Extended geopolitical tensions
- Tightening global financial conditions
- Possible decline in the external component of aggregate demand

### Key Assumption for Inflation Projection

- The Indian basket crude oil price to be assumed at **USD 100 per barrel** in H2:2022-23.

## Statement on Developmental and Regulatory Policies – September 2022

- **Four Additional Measures were announced**

Initiatives/Measures	Key Information
<b>Discussion paper on Expected Loss-Based Approach to be released for loan-loss provisioning by banks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proposed initiative requires banks to make provisions based on assessment of probable losses.</li> <li>• At present, banks follow incurred-loss approach, where provisions are made after stress has actually materialize</li> </ul>
<b>Discussion paper on securitization of Stressed Assets Framework (SSAF) to be released</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A new framework will be released for <b>securitization of stressed assets</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Objective:</b> provide alternate mechanism for securitization of Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) in addition to the existing Asset Reconstruction Companies (ARCs) route/</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Additional Information:</b> Revised framework for securitization of stressed assets was issued in September 2021</li> </ul>
Introduction of Internet banking facility for customers of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At present, customers of RRBs are provided with internet banking facility with certain conditions</li> <li>The conditions are being rationalized to spread digital banking in rural areas.</li> </ul>
Regulation of offline payment aggregators (PAs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Online PAs</b> have been brought under <b>RBI regulations since March 2020.</b></li> <li>RBI has proposed to include Offline PAs under these guidelines.</li> <li><b>Objective:</b> to bring in regulatory synergy and convergence on data standards.</li> </ul>

**Note:** MPC, Inflation Tolerance Band, Accommodative Stance, Timeline of hike in repo rates discussed in August 2022 CA Magazine (News 2.102)

## Growth and Development (Measurement of growth)

### 2.45 India transferred on an average >9mn DBT payments per day in FY 2021-22

- According to a recent data by the **Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology** on an average **over 90 lakh direct benefit transfer (DBT) payments were processed in India** daily in **FY 2021-22.**
- More than Rs 24.8 lakh crore** has been transferred through DBT **since 2013.**
- DBT transfers during FY 2021-22:** Rs 6.3 lakh crore.
- Around Rs 20,000 crore** were transferred through DBT under the **11th installment of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana (PM-KISAN)**
- More than 8,840 crore digital payment transactions** were **performed during 2021-22.**
- Nearly **3,300 crore digital payment transactions** were performed in **FY 2022-23** upto 24<sup>th</sup> July 2022.
- On average **28.4 crore digital transactions** are performed in a day.

### About DBT Mission

- Launched on:** 1st January, 2013.
- Aim:** to reform Government delivery system by re-engineering the existing process in welfare schemes for simpler and faster flow of information/funds; to ensure accurate targeting of the beneficiaries, de-duplication and reduction of fraud.
- Nodal Agency:**
  - DBT Mission was **created in the Planning Commission** to act as the nodal point for the implementation of the DBT programmes.
  - The Mission was **transferred to the Department of Expenditure** in July, 2013.
  - With effect from **14<sup>th</sup> September 2015**, DBT Mission has been placed in **Cabinet Secretariat under Secretary (Co-ordination & PG).**
- DBT enablers:** Jan Dhan, Aadhaar & Mobile (JAM).

**Note:** PM-Kisan discussed in Ministry wise schemes document Part 1.

### 2.46 Lecture series on India's Development Strategies

**Why in News?**

- Recently, NITI Aayog has launched its first in-house lecture series on India's Development Strategies.
- Theme/ Title: 'Covid-19 Vaccination: The India Story'.



## Inflation

### 2.47 All India Consumer Price Index (CPI) for August 2022 (Provisional) (Base: 2012=100)

#### Why in News?

- Released by:** National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.
- CPI/ Retail Inflation in August 2022:** 7%; **Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI) in August 2022:** 7.62%
- Retail Inflation has breached the upper level of the inflation tolerance band for the 8<sup>th</sup> consecutive month.

### 2.48 Index Numbers of Wholesale Price in India - August, 2022 (Base Year: 2011-12)

#### Why in News?

- Released by:** Office of the Economic Adviser, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce & Industry.
- Wholesale Price Index (WPI) based inflation in August 2022:** 12.41% (Provisional)
- The WPI based inflation in August 2022 stood in double digits for the 17th consecutive month.
- WPI based inflation touched a record high of 15.88% in May 2022.

## Balance of Payments

### 2.49 Board of Trade

#### Why in News

- Recently, Union Minister of Commerce and Industry has chaired the first meeting of the newly reconstituted **Board of Trade** in New Delhi.
- The meeting focused on **export target setting**, the **new Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) (2022-27)**, and the measures to be taken to boost the domestic manufacturing and exports.

**Note:** Board of Trade is covered in July 2022 Magazine in Article 2.258.

## Export-Import Policy

### 2.50 Foreign Trade Policy 2015-2020

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the Union Ministry of Commerce & Industry has extended the **Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2015-2020**, for another six months, w.e.f. **1<sup>st</sup> October, 2022**.
- Reason for extension:** currency volatility, global uncertainty, tighter monetary conditions & Russia-Ukraine conflict.
- FTP 2015-2020 was previously valid till **30<sup>th</sup> September 2022**.

Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2015-2020	
Issued by	Union Ministry of Commerce & Industry
Effective from	April 1, 2015
Key Focus Areas	to support both the manufacturing and services sectors, with a special emphasis on improving the <b>ease of doing business</b> .
Key Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>It provides a <b>detailed framework for increasing exports of goods and services</b></li><li>It envisages <b>employment generation</b> &amp; increasing <b>value addition</b> in the economy</li><li>In line with '<b>Make in India</b>' vision of the Prime Minister of India</li></ul>
Key Highlight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Two new schemes</b> were launched, viz<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS)</b></li><li><b>Aim-</b> To enhance the exports of notified goods manufactured in India.</li><li><b>Service Exports from India Scheme (SEIS)</b></li><li><b>Aim-</b> To promote export of services from India by providing duty scrip credit for eligible exports..</li></ul></li></ul>

**Background**

- FTP 2015 was initially valid for five years till **31<sup>st</sup> March 2020**.
- It was extended for a year till **31<sup>st</sup> March 2021** due to the disruptions caused by the **Covid-19 pandemic**.
- It was extended again till **30<sup>th</sup> September 2022**.

**Note:** MEIS & SEIS discussed in Main Schemes Document Part 1.

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

### 2.51 G20 (Group of twenty) meetings

#### News 1

- Recently, the Education and Environment Minister's meeting for G20 countries has taken place.
- Important Takeaway:** Union minister has discussed **Education 2030 agenda** with Assistant Director-General (ADG) of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (**UNESCO**).

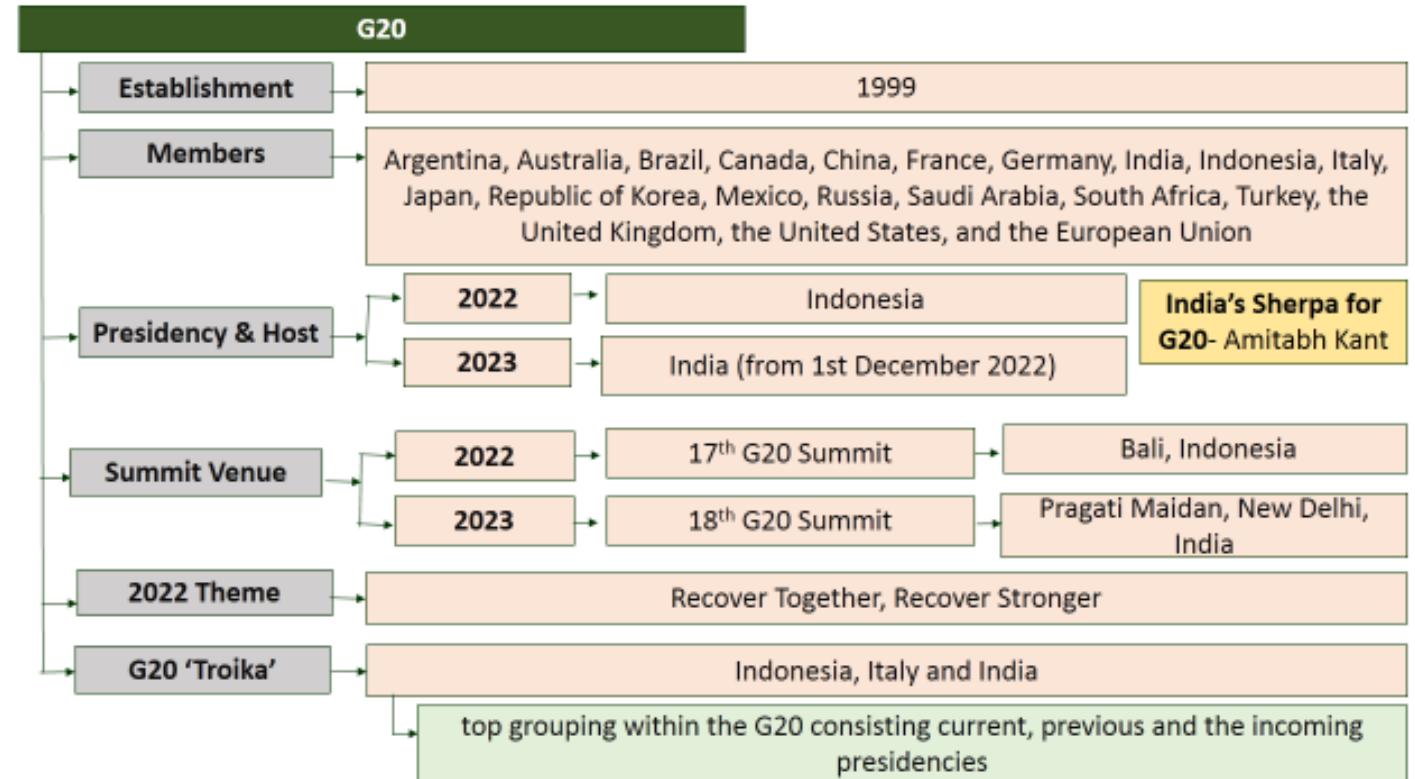
#### News 2

- Recently, the **G20 Labour and Employment Ministers' Meeting** was held at **Bali, Indonesia**.

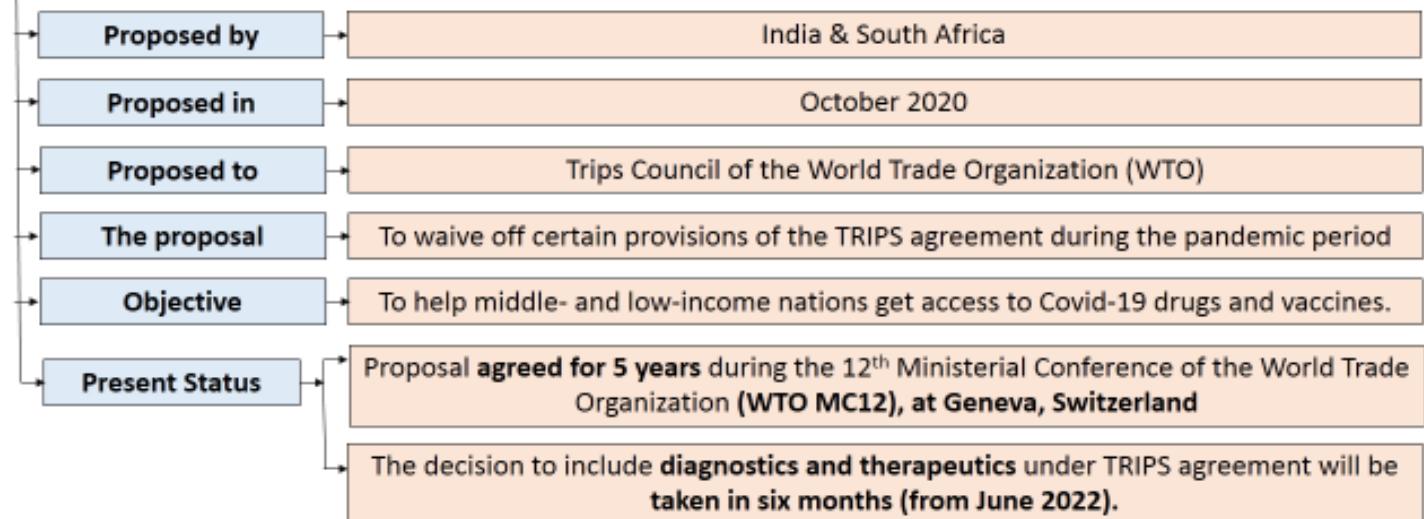
#### News 3

- Recently, **G20 Trade, Investment and Industry Ministerial Meeting** was held in **Bali, Indonesia**.
- Key initiatives highlighted in the meeting:**

- Lifestyle For Environment (**LiFE**) Movement.
- Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (**TRIPS**) waiver to COVID 19 diagnostics and therapeutics.



#### Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (**TRIPS**) waiver



#### About TRIPS

- Initiative of: WTO; Came into effect from: 1 January 1995.

**Note:** LiFE discussed already in this magazine in News 2.24.

## 2.52 Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the 19th ASEAN-India Economic Ministers' Meeting was held at Siem Reap City, Cambodia
- Co-Chairs: Anupriya Patel (India) & Pan Sorasak (Cambodia).
- Key Outcome: Endorsement of the scope of the review of the ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA)

#### Key Information Shared

- Value of India- ASEAN two-way trade in 2021: USD 91.5 billion (39.2% year-on-year increase).



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's 55th anniversary recently celebrated under the theme "Stronger Together".

## 2.53 Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)

### Why in News?

- Recently, 22nd Meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the SCO [SCO Summit] was held at Samarkand, Uzbekistan
- Summit Chairperson: Shavkat Mirziyoyev, President, Uzbekistan
- First in-person summit of the SCO since the outbreak of COVID-19.
- Key Outcome: Adoption of Samarkand Declaration.

### Key Highlights of the Summit

- India took over the rotating Presidency of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) for 2023.
- Iran to become a full time member of SCO in 2023

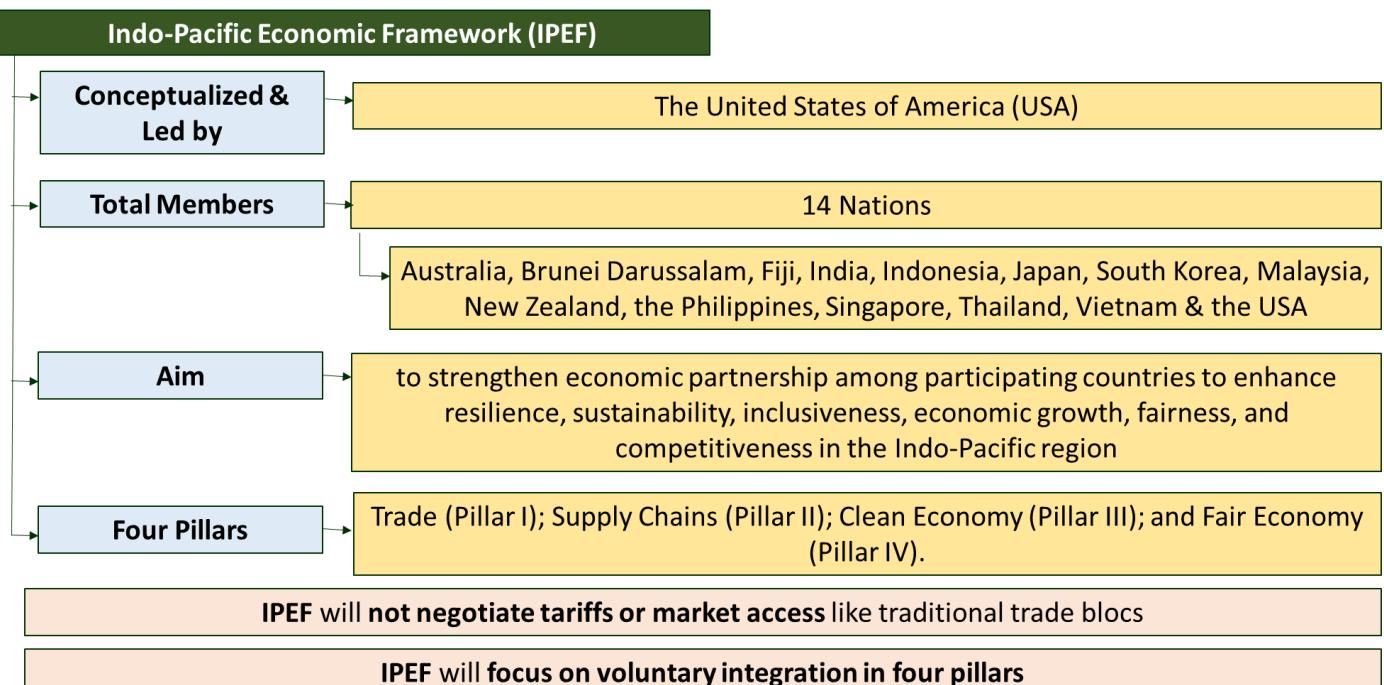
#### Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) [Previously Shanghai Five]

Establishment	June 2001
Eight Member States	China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan
Two Permanent Bodies	SCO Secretariat- Beijing, China Executive Committee of the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS)- Tashkent, Uzbekistan.
Chair	Uzbekistan (2022); India (2023)
Significance	SCO consists approximately 42% of the world's population It comprises 22% of world's land area It contributes 20% to the global GDP
India & Pakistan joined SCO in 2017	Shanghai Five was formed in 1996

## 2.54 Ministerial meeting of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF)

### Why in News?

- The Union Minister of Commerce and Industry will be visiting **Los Angeles** in the **United States of America (USA)** to attend the **Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) Ministerial meeting**.



