



pravahini

Monthly Compendium

of Current Affairs by **SUCCESS MANTRA** (GTB Nagar)

PREFACE

It gives us great pleasure to release the monthly edition of the PRAVAHINI – Monthly e-Compendium & Weekly e-Periodicals of Current Affairs. The magazine's members have shown considerable cooperation as well as devotion. We at successmantra.in work tirelessly to create this magazine and bring it to you with a great sense of gratitude.

The PRAVAHINI August-2022 eBook covers the current events that happened in the month of August. Current Affairs is a crucial component of any competitive exams including CLAT, AILET, DU-LLB, HM, CAT, IAS, PCS, SSC, Banking, MBA and various other competitive examinations.

Current Affairs play the bigger role in many competitive and government exams. It holds the power of making or breaking your chance of success. Therefore, the candidates should cover the Current Affairs thoroughly and smartly.

The PRAVAHINI August-2022 eBook is divided into different sections keeping in mind the need of various exams. The sections covered namely International, National, Economy, Ecology and Environment, Science & Technology, Legal Affairs, Sports, States News Makers and few others.

We would also be pleased to receive any suggestion that could assist us with the upcoming editions.

Success Mantra (GTB Nagar, Delhi)

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Our Goal

Our goal at Success Mantra is to provide Quality education at rational price and thereby to create an environment that guides students towards the path of the success. Along with designing the curriculum and delivering the lectures, we work upon the ways the students think and approach problems asked.

B.S. Shanti



Success Mantra (Delhi) is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out, for your accomplishment. Delhi, GTB Nagar, branch of SUCCESS MANTRA Coaching is considered as the paramount choice of Law and Management aspirants, across country. Because, at the end of the day, it is our results which speak !

Since a decade, we have delivered thousands of 'Gems Students' to the nation and persistent in doing so. It is the platform where student's ideology is developed and their dreams take the face of reality. This act is splendidly demonstrable on our result chart of applicable courses. Students from numerous junctions of India come to GTB Nagar to avail best coaching classes at rational price. The vision, of making the quality education accessible to all, is furthermore augmented by the launch of EASE VIDYA Mobile application.

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NATIONAL AFFAIRS

GOVERNMENT WITHDRAWS DATA PROTECTION BILL



The government has **withdrawn the Personal Data Protection Bill** from Parliament as it looks to come up with a “comprehensive legal framework” for regulating online space including separate legislation

on data privacy, the overall internet ecosystem, cybersecurity, telecom regulations, and harnessing non-personal data for boosting innovation in the country.

According to IT Ministry sources, the government is targeting the winter session of Parliament to introduce the new legislation.

What Is Data Protection Bill:

It sets the rules for how personal data **should be processed and stored, and lists people's rights with respect to their personal information.** The Bill sought to establish a Data Protection Authority in the country for the protection of digital privacy of individuals.

The Bill was first drafted by an expert committee headed by **Justice B.N. Srikrishna in 2018.** The **central government introduced a draft of the Bill in 2019 in the Lok Sabha,** which was referred to the Joint Parliamentary Committee in December 2021 and was later tabled in Parliament after six extensions.

WHAT IS PROJECT TIGER?



In India, **Project Tiger was launched on 1973.** As it is the world's largest home for Royal Bengal Tigers and hosts more than 70% of the total tally of tigers in the World.

A huge number of tigers found in India make it an easy target for hunting and poaching. **To prevent these acts and save tigers, Project Tiger was launched.** It was the first of its kind of project in India which initiated the Tiger Protection campaign.

Project Tiger: History

The Project Tiger was launched in 1973 by the government of India under the power of Indira Gandhi from the **Jim Corbett National Park in Uttarakhand.**

Project Tiger: Aims

To identify factors causing the reduction in tiger habitats
To mitigate the tigers through suitable management practices.

To resolve the condition of natural ecosystems which were damaged by the time.

To maintain an appropriate tiger population for their economic, ecological, aesthetical, and cultural significance.

TARGET TO ELIMINATE KALA AZAR BY 2023

The Union Government of India has set the target to **eliminate Kala-azar** from the country by 2023. According to **Dr Bharati Pravin Pawar (Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare),** out of 633 Kala-azar endemic blocks, 625 blocks have successfully eliminated the kala-azar in 2021.



India's target is way ahead than the **World Health Organisation (WHO)'s target of eliminating the disease by 2030.**

About Kala Azar:

Kala Azar is also called Leishmaniasis. It is a neglected tropical disease, by which over 100 countries are affected, including India.

Neglected tropical diseases are a group of multiple communicable diseases that are prevalent in tropical and subtropical conditions of 149 countries. The **disease is caused due to a parasite called Leishmania.** This parasite is transmitted via bite of sand flies.

ANTI-DOPING BILL PASSED BY PARLIAMENT

The **Anti-doping bill prohibits athletes and other persons** related to sports from engaging in doping. The Rajya Sabha passed the bill on 3rd August 2022.



If any **violation is found against the Anti-doping rules,** then it may lead to disqualification of the particular person and they may have to face severe consequences like **ineligibility to participate in a competition or event for a particular period.**

The **Anti-doping rules are enforced by the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA)**. NADA will be the statutory body for the bill and will be headed by a **Directed General appointed by the central government**.

The bill, however, doesn't specify any qualification for the Director General of NADA. The **bill mentions that the central government has the authority to remove the Director General from office on the grounds of misbehavior or incapacity or other grounds**.

WILDLIFE (PROTECTION) AMENDMENT BILL, 2021

The **Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Bill, 2021 is approved by the Lok Sabha**. The Wild Life (Protection) Act of 1972 already protects a number of species, but the **proposed legislation would also implement CITES**, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. The **Rajya Sabha still needs to pass the Bill, though**.

Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Bill, 2021: Key points:

Development and the environment are accorded equal weight by the government. The number of **protected areas in the nation has risen from 693 to 987 over the past eight years**, including 52 tiger reserves.

According to **Bhupender Yadav, the Union Environment Minister**, the government operates under the Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam principle and strives to improve both humankind and all other animal species.

JAGDEEP DHANKAR AS 14TH VICE PRESIDENT OF INDIA

Jagdeep Dhankhar was elected as the 14th Vice President of India. Jagdeep Dhankhar was the candidate nominated by the NDA from BJP.

He will be **administering the oath to the office on August 11**, just after the tenure of incumbent Vice President Venkaiah Naidu ends. Jagdeep Dhankhar was serving as the **Governor of West Bengal before getting nominated for the Vice President Elections 2022**.

The Opposition of Vice President Elections 2022 was Margaret Alva who is an ex-Union Minister and former five-times Congress MP.

Jagdeep Dhankhar: About

Jagdeep Dhankhar was born on 18th May 1951. He was born in an Agrarian household in a remote village located in Rajasthan's Jhunjhunu district.

He completed his schooling at Sainik School, Chittorgarh. **He pursued his law degree from the University of Rajasthan**.

ENERGY CONSERVATION (AMENDMENT) BILL

Energy Conservation (Amendment) Bill, 2022 was put in the Lok Sabha on August 3, 2022 and was passed on August 8. It seeks to amend the Energy Conservation Act, 2001. It **promotes energy efficiency and conservation**.



Important Provisions of the bill include;

The Bill seeks to regulate the energy consumption by equipment, buildings, appliances, and industries.

The designated consumers are-

Industries including **steel, mining, textile, cement, chemicals, and petrochemicals**

Transport sector including **Railways, Commercial buildings**.

Bill provides for '**energy conservation and sustainable building code**', that specifies norms for energy efficiency & conservation, use of renewable energy, and other requirements for green buildings.

80 YEARS OF QUIT INDIA MOVEMENT

The **80th anniversary of the August Kranti Din or Quit India Movement**, which is considered as one of the important milestones in the history of the freedom struggle of our country, is **being observed on 8 August 2022**.

The slogans **"Quit India" and "Do or Die"** became battle cries for the freedom fighters during the Quit India movement.

Quit India movement: History

On 8 Aug 1942, **Mahatma Gandhi gave a clarion call to end British rule and launched the Quit India Movement** at the session of the All-India Congress Committee in Mumbai.

Although the movement was suppressed by 1944, it played an important role in uniting the common people across the country against British rule.

LAUNCH OF MISSION VATSALYA SCHEME

The Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing a centrally-sponsored scheme **"Mission Vatsalya"** erstwhile Child Protection Services (CPS)

scheme, since 2009-10 for the welfare and rehabilitation of children.



It's Objectives:

The **objective of Mission Vatsalya** is to secure a healthy and happy childhood for each and every child in India, ensure opportunities to enable them to discover their full

potential and assist them in flourishing in all respects in a sustained manner.

Mission Vatsalya promotes family-based non-institutional care of children in difficult circumstances based on the principle of institutionalization of children as a measure of last resort.

INDIA CELEBRATED 76TH INDEPENDENCE DAY



This year **India is celebrating 76th Independence Day on 15th August 2022** to mark the country's freedom from nearly two centuries of British colonial rule.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is leading the celebrations from **Red Fort in New Delhi** and is addressing the nation from Red Fort in New Delhi.

This is his ninth address as the prime minister. To celebrate the 75 years of Independence the Government of India has started an **initiative called "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav"**.

Some Interesting points:

Independence Day 2022 Is 75th or 76th?

On March 12, 2021, **Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav"** to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of independence that started a 75-week countdown to our anniversary of independence. This means that India will celebrate its 76th Independence Day on August 15, 2022, and **mark the end of its 75 years of freedom.**

PM MODI DEDICATED 2G ETHANOL PLANT TO NATION

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will dedicate to the nation via video conferencing a **second generation (2G) ethanol plant** built at an estimated cost of Rs 900 crore in Haryana's Panipat.

The **dedication of the plant is part of a long series of steps taken by the government over the years** to boost the production and usage of biofuels in the country.

This is in line with the prime minister's constant endeavour to transform the energy sector to make it more affordable, accessible, efficient and sustainable.

About the project:

The **project will provide direct employment to people** involved in the plant operation and indirect employment will be generated in the supply chain for rice straw cutting, handling, storage, etc.

Through the **reduction in the burning of rice straw, the project will contribute to a reduction of greenhouse gases equivalent to about 3 lakh tonnes of carbon dioxide** equivalent emissions per annum, which can be understood as equivalent to replacing nearly 63,000 cars annually on the country's roads.

WHAT IS SMILE-75 INITIATIVE?

Under the **Smile-75 initiative, the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment** has marked 75 Municipal Corporations for comprehensive rehabilitation of persons practicing the act of begging.

This initiative has been started as a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.



Important facts related to SMILE-75 Initiative include;

SMILE stands for **"Support for Marginalised Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise"**. 75 Municipal Corporations, experts associated with the field of beggary and NGOs will take part in nationwide launch in online and offline mode.

As a part of the initiative, identified Municipal Corporations will cover several comprehensive welfare measures in association with **NGOs and other stakeholders, for persons engaged in the act of begging.**

They will focus on rehabilitation, counselling, education, awareness, provision of medical facilities, skill development and economic linkages with other Government welfare initiatives.

INDIAN ARMY LAUNCHED 'HIM DRONE-E-THON'

On August 8, 2022, the **Him Drone-e-thon Programme** was unveiled by the Indian Army, in association with the Drone Federation of India.



The programme was launched in line with “make in India in defence manufacturing”. It aims to catalyse and provide focused opportunities for the Indian drone ecosystem, in a bid to build drone capabilities for meeting the needs of Indian

troops at the frontline.

Highlights of ‘Him Drone-a-thon programme’:

The **Indian Army is supporting the indigenous drone ecosystem** based on the notion that; ‘good available indigenously’ is better as compared to ‘best available globally’.

The **‘Him Drone-a-thon’ is a pan India programme**. It seeks to connect all the stakeholders including industry, software developers, academia, and drone product manufacturers.

The programme will be conducted in stages, in which quantifiable parameters such as weight, altitude, range, endurance etc, would be enhanced progressively on the basis of demonstrated capabilities.

NATIONAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AWARENESS MISSION

The **National Intellectual Property Awareness Mission (NIPAM)** was launched on December 8, 2021 by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry in association with the Intellectual Property Office and Office of **Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trademarks (CGPDTM)**.

Under this programme, awareness and training are **provided on Intellectual Property (IP)**.

This scheme has met its goal of training one million students on July 31, 2022, before the deadline of August 15, 2022.

As a part of the initiative, following milestones have been achieved:

of participants including students or faculty, trained on Intellectual Property stands at 10,05,272. **3662 educational institutes have been covered.**

IP Awareness: Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal, has mandated an increase in IP awareness, **in line with the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav.**

This is because IP awareness is significant to ensure that intellectual capital developed in a **country is recognised and protected in order for IP producers to take advantage.**

RPF LAUNCHED 'OPERATION YATRI SURAKSHA'

Indian Railway Protection Force (RPF), have launched a pan-India operation known as **Operation Yatri Suraksha**. Under this initiative, several steps are taken to provide round-the-clock security to passengers.