- The Indo-Pacific covers **half the population** of the world and more than **60% of the global GDP**.

## 2.55 US-India Strategic Partnership Forum conference

### Why in News?

- Recently, Union Minister of Commerce and Industry was on a foreign visit to **San Francisco**, USA to attend the **US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF) conference**.

### Key Details

- He mentioned that 'Partnership of Trust' between India-US is resting on **three pillars of Trade, Tech and Talent (3Ts)**.
- USISPF: It is an independent not-for-profit institution **established in 2017**.
  - Aim:** To strengthening the US-India partnership.
  - It is the trusted partner for businesses, non-profit organizations, the diaspora, and the governments of India and the United States.

### Additional Information

- He also interacted with the leadership of **GITPRO (Global Indian Technology Professionals Associations)** and **FIIDS (Foundation for India and Indian Diaspora Studies)** in San Francisco.

## 2.56 BRICS Meeting

### News 1

- Recently, the **Tourism Ministers' meeting** of the **BRICS** (Brazil, Russia, India, China & South Africa) nations was held **virtually**.
- Key Information Shared:**

Particulars	Key Information
<b>BRICS alliance for Green Tourism</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Launch Year:</b> 2021; <b>Launched by:</b> India</li> <li>It promotes measures which can shape a more resilient, sustainable and inclusive tourism sector.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It provides importance to implement United Nations (UN) 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and promoting sustainable development in the tourism sector</li> </ul>
<b>Key Focus Areas of Union Ministry of Tourism</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To focus on post COVID growth and development of tourism sector and priority areas, viz, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cultural Tourism,</li> <li>Adventure tourism,</li> <li>Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions (MICE),</li> <li>Medical, Wellness Tourism and Rural Tourism.</li> </ul> </li> <li>In this regard, the following major initiatives have been identified <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Green Growth and sustainable development</li> <li>Digital Tourism</li> <li>Destination Management</li> <li>Tourism and Hospitality Skill Development &amp; Micro, Small &amp; Medium Enterprises (MSME) Development</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## News 2

- Recently, the 10<sup>th</sup> Brazil, Russia, India, China & South Africa (BRICS) meet of Science & Technology Ministers was hosted by **China** in a virtual mode.
- Theme of the main session:** “Strengthening BRICS STI Cooperation”.
- Key Outcome of the Meeting:** Adoption of BRICS STI Declaration 2022 & BRICS Innovation Action Plan 2022-23.
- Key Information Shared**



Particulars	Key Information
Union Budget 2022-23 allocation for Ministry of Science and Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rs 14,217 crore</li> </ul>
Budget allocation for creation of National Research Foundation (NRF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rs 5,000 crore</li> </ul>
India's rank in Global Innovation Index 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>46</li> </ul>
India's position in terms of scientific publication, number of PhD, higher education system & number of start-ups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 for each of the category</li> </ul>



## 2.57 East Asia Summit (EAS)

### Why in News

- Recently, Minister of State for Commerce and Industry attended the 10<sup>th</sup> EAS EMM (Economic Ministers' Meeting) organised in **Siem Reap City of Cambodia**.
- Objective:** To mitigate the economic impact of the pandemic and strengthening regional economy.

## About East Asia Summit

- It is a forum of **18 countries** of the Asia-Pacific region **established in 2005**.
- Objective:** Regional peace, security and prosperity.
- 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**.
- Members: **10 ASEAN countries** as well as **8 partner countries** viz. Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation and the USA.
- In 2021 EAS members **represented 53.1% of the world's population** and accounted for **59.5% of global GDP** worth an estimated US\$57.2 trillion.

## Additional Information

- India recorded the **highest GDP growth of 8.7%** among EAS economies in 2021.

## Indian Agriculture

### 2.58 Millet Products

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the Department of Food and Public Distribution (**DFPD**) has directed to use **Millet products in official meetings and Canteens**.
- Objective:** to promote the consumption of millets for its health benefit.

#### Relevance

- The United Nations General Assembly (**UNGA**), in **April 2021**, has declared **2023** as the **International Year of Millets (IYoM)**.

## 2.59 Geographical Identification (GI)

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the **Government of India**, in association with the **Embassy of India, Doha** and Indian Business and Professionals Council Qatar (**IBPC**), **Qatar** has organized a **Virtual Networking Meet for GI Products with Qatar**.

#### Key Information Shared

Particulars	Key Information
Contribution of Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) in overall agri exports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>around 50% (USD 24.77 billion) in 2021-22</li> </ul>
Total Number of GI Products in India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More than 400</li> <li>Out of the 400 products, around 150 are agricultural and food products GI.</li> <li>More than 100 registered GI products come under the category of APEDA scheduled products.</li> </ul>

## Geographical Indication (GI)

→ Meaning	A tag used on products that have a specific geographical origin
→ Registered under	Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration & Protection) Act, 1999
→ Awarded by	Chennai based GI Registry under the Department of Industry Promotion and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
→ Examples	Darjeeling Tea (Assam), Mithila Makhana (Bihar)

## 2.60 LEADS-2022

### Why in News

- Recently, Union Agriculture Minister has addressed the **3<sup>rd</sup> edition of LEADS conference**, organised by **Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)** at New Delhi.
- LEADS** stand for **Leadership, Excellence, Adaptability, Diversity and Sustainability**.
- Theme: “Leadership for Future”.

### Key details shared

- The world population projected to be around **900 crore** by the year **2050**.
- The government expects to increase **fish production** to **220 lakh tonnes** by **2024-2025**.
- India has emerged as the **second largest food producer**.
  - It has the **highest cropping density** in the world.
- According to the **4<sup>th</sup> advance estimate**, India's **food-grain production** in **FY-22** is **315.72 MT**.

### About FICCI

- It is a non-governmental trade association and advocacy group **established in 1927**.
- It is the largest and oldest apex business organisation in India.

## 2.61 Agriculture related sessions at G20

### Why in News?

- Recently, various sessions related to agriculture was organized by G20 (Group of twenty) at Bali, Indonesia.

### Key Information Shared

Particulars	Key Information
<b>Value of India's agricultural exports in 2021-22</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>USD 50.21 billion (<b>all time high</b>)</li> </ul>
<b>Growth of India's agriculture and allied products exports in 2021-22</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>18% over the previous year.</li> </ul>

## Industrial Developments in India

## 2.62 NMDC, FICCI organizes Conference on “Indian Minerals & Metals Industry : Transition towards 2030 & Vision 2047”

- Conference Name:** “Indian Minerals & Metals Industry: Transition towards 2030 & Vision 2047”.
- Organized by:** National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) in association with Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI).
- Venue:** New Delhi.

### Key Information Shared

- Union Minister for Steel called upon **India's mines and mineral industry** to **reduce carbon emission by 30–40 % by 2030**.

- Annual production of steel in India increased by 50% from 80 million tonnes in 2013–14 to **121 million tonnes in 2022-23**.
- The Government of India has set a target to produce **300 Million Ton Steel per annum up to 2030**.
- **National Steel Policy aims to increase annual production capacity of iron-ore to 67M tons by 2025 and 100M tons by 2030.**
- So far, **190 blocks** of various major minerals have been successfully **auctioned in the last 7 years**.
- In **2022-23**, so far **36 mineral blocks** have been auctioned.
- In **2021-22**, the **total revenue accrued from auctioned mines is more than Rs. 25,170 Crore**.

## 2.63 National Mining Ministers' Conference

### Why in News

- Recently, it was organised by **Ministry of Mines in Hyderabad, Telangana**.
- Aim: Making the mineral sector '**Aatma Nirbhar**' and promoting **Sustainable Mining** in India.

### Key Details

- Government aims to increase the **production of minerals by 200% in 7 years**.
- **The Mining Arena** (Launched at the event): It is an **interactive digital platform** which will give the people first-hand experience and information about working of the Ministry of Mines.
- The Ministry has notified **10 private exploration agencies**.
  - They shall be eligible for **funding** from **National Mineral Exploration trust**.
- **1<sup>st</sup> set of reforms** were introduced in 2015, after which **allocation of coal blocks** started.
- **2<sup>nd</sup> set of reforms** were introduced in 2020.
  - **Commercial mining with no restriction** on sale/utilization of coal was introduced.
  - It allows the captive users to **sell 50% of production** in open market after meeting the captive requirement.

### About NMET (National Mineral Exploration Trust)

- Established in **August, 2015** by Government of India.
- It is now a "**non-profit Autonomous Body**" after the recent amendments of **Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act 1957**, in March, 2021.
- The NMET fund is utilized for **mineral development**, regional exploration with special emphasis to **strategic and critical minerals**.

### About Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act 1957

- This act was enacted to **regulate the mining sector** in India.
- With amendments in the act, the **number of blocks auctioned** per year has increased **3 times**.
- Since the amendment in 2015, **206 mineral blocks** have been auctioned so far, **across 10 States**.

## 2.64 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Energy Technology Meet

### Why in News

- Recently, it was organized by **Centre for High Technology (CHT)**, under the aegis of **Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (MoP&NG)** in association with **Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.**
- Location: **Mumbai**, Maharashtra.
- Theme: "**Refining in the new Energy era**".
- **Objective:** Exploration of recent advances and technological developments in the Energy sector.

### Key Details Shared

- India's per capita energy consumption is **one-third of global average**.

Key Targets for India	Target Year
USD 10 Trillion economy	2030
Third largest economy	2047
Share of Natural Gas in the energy mix	15% by 2030 (Currently: ~6%)
18000 Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) stations	2030

## 2.65 Atmanirbharata in Defence Production

### Why in News

- Recently, **Union Defence Minister** emphasized on making India one of the strongest and most respected countries in the world at an event related to Defence Ministry in New Delhi.
- Vision: “Make in India, Make for the world”.

### Key details shared

- Target of Defence production:** Rs 1.75 lakh crore by 2025 (includes export of Rs 35,000 crore).
- Highest ever Defence exports:** Rs 12,815 crore have been reported for financial year 2021-22.

### Steps taken

- Current **Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)** limit (**automatic route**) in the sector is **74%**.
- Till now, **3 positive list of Indigenisation** have been issued: **Total 310 items**.
  - It means that the **Armed Forces** will only procure these items from **domestic manufacturers**.
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> list was issued in April 2022 with 101 items.
- 1<sup>st</sup> indigenous aircraft carrier INS Vikrant has **76% indigenous content**.

## 2.66 Ethanol Blending

### Why in News

- Recently, **Secretary of Department of Food and Public Distribution (DFPD)** along with a team from **Food Corporation of India (FCI)** visited Research & Development centre **Praj Matrix's**.
- Objective:** To understand in depth innovations in indigenous technology developments and removing difficulties in ethanol blending.

### Key Details

- DFPD is ensuring **feedstock supply** for achieving **10% ethanol blending in petrol (E10)**.
  - It is also facilitating **capital investments** through **interest subvention schemes**.
  - Current ethanol production capacity is **923 crore litres per annum**
- Praj's indigenous technology developments especially **Bio-syrup** and **valorization of co-products** such as **protein from DDGs (Dried Distillers Grains)**, **bio-bitumen from lignin** has been appreciated.
  - Such technologies are being exported to Brazil, USA and European countries.
- E10 has already resulted in additional revenue of about **Rs. 18000 crores** in revenue of sugar mills.
  - It will exceed **Rs. 35000 crore** on achievement of **E20 blending** with petrol by 2025.
- Low carbon technologies will also help in saving foreign exchange for the country worth about **Rs. 30,000 crore per annum**.
- These activities are transforming Indian Farming community from '**Anna Daata**' to '**Urja Daata**'.

### About Praj Matrix's – A R&D Centre

- It was set up by **Praj Industries Ltd.** and approved by the **Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR)**.

## 2.67 GeM (Government e Marketplace) Seller Samvad

### Why in News

- Recently, **GeM Seller Samvad** has been organised in various locations across India.
- Objective:** To provide an opportunity to the GeM sellers to learn about the new GeM features and functionalities.

#### Key details about GeM



GeM (Government e Marketplace) Portal	
It is a <b>National Public Procurement Portal</b> .	
It is an online marketplace for <b>the procurement of goods and services</b> .	
Launched	In 2016 by <b>Ministry of commerce and Industry</b>
Aim	To enhance transparency, efficiency and speed in public procurement.
Three Pillars	<b>1. Efficiency, 2. Transparency and 3. Inclusivity</b>
Buyers on GeM	All <b>Central /State Government</b> departments, <b>cooperative societies</b> and <b>PSUs</b> .
Sellers on GeM	Can be from across all segments: <b>Government or Private</b>
Owner of Portal	<b>GEM SPV (Special Purpose Vehicle)</b> Registered under section 8(Companies Act 2013)
Key Highlights	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It has surpassed the milestone of <b>₹1 Lakh Crore</b> of procurement value, in a single <b>fiscal year 2021-22</b>.</li> <li>Since its inception, It has facilitated over <b>1 Crore transactions</b> valued at over <b>₹3.02 Lakh Crore</b>.</li> </ul>	

#### 2.68 National Conference of State Tourism Ministers

##### Why in News

- Recently, it was organised by **Ministry of Tourism** in **Dharamshala**, Himachal Pradesh.
- Aim:** Development of tourism infrastructure and sustainable tourism.

##### Key details shared

- National Flag** will be installed at tourist places.
- A National Tourism Policy** has been drafted to **revive India's Tourism** and achieve **USD 1 Trillion** contribution in economy by this sector in **2047**.
- The Ministry has sanctioned **Rs 7000 crores** for development of tourism infrastructure.
- To increase **air connectivity**, number of airports will be increased **to 220 by 2025**.
- Considering, India is estimated to grow **at 7-9% CAGR** (Compound annual growth rate) in the coming decade, tourism sector is expected to achieve the following:-

Target Year	Contribution in GDP	Foreign Exchange Earnings	Foreign arrivals
2024	USD 50 Billion	USD 30 Billion	15 Million
2030	USD 250 Billion	USD 56 Billion	25 Million

#### 2.69 One Week One Lab

##### Why in News

- Recently, Union Minister of Science and technology announced 'One Week One Lab' theme-based campaign at the **first-ever CSIR (Council of Scientific & Industrial Research) Leadership Meet**.
- Aim:** To showcase the technological breakthroughs and innovations in the each of **37 CSIR laboratories/institutes** across the country.

- Some of **CSIR breakthroughs** are **Heliborne technology** (for survey of ground water), **Aroma Mission** (to increase the income of the farmers through cultivation of high value and high demand aromatic crops) etc.

## About CSIR

- **Establishment:** In **September 1942** as an autonomous body under **Societies Registration Act, 1860**.
- **Funded by:** Ministry of Science and Technology.
- It has emerged as the **largest research and development organisation** in India.
- **Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar (SSB) Prize** for Science and Technology is named after the **founder Director** of the CSIR, the late **Dr. Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar**.