To **kickstart Operation Yatri Suraksha**, the RPF launched a month-long pan-India drive against criminals who loot passengers in July 2022.

As part of this initiative, several steps are being taken to provide foolproof security to passengers i.e., **train escorting, visible presence on stations, surveillance through CCTV, surveillance on active criminals**, collection of intelligence about the criminals and action thereupon, identifying black spots and crime-prone trains/sections and enhancing security threat among others to formulate an actionable strategy to reduce crime against passengers.

FUNDAMENTAL DUTIES IN THE CONSTITUTION

Recently, **Chief Justice of India said Fundamental Duties** in the Constitution are not merely to serve a "pedantic or technical" purpose, but they were incorporated as the key to social transformation.

How were the Fundamental Duties Incorporated?

The **idea of Fundamental Duties** is inspired from the Constitution of Russia (erstwhile Soviet Union). These were **incorporated in Part IV-A of the Constitution by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976** on the recommendations of the Swaran Singh Committee.

Originally 10 in number, one more duty was added through the 86th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2002. All the eleven duties are listed in Article 51-A of the Constitution (the sole Article in Part-IV-A).

Like the **Directive Principles of State Policy**, **Fundamental duties** are also non-justiciable in nature.

NAMASTE SCHEME LAUNCHED BY CENTRAL SECTOR SCHEME

The NAMASTE Scheme was launched jointly by the **“Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs”**. It is a Central Sector Scheme.



The scheme seeks to provide safety and dignity to sanitation workers across urban India by erecting an enabling ecosystem to recognize sanitation workers as a significant contributor in maintenance and operation of sanitation

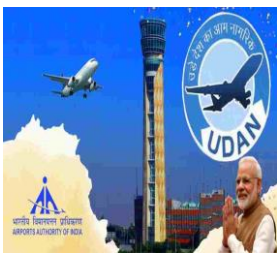
infrastructure.

Important Features of the Scheme include:

The scheme seeks to provide sanitation workers a sustainable livelihood and enhance their **occupational safety** besides increasing access to safety gear and machines.

It is aimed at providing access to alternative **livelihoods support** and **reducing the vulnerabilities of sanitation workers**.

UDE DESH KA AAM NAGRIK (UDAN)



Regional Connectivity Scheme of the Ministry of Civil Aviation, **UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik)** has successfully completed 5 years. This scheme was initiated in 2016.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the first flight under UDAN on April 27, 2017.

The scheme aims to connect small and medium cities with big cities through air service. In the five years, **the scheme has benefited more than 1 crore passengers till August 4, 2022.**

Ude Desh Ka Aam Naagrik (UDAN):

The **Ministry of Civil Aviation** had launched the **"UDAN Scheme "** in 201, with the objective of developing the regional aviation market. It also seeks to provide economically viable, affordable and profitable air travel to common man across regional routes.

It aims to connect unserved and underserved airports of India by reviving existing air-strips and airports. It will be operational in 10 years.

WORLD'S HIGHEST RAILWAY BRIDGE OVER CHENAB

The golden joint of the **world's highest railway bridge over River Chenab** was inaugurated.

For the first time ever since independence, Srinagar will be linked to the rest of India after the overarching deck on the world's highest single-arch railway bridge over

River Chenab. The **bridge will be 35 meters higher than the Eiffel Tower.**

Some Extras About The Bridge:

Chenab Bridge was a famous bridge with intricate engineering that had to overcome several challenges. The geology, the harsh terrain, and the hostile environment were just a few of the challenges that the engineers and railway officials had to overcome to get to this point.

About Chenab River:

The **Chenab** is formed by the confluence of two streams, **Chandra and Bhaga**, in the western (Punjab) **Himalayas** in India's Himachal Pradesh state.

It flows west through **Jammu and Kashmir union territory—the Indian-administered portion of the disputed Kashmir region** — between the steep cliffs of the Shiwalik Range (south) and the Lesser Himalayas (north).

After receiving the Jhelum River near Trimmu, the Chenab empties into the Sutlej River, a tributary of the Indus River.

RPF LAUNCHED OPERATION YATRI - SURAKSHA

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To **kickstart Operation Yatri Suraksha**, the RPF launched a month-long pan-India drive against criminals who loot passengers in July 2022.

During the drive, the RPF caught 365 suspects who were handed over to the concerned GRPs for legal action.

As part of this initiative, several steps are being taken to provide foolproof security to passengers i.e., train escorting, visible presence on stations, surveillance through CCTV, surveillance on active criminals, collection of intelligence about the criminals and **action there upon, identifying black spots and crime-prone.**

FIRST CERTIFIED HAR GHAR JAL STATE: GOA



The people of all the villages in Goa and Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu (D&NH and D&D) declared their village to be a "Har Ghar Jal" through a resolution passed by the Gram Sabha, certifying that all households

in the villages have access to safe drinking water through taps and ensuring that "No One is Left Out."

All 85,156 of the 85,635,000 rural households in Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu, and Goa have access to potable water via a tap connection with Har Ghar Jal.

The Government of India's flagship programme, Jal Jeevan Mission, was unveiled on August 15, 2019, from the Red Fort's ramparts by its forward-thinking Prime Minister.

By 2024, the goal hopes to provide every rural family in the nation with a reliable Jal Jeevan Mission, **long-term supply of potable tap water in an appropriate amount and of the required quality.**

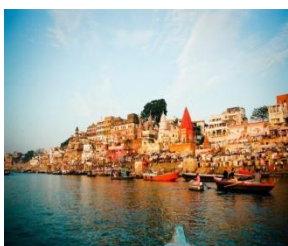
The initiative is carried out by the Indian government in collaboration with the States and UTs.

Jal Jeevan Mission

According to the certification process outlined in the Jal Jeevan Mission's Margdarshika (Har Ghar Jal), the field engineer must first present a completion certificate for the water delivery plan to the Panchayat during a meeting of the Gram Sabha.

Through a Gram Sabha resolution, the villages attest that every household has a consistent supply of water of the required quality, with no household being left out. Additionally, they attest to the fact that all public institutions, including schools and anganwadi centres, receive tap water.