## Social Movements

### 2.70 Indian Swachhata League

#### Why in News

- Recently, the **first edition** of Indian Swachhata League (**first ever inter-city competition**) has been organised under the aegis of **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)**.
- It is an initiative **by SBM-U (Swachh Bharat Mission- Urban) 2.0**.
- **Objective:** To clean locations near monuments, tourist attractions and beaches with a heavy footfall.

#### Key details

- It has been led by the **youth of cities** towards building '**Garbage Free Cities**'.
- **47 cities with million plus citizens** have registered for the league (Total more than 1800 cities).
- The **top three states** with **maximum participation** based on percentage of **Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)** participating in the league are **Odisha-100%, Assam-99% and Chhattisgarh-97%**.

#### Additional Information

- Also to celebrate **eight years of SBM-U**, MOHUA announced the '**Swachh Amrit Mahotsav**'.
  - **Aim:** To make citizens work towards the vision of building '**Garbage Free Cities**'.
  - Official tagline: '**Swachh Amrit Mahotsav: Ek Aur Kadam Swachhata Ki Ore**'.

## Role of Indian banks and Reserve Bank in the development process

### 2.71 Meeting on “Illegal Loan Apps”

#### Why in News

- Recently, a meeting on ‘Illegal Loan Apps’ was chaired by the Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs.

#### Key Steps taken to prevent operations of such Illegal Loan Apps

- **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** will prepare a “**Whitelist**” of all the legal Apps.
- **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology** will ensure that only “**Whitelist**” Apps are hosted on App Stores.
- RBI will monitor the ‘**mule/rented**’ accounts that may be used for **money laundering** and to review/cancel dormant NBFCs (**Non-Banking Financial Company**) to avoid their misuse.
- RBI will ensure that **registration of payment aggregators** be completed **within a timeframe**.
- **Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA)** will identify **shell companies** and de-register them.

# Public Finance - Political Economy - Services sector in India

## 2.72 SymphoNE: A Virtual Conference

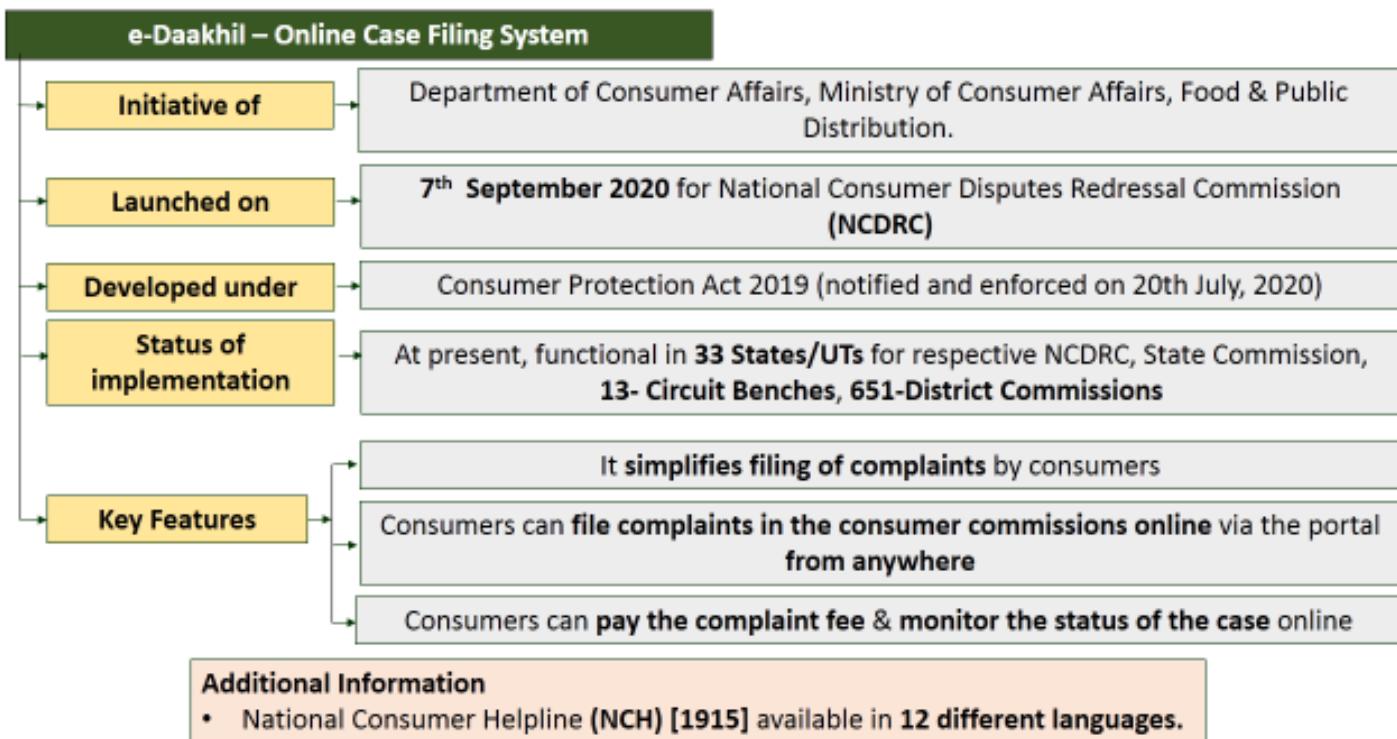
### Why in News

- Recently, Union Minister of Development of North Eastern Region has launched this conference



## 2.73 E-daakhil portal emerging as an effective solution for aggrieved consumers who opts e-filing

- Recently, e-daakhil portal has completed two years of inception.
- So far, 23640 complaints have been received in the e-daakhil portal.



## 2.74 UIDAI & Aadhaar

### News 1

- Recently, Ministry of Electronics & IT has released the data regarding Aadhar adoption.

### Key Details

- So far, more than **134.11 crore** Aadhaar numbers have been generated (till July 2022).
- 63.55 crore Aadhaar numbers** have been successfully **updated** following requests from the residents (1.47 crore in July alone).
- In July, **152.5 crore authentication transactions** were carried out via Aadhaar, in which fingerprint biometric authentication was **122.57 crore**.
- 7,855.24 crore Aadhaar authentications** have been carried out so far, as against **7,702.74 crore** such authentications by the end of June.

- The number of e-KYC transactions executed via Aadhaar was **22.84 crore** in July.
- The cumulative number of e-KYC transactions so far increased from **1226.39 crore** in June to **1249.23 crore** in July.
- More than **1507 crores** of **banking transactions** have been made possible through the use of **Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AEPS)** and the **network of micro ATM**.
- In July alone, **22.37 crore** number of **AEPS transactions** were carried out across India.
- 53 lakh Aadhaars** were generated in July (**Majority** were of **children below the age of 18 years**).
- Aadhaar saturation level** among adult residents is now near universal, and the **overall saturation level is 93.41%**. At least 26 states and UTs have now a saturation of over 90%.
- Around **900 social welfare schemes** in the country run by both **centre and states** have been notified to use Aadhaar till date.
- All the APB (**Aadhaar Payment Bridge**) transactions involved an amount of **Rs. 12511 crore** in July.
  - APB is a payment system implemented by NPCI (**National Payments Corporation of India**).
  - It uses **Aadhaar number** for electronically channelizing the Government **benefits and subsidies** in the **Aadhaar Enabled Bank Accounts (AEBA)** of the intended beneficiaries.

## News 2

- Recently, a Workshop on '**Recent Initiatives for Simplifying Aadhaar Usage**' is organised in Delhi.
- Organised by: **UIDAI** (Unique Identification Authority of India).
- Aim: **To promote Aadhaar usage by States**.

## Key Details Shared

- Aadhar has Saved **Rs 2.24 Lakh crore in DBT** (Direct Benefit Transfer) Schemes.
- ALBR (Aadhar Linked Birth Registration)**: A **birth registration number** of each child born in a health facility is created, which is further used by UIDAI to create a unique **12 digit identity** for each child immediately after birth.
  - Aim:** To ensure that children get easy access to government schemes.
  - Technical support for implementing **ALBR in Uttar Pradesh**: By UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund).

## About UIDAI

- Launch: **July, 2016**, under **Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology**.
- It is a statutory authority under the provisions of the **Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016** ("Aadhaar Act 2016").
- It was created to issue **Unique Identification numbers (UID)**, named as "Aadhaar", to all residents of India.

## 2.75 19<sup>th</sup> Indo-US Economic Summit

### Why in News?

- Recently, **19th Indo-US Economic Summit** of the **Indo-American Chamber of Commerce** was held at **New Delhi**.
- Event Theme:** "75 Years of US India Relations: The New Agenda for next 25 years".

### Key Information Shared

Particulars	Key Details
National Infrastructure Pipeline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Investment by Government of India:</b> USD 1.4 trillion</li> <li><b>Purpose:</b> Infrastructure Development</li> </ul>

Length of National Highways Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>around 1.47 Lakh Kms (present)</b></li> <li>around 91,000 Kms (2014)</li> </ul>
Targeted Length of National Highway Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To expand to <b>2 lakh kilometers by 2025.</b></li> </ul>
Formulation of New policy for Tree Cutting & Tree Transplantation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Policy Name:</b> Tree Bank</li> <li><b>Initiative of:</b> Government of India</li> <li><b>Feature:</b> authorities like Airport and Port Authority must maintain a Tree Bank account with a record of planting and felling of trees during project development</li> </ul>
India ranked 1 <sup>st</sup> in Public Private Partnership (PPP) operational maturity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Ranked by:</b> Asian Development Bank (ADB) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ADB also designated India as developed market for PPPs</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## 2.76 Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC)

### Why in News

- Recently, **26<sup>th</sup> Meeting** of the FSDC was **chaired** by the **Union Finance Minister**.
- Organised by: **Department of Economic Affairs (DEA)**, Ministry of Finance in **Mumbai, Maharashtra**.

### About FSDC

- It was first proposed by the **Raghuram Rajan Committee in 2008**.
- It was established in **2010** as a **non-statutory and autonomous body**.
- It is an **apex council** under **Ministry of Finance**.
- It deals with the **macro-prudential** and **financial regularities** in the entire financial sector of India.
- Composition: **Union Finance Minister as Chairperson**.
  - Other members:** Chairperson (**SEBI, IRDAI, PFRDA**), Governor (Reserve Bank of India), Finance Secretary/Secretary of DEA, Chief Economic Advisor, Invited Person.
  - Members Added in 2018:** Chairperson (**Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India**), Minister of State for the DEA, Secretary of Department of Electronics and Information Technology and Revenue Secretary.
- Responsibility of Council:** Financial Stability, literacy, inclusion and Development, Inter-regulatory coordination, supervision of economy and functioning of large financial conglomerates.

### News From Other Sources

## Social Sectors in India – Health

## 2.77 Healthy Child Award

### Why in News

- Recently, a total of **306 children of 33 Districts of 14 Lok Sabha Constituencies in Assam** have been awarded by Healthy Child Award.

### About Healthy Child Award

- The main objectives of this award are:
  - To identify healthy children in age group of **6 month-3 years** and **3-5 years**.
  - To promote a sense of **constructive competition among parents** for their child's health.

- To generate awareness and conduct campaigns for growth measurement of children.
- To mobilize community participation for health and nutritional wellness in the State.
- **Method for Identification:**
  - Measuring weight and height/length of children in the target group by Anganwadi Worker (AWW)/Helper (AWH).
  - After that healthy children were identified by plotting appropriately in the **WHO (World Health Organisation) growth chart**.

## 2.78 Project Saaras

### Why in News?

- Recently, **Project Saaras** was launched.

### About Project Saras

<b>Launched in</b>	Arthala, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh
<b>Launched by:</b>	Israel embassy in India in collaboration with Khushii Foundation.
<b>Aim</b>	To promote women empowerment, menstrual hygiene and awareness
<b>Key Feature</b>	A sanitary napkin manufacturing unit set up by Agency for International Development Cooperation in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State of Israel (MASHAV).

## 2.79 Committee on Pharma Marketing Practices

### Why in News

- Recently, the central government has formed a **five-member committee** to consider a "legally enforceable" mechanism for regulating the **marketing practices of pharmaceutical firms**.
- **Chairperson of Committee: V K Paul** [member (health) of NITI Aayog].

### Existing Guidelines

- **Universal Code of Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices (UCPMP).**
  - It came into effect from **January 2015**.
  - **Aim:** To prevent **unethical practices** by the **pharmaceutical companies**.
  - It is **voluntary** and there is **no legal penalty** for violating the code.
  - It establishes relationship of pharmaceutical companies with **healthcare professionals**.
- **The Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002.**
  - It comes under **Medical Council Act, 1956**.
  - It provides for **conduct for doctors** and **professional association** of doctors in their relationship with pharmaceutical and allied health sector industry.
  - Any complaint of misconduct is to be addressed by the respective **State Medical Councils**.

## 2.80 UNICEF India

### Why in News?

- Recently, **Vitamin Angels India** has partnered with United Nations Children's Fund (**UNICEF**) India to address **under-nutrition in India**.
- **Aim of the partnership:** to spread nutrition-related awareness.
- The partnership is in line with **Rashtriya Poshan Maah 2022 campaign**.
- Under the partnership, **Poshan Innovation Platform initiative** will be launched.

## Poshan Innovation Platform

Initiative of	Vitamin Angels India & UNICEF India
To be launched in	January 2023
Aim	<p>to improve the nutritional status of mothers and children under five-years.</p> <p>to facilitate the development of ideas, with expert mentors and seed funding from the private sector.</p>
Key Feature	The platform invites ideas for innovations around Maternal, Infant, and Young Child Nutrition ( <b>MIYCN</b> ) interventions from across India.

## Social Sectors in India - Education

### 2.81 UGC approves draft guidelines for engaging 'Professor of Practice'

- Recently, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has **approved draft guidelines for engaging 'Professor of Practice' in Universities and colleges.**
- The initiative has been launched as a part of National Education Policy (**NEP**) 2020.
  - NEP 2020** focuses on **skill-based education** to meet needs of industry and economy
- Objectives:** to enable the Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) to work with industry experts on joint research projects and consultancy services; to meet industry and societal needs.

#### Key Guidelines for Professors of Practice

- Eligibility:**
  - Experts with proven **expertise of at least 15 years**.
  - Such experts can be from various fields like science, technology, commerce, civil services, etc.
  - No formal academic qualification is required** if the candidate has **exemplary professional practice**.
- Duration of Service:**
  - A Professor of Practice can work at an institution as a faculty for a **maximum period of 3 years**.
  - The service can be **extended by 1 year** in exceptional cases.
  - The **total service** should **not exceed 4 years**.
- Total Number of Experts at an institution:** the number of professors of practice at an institution should **not exceed 10% of the sanctioned posts**.
- Three categories of engagement:** funded by industries, funded by higher education institutions, or honorary.

### 2.82 National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT)

#### Why in News?

- The NCERT will be soon receiving the '**Deemed-to-be-University**' status in De-Novo Category.
- Proposal approved by:** Executive Committee of NCERT.

#### Features of De-Novo Deemed University

- Institutions that can apply to the University Grants Commission (UGC) to set up a new institution as deemed to be University.

- Such institutions will carry out study and research in unique and emerging areas of knowledge that are not offered by any existing institution

<b>National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT)</b>		→	Apex body for school education
Established in	1961		
Set up under	Societies Registration Act, 1860		
Organization Type	Autonomous Organisation		
Role	Assists/advises the Central / State Governments on policies and programmes for qualitative improvement in school education.		
Headquarters	New Delhi		
<b>Proposal to provide Institute of National Importance (INI) status for NCERT</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Recommended by:</b> Govardhan Mehta Committee</li> <li>Committee constituted by the then Ministry of Human Resources Development (HRD) in 2010.</li> </ul>			

## Sustainable Development and Environmental issues

### 2.83 New safety norms for EV batteries from 1 October, 2022

- Recently, the **Union Ministry of Road, Transport & Highways** (MoRTH) has issued **additional safety norms** for **Electric Vehicle (EV) batteries**.
- The additional norms have been recommended by an **expert committee** chaired by **Tata Narsingh Rao**.
- The new safety norms would **come into effect from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022**.
- The **amendments** include additional safety requirements related to battery cells, battery management system, on-board charger, design of battery pack, thermal propagation due to internal cell short circuit leading to fire etc.

#### Background

- In the backdrop of EV fire incidents, the Ministry of Road, Transport & Highways had **constituted an expert committee**, chaired by **Tata Narsingh Rao** to recommend the **additional safety requirements** in the **existing battery safety standards** notified under **Central Motor Vehicles Rule (CMVR) 1989**.

#### Additional Information

- MoRTH** has also mandated Conformity of Production (COP) for traction batteries used in electric power train vehicles by amending **Sub-rule 4 of Rule 124 of CMVR 1989**.
- This rule will also come into effect from **1st October 2022**.

### 2.84 National Green Tribunal (NGT)

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the **National Green Tribunal (NGT)** has imposed an **environmental compensation** for West Bengal, Maharashtra & Uttar Pradesh for environmental violations.

#### About National Green Tribunal (NGT)

- Established under:** National Green Tribunal Act 2010
- It is a specialized body equipped with the necessary expertise to handle environmental disputes involving multi-disciplinary issues.
- The Tribunal is mandated to attempt for disposal of applications or appeals finally **within 6 months of filing** the same.

- **Principal place of sitting:** New Delhi; **Other flour places of sitting:** Bhopal, Pune, Kolkata and Chennai.

## 2.85 'Meghdoot' atmospheric water generator

### Why in News?

- Recently, Indian Railways (IR) has set up 'Meghdoot' machines at Dadar, Thane and other stations of **Mumbai Division (Central Railway)**.

### Key Details

- These machines use innovative technology to convert **water vapour** in the air into potable water.
  - **Maithri Aquatech** has collaborated with CSIR-Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (IICT), Hyderabad to produce highest quality water from these machines.
- A contract for setting up **17 machines** in Mumbai Division under NINFRIS (**New, Innovative Non Fare Revenue Ideas Scheme**) policy for a **period of 5 years** has been awarded to **Maithri Aquatech private Ltd.**

## 2.86 OPEC Fund for International Development

### Why in News?

- Recently, OPEC Fund for International Development [**OPEC Fund**] has adopted its **first climate action plan**.
- **Key Target:** Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to increase its climate financing to **25% by 2025** and **40% by 2030** with a cross-cutting approach to all its projects.

### Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)

Establishment	→	1960
Total Members	→	13
Headquarters	→	Vienna, Austria
Present Head	→	Haitham Al Ghais (Secretary- General)

### About OPEC Fund for International Development (OPEC Fund)

- A multilateral development finance institution.
- **Establishment:** 1976

## 2.87 Global accreditation standard for an Indian Plastic Product for the first time

### Why in News?

- Recently, **Indore** based Carbon credit developer and supplier **EKI Energy Services (EKI)**, for the first time, has listed a **plastic project from India** under a **global accreditation standard**.
- **Aim:** to generate India's first-ever international plastic credits
- **Project listed under:** Plastic Waste Reduction Standard of Verra - a Washington-based accreditation.
- **Key Feature of the project:** It ensures that plastic waste is duly sourced & recycled for further use in the textile industry.

## 2.88 Renewable Energy India Expo 2022 (15<sup>th</sup> edition)

### Why in News?

- Recently, **Informa Markets** has organized **Renewable Energy India Expo 2022 (15th edition)** at **Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh**
  - **Theme/Slogan:** 15 years of togetherness.

- **Bio-Energy Pavilion 2022:** to be organized by the **Indian Biogas Association (IBA)** at the expo.
  - **Pavilion Supported by:** Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), Niti Aayog, Punjab Energy Development Agency (PEDA) and Maharashtra Energy Development Agency (MEDA).

## 2.89 National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)

### Why in News?

- Recently, the National Skill Development Corporation (**NSDC**) has partnered with **ENGIE** to train **600 youth in solar module programmes**.
- Engie has entered the partnership through its subsidiary **Solaire Direct Energy India**.

National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)	
Establishment	2008
Headquarters	New Delhi
Aim	to promote skill development by catalyzing creation of large, quality and for-profit vocational institutions.
Ownership ratio	Government of India through Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship – 49% Private Sector – 51%

## 2.90 Global Environment Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme (SGP)

### Why in News

- This year (2022) marks the **7<sup>th</sup> operational phase (OP7)** of this programme (SGP-OP7).

### Key Details

- It was established in **1992**.
- Implementation/Launched by: **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** and **The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)**.
- It provides **financial and technical support** to local communities, non-government organizations (NGOs), community-based organizations (CBOs) and civil society organization (CSOs) that conserve and restore the environment while enhancing the lives of local communities.
  - It pays special focus on thematic areas such as **Biodiversity, Climate Change, Land Degradation, International Waters and Persistent Organic Pollutants**.
  - In over 20 years, it has helped **443 community led projects**.
- SGP-OP7 is being implemented in **three landscapes** of the country.
  - **Highlands of the North-East (Assam and Meghalaya)**.
  - **Central India (Madhya Pradesh)**.
  - **Coastal regions (Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra)**.

## 2.91 Loans for Electric Vehicle

### Why in News

- **Government of India and the World Bank** are in talks to introduce a risk-sharing mechanism to compensate banks giving loans for electric vehicle (EV) purchases.
- **Objective:** Faster adoption of EVs in India and help in de-carbonization of transport sector.

### Key details

- The World Bank will set up a **USD 1 billion fund** with an **Indian bank** that will be made available to all financial institutions.
  - It will provide **first-loss guarantees** to lenders in case of loan defaults.

## Additional Information

- South Asian nations are slower in adoption of EVs, with respect to the US and China.
- According to **NEF (National Energy Foundation)**, **53%** of new automobile sales in India will be electric **by 2040** (for China it will be 77%).
- The government expects investments of **USD 20 billion by 2030** in the Indian EV industry.
- India's transport sector accounts for **13.5%** of the country's total carbon emissions.

## 2.92 Mission Amrit Sarovars

### Why in News

- Recently, **Uttar Pradesh (UP)** has **topped in the country** by developing 8,462 lakes (Amrit Sarovars) under this Mission.

### Key Details

- **Top 5 states/UTs:** **1.** Uttar Pradesh, **2.** Madhya Pradesh, **3.** Jammu and Kashmir, **4.** Rajasthan and **5.** Tamil Nadu.
- Within Uttar Pradesh, **Lakhimpur Kheri has secured first position**, followed by **Gorakhpur** and **Pratapgarh**.
- A total of **1.20 lakh Amrit Sarovars** will be developed in UP, which is the highest in the country.

### About Mission Amrit Sarovars

- It was launched by on **National Panchayati Raj Day 2022** (24<sup>th</sup> April) by the Prime Minister of India from **Palli Gram Panchayat**, Samba District, **Jammu and Kashmir**.
- **Aim:** To develop and rejuvenate **75 water bodies** in each district of the country as a part of celebration of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav.
- **Objective:** To conserve water for future.
- **Technical Partner for the Mission:** Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Application and Geo-informatics (BISAG-N).
- At least **50,000 water bodies** are expected to be rejuvenated across the country.
- Each water body will be of **1 acre (Approx.)** with a water holding capacity of **10,000 cubic meter**.
- Target should be achieved by **15<sup>th</sup> august 2023**.
- Soil/silt excavated from ponds/tanks under this mission shall be used in Infrastructure Projects by **Ministry of Railways** and **National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)**.
- India's First 'Amrit Sarovar' was inaugurated at **Patwai, Rampur in Uttar Pradesh**.

## 2.93 World Green Economy Summit

### Why in News

- Recently, Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change participated in the Ministerial Roundtable for Green Economy at the World Green Economy Summit organised in **Dubai, UAE**.
- Organised by: **Dubai Electricity & Water Authority**, **Dubai Supreme Council of Energy** and **World Green Economy Organization** in cooperation with **WETEX** (Water, Energy, Technology, and Environment Exhibition).

### Key details shared

- **India is the first country with a cooling action plan** based on energy efficiency and thermal comfort.
- Measures taken by India on **sustainable finance: Sovereign Green Bonds, Blended finance** as well as setting up the **GIFT city** and the **ISA (International Solar Alliance)-Solar Risk Mitigation Initiative**.

- Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero (GFANZ) estimates a requirement of USD 100 trillion of finance for global net zero by 2050.
  - GFANZ is the world's largest coalition of financial institutions committed to transitioning the global economy to net zero greenhouse gas emissions.

### About India Cooling Action Plan (ICAP)

- It was launched in 2019 by OZONE cell of Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change.
- Aim: To provide sustainable cooling and thermal comfort for all while securing environmental and socio-economic benefits for the society.
- Objective: To reduce cooling demand arising from residential and commercial buildings, cold chains, etc. without compromising on energy efficiency.
- Time period of Plan: 20 years (2017-18 to 2037-38).

Key Targets under this plan:	Target year
Reduce cooling demand across sectors by 20% to 25%	2037-38
Reduce refrigerant demand by 25% to 30%	2037-38
Reduce cooling energy requirements by 25% to 40%	2037-38
Recognize "cooling and related areas" as a thrust area of research under national S&T Programme	-
Training and certification of 100,000 servicing sector technicians (Skill India Mission)	2022-23

- Main thematic Areas under this plan are:



## Employment Generation in India

### 2.94 National Logistics Policy (NLP)

#### Why in News

- Recently, the Prime Minister of India launched the National Logistics Policy (NLP).
- Aim: To bring down the logistics cost from 14-15% to around 8% of GDP in the next five years.
  - To address the challenges affecting the importers and exporters.
  - To use technologies such as Artificial Intelligence and Block-chain in logistics.
  - Reducing India's logistics cost to be comparable to global benchmarks by 2030.
  - To be among the top 25 countries by 2030 in the Logistics Performance Index (LPI).

- To create a **data driven decision support mechanism** for an efficient logistics ecosystem.

### Key Details

- Important initiatives under the policy includes the Unified Logistics Interface Platform (**ULIP**), the Ease of Logistics Services platform (**E- logs**), e-handbook on **Warehousing, training courses** on PM GatiShakti and logistics on **i-Got platform**.
- It will be implemented through a **Comprehensive Logistics Action Plan (CLAP)**, which is divided into **8 key action areas**:
  - Integrated Digital Logistics Systems.
  - Standardisation of physical assets and benchmarking service quality standards.
  - Logistics Human Resources Development and Capacity Building.
  - State Engagement.
  - EXIM (Export-Import) Logistics.
  - Service Improvement framework.
  - Sectoral Plan for Efficient Logistics.
  - Facilitation of Development of Logistics Parks.
- The implementation of the policy would be **monitored by the Empowered Group of Secretaries (EGoS)** created under the **PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan**.
- **E-Logs:** It will allow industry to **directly take up operational issues with government agencies** for speedy resolution.
- **ULIP:** It will bring all the digital services related to the transportation sector into a single portal.
  - It will help different government and private agencies; shippers, service providers enable **information exchange on a real time basis** in a confidential manner.

### Additional Information

- Currently, around **16% of India's agricultural production** is wasted at various stages.
- Currently, our dependence for logistics on **Road, Railway and waterways** is **60%, 30% and 5%** respectively.

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

### 2.95 Schedule Tribes list of the Constitution

#### Why in News

- Recently, Union cabinet has approved the inclusion of several communities in the **Schedule Tribes list** of the Constitution across **4 states**, as part of the **Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill 2022**.

### Key Details

- Following tribes have been approved:
  - **Hatti community** from Himachal Pradesh.
  - **Narikoravan and Kurivikkaran** communities from Tamil Nadu.
  - **Betta-Kuruba community** as a synonym of '**Kadu Kuruba**' from Karnataka.
  - **Gond tribe** and its five sub-castes, to be recognised as ST in **4 districts** of Uttar Pradesh.
- Following tribes have been added in existing Tribes.
  - **Darlong community** as a sub-tribe of the **Kuki tribe** from Tripura.
  - **Similar sounding names** have been added to **12 existing tribes** in Chhattisgarh.

## 2.96 National Legal Services Authority (NALSA)

### Why in News

- Recently, Justice D.Y. Chandrachud has been appointed as the Executive Chairman of NALSA.

### About NALSA

National Legal Services Authority (NALSA)	
Establishment	1995
Constituted Under	Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987
Patron-in-Chief	Chief Justice of Supreme Court of India
Executive Chairman	Second senior most Judge of Supreme Court of India
Objective	To provide free Legal Services to the weaker sections of the society. Speedy disposal of cases and reducing the burden of judiciary. To organize Lok Adalats for amicable settlement of disputes.
Location	Supreme Court of India, New Delhi.
Key Highlights	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>In every State, State Legal Services Authority has been constituted to give effect to the policies and directions of the NALSA (Patron-in-Chief: Chief Justice of respective High-court).</li><li>Similarly, In every District, District Legal Services Authority has been Constituted.</li></ul>	

## Human Development

## 2.97 National Sports Development Fund (NSDF)

### Why in News?

- Recently, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between REC & Union Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports.
- Under the MoU, REC, as a part of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative, would be providing Rs 100 crore towards National Sports Development Fund (NSDF).

National Sports Development Fund (NSDF)	
Established in	1998
Established under	Charitable Endowments Act 1890
Notified by	The Government of India in November, 1998
Purpose	to impart momentum and flexibility to assisting the cause of sports in India
Key Features	Coaches with international repute provide training to sportsperson Provision of financial assistance for development of infrastructure and other activities to promote sports.

## Globalization

## 2.98 Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO)

### Why in News?

- Recently, EPFO has announced to set up consultancy offices and service centres in Latin America & Africa.
- Objective:** to help smaller nations to develop their own social security system much like India.
- Target:** to have a strong presence and service centres in Asia-Pacific followed by consultancy offices in Latin America and Africa by 2037.

#### Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO)

Established in	1952
Set up under	Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952
Nodal Ministry	Ministry of Labour & Employment
Headquarters	New Delhi

## Monetary and Fiscal Policy

### 2.99 India's Forex Reserves

#### Why in News

- According to latest data by Reserve Bank of India, the country's forex reserves stood at **USD 553.105 billion** on 2<sup>nd</sup> September, **lowest** since 9<sup>th</sup> October, 2020 (**nearly two years**).

#### Other details

- The **4 components of Forex Reserves** in descending order (as of now) are **Foreign Currency Asset, Golds, Special Drawing Rights (SDR)** and **Reserve Position in the IMF** (International Monetary Fund)/ Reserve Tranche.

## Growth and Development (Measurement of growth)

### 2.100 Latest Gross Domestic Product (GDP) Forecasts for India

S.No.	Agency/ Organization Name	GDP Forecast	Previous Estimates
1	Fitch Ratings	7% (2022-23)	7.8 %
		6.7% (2023-24)	7.4 %
2	ICRA	7.2% (2022-23 [FY23])	7.2%
3	Moody's	8.3% (2021)	8.8% (2022)
		7.7% (2022)	
		5.2% (2023).	
4	Goldman Sachs	7% (2022) & reduced by 20 basis points from 7.2% for 2022-23	7.6% (2022)
5	State Bank of India	6.8% (2022-23)	7.5%

### 2.101 India overtakes U.K. to become fifth largest economy in the world

- According to a latest projection by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), India has overtaken the United Kingdom (UK) to become the **fifth-largest economy in the world**.
  - India has become a **USD 3.5 trillion economy**, while UK a USD 3.2 trillion economy.
  - The UK has now slipped to the **sixth spot**.

- Top 4 largest economies in the world: the United States (US), China, Japan and Germany respectively.

## 2.102 Moody's retains India's Baa3 rating with stable outlook

- Recently, Moody's Investor Service has retained India's sovereign credit rating of Baa3 with a stable outlook.
- According to Moody's, India's ongoing recovery from the Covid-19 Pandemic in 2022 & 2023 would not be hampered factors viz, Russia-Ukraine War, higher inflation & tightening global financial conditions on the back of policy tightening.

### About Sovereign Credit Rating

- It is an independent assessment of a country's creditworthiness.
- It provides insights to the investors about the risks associated with investing in the debt of a particular country.

## 2.103 Gross domestic product (GDP) of G20 Economies in Q2 2022

### Why in News?

- Recently, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (**OECD**) has released its provisional estimates.