ARTHA GANGA PROJECT UNDER NAMAMI GANGE



Recently, the Ministry of Jal Shakti unveiled a new initiative named 'Arth Ganga' under the Namami Gange program with an aim to boost economic activities along the banks of river Ganga.

Under Arth Ganga, the government is working at six levels.

Namami Gange

Under Arth Ganga, the government is working at six levels. Zero Budget Natural Farming is its first level, which includes chemical free farming for 10 km on both banks of the river and promotion of cow dung as manure through Govardhan Yojana.

This will open the way for 'Per Drop, More Income' and 'GobarDhan' for the farmers.

The second phase is monetization and reuse of sludge and waste water, which seeks to reuse treated water for irrigation, industries and revenue generation for urban local bodies (ULBs).

Arth Ganga will also include opportunities for livelihood generation by creating haats where people can sell local produce, medicinal plants and Ayurveda.

INDIA'S FIRST HYDROGEN FUEL CELL BUS

Union Minister Jitendra Singh in Pune, unveiled the first hydrogen fuel cell bus made in India.



Dr. Jitendra Singh referred to Green hydrogen as a superb clean energy vector that enables deep decarbonization of hard-to-abate emissions from the refining industry, the fertiliser industry, the steel industry, the cement industry, as well as from the heavy commercial transportation sector.

The minister explained to the crowd that the Hydrogen fuel cell, which could be the most environmentally friendly form of transportation to date, uses hydrogen and air to generate electricity to power the bus.

Hydrogen-powered vehicles offer a great way to get rid of the pollution produced by big commercial traffic on the road.

The Hydrogen Fuel Cell Bus is the result of KPIT and CSIR-collaborative NCL's development efforts.

Emission of CO2 by buses: About

A single diesel bus operating on long-distance routes typically releases 100 tonnes of CO2 yearly, and there are over one million of these buses in operation.

In India, there are over a million diesel buses, each of which generates 100 tonnes of CO2 annually as it travels long distances.

In sharp contrast to heavy commercial diesel vehicles, which emit 12-14% more CO2 and particulate matter,

fuel cell vehicles also produce zero greenhouse gas emissions.

FIRST EVER PORTAL FOR NARCOTICS OFFENDERS



A first-of-its kind database of arrested narcotics offenders has been made operational for use by various central and state prosecution agencies tasked to enforce anti-drugs laws in the country.

The portal-NIDAAN or the National Integrated Database on Arrested Narco-offenders-has been developed by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB).

It is part of the narcotics coordination mechanism (NCORD) portal that was launched by Union Home Minister Amit Shah on July 30 in Chandigarh during the national conference on 'Drug trafficking and national security'.

The NIDAAN platform sources its data from the ICJS (inter-operable criminal justice system) and the e-Prisons (a cloud-based application) repository and it is planned to integrate it in the future with the crime and criminal tracking network system or CCTNS.

The ICJS, an initiative of the Supreme Court e-committee, was created to enable seamless transfer of data and information among different pillars of the criminal justice system, like courts, police, jails and forensic science laboratories, from one platform.

WHAT IS GRAMEEN UDYAMI PROJECT?

To promote skill development and entrepreneurship among tribal youth and to promote Skill India Mission, National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) in partnership with Seva Bharti and Yuva Vikas Society recently launched Phase II of Grameen Udyami project in Ranchi (Jharkhand).

In the first phase of this training, participants from rural and tribal areas of Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat were included.

Under which training of 157 participants in seven groups started in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh in the month of May, 2022 and about 133 participants completed the training successfully on June 27, 2022. After which its second phase was started in Ranchi.

Skill development and entrepreneurship of tribal youth will be empowered through this training programme.

The goal behind this training is to make India self-reliant even in rural areas.

The scheme, implemented by Union Minister of State Shri Rajiv Chandrashekhar and tribal MPs, aims to train 450 tribal students in Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand. For this work, especially for the tribal areas, the central government has approved a budget of 85,000 crores.

Another major component of this project is to provide quality education to the tribal communities so as to open up many possibilities for their development and economic empowerment of the tribal population.

INS VIKRANT TO BE COMMISSIONED SOON

The first indigenous carrier which has been constructed by Cochin Shipyard Ltd, will soon be commissioned as INS Vikrant on September 2. The warship will play the role of ensuring peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific region.



The aircraft landing trials on board INS Vikrant will begin in November and will be completed by mid-2023.

INS Vikrant will be commissioned in Cochin in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the vice chief said, adding the equipment for the aircraft carrier has been manufactured in 18 states and union territories. The Navy has been pitching for three aircraft carriers to deal with China's growing influence over the Indian Ocean.

At present, India has only one aircraft carrier – INS Vikramaditya – which was bought from Russia in 2014. Alongside INS Vikramaditya, the Navy will then operate two 44,000-tonne carriers.

The Navy is in the process of procuring 26 deck-based aircraft and it has narrowed down on Boeing's F/A-18 Super Hornet and French aerospace major Dassault Aviation's Rafale aircraft.

ABOUT BHITARKANIKA NATIONAL PARK

Recently, the Bhitarkanika National Park has reached a saturation point in the population of crocodiles which could lead to more human-Crocodile conflict.



What is Bhitarkanika National Park?

Bhitarkanika National Park is spread over a vast area of 672 Kms in Orissa. It is the second largest Mangrove ecosystem of India. The **National Park is essentially a network of creeks and canals which are inundated with waters from rivers Brahmani, Baitarani, Dhamra and Patasala** forming a unique ecosystem.

Its proximity to Bay of Bengal makes the soil of the area enriched with salts, the vegetation and the species of the sanctuary is composed of those which are mainly found in the tropical and subtropical intertidal regions. **It is the breeding place for the SaltWater Crocodiles.**

IMPLEMENTATION OF ONE NATION ONE FERTILISER

The Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers has announced that it has been decided to implement One Nation One Fertiliser by introducing a "Single Brand for Fertilisers and Logo" under the fertiliser subsidy scheme named "**Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Urvarak Pariyojna**" (PMBJP).

What is One Nation One Fertiliser Scheme?

About: **Under ONOF companies** are allowed to display their name, brand, logo and other relevant product information only on one-third space of their bags.

On the remaining two-thirds space, the "**Bharat**" brand and **Pradhanmantri Bharatiya Jan Urvarak Pariyojana** logo will have to be shown.

The single brand name for **UREA, Di-Ammonium Phosphate DAP, Muriate of potash (MOP) and Nitrogen Phosphorus Potassium NPK** etc. would be **BHARAT UREA, BHARAT DAP, BHARAT MOP and BHARAT NPK** etc. respectively for all Fertiliser Companies, State Trading Entities (STEs) and Fertiliser Marketing Entities (FMEs).