### Key Findings

Particulars	Forecast Details
GDP of G20 Economies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>decreased 0.4% quarter-on-quarter (q-o-q) in Q2 2022.</li> </ul>
GDP of India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>increased by 3.6% and 13.5% in Q1 and Q2 2022 respectively.</li> <li>decreased 1.4 % q-o-q in Q2 2022.</li> </ul>
India's Q2 year-on-year growth rate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>highest amongst G20 economies</li> </ul>

## Export-Import Policy

## 2.104 Exports to Bangladesh

### Why in News

- Recently, the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) has eased customs procedures to allow export of goods to Bangladesh through inland waterways.

### Key Details

- Goods will be secured by a **RFID (Radio frequency identification)** enabled e-seal.
  - **Objective:** To ensure that containers once cleared at a customs facility in India are not tampered with when they are shifted to a vessel for shipment through waterways.
  - If found e-seal as tampered, such a container shall be subject to **100% examination**.

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

## 2.105 NITI-BMZ Dialogue on Development Cooperation

- Recently, NITI Aayog and German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) held the inaugural **NITI-BMZ Dialogue on Development Cooperation**.

### Key Details

- Aim: To strengthen mutual cooperation between the two countries to deal with climate change and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of Agenda 2030.
- Focus on **five core areas** of cooperation: **1. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), 2. Climate action, 3. Energy transition, 4. Emerging technologies and 5. Agro-ecology.**
- German Federal Minister announced an **additional funding of EUR 3.5 million to India**, specifically for strengthening of **implementation of SDGs** and **climate action** at the state level.

#### **Additional information**

- In May, 2022, India and Germany signed a Joint Declaration of Intent on Partnership for **Green and Sustainable Development (GSDP)**.
- During the last G7 summit in June 2022, India and the G7 had agreed to work towards a **Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP)**.

### **2.106 Caribbean Community (CARICOM)**

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

- Recently, the **4<sup>th</sup> India-CARICOM Foreign Ministers' meeting** was held at **New York, United States**.
- **Co-Chairs of the meeting:** Dr. S. Jaishankar (India) & Eamon Courtenay (Belize).
- The event was held on the **sidelines** of the **United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)**.
- The meeting was **follow-up** to the **first ever India-CARICOM leaders' summit** held on the sidelines of the UNGA in **2019**.

#### **Key Highlights**

Particulars	Key Information
Provision of Grants by India to CARICOM for Community Development Projects (CDP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Total Grants:</b> USD 14 million</li> <li>• <b>1 million for each country</b></li> </ul>
Provision of Line of Credit by India to CARICOM for projects related to Solar, Renewable Energy and Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Amount-</b> USD 150 million</li> </ul>

#### **Caribbean Community (CARICOM)**

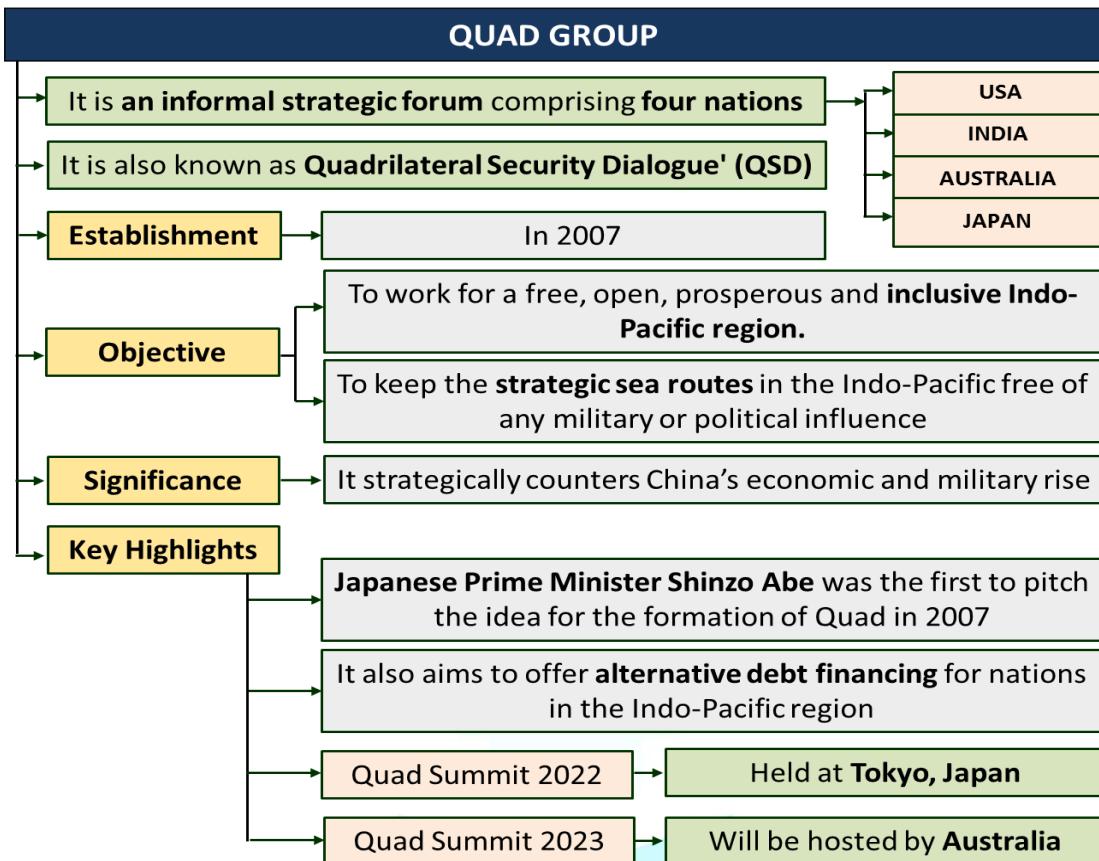
<b>Establishment</b>	→ 1973
<b>Total Members</b>	→ 15 Member States + 5 Associate Members
<b>Headquarters</b>	→ Georgetown, Guyana
<b>Present Head</b>	→ Carla Natalie Barnett (Secretary General)

### **2.107 Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) partnership guidelines**

#### **Why in News**

- Recently, the Quad (Australia, India, Japan, and the United States) countries signed the Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) partnership guidelines.
- It was signed on the sidelines of the **77<sup>th</sup> United Nations General Assembly** in New York (USA).

## About Quad



## 2.108 G20 (Group of Twenty)

### Why in News?

- The Government of India will be assuming the Rotating Presidency of G20 for one year from 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022 to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023.
- India to host the G20 Leaders' Summit at September 2023 in New Delhi.

### Additional Information

- For the first time, G20 troika would consist of three developing countries & emerging countries [Indonesia (2022), India (2023) & Brazil (2024)].
- G20 countries account for 85% of global Gross Domestic Product (GDP), 75% of international trade and two-thirds of the world population.

## Industrial Developments in India

## 2.109 Gati Shakti Cargo Terminals

### Why in News

- Recently, the Union Cabinet has approved a policy on long-term leasing of Railways' land as well as a proposal to develop 300 Gati Shakti cargo terminals (GSCTs) over the next five years.

### Key Details

- Additional revenue per year expected from 300 GSCTs: At least ₹30,000 crore.
- Long-term leasing of Railways' land for a period of up to 35 years as against 5 years at present.

### About Gati Shakti Multi-Modal Cargo Terminal (GCT) policy

- It has been launched in December 2021.
  - Aim: To boost investment in the development of additional terminals for handling rail cargos.
  - Target of 100 GCT within the next 3 financial years (2022-23 to 2024-25) has been set.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Gati Shakti Cargo Terminal has been commissioned in Thaparnagar (Jharkhand) of Asansol Division of Eastern Railway.
- Salient features of Gati Shakti Cargo Terminals (GCTs):
  - Simplified and hassle free approvals.
  - No departmental charges and Land License Fees.
  - For Terminals giving **1 MT or more outward traffic**, cost of mid-section Block Hut/ Block station to be reimbursed as **10% freight rebate**.
  - Maintenance of all assets (track, signaling, OHE) by Railway at its own cost, excluding the yard and loading/unloading lines.
  - Railway will **reserve the right to grant connectivity** to another Terminal(s) from such portions of track being maintained by Railway.

## 2.110 Contribution of MSME Sector in India

### Why in News

- Recently, **Union Minister of MSME** has addressed the conference which was hosted by the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM).
- Theme: '**Building Competitiveness for Global Value Chains**'.

### MSME Contribution in India

- It accounts for **50% of the country's total exports**.
- It contributes around **30% or one-third** to the GDP.
- Efforts are being made to **double the number of micro industries** in the **next five years** from the current **6 crores**.
- Today, there are more than **9 crore MSMEs** in the country.
  - Out of this, only 1.5 crore MSMEs are under GST (Goods and Service Tax).

### Additional information

- Union Minister also inaugurated the **Maharashtra MSME Expo 2022** in Mumbai.
- The Expo was organised in collaboration with the **Ministry of MSME** and the **MSME Development Organizations**, "Zhep Udyoginichi" and "We MSME".

## Multiculturalism

## 2.111 UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities (GNLCs)

- Recently, **Warangal** (Telangana), **Nilambur** (Kerala), and **Thrissur** (Kerala) have joined UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) Global Network of Learning Cities.
- These cities are the **India's first entrants** in the GNLCs.

### About UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities

- It is an international policy-oriented network coordinated by the **UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning (UIL)**.
  - It is a network of inspiration, know-how and best practices.
  - It promotes policy dialogue and peer learning, documenting effective strategies and best practice, building partnerships, capacity development etc.
- It supports the achievement of all 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
  - But mainly focus on **SDG 4** ('Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all') and **SDG 11** ('Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable').

- As per UNESCO, **77 cities from 44 countries** across the globe have joined the GNLCs.

#### **Additional information**

- Thrissur is known as **cultural capital of Kerala**.
  - It is also known for its jewellery industry, especially gold.
- Nilambur is an **eco-tourism destination** in the Kerala.
  - It aims to promote sustainable development, gender equality, inclusivity and democracy through community ownership.
  - It also aims to ensure employment opportunities and SDG 2 (zero hunger).
- Warangal has a **rich cultural heritage** (3.2 million tourists every year).
  - It promotes equity and inclusion.

### **2.112 India's first encyclopedia on tribal communities**

#### **Why in News**

- Recently, Odisha became the **first state in the country** to launch an **encyclopedia on tribal communities** to document their age-old and unique traditions.

#### **Key details**

- It is named as '**Encyclopedia of Tribes in Odisha**' (Published in 5 Volumes).
- Published by:** Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Research and Training Institute (**SCSTRTI**) and **Odisha State Tribal Museum**.

#### **Additional information**

- As per the **2011 Census**, tribal people constitute **22.85%** of Odisha's total population.
- It has the most diverse tribal communities (**62 tribes**) found in the country.
- In **2018**, Odisha brought out a **tribal atlas**.
  - It portrayed the **distributional aspects** of the Odisha's tribal population, ecological setting of the tribal habitats, and their socio-cultural attributes such as linguistic/dialectical affinity, sex composition and literary levels.

### **Social Movements**

### **2.113 Swachhata Campaign 2.0 and SCDPM 2022**

#### **Why in News**

- Recently, Union **Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions** has launched the **SCDPM (Special Campaign for Disposal of Pending Matters) 2.0 Portal** at Civil Services Officers' Institute (CSOI), New Delhi.
- Objective: Timely disposal of references (**reducing pendency**) and a clean work space (**Swachhata**).

#### **Key Details**

- It will focus more on **field/outstation offices** in addition to the **Ministries/ Departments** and their attached/subordinate offices.
- It will be supervised by the **Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG)**.
- Every Ministry/ Department is expected to use the **portal** during the preparatory phase to enter targets of their cleanliness campaign sites.
- It is expected to cover over **1.5 lakh** Post Offices, overseas mission/posts, Railway Stations, and other public offices **in mission mode** during the **month-long campaign**.

#### **Background**

- It is a sequel of the **1<sup>st</sup> Swachhata Campaign and SCDPM** organized in October 2021.

- Rs.62 crore of revenue was earned by disposing scrap of this campaign.

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

### 2.114 Electric Freight Accelerator for Sustainable Transport – India (e-Fast India) & Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) Evaluator

Electric Freight Accelerator for Sustainable Transport – India (e-Fast India)	
→	India's first national electric freight platform
→ Launched by	NITI Aayog, in collaboration with World Resources Institute (WRI), India
→ Supported by	World Economic Forum, CALSTART and RMI India
→ Key Feature	brings together stakeholders from across the freight ecosystem
→ Objective	to raise awareness on freight electrification supported by on-ground demonstration pilots and evidence-based research

- **Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) Evaluator**- an intuitive excel-based application.
  - Another initiative launched by **WRI India**.
  - It analyses cost components and performance parameters of light/medium/heavy-duty freight.
  - It compares electric variants with its diesel/petrol/ Compressed natural gas (CNG) counterparts, to identify their impact on TCO per km.

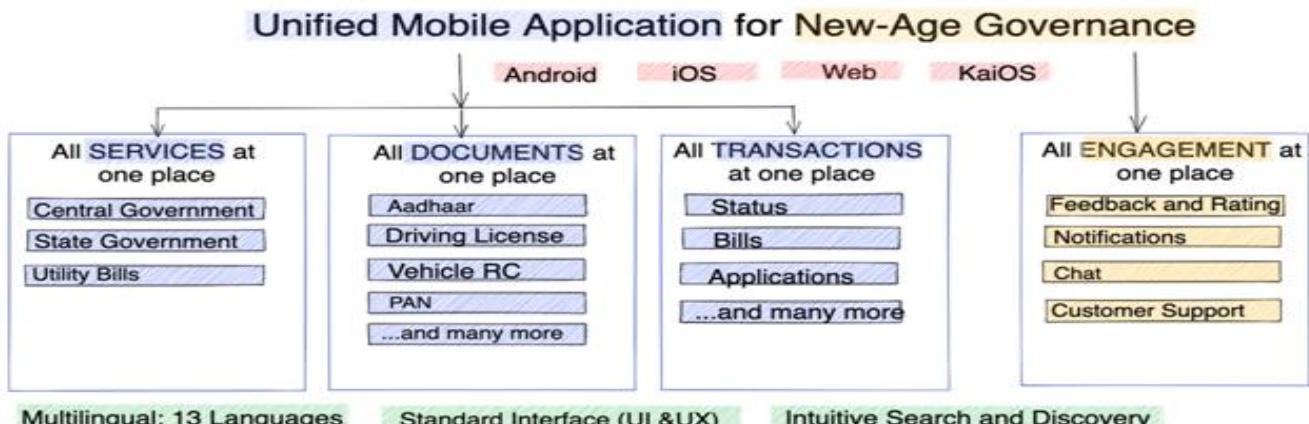
### 2.115 UMANG app

#### Why in News

- Recently, new digital services for Aadhaar Cardholders have been introduced in **UMANG (Unified Mobile Application for New age Governance) app**.
- Aim: To provide pan-India e-Gov services ranging from **Central to Local Government bodies**.

#### Key Details

- **New 4 Features added** on the App: 1. **Verify Aadhaar**: to check status of Aadhaar, 2. **Check status** of enrolment/update request, 3. **Verify Mobile and email** registered with Aadhaar, 4. **Retrieve EID/Aadhaar number**: To find out Aadhaar number or Enrollment ID.



#### Additional Information

- Some of the major services available are related to **Social Security & Pensions, Digilocker, Utilities, Student/youth, Health, Farmer, Important state services** and **General services** (PAN, Passport, e-court, PM Awas Yojana, Income Tax etc.)
- **App was developed by:** Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and National e-Governance Division (NeGD).

### 3 GA + Finance in News

#### Primary and Secondary Markets

##### 3.1 High-Powered Steering Committee on Cyber Security (HPSC-CS)

**Why in News?**

- Recently, **SEBI** has **restructured** the High-Powered Steering Committee on Cyber Security (**HPSC-CS**)

High Powered Steering Committee on Cyber Security (HPSC-CS)	
→ Constituted by	Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
→ Chairperson	Navin Kumar Singh
→ Total Members	Six (previously four)
→ Key Terms of Reference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To oversee &amp; provide overall guidance on cyber security initiatives for SEBI &amp; entire capital market</li> <li>To periodically review the mandate and functioning of SOCs (Security Operations Centers).</li> <li>To guide SEBI in setting up Cyber Lab / Cyber Center of Excellence for securities market</li> </ul>

##### 3.2 Bond Market Investments In Infrastructure Assets

**Why in News?**

- **CRISIL Ratings** has recently informed that **Infrastructure assets** are becoming strong contenders for **investment by the bond market**.
- **Reason:** improving credit risk profile and long-term nature.