This scheme applies to both public & private sector companies. It will bring about uniformity in fertiliser brands across the country.

WHAT IS PFA OR FOREVER CHEMICAL?



Often we have been hearing that rain water is the purest. But according to research from the **University of Stockholm**, published recently in the journal **Environmental Science and Technology**, rainwater is no longer potable.

The synthetic element PFAS was found in rain water in most parts of the earth. **PFAs are polyfluoroalkyl substances**, which were first developed in the 1940. They are a large, complex group of manufactured

chemicals that are ingredients in various everyday products.

For example nonstick cookware, water-repellent clothing, stain-resistant fabrics, cosmetics, firefighting forms and many other products that resist grease, water and oil.

They are also **called forever chemicals because they remain in the environment for years**. According to the Centers for **Disease Control and Prevention's National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES)** PFAS is found in the blood of 97% of Americans.

AYUSHMAN BHARAT PM JAN AROGYA YOJANA

According to the government of India, transgenders will be brought under the ambit of **Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY)**.

The **National Health Authority (NHA) under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** and Department of Social Justice and Empowerment has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to provide an inclusive and composite health package for transgenders under Ayushman Bharat-PMJAY.

This MoU between **National Health Authority (NHA) and the Ministry of Social Justice & Employment (MoSJE)** will extend all healthcare benefits to transgender persons (holding a transgender certificate issued by the National Portal for transgender persons) across the country.

MoSJE will fund Rs.5 lakh insurance cover per transgender beneficiary per annum.

Key points of the MoU:

As part of the move, a comprehensive master package is being prepared for transgenders, including existing **AB PM-JAY packages and specific packages (Sex Reassignment Surgery (SRS) and treatment)**.

As a result, transgenders will be eligible to seek treatment in any **AB PM-JAY empanelled hospitals across the country, where specific packages will be made available**. The scheme would cover all transgenders not receiving such benefits from other centre/state sponsored schemes.

PRADHAN MANTRI GATI SHAKTI NATIONAL MASTER PLAN

Recently, **Union Minister Piyush Goyal** announced that the **Pradhan Mantri Gati Shakti National Master Plan** will now be linked to geospatial maps to prevent unnecessary cost escalation.

This linking will help in developing future infrastructure in a planned manner, curbing cost escalation and saving taxpayers money, besides enhancing India's cost competitiveness.

As of now 1,000 geospatial maps have been formed for forests, wildlife sanctuaries, highways and railway infrastructure, power plants and industrial zones in India.

Gati Shakti platform was launched to provide information instantaneously. It will allow for better coordination among ministries. **Gati Shakti Scheme** was launched with the aim of achieving three basic goals namely,

Seamless multimodal connectivity for facilitating easy movement of goods & people, Improved prioritisation, optimal usage of resources, timely creation of capacities, and Resolution of issues like disjointed planning, standardisation & clearances.

MoU TO DEVELOP MULTI MODAL LOGISTICS PARK

The road, railway, and shipping ministries recently signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to develop Multi Modal Logistics Parks (MMLP)**. The agreement was signed under Bharatmala Pariyojana.

The agreement was signed between **RVNL, IWAI, and NHLML**.

RVNL: Rail Vikas Nigam Limited

NHLML: National Highways Logistics Management Limited

IWAI: Inland Waterways Authority of India

The objective of the MoU

The objectives of the agreement are as follows:

To reduce logistics costs in the country from 14% to 10% of GDP

Centralize freight consolidation

To improve the standards in the country at par with international standards

What will the MMLP do?

According to the MoU, the **MMLPs will handle freights**, The parks will be accessible through rails and roads. The MMLPs will have cargo terminals, material handling facilities, warehouses, container terminals, and cold storage.

The MMLPs are to adopt technology-driven freight management systems. They will provide value-added services such as labeling, repackaging, and packaging.

PRADHAN MANTRI JAN DHAN YOJANA

Recently, the central government's ambitious scheme **Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana** has completed eight years. The main objective of this scheme was to include the **poor section of the country in the main banking system**.

Under this scheme more than 46 crore bank accounts have been opened in 8 years. **It has deposits of Rs 1.74 lakh crore.**

With the help of this scheme, 67 percent of the rural population of the country has now got banking services and **56 percent of women also have Jan Dhan accounts.**

Several key features of the scheme include:

Interest on deposit

Accidental insurance cover of Rupee One Lakh.

No minimum balance required

Life insurance cover of Rs.30,000/-

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

AL-QAEDA LEADER AYMAN AL ZAWAHRI KILLED



President Joe Biden recently confirmed that, the United States has killed **Ayman al-Zawahri, who was the leader of al-Qaeda**. He was killed in a drone strike and counter-terrorism operation led by Central Intelligence Agency

(CIA) in Afghanistan.

He, along with Osama Bin Laden, was the mastermind of 9/11 attacks and thus was among America's most wanted terrorists.

Al-Zawahiri had launched a trail of murder and violence against citizens in America.

He was a 71-year-old Egyptian doctor, who took over al-Qaeda in 2011, after the death of Osama Bin Laden.

He co-ordinated al-Qaeda's branches across the world. **He used to set priorities, to provide operational guidance and calling for attacks against US targets.**

His killing will bring closure to families of around 3,000 victims of 2001 attacks, in which hijackers had crashed passenger jets into buildings in New York and Washington. **Around 344 firefighters were also killed.**

INTERNATIONAL NORTH-SOUTH TRANSPORT CORRIDOR (INSTC)



International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) is a multi-modal transport corridor established in the year 2000 for the purpose of promoting transportation cooperation among the Member States.

This corridor connects India-Ocean and Persian-Gulf to the Caspian Sea via Iran and is then connected to Saint Petersburg and North European via Russia.

Member Countries: **The agreement has been ratified by 13 countries** namely, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Armenia, India, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Oman, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkey, and Ukraine.

The legal framework for the INSTC is provided by a trilateral agreement signed by India, Iran and Russia at the Euro-Asian Conference on Transport in 2000.

Since then Kazakhstan, Belarus, Oman, Tajikistan, Azerbaijan, Armenia and Syria have signed instruments of accession to become members of the INSTC.