**What is a bond market?**

- It is a **marketplace for trading debt securities**.
- Both **Government issued securities & corporate debt securities** are traded in bond markets.

**Additional Information**

- According to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), **domestic infrastructure sectors** attracted over **USD 74 billion** foreign direct investments (**FDI**) in the **last five years**.

##### 3.3 Global Bond Index

**Why in News?**

- Recently, bankers are showing interest **to include India into Global Bond Index**
- **Reason:** Russia's recent exclusion from Global Bond Index.
- India is expected to be included in the following Global bond indices-

- Emerging Markets Global Diversified, or GBI-EM, a Government Bond of JPMorgan.
- Global Bond Index of Goldman Sachs Group.

## About Global Bond Indices

- It includes the **emerging debt markets** that closely monitor local currency bonds that are **issued by governments of various developing nations**.

## Additional Information

- India has the **biggest bond market** among emerging economies that's not covered by global indices
- **Value of India's Sovereign Bond Market:** USD 1 trillion.
- India is the **fifth biggest equity market** in the world.
- India is **expected** to become the **third largest economy** of the world **by 2030**.

## 3.4 Additional Tier-1 (AT1) bonds

### Why in News?

- Recently, **Canara Bank** has raised **Rs 2,000 crore** in **AT1 bonds**.

**Note:** AT1 bonds discussed in July 2022 CA Magazine (News - 3.11).

## 3.5 Regional Rural Banks (RRBs)

### Why in News?

- Recently, the **Union Ministry of Finance** has issued the **Draft Guidelines for Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) To Raise Funds From Capital Market**
- **Key Benefit:** RRBs can raise funds via rights issue, private placement & initial public offering (IPO).

### Eligibility for RRBs to raise funds from capital market

Parameter	Criteria
Networth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• at least <b>Rs 300 crore</b> in each of the preceding three years</li> </ul>
Minimum Capital to Risk-weighted Assets Ratio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• above the regulatory requirement of 9% in each of the preceding three years</li> </ul>
Track record of profitability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• pre-tax operating profit of minimum Rs 15 crore for at least 3 out of previous 5 years, excluding extraordinary times</li> </ul>
Return on Equity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum 10% in 3 out of preceding 5 years</li> </ul>
Return on assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum 0.5% in 3 out of preceding 5 years.</li> </ul>
RRBs should <b>not have accumulated losses</b> .	
RRBs must be <b>compliant with statutory norms</b> of the <b>Banking Regulation Act, 1949</b> , and <b>RBI Act, 1935</b> .	
RRBs should <b>not be under prompt corrective action</b> by RBI/ National Bank for Agricultural & Rural Development (NABARD).	

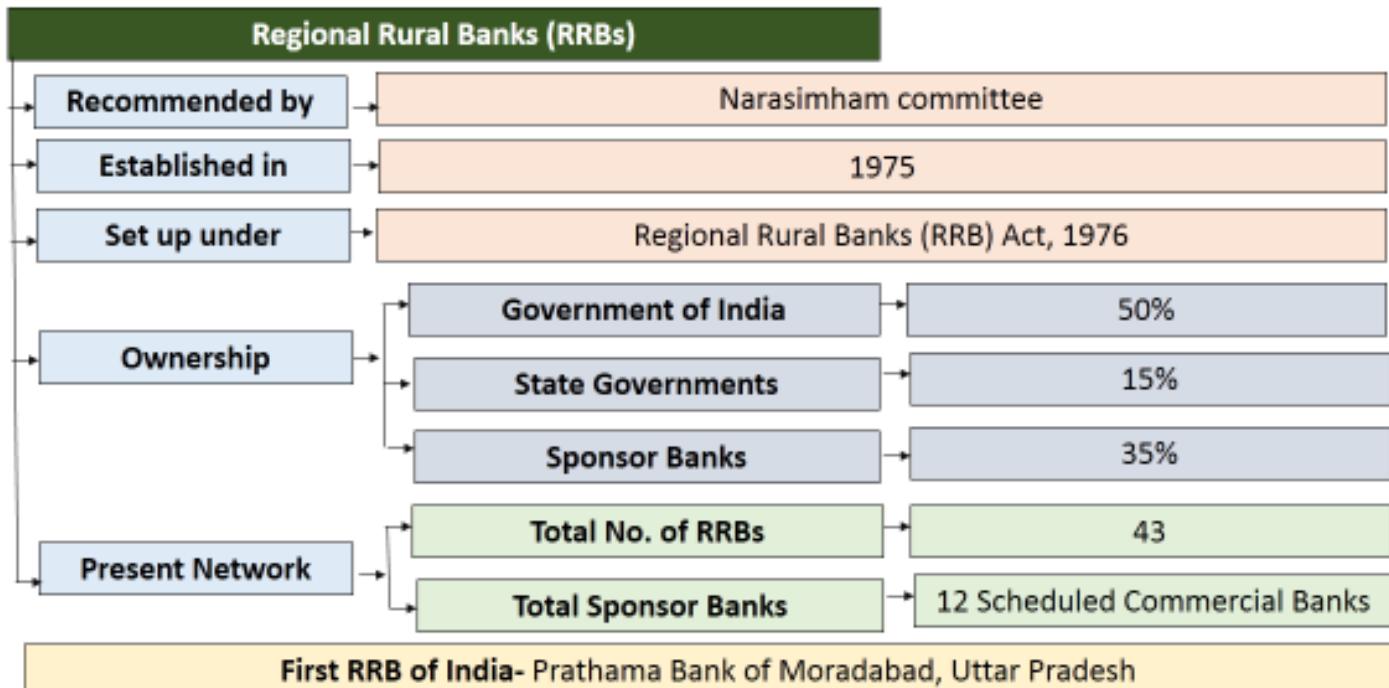
### Key Guidelines

- Before issuing shares through IPO, the RRBs must consider issue of bonus shares and a rights issue in consultation with the merchant bankers and the sponsor bank.
- The total value of the issue may first be placed through rights offer with the provision to facilitate promoter shareholders to subscribe/renounce the offer.
- The unsubscribed part of the proposed issue size may alone be sent for IPO based on the quantum and merits.
- Based on the size of the issue, a private placement for the sale of equity shares to selected investors may be considered by the Board of Directors of the RRB's.

- Equity shares may be offered to **large banks** and **insurance companies** like Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC).
- Other private insurance companies, pension funds and mutual funds may be approached to subscribe in a **book building process**.

#### Decrease in Shareholding in RRBs

- The **Department of Financial Services** under the Ministry of Finance may **consult the concerned State Government** to **reduce the shareholding in RRB below 15%** (in compliance of the section 69 (b) of RRBs Act, 1976, after amendment).
- A State Government may be advised the **approximate amount of additional share capital contribution required to retain its share at 15 %.**
- A **State Government** has to **respond within 30 days** from the date of receipt of the intimation.



### 3.6 Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) and Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvITs)

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has allowed **REITs & InvITs** to issue **commercial papers (CPs)**.

#### Guidelines for REIT/ InvITs to issue CPs

- Minimum Networth requirement to issue CPs: Rs 100 crore [prescribed by RBI in August 2022]
- The issuance of listed CPs should be within the **overall debt limit** permitted under the REITs and InvITs rules
- REITs & InvITs must abide by the **regulations prescribed by the RBI**
- REITs & InvITs must also follow the **listing norms prescribed by SEBI**

#### About Commercial Paper

- A short-term debt instrument issued by companies to raise funds generally for period up to one year.

#### About REIT

- A company that allows investors to invest in the units of portfolio of real estate assets without having to own the physical property itself.
- REITs are registered and regulated under the **SEBI (REITs) Regulations 2014**

#### About InVIT

- An investment vehicle created to hold income-generating and operational infrastructure assets such as roads, power transmission lines, etc.
- InvITs are registered and regulated under the **SEBI (InvITs) Regulations, 2014**.

### 3.7 Electronic Gold Receipts (EGR)

#### Why in News?

- Recently, **BSE Ltd.** has received **final approval** from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (**SEBI**) to **introduce Electronic Gold Receipt (EGR) segment** on its platform.
- It would be **India's first spot physical gold exchange product**.

#### Electronic Gold Receipts (EGR)

➤ EGR are similar to physical (dematerialized) form of equity shares.

➤ EGR are issued in exchange for physical gold.

➤ EGRs will cater to all market participants, viz, individual investors, importers, banks, refiners, bullion traders, jewellery manufacturers, and retailers,

#### HOW IT WORKS

- Investors can buy **electronic receipts** for gold kept in vaults
- These e-receipts could be **traded on exchanges**
- These could also be **exchanged for physical gold** at authorised vaults



#### Additional Information

- India is the **second largest consumer of gold** in the world.

### 3.8 Initial Public Offering (IPO)

#### News 1

- Recently, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (**SEBI**) has **tightened** the **disclosure requirements** for **initial public offerings (IPOs)**.

## Disclosure Norms for IPOs

- Issuers coming out with IPO must disclose Key Performance Indicators (**KPIs**) and **price per share of issuer**
- Basis of such disclosures: past transactions and past fundraising done by the issuer from the investors.
- The disclosure must be made under '**Basis for Issue Price**' section in the **offer document**, and in **Price Band Advertisement**.
- Companies must disclose about their **valuations based on issuance of new shares and secondary sale of shares, during the 18 months period prior to IPO..**
- If there are **no such transactions** during the **18 months period prior to IPO**, information must be disclosed for **price per share of Issuer Company** based on the last five primary or secondary transactions, not older than three years prior to IPO.
- Companies must also disclose **Weighted Average Cost of Acquisition (WACA)** based on **primary/secondary transaction(s), IPO floor price and cap price**
- The committee of independent directors must recommend that the **price band** is justified on the basis quantitative factors and **KPIs** vis-à-vis the **WACA** of primary issuance or secondary transaction(s)

### Present Disclosure Norms

- Issuer companies disclose **audited financial numbers**, key numbers on **KPIs** in different sections of Draft Red Herring Prospectus which are **not covered in the financial statements in the offer documents**.

### What is an IPO?

- It refers to a process by which a private company issues shares to the public for the first time

### News 2

- Recently, the **SEBI** has approved a proposal **introducing an alternative mechanism for pre-filing of offer documents** for companies contemplating IPOs.
- Pre-filing mechanism allows issuers to carry out limited interaction without disclosing any sensitive information public

### Pre-filing Mechanism of offer documents

- An issuer of an IPO must pre-file offer documents with **SEBI** and stock exchanges without making it available to the public for an initial scrutiny period only.
- A document with **SEBI's initial observation** would be made available for investors for atleast **21 days** to help them make better investment decisions.
- The existing mechanism of processing offer documents must also continue

### 3.9 Offer for Sale (OFS) Mechanism

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the **Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** has approved changes in the framework for **Offer for Sale (OFS)**.

## Framework for Offer for Sale (OFS)

Particulars	New Guidelines	Old Guidelines
<b>Minimum shareholding requirement for non-promoter shareholders to sell shares via OFS</b>	SEBI has <b>done away</b> with the minimum shareholding requirement.	Non-promoters must have <b>10% stake</b> in the firm and <b>willing to offer shares of at least Rs 25 crore</b>
<b>Cooling off period</b>	<b>reduced to as less as 2 weeks from 12 weeks</b> based on the <b>liquidity of securities of such eligible companies</b>	12 weeks
Real Estate Investment Trusts ( <b>REITs</b> )/ Infrastructure Investment Trust ( <b>InvITs</b> )	Unit holders/sellers of listed REITs / InvITs <b>can offer their holdings viz OFS</b>	--

### About Offer for Sale Mechanism

- Introduced by **SEBI** in India in **2012**.
- It helps **promoters to reduce their holdings in listed companies in a transparent manner**.

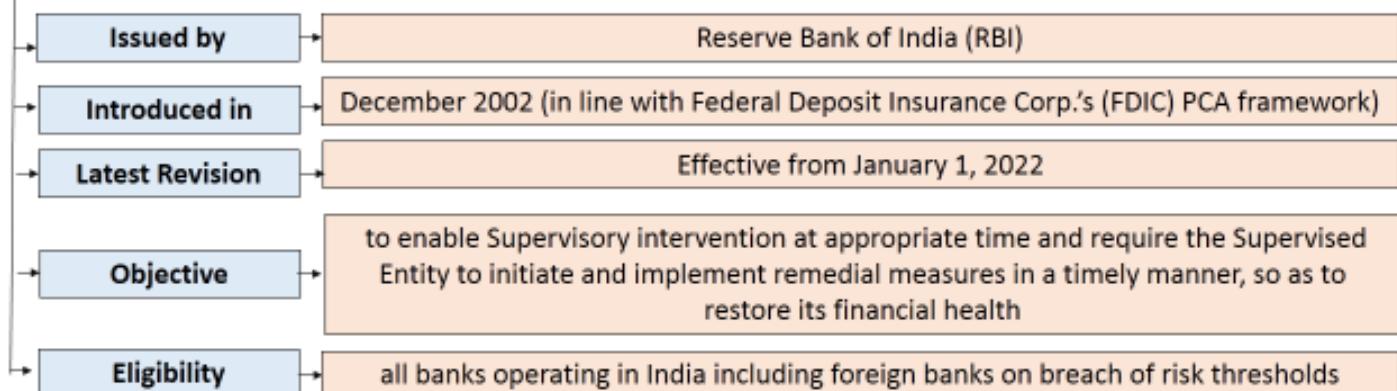
## Banking System in India

### 3.10 Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) Framework for Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs)

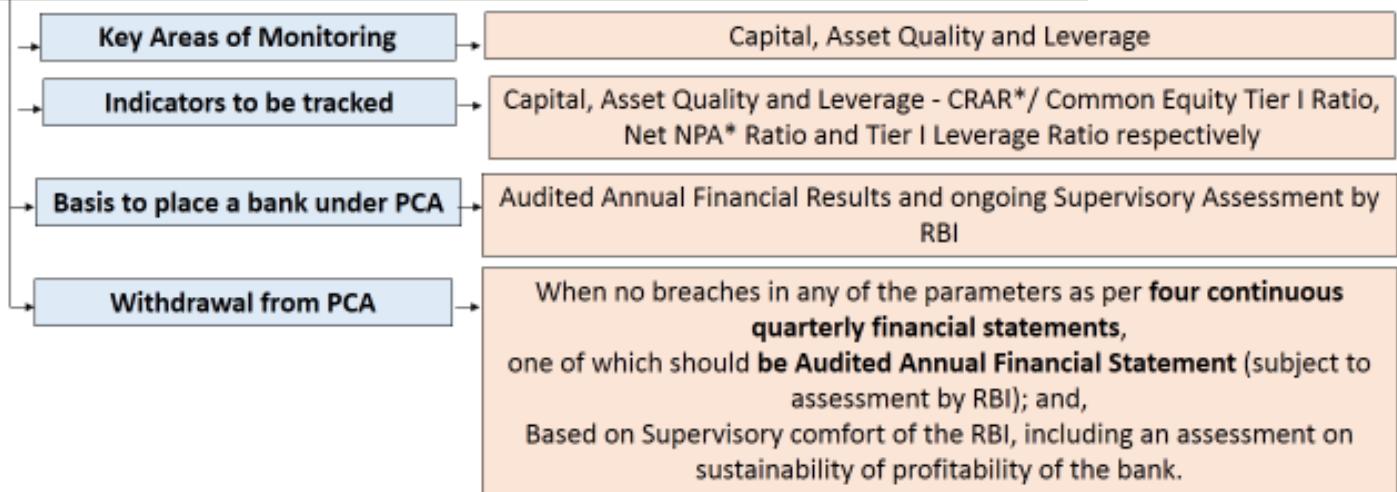
#### Why in News?