CHILE TO HAVE ITS NEW CONSTITUTION

Chileans are set to vote on a new constitution that seeks to bring the most sweeping changes in the country **since the end of the dictatorship of Augusto Pinochet.**



Proposed changes focus on social rights, gender parity and environment. It represents a huge shift from 1980 constitution, which was written during Pinochet's prime.

Current constitution of Chile focuses on private rights and free market principles.

Proposed constitution or new text has been written by a 154-member body elected via a popular vote.

This will be the first time in the history of the country that a constitution was drafted democratically. Process for the new constitution was started in the aftermath of violent protests against inequality that surfaced in Chile in 2019.

The president remains head of the government. However, he would share the power to submit laws involving public spending with legislators. **Currently, this power exclusively lies with the president.** The president could be re-elected consecutively once.

Currently, he can be re-elected non-consecutively. **Congress would become an asymmetric body, which currently is a bicameral body with equal power.** Direct democracy mechanisms such as popular law initiatives and citizen consultations would be followed in routine.

It would provide wider social rights, including housing, health, social security, access to food and work.

INDIA OMAN JOINT EXERCISE 'AL NAJAH IV'

The 4th Edition of India-Oman Joint **Military Exercise 'AL NAJAH-IV' begins in Rajasthan at the Foreign Training Node of Mahajan Field Firing Ranges.**

The exercise takes place between contingents of the Indian Army and the Royal Army of Oman from August 01 to 13, 2022.

Important points of exercise:

The Indian Army will be represented by troops from the 18 Mechanised Infantry Battalion at the AL NAJAH-IV.

The Royal Army of Oman contingent will be represented by the Sultan of Oman Parachute Regiment.

The objective of this joint military exercise is to enhance the level of defence cooperation between the Armies of India and Oman as well as the bilateral relations between the two nations.

BILATERAL ARMY EXERCISE BETWEEN INDIA & VIETNAM



The 3rd Edition of Ex VINBAX 2022 is set to be conducted on August 1 and August 2, 2022. Ex VINBAX is Bilateral Army Exercise between India and Vietnam. It will be conducted in Chandimandir.

Highlights of EX VINBAX 2022:

The exercise is a follow-up to the last bilateral exercise, conducted in Vietnam in 2019. It is a significant milestone of strengthening the bilateral relations between both the countries.

Both the countries share a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. Defence cooperation is a significant pillar of this partnership.

Vietnam is also an important partner in Act East policy of India as well as Indo-Pacific vision.

Theme of Ex VINBAX – 2022:

Ex VINBAX 2022 will be held under the theme- “employment and deployment of an Engineer Company and a Medical Team under United Nations Contingent for Peacekeeping Operations”.

CHINA'S LARGEST MILITARY EXERCISE AROUND TAIWAN



China has started its largest-ever military exercises around Taiwan, in the aftermath of the visit of US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

Chinese media is tagging the exercise as a rehearsal for the 'reunification processes'. The drill is underway across six zones across Taiwan. China's navy, air force and other departments are taking part in the drill.

Highlights of the drill:

During the combat exercises, China selected 6 major areas across Taiwan. During this period, all ships and aircraft have not been allowed to enter relevant sea areas and airspace.

In response, Taiwan has also alerted its military and has staged multiple civil defence drills. Apart from this, the USA has also placed several naval assets across the conflict zone.

'UDARA SHAKTI' INDIA-MALAYSIA AIR FORCE EXERCISE

Udarashakti is a bilateral exercise between Indian Air Force (IAF) and Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF). The four-day bilateral exercises recently started in Malaysia.



About Udarashakti:

In Udarashakti 2022, Indian Air Force is taking part in air exercise with Su-30 MKI and C-17 aircraft. On the other hand, the Malaysian Air Force is taking part with Su 30MKI aircraft. During the four days, various aerial combat drills will be conducted between two Air Forces.

Significance of the exercise include;

Exercise will secure the long-standing bond of friendship and enhance the line of defence cooperation between both the armies. Thus, it will strengthen security in the region.

Through this exercise, IAF will get an opportunity to share and learn best practices with the Royal Malaysian Air Force. They would also discuss mutual combat capabilities.

FIRST LEFTIST PRESIDENT OF COLOMBIA

Gustavo Petro has been sworn in as the first leftist president of Colombia. The 62-year-old is a former member of Colombia's M-19 guerrilla group as well as a former senator and mayor of Bogota. He succeeds Ivan Duque.



Mr Petro is part of a growing group of leftist politicians and political outsiders who have been winning elections in Latin America since the pandemic broke out.

A 2016 peace deal between Colombia's Government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia turned

much of the focus of voters away from the violent conflicts playing out in rural areas.

Gustavo Petro promised to fight inequality and help herald a turning point in the history of a country haunted by a long war between the government and guerrilla groups.

The new President also announced that Colombia will stop granting new licenses for oil exploration and will ban fracking projects, **even though the oil industry makes up almost 50 per cent of the nation's legal exports.**

US-CHINA RELATIONSHIP ON TAIWAN ISSUE



Taiwan is crucial for power ambition. No country can become a superpower without establishing regional hegemony. The **US is protected by the World's two largest oceans** that have made her Great power, same with the Soviet Union.

China knows if it wants to become a global power, it can't be caged in terms of naval power. And **China is surrounded by crowded neighbors which act as an obstacle in its ambition.**

History & Current Status of Taiwan:

Taiwan is **known as the Republic of China (RoC)**, an island separated from China by the Taiwan strait. Separated in 1949, amid civil war China considers Taiwan a part of its territory.

The ruling Kuo-Mintang (Nationalist) government of China fled to Taiwan after being defeated by the communist forces in the Chinese civil war of 1945-1949. Following **the split of China and Taiwan in the civil war, the Republic of China (RoC)** government was relocated to Taiwan.

On the other hand, The **Communist Party of China (CPC)** established the **People's Republic of China (PRC)** in the mainland. Since then, the PRC observes Taiwan as a traitor province and awaits reintegration with Taiwan.

Beijing says **One China policy** and Taiwan is an inseparable part of China. Beijing says Taiwan is bound by the 1992 consensus which was reached between the **Chinese Communist Party and the Kuo-Min Tang Party that then ruled Taiwan.**

For China, two sides of the Strait belong to one china but democratic progressive parties in Taiwan do not agree to this.

WHAT IS IRAN'S NUCLEAR DEAL?

Iran recently submitted a **"written response" to the final roadmap of restoring its torn nuclear deal with world powers.** The country would not go with the proposal mediated by the European Union.

Iran and the United States have differences on three issues. Though, the United States noted verbal flexibility in two issues. But Iran demands to include it in writing.

The **third issue is "to guarantee the continuation of the Nuclear Deal"**. This issue depends on the realism of the United States.

On the other side, the **EU is the negotiator in the indirect talks**, because Iran did not agree to negotiate with America directly. This is because former US President Donald Trump had withdrawn the **U.S. from the Nuclear Deal in 2018.**

Uranium enrichment in Iran:

As per latest report, Iran has accumulated around 3,800 kilograms of enriched uranium. Under the nuclear deal, Iran can enrich uranium to 3.67% purity and accumulate 300 kilograms of uranium, under the scrutiny of international inspectors and surveillance cameras.

But now **Iran enriches Uranium with up to 60% purity.** It has also turned off the surveillance cameras and seized other footage.

Iran Nuclear Deal:

This deal is also known as the **Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.** It is an agreement on Iranian nuclear program.

It was signed on **July 14, 2015 in Vienna between Iran and the P5+1 countries.** Under the deal, Iran had agreed to remove the accumulation of medium-enriched uranium, and reduce the accumulation of low-enriched uranium by 98%.

Iran also agreed to enrich uranium up to 3.67%, for next 15 years.

WILLIAM ARAP RUTO: PRESIDENT OF KENYA

William Samoei Arap Ruto, who has been the deputy president of Kenya since 2013, **won the Presidential election against Raila Odinga.** He won by 50.49% of the votes, on the other hand Odinga received 48.85% of votes.

He will take an oath of allegiance to the constitution. Oath will be administered by Chief Justice of Kenya within 14 days of the win.

General elections in Kenya:

General elections in Kenya were held on August 9, 2022. Voters elected the President, **county governors of Kenya, members of National Assembly & Senate**, and members of 47 county assemblies of Kenya.

General elections are held every five years in the country. Year 2022 marked the **third general election and fourth presidential election**, ever since the constitution was promulgated in 2010.

The 2022 general election witnessed the lowest number of presidential candidates cleared since 1992, when a multi-party system was implemented.

All parliamentarians will now sit in the 13th Parliament of Kenya. According to the constitution of Kenya, general elections for members of parliament are held on the second Tuesday of August every fifth year.

If there is a war situation in the country, elections can be delayed with a resolution passed in each **House of Parliament by 2/3rd of all the members.**

Resolution can delay the election by six months, but it can be passed multiple times. However, delays shall not exceed 12 months cumulatively.

MOSCOW CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL SECURITY



The **Moscow Conference on International Security-2022** was held from August 15 to August 17, 2022. Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** addressed the plenary session conference virtually on August 16.

Highlights of Defence Minister's address:

In his address, the Defence Minister stressed on bringing comprehensive reform in the **structure of the United Nations.**

Reform of the **United Nations Security Council (UNSC)** lies at the base of India's call for "reformed multilateralism".

He expressed that UNSC must be turned into a more representative organisation for developing countries, to provide leadership worldwide.

He also highlighted the **potential geopolitical fault-line in the maritime domain, specifically in East Asia.**

According to him, it could get bigger than what the world is **witnessing today.** Regarding the Indo-Pacific region, he notes- India, is committed to free, open, inclusive and secure Indo-Pacific region, being a central country to the Indian Ocean.

The **Moscow Conference on International Security-2022** was attended by Ministers of Defence from different countries, besides the experts and key stakeholders from the military field.

These conferences on international security are organised with the objective of sharing practical ideas and exploring solutions on **issues of global security.** Conferences also give opportunity to defence ministers to engage with their counterparts on security issues.

VOSTOK-22 STRATEGIC COMMAND EXERCISE

According to China's defence ministry, The People's Liberation Army of China will participate in "**Vostok-2022 strategic command and staff exercise**" which is scheduled to take part in Russia. Armies of India, Tajikistan, Mongolia and Belarus will also take part in the exercise.



Important Facts about Vostok 2022:

The **Vostok 2022 strategic command and staff exercise** will take place from August 30 to September 5, 2022.

It will be held across 13 training facilities in **Eastern Military District under the direction of Valery Gerasimov.** The Indian Army has not yet issued an official statement on their participation in the exercise.

Chinese military participation in Vostok 2022 is not associated with the current international and regional situation by any means.

However, the **main objective of its participation is to strengthen practical and cordial relations** with militaries of other participating nations, boost its capacity against various security threats and elevate its bar for strategic coordination.

CHINA FUNDING IN CPEC REDUCED BY 56%

In the first half of 2022, **China's funding in Pakistan for the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)** had reduced by around 56% in the first half of 2022.



Other countries like **Russia, Egypt and Sri Lanka** also witnessed a reduction by 100% in BRI engagement as compared to the first half of 2021.

The CPEC project is running from **Gwadar port in Pakistan to Kashgar city in Xinjiang, China.**

However, This project is not running in accordance with the initial promise, because of **lack of transparency, debt problems, poor management, and corruption.** Because of these issues, the CPEC project is still not finished.

About China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)

CPEC is a cluster of infrastructure projects under construction in Pakistan. It was started in 2013. Original value of the project was USD 47 billion but now its value has increased to over USD 62 billion.

This project is aimed at upgrading required infrastructure in Pakistan and strengthening its economy by providing **modern transportation networks, energy projects, and special economic zones as a part of CPEC.**

3RD EDITION OF EXERCISE VINBAX 2022



The **third edition of Ex VINBAX 2022** was held between 1st August and 20th August, 2022 in Chandimandir. Over a period of three weeks, the soldiers of the two armies rubbed shoulders with each other,

learning from each other and sharing best practices.

Highlights of EX VINBAX 2022:

This exercise is a sequel to previously conducted **bilateral exercise** in Vietnam in 2019 and a major milestone in strengthening the bilateral relations between India and Vietnam.

Both the countries share a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. **Defence cooperation is a significant pillar of this partnership.** Vietnam is also an important partner in Act East policy of India as well as Indo-Pacific vision.

Theme of Ex VINBAX - 2022:

Ex VINBAX 2022 will be held under the theme- "employment and deployment of an Engineer Company

and a Medical Team under United Nations Contingent for Peacekeeping Operations".

SINGAPORE DECRIMINALIZE SAME SEX MARRIAGE

Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong recently announced that it would decriminalize same-sex/gay sex between men by scrapping a colonial-era law protecting the definition of marriage.