- Recently, the Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) has **removed Central Bank of India** from prompt corrective action (**PCA**) framework from SCBs.
  - It is the **last bank to exit PCA norms**.
- The **Board for Financial Supervision (BFS)** of RBI has reviewed the performance of the Central Bank of India and recommended the decision.

#### Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) Framework for Scheduled Commercial Banks



### Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) Framework for Scheduled Commercial Banks

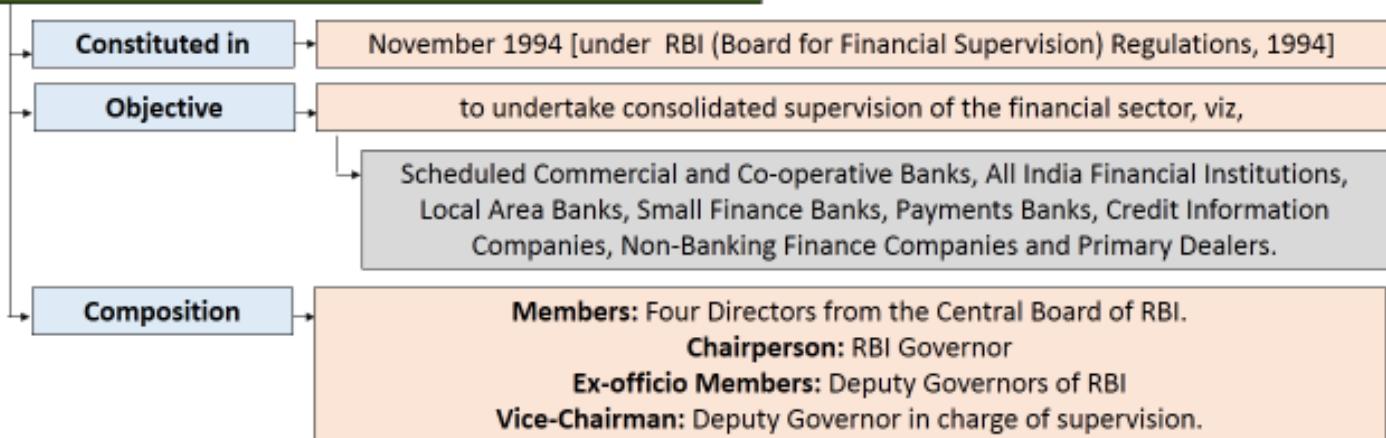


\*CRAR- capital-to-risk weighted assets ratio; \*NPA- Non performing asset.

PCA matrix – Parameters, indicators and risk thresholds

Parameter	Indicator	Risk Threshold 1	Risk Threshold 2	Risk Threshold 3
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Capital (Breach of either CRAR or CET 1 ratio)	CRAR - Minimum regulatory prescription for Capital to Risk Assets Ratio + applicable Capital Conservation Buffer (CCB)  and/or  Regulatory Pre-Specified Trigger of Common Equity Tier 1 Ratio (CET 1 PST) + applicable Capital Conservation Buffer (CCB)	Upto 250 bps below the Indicator prescribed at column (2)  Upto 162.50 bps below the Indicator prescribed at column (2)	More than 250 bps but not exceeding 400 bps below the Indicator prescribed at column (2)  More than 162.50 bps below but not exceeding 312.50 bps below the Indicator prescribed at column (2)	In excess of 400 bps below the Indicator prescribed at column (2)  In excess of 312.50 bps below the Indicator prescribed at column (2)
	Breach of either CRAR or CET 1 ratio to trigger PCA			
Asset Quality	Net Non-Performing Advances (NNPA) ratio	>=6.0% but <9.0%	>=9.0% but < 12.0%	>=12.0%
Leverage	Regulatory minimum Tier 1 Leverage Ratio	Upto 50 bps below the regulatory minimum	More than 50 bps but not exceeding 100 bps below the regulatory minimum	More than 100 bps below the regulatory minimum

### Board for Financial Supervision (BFS)



RBI undertakes the supervisory function under the guidance of BFS

### FinTech

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

Why in News?

- Recently, a **FinTech Co-operation Agreement** was signed between the Monetary Authority of Singapore (**MAS**) and the International Financial Services Centres Authority (**IFSCA**).
- Objective:** to facilitate regulatory collaboration and partnership in FinTech.
- Areas promoted in the agreement:** Regulatory sandbox & information sharing

## Background

- The agreement builds on the Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) on **Supervisory Co-operation** between **MAS** and **IFSCA** signed in **July 2022**

## About MAS

- Central Bank & Financial Regulator of Singapore; Headquarters:** Singapore.

### International Financial Services Centre Authority (IFSCA)



## 3.12 Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS) & Rupee Drawing Arrangement (RDA)

### Why in News?

- Recently, the RBI has decided to **allow foreign inward remittances** received under the **Rupee Drawing Arrangement (RDA)**.
- Such remittances must be transferred to the **Know Your Customer (KYC) compliant bank account** of the biller (beneficiary) through **Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS)**.
  - At present, remittances received under RDA can be transferred through **electronic modes** viz, National Electronic Funds Transfer (**NIFT**), Immediate Payment Service (**IMPS**).

### Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS) – One Stop Destination For All Recurring Payments



## THE STORY BEHIND BBPS



## About Rupee Drawing Arrangement (RDA)

- It is a channel to receive cross-border remittances from overseas jurisdictions.
- Under this arrangement, the **Authorised Category I banks** enter into tie-ups with the **non-resident Exchange Houses** in the Financial Action Task Force (**FATF**) compliant countries to open and maintain their **Vostro Account**.

## Key Terms

- **Non-resident Exchange Houses:** companies / financial institutions licenced and regulated by the competent authority in the sending country for sourcing the funds from the remitters.
- **Vostro Account:** an account held by a domestic bank holds for another foreign bank in the domestic bank's currency; the same account is termed as **nostro account for the foreign bank**.

## 3.13 Card Tokenization

### Why in News?

- Recently, the Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) has decided to **implement card tokenization norms** from **1<sup>st</sup> October 2022**.

Card Tokenization Norms	
Issued by	The Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
Effective from	1 <sup>st</sup> October 2022
Card Tokenization	the replacement of actual card details with an alternate code called the 'token'.
Guidelines	All credit and debit card data used in online, point-of-sale, and in-app transactions must be replaced with unique tokens by September 30, 2022. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Merchant websites can no longer save card information</li><li>Only banks and authorised card networks can save card details</li><li>No charges will be levied on customers for card tokenization</li><li>A customer can choose whether to tokenize the card or not</li></ul>
Key Benefit	Secure storage of card data

## 3.14 3rd Global Fintech Fest (GFF 2022)

### Why in News?

- Recently, **3<sup>rd</sup> GFF 2022** was held in a **hybrid mode** at Jio World Convention Center in Mumbai.
- **Event Organizers:** National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), Payment Council of India (PCI), and Fintech Convergence Council (FCC).
- **Theme:** 'Creating A Sustainable Financial World - Global | Inclusive | Green'.
- **Four Pillars of Discussions:** Planet, People, Prosperity, and Principles of Governance.

### Key initiatives launched

- Unified Payments Interface (**UPI**) via RuPay credit cards, UPI Lite & Inward cross-border remittances through the Bharat Bill Pay System (**BBPS**)/ BBPS cross-border bill payments.

### UPI payments via RuPay credit cards

Initiative of	National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)
Key Feature	RuPay credit cards will be linked to a <b>Virtual Payment Address (VPA)</b> or a UPI ID to facilitate such payments in an <b>offline mode</b>
First 3 Banks to go live with the initiative	Punjab National Bank, Union Bank of India, and Indian Bank via the Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM) app

### BBPS cross-border bill payments

First to go live	Federal Bank, along with United Arab Emirates (UAE) based Lulu Exchange
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### UPI Lite – On Device Wallet

A digital payment platform for <b>faster and simpler low-value transactions</b>					
Initiative of	National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)				
Transaction Limit	<table border="1"><tr><td>UPI Lite payment transaction</td><td>Rs 200</td></tr><tr><td>Total limit of UPI LITE Balance on a device</td><td>Rs. 2000 (at any point in time)</td></tr></table>	UPI Lite payment transaction	Rs 200	Total limit of UPI LITE Balance on a device	Rs. 2000 (at any point in time)
UPI Lite payment transaction	Rs 200				
Total limit of UPI LITE Balance on a device	Rs. 2000 (at any point in time)				
Key Features	<table border="1"><tr><td>UPI Lite enabled on Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM) app</td></tr><tr><td>Transactions can be performed in <b>near offline mode</b></td></tr></table>	UPI Lite enabled on Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM) app	Transactions can be performed in <b>near offline mode</b>		
UPI Lite enabled on Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM) app					
Transactions can be performed in <b>near offline mode</b>					
Roll out status	At present, <b>customers of eight banks</b> can use this facility				

### Additional Information

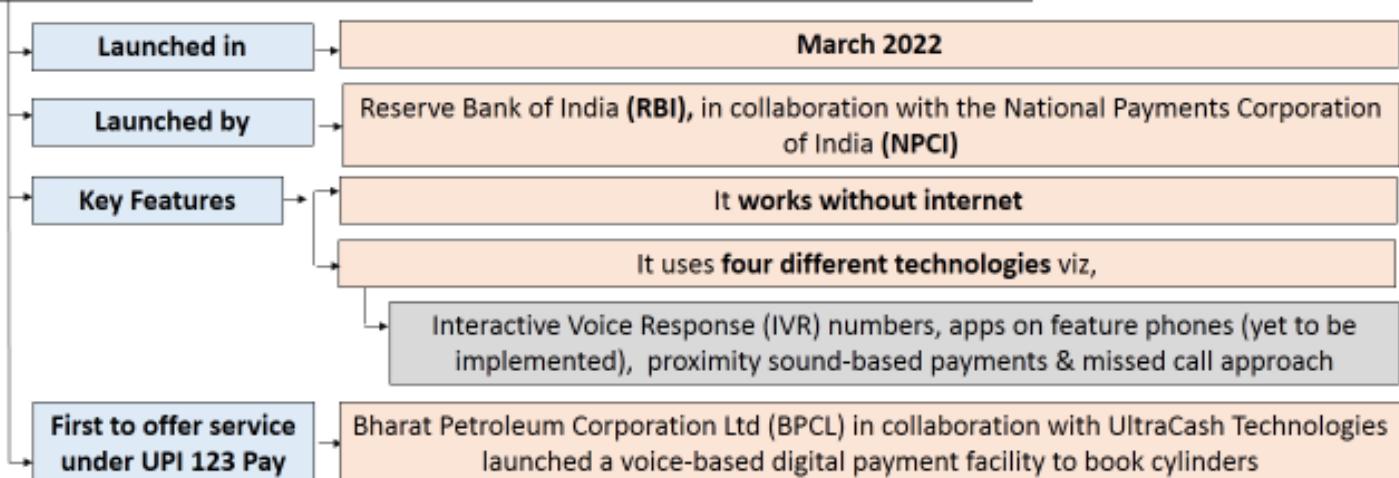
- The value of UPI transactions crossed Rs 10.62 lakh crore in July 2022 through 6.28 billion transactions.

## 3.15 UPI 123Pay

### Why in News?

- Recently, the National Payments Corp. Of India (NPCI) has informed that the **UPI 123Pay** has gained some early traction.

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



### 3.16 New Initiatives of UIDAI

#### Why in News

- Recently, the **Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)** has demonstrated the new set of initiatives at the **3<sup>rd</sup> edition of Global Fintech Fest 2022** in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- Objective:** To help residents use Aadhaar voluntarily and support ease of Living.

#### Key Details

- This initiative uses **three existing Aadhaar components**: 1. Offline KYC Verification, 2. Local Face Matching and 3. mAadhaar Application.
- Guiding principles: **Simplicity in usage** for the residents, **respecting the privacy** of every individual and empowering resident to share their information voluntarily.

#### Other information shared about Aadhar

- Aadhaar saturation is **near universal among** the adult residents in India, and among the overall population it has a saturation level of nearly **94%**.
- UIDAI is touching lives of residents more than **7 crore times a day** via various authentications.

### 3.17 National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the **NPCI** has **re-appointed Dilip Asbe** as its **Managing Director (MD) & Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** for five years.
- NPCI is the **umbrella organization** for operating retail payments and settlement systems in India.

## National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)

Establishment	2008
Initiative of	Reserve Bank of India ( <b>RBI</b> ) and Indian Banks' Association ( <b>IBA</b> )
Set up under	Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007
Headquarters	Mumbai, Maharashtra
Key Features	<p><b>Umbrella organisation</b> for operating <b>retail payments and settlement systems and infrastructure.</b></p> <p>Incorporated as a <b>specialised division</b> of the <b>RBI</b></p>
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.

### 3.18 Fraud Registry

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) has announced **plans** to setup a **fraud registry**.
- The fraud registry mechanism would **identify and collect IP addresses/email IDs/ mobile numbers** that are **frequently used to commit online frauds**.
- The identified **perpetrators** would be **blacklisted & they cannot open bank accounts in multiple banks** to park the illegal money.

#### Data related to complaints received by RBI & Ombudsman Offices

Particulars	Key Information
Complaints received by Ombudsman offices in 2021-22	4.18 lakh
Share of complaints related to electronic transactions (including digital banking) received by RBI	39%

#### Additional Information

- RBI has advised bank customers to use its **Complaint Management System (CMS) portal** to lodge complaints under the Integrated Ombudsman Scheme (IOS 2021).

**Note:** IOS 2021 discussed in Ministry wise schemes document part-2.

### 3.19 Regulatory Sandbox of RBI

#### News 1

- Recently, the Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) has selected the **two entities** for the **test phase** under the '**On Tap**' application facility.

Entity Name	Product Description	Theme
HDFC Bank (in partnership with Sweden-based Crunchfish Aktiebolag)	Offline Retail Payments	'Retail Payments'
Precision Biometric India Pvt. Ltd.	Innalt Key Solution for Banking	

#### News 2

- RBI has announced that the **Fifth Cohort** under Regulatory Sandbox will be **theme neutral**.

#### News 3

- As per the **Enabling Framework for Regulatory Sandbox**, the **Second Cohort** on '**Cross Border Payments**' has been declared **open** for **On Tap application**.

## Regulatory Sandbox (RS) of RBI

→ <b>Introduced in</b>	→ 2019
→ <b>Recommended by</b>	→ Inter-Regulatory Working Group on FinTech and Digital Banking in 2018
→ <b>Objective</b>	→ to foster responsible innovation in financial services, promote efficiency and expand benefits to consumers
→ <b>Key Features</b>	→ RS refers to <b>live testing of new products or services in a controlled/test regulatory environment.</b>

### About Inter-Regulatory Working Group on FinTech and Digital Banking

- **Constituted by:** RBI; **Constituted in:** 2016
- **Chairperson:** Sudarshan Sen

## Recent Development in Financial Sector

### 3.20 Ministry of Corporate Affairs extends tenure of the Company Law Committee by one year

- Recently, the **Ministry of Corporate Affairs** has extended the **tenure** of the **Company Law Committee** by **one year** i.e. **till 16<sup>th</sup> September 2023**.

#### About Company Law Committee

- **Constituted in:** 2019; **Constituted by:** Ministry of Corporate Affairs
  - Constituted as a part of Government of India's efforts to **promote ease of doing business & ease of living.**
- **Chairperson:** Tarun Bajaj, Corporate Affairs Secretary; **Total Members:** 11
- **Objective:** to examine & recommend to the Government on various provisions and issues related to the Companies Act, 2013 and the Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008 and other related matters.

### 3.21 CBDT Grants Income Tax Exemption to CERSAI

- Recently, the Central Board of Direct taxes (**CBDT**) has **granted income tax exemption** to Central Registry of Securitisation Asset Reconstruction and Security Interest of India (**CERSAI**).
- **Exemption granted under:** Section 10 (46) of the Income Tax (IT) Act, 1961.
- **Exemption list:** CERSAI has been exempted to pay income tax for the following categories of income
  - Fee income from security interest transaction,
  - Fee income from transactions on Central KYC (CKYC) records registry.
  - Right to information (RTI) application fee
  - Interest income earned on fixed deposits and other incomes mentioned above.
- The exemption is **applicable** for the financial years **2018-2019 to 2022-2023**.

#### What does Section 10 (46) of IT Act Say?

- The section & the clause provides for the **Government to exempt specified income of entities** such as an **authority, Board, Trust or Commission** from the taxable income subject to riders.
- Such entities must be set up under a **central, state or other laws** or be set up by **government for regulating or administering any activity** for the benefit of the public.
- The entities enjoying tax benefits **cannot be engaged in a commercial activity.**

#### About CERSAI

- It is a Government of India company licensed under **section 8** of the **Companies Act, 2013**.
- CERSAI was **set up to record security interest of lenders on assets.**

- CERSAI maintains a **central record of the lien lenders have on collaterals** in order to prevent people from borrowing against the same asset from different lenders fraudulently.
- CERSAI maintains the following registries viz, **Security Interest Registry & Central Know Your Customer (KYC) registry**.

### 3.22 Expert Committee to Suggest Ways For Scaling Up of VC/PE investments

Expert Committee For Scaling Up of Venture Capital (VC)/ Private Equity (PE) investments	
Constituted by	Union Ministry of Finance
Chairperson	M Damodaran
Total Members	Six
Key Terms of Reference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to adopt a systems approach to study the end-to-end frictions and potential accelerants from regulatory policy and taxation to facilitate ease of investing, to encourage investments in India</li> <li>To review issues, compliances and suggest simplifications and changes for further accelerating the growth of alternative capital to participate in the VC/PE industry</li> <li>to suggest measures to further accelerate investments into start-ups and sunrise sectors</li> <li>to suggest measures to further accelerate investments into start-ups and sunrise sectors</li> </ul>
Background	The idea to set up the committee- announced in the <b>Union Budget 2022-23</b>

#### Key Terms

- **Private Equity:** A type of alternative investment, that invests in or acquires private companies that are not listed on a public stock exchange
- **Venture Capital:** A type of private equity funding offered to start-ups and companies at the developing stage.
- **Sunrise Sector:** A business sector displaying potential for substantial and rapid growth. Examples- Renewable Energy, Artificial Intelligence

### 3.23 Revision of threshold of paid up capital & turnover of small companies

Threshold of paid up capital of small companies					
Revised by	Union Ministry of Corporate Affairs				
Revised under	Companies Act, 2013				
Objectives	to further facilitate ease of doing business; reduce compliance burden on small companies				
Paid Up Capital	<table border="1" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td>New Threshold</td><td>Rs. 4 crore</td></tr> <tr> <td>Old Threshold</td><td>Rs. 2 crore</td></tr> </table>	New Threshold	Rs. 4 crore	Old Threshold	Rs. 2 crore
New Threshold	Rs. 4 crore				
Old Threshold	Rs. 2 crore				
Turnover	<table border="1" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td>New Threshold</td><td>Rs. 40 crore</td></tr> <tr> <td>Old Threshold</td><td>Rs. 20 crore</td></tr> </table>	New Threshold	Rs. 40 crore	Old Threshold	Rs. 20 crore
New Threshold	Rs. 40 crore				
Old Threshold	Rs. 20 crore				

#### Key Benefits of Revision of threshold:

- Preparation of cash flow statement as a part of financial statement is **not required**.

- Advantage of preparing and filing an Abridged Annual Return.
- Mandatory rotation of auditor not required.
- An Auditor of a small company don't have to report on the adequacy of the internal financial controls and its operating effectiveness in the auditor's report.
- Holding of only two board meetings per year.
- Annual Return of the company can be signed by the company secretary, or, by a director of the company (in case of no company secretary).

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

#### Why in News?

- Recently, New Regulations to Streamline Communication Rules for Company Administrators was issued by Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI)
- Issued under: Insolvency Resolution Process for Corporate Persons (Fourth Amendment) Regulations.
- Objective: to facilitate timely decision making.

#### Key Regulations

- Mode of communication between Resolution professional hired by the lenders & stakeholders: emails.
- Credentials of the email account must be shared to new resolution professional under the following circumstances
  - If there is a change in the professional
  - Replacement by a resolution professional
  - Replacement of a resolution professional
- A public announcement made will be deemed to be the communication, if it is not possible to send a communication to creditors.

#### Guidance on the strategy for the marketing of assets of the corporate debtor

- A resolution professional must prepare a strategy for the marketing of the assets of the corporate debtor in consultation with lenders where the total assets exceed Rs 100 crore.
- Such strategy & its cost should be approved by the lenders' committee.

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

Regulator of overseeing Insolvency Professionals, Insolvency Professional Agencies, Insolvency Professional Entities and Information Utilities	
Set up in	October, 2016
Set up under	Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016
Headquarters	New Delhi

### 3.25 IBBI (Liquidation Process) Regulations, 2022 & IBBI (Voluntary Liquidation Process) Regulations, 2022

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) has amended Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India [IBBI] (Liquidation Process) Regulations, 2016 and IBBI (Voluntary Liquidation Process) Regulations, 2017.

- Name of the new regulations:** IBBI (Liquidation Process) Regulations, 2022 & IBBI (Voluntary Liquidation Process) Regulations, 2022
- Effective from:** 16th September, 2022.

### Key Amendments

Particulars	Amendments
Role of Committee of Creditors constituted during Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process (CIRP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CoC shall act as <b>Stakeholders Consultation Committee (SCC)</b> in the <b>first 60 days</b>.</li> <li><b>After adjudication of claims and within 60 days of initiation of process</b>, the <b>SCC</b> shall be <b>reconstituted based upon admitted claims</b></li> </ul>
Meetings of SCC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Liquidator</b> must <b>conduct the meetings</b> of SCC in a structured and time bound manner.</li> </ul>
Enlargement of scope of mandatory consultation by liquidator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>SCC</b> may even <b>propose replacement of liquidator</b> to the <b>Adjudicating Authority (AA)</b> and fix the fees of liquidator, if the <b>CoC did not fix the same during CIRP</b>.</li> </ul>
Verification of claim by liquidator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If <b>any claim is not filed during liquidation process</b>, then the <b>amount of claim collated during CIRP</b> shall be <b>verified by the liquidator</b>.</li> </ul>
Proposal of compromise or arrangement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If <b>CoC decides that the process of compromise or arrangement</b> may be explored during liquidation process, the <b>liquidator shall file application only in such cases before AA</b> for considering the proposal of compromise or arrangement, if any, <b>within 30 days of the order of liquidation</b>.</li> </ul>
Application for dissolution or closure of the process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Before filing such application, <b>SCC</b> shall advise the <b>liquidator</b>, the manner in which proceedings <b>in respect of avoidance transactions or fraudulent or wrongful trading</b>, shall be pursued after closure of liquidation proceedings.</li> </ul>

### Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process (CIRP)

<b>Definition</b>	process of resolving the corporate insolvency of a corporate debtor in accordance with the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (Code)
<b>Who can initiate CIRP?</b>	Financial creditor (section 7 of the code), an operational creditor (section 9) and corporate applicant of corporate debtor (section 10).
<b>Minimum default amount to initiate CIRP</b>	Rs 1 crore

### 3.26 Appellate Tribunal – Prevention of Money Laundering Act (AT PMLA)

- Recently, the **Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance** has appointed **Justice M N Bhandari** as the **Chairman of the Appellate Tribunal** under the **Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2022**.
- He has been appointed to the role under the **Smugglers and Foreign Exchange Manipulators Act (SAFEMA), 1976**.

## Appellate Tribunal for PMLA (AT PMLA)

Set up under	Section 25, PMLA Act
Set up by	Central Government
Headquarters	New Delhi
Composition	Chairperson (who is or has been a Judge of the High Court or Supreme Court)
	Four Members
Key Functions	Adjudicates appeals and allied petitions against the attachments/forfeitures order passed by the Competent Authorities under <b>SAFEMA</b> and Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 ( <b>NDPSA</b> ).
	Adjudicates orders of attachments/forfeitures of properties involved in Money Laundering by Adjudicating Authority under PMLA
	Adjudicates appeals filed against the orders imposing fine passed by the Director-Financial Intelligence Unit India ( <b>FIU-India</b> )

### Background

- Appellate Tribunal for PMLA (AT PMLA) started functioning from the premises of **Appellate Tribunal for Forfeited Property (ATFP)**.
- AT PMLA hears the appeals against the orders passed by Adjudicating Authority under PMLA from **2009**.
- **ATFP under the SAFEMA** and the **AT PMLA** merged in **2016 through the Finance Act, 2016**.

**Note:** PMLA 2002 discussed in August 2022 CA Magazine (News 2.267).

### 3.27 Companies (Corporate Social Responsibility Policy [CSR]) Rules

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the **Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA)** has **released the Companies (Corporate Social Responsibility Policy) Amendment Rules, 2022**.
- The new rules have replaced Companies (Corporate Social Responsibility Policy) Rules, 2014.

#### Key Amendments

Particulars	Key Information
Eligibility Criteria for Companies to spend on CSR activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Minimum net worth- Rs 500 crore or a minimum turnover - Rs 1,000 crore or net profit- Rs 5 crore or more during the immediately preceding financial year.</b></li> </ul>
CSR Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Companies with unspent amount in its unspent CSR accounts must setup a CSR Committee.</b></li> </ul>
Expenditure of impact assessment that could be counted towards CSR obligations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased to <b>2% of a company's CSR Expenditure or Rs 50 lakh</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Previous Limit:</b> 5% of its CSR expenditure or Rs 50 lakh, whichever is lower.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
New Format for the annual report on CSR activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To be <b>included in the board's report</b> for the financial year <b>commencing on or after April, 2020.</b></li> <li>• <b>Key disclosures:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ CSR policy and CSR projects approved by the board on the company website</li> <li>○ Composition of the CSR Committee</li> <li>○ Executive summary along with the web links of impact assessment of CSR projects.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

- Details about the CSR amount spent against ongoing projects and those other than ongoing projects.

### About Unspent CSR Account

- It is a **special bank account**.
- Amounts remaining **unspent in a financial year** relating to an ongoing project & any **unutilised surplus arising from the CSR activities** are required to be **deposited** under unspent CSR Account.

### Additional Information

- Under **Companies Act 2013**, certain classes of **profitable companies** are required to spend at **least 2% of their average net profit of the preceding three financial years** on **CSR activities** in a particular financial year.

### 3.28 Digital payment rose to ₹10.73 lakh crore in August 2022

- According to data released by National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), digital payment transactions value through **UPI (Unified Payment Interface)** rose to **₹10.73 lakh crore** in August.

### Key details

Type of Transaction (Txn)	August 2022		July 2022	
	Txn count	Txn value	Txn count	Txn value
UPI (Unified Payment Interface) - based	657 crore	₹10.73 lakh crore	628 crore	₹10.63 lakh crore
IMPS (Immediate payment system) - based	466.91 mn	₹04.46 lakh crore	46.08 crore	₹04.45 lakh crore
AePS (Aadhaar Enabled Payment System) - based	105.65 mn	₹27,186 crore	11.04 crore	₹30,199 crore

Note: mn stands for Million



## 4 Static

### 4.1 List of Important Organizations with Headquarters

S.No	Organization Name	Headquarters	Establishment Date/Year	Head
1.	NGT	New Delhi	18 <sup>th</sup> October 2010	Adarsh Kumar Goel (Chairperson)
2.	CERSAI	New Delhi	2011	Pramod Ramchandra Datar (Registrar, MD & CEO)
3.	IMF	Washington, D.C., U.S	1944	Kristalina Georgieva (Managing Director)
4.	NTPC	New Delhi	1975	Gurdeep Singh (CMD)
5.	CIL	Kolkata	1975	Pramod Agarwal (CMD)
6.	APEDA	New Delhi	1986	Dr. M. Angamuthu (Chairman)

7.	OECD (Total members- 38)	Paris, France	1961	Mathias Cormann (Secretary-General)
8.	UNGA	New York, USA	1945	Csaba Korosi (President)
9.	ISRO	Bengaluru	1969	S. Somanath (Administrator)
10.	UNEP	Nairobi, Kenya	1972	Inger Andersen (Executive Director)
11.	ITU	Geneva, Switzerland	1865	Houlin Zhao (Secretary General)
12.	ICAO	Montreal, Canada	1944	Salvatore Sciacchitano (President)
13.	SIDBI	Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh	1990	Sivasubramanian Ramann (Chairman & MD)
14.	NASA	Washington, D.C, USA	1958	Bill Nelson (Administrator)
15.	ISRO	Bengaluru	1969	S. Somanath (Administrator)
16.	CSIR	New Delhi	1942	Dr. Nallathamby Kalaiselvi (DG)

#### 4.2 Countries in News

S.No.	Country	Currency	Capital
1.	USA	US Dollar	Washington, D.C.
2.	UK	British Pound Sterling	London
3.	Germany	Euro	Berlin
4.	Angola	Angolan Kwanza	Luanda
5.	Madagascar	Malagasy Ariary	Antananarivo
6.	China	Renminbi	Beijing
7.	Russia	Ruble	Moscow
8.	Italy	Euro	Rome
9.	Australia	Australian Dollar	Canberra
10.	Cambodia	US Dollar, Cambodian Riel	Phnom Penh
11.	Philippines	Philippine Peso	Manila
12.	Japan	Yen	Tokyo
13.	Qatar	Qatari riyal	Doha
14.	Uzbekistan	Som	Tashkent

15.	Namibia	Namibian Dollar	Windhoek
16.	Latvia	Euro	Riga
17.	Indonesia	Indonesian rupiah	Jakarta
18.	Bangladesh	Bangladeshi Taka	Dhaka
19.	Uganda	Shilling	Kampala
20.	Serbia	Serbian Dinar	Belgrade
21.	Romania	Romanian Leu	Bucharest
22.	Sri Lanka	Sri Lankan Rupee	Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte
23.	Hungary	Forint	Budapest
24.	Gabon	Central African CFA franc	Libreville
25.	Seychelles	Seychellois Rupee	Victoria
26.	Australia	Australian Dollar	Canberra
27.	Saudi Arabia	Saudi riyal	Riyadh
28.	UAE	Dirham	Abu Dhabi
29.	Russia	Russian ruble	Moscow

### 4.3 Banks in News

S.No	Bank	Headquarters	Managing Director (MD)/Chief Executive Officer (CEO)	Tagline
1.	Bank of Baroda	Vadodara	Sanjiv Chadha (MD & CEO)	India's International Bank
2.	Union Bank of India	Mumbai, Maharashtra	A. Manimekhala	Good People to Bank With
3.	Airtel Payments Bank	New Delhi	Anubrata Biswas	--
4.	UCO Bank	Kolkata, West Bengal	Soma Sankara Prasad	Honours your Trust
5.	Yes Bank	Mumbai	Prashant Kumar	Experience Our Expertise
6.	Laxmi Co-operative Bank Limited	Solapur, Maharashtra	--	--
7.	Axis Bank	Mumbai	Amitabh Chaudhry	Badhti ka Naam Zindagi
8.	Bank of India	Mumbai	Atanu Kumar Das	Relationship Beyond Banking



# EduTap Hall of Fame



**NABARD Grade A 2021**

**62 Selections Out of 74**



Mr. Albin Sunny



Mr. Amol Darade



Mr. Ankith



Mr. Deepak Kumar



Mr. Gowtham



Mr. Vikram Joshi



Mr. Vinayak Langote



Ms. Arti Shukla



Mr. Nimish



Mr. Nithin



Mr. Prajakt Dhawale



Mr. Pravin



Ms. Dharana



Ms. Pavithra

**RBI Grade B 2020 - 21**

**198 Selections Out of 257**



Mr. Ajil



Mr. Aman Choudhary



Mr. Arun Sharma



Ms. Ila Sahu



Mr. Nishant Yadav



Ms. Ojaswi Dale



Mr. Parimal S Athaley



Ms. Resmarani Sahoo



Mr. Ryan Varghese



Mr. Shubham



Mr. Somya Atre



Ms. Srishti Dabas



Ms. Twinkle Dahiya



Mr. Vaibhav Nayer

**SEBI Grade A 2022**

**58 Selections Out of 80**



Abhishek Ashish



Anurag Bolia



Avinash Jaiswal



Chetan Choraria



Gourav Singh



Himanshi



Vishwabahu



Rishabh



Roshan Lal



Srinidhi Adhikary



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