Prior to this under **Singapore's Section 377A**, men who have sex with men could be jailed for up to two years. **LGBT activists in Singapore have hailed the move as "a win for humanity."**

In order to implement this decision, the Singapore government will amend its constitution to avoid any constitutional challenges and difficulties in allowing same-sex marriage in the future.

However, **it is not entirely clear when exactly Section 377A will be repealed.**

Talking about the **background of this recent decision**, in the year 2007, the Parliament of Singapore debated whether or not to **repeal Section 377A**, at that time the government wanted the status of this law to be retained, but it will not be implemented.

But gay men say they will continue to be discriminated against as long as this law exists. After this thousands of activists annually hold a rally in the **city-state known as "Pink Dot" in support of the LGBTQ community.**

What is Section 377?

Section 377 of the Indian penal code defines unnatural offences. It is rooted in the legacies of British colonial states where in it was introduced by **Lord Macaulay in 1860 as a part of IPC.**

One of the grounds of introduction of the section was homosexuality or acts against the order of nature are condemned by the bible.

According to the section "**Whoever voluntarily has carnal intercourse against the order of nature with any man, woman or animal, shall be punished**".

The **maximum punishment is imprisonment for life.** More importantly the sectional has not made any distinction between the consensual acts and non consensual acts.

INDIA-US EXERCISE 'VAJRA PRAHAR'

The 13th edition of India-US Joint Special Forces Exercise Vajra Prahar recently concluded in Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh. Earlier, its 12th edition was held in October 2021 at Joint Base Lewis McChord in Washington, USA.

The exercise was conducted in two phases. The first phase includes combat adaptation and tactical level special mission training exercises.

Vajra Prahar

'Vajra Prahar' is an Indo-US Special Forces joint training exercise that began alternately in 2010 in India and the US.

The aim of the exercise is to boost military ties between the two countries by **enhancing reciprocity and mutual exchange of strategies between the Special Forces.**

STOCKHOLM WORLD WATER WEEK BY SIWI

World Water Week is a water conference held in Stockholm. It is hosted by SIWI. SIWI is Stockholm International Water Institute. In 2022, it was conducted between August 23 and September 1.



The theme focuses on three main aspects. They are as follows:

Value of water among the people and in development
Importance of water in climate change and nature
Economic value and Financial value of water

About World Water Week

It was first conducted in 1991. During the week, experts discuss the programs focusing on Sustainable Development Goal 6. (**SDG 6: To ensure water access to all**).

The primary purpose of celebrating the week is to spread awareness of the water crisis.

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ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

WHAT IS CAROTAR RULES, 2020?



Recently, The **Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)** issued a circular, stating that custom officers should be sensitive in applying **CAROTAR (Customs Administration of Rules of Origin under Trade**

Agreements) Rules, 2020 and maintain consistency with the provisions of relevant trade agreements or its Rules of Origin.

Exemptions specified in a **Free Trade Agreement (FTA)** with regard to country of origin will prevail in case of conflict between revenue department and importer.

What are the CAROTAR Rules?

CAROTAR, 2020 set guidelines for enforcement of the 'rules of origin' for allowing preferential rate on imports under Free Trade Agreements.

They supplement the existing operational certification procedures prescribed under different trade agreements. **They were notified in August, 2020 by the Ministry of Finance.**

Provisions:

An importer is required to do due diligence before importing the goods to ensure that they meet the prescribed originating criteria. An importer will have to enter certain origin related information in the **Bill of Entry, as available in the Certificate of Origin.**

Importers will have to ensure that imported goods meet the prescribed 'rules of origin' provisions for **availing concessional rate of customs duty under Free Trade Agreements (FTAs).**

ADANI GROUP TAKES 55.18% STAKE IN NDTV



Adani Group founder, **Gautam Adani** has set the ball rolling to acquire a controlling stake of **55.18% in New Delhi Television (NDTV).**

With a concept to carry 55.18 per cent stake in NDTV, the Adani group has issued an

open provide for a 26 per cent stake within the

information channel at Rs 294 for a share with a face worth of Rs 4.

The complete outlay for 26 per cent, or 16,762,530 totally paid up fairness shares of NDTV – if the provide is accepted in full – will **likely be about Rs 483 crore for the Adani group.** According to Adani group, the stake acquisition will likely be in two modes:

Firstly, it is going to be by way of **Vishvapradhan Commercial Private Ltd (VCPL).** And then VCPL, its wholly-owned guardian AMG Media Networks and Adani Enterprises Ltd (individuals appearing in live performance).

RBI TO LAUNCH DIGITAL RUPEE SOON

The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** will very likely introduce its digital rupee, the **Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC),** in this fiscal year itself.

Talks of a digital rupee in the country have been swirling since **Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman** announced it during her Budget 2022 speech back in February. At the time, she had said that the **digital rupee would be launched in 2022-2023.**



How It Works:

The digital rupee blockchain, being developed by the Reserve Bank, would be able to trace all transactions, unlike the current system of mobile wallet offered by private companies.

Earlier, news agency PTI reported that the digital currency issued by the RBI would be numbered in units, just like every fiat currency has a unique number on it.

CBDC is a digital or virtual currency but it is not comparable to the private virtual currencies or cryptocurrency that have mushroomed over the last decade.

Private virtual currencies do not represent any person's debt or liabilities as there is no issuer. The **government has already said that private cryptocurrencies will never be a legal tender.**

The RBI has been strongly opposing private cryptocurrencies as they could have implications on national security and financial stability.

APPOINTMENTS

U U LALIT IN LINE TO BECOME NEXT CJI



Senior-most judge of the Supreme Court of India, Justice U U Lalit, who is in line to become the next Chief Justice of India (CJI). He has been part of several landmark judgements including the one which held the practice of divorce through

instant 'triple talaq' among Muslims illegal and unconstitutional.

Justice Lalit is in line to become the 49th CJI of India on August 27, a day after incumbent Justice N V Ramana demits the office.

Notably: If appointed, Justice Lalit will become the second CJI who was directly elevated to the apex court Bench from the Bar.

Justice S M Sikri, who became the 13th CJI in January 1971, was the first lawyer to be elevated directly to the top court bench in March 1964.

SURESH N. PATEL APPOINTED AS NEW CVC



Vigilance Commissioner, Suresh N. Patel was appointed as the Central Vigilance Commissioner. He has been working as the acting Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC) since June this year.

He was sworn in as the chief of the Central Vigilance Commission by President Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan. The ceremony was also attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu.

Former Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer Sanjay Kothari had completed his term as the CVC on June 24 last year.

About the Central Vigilance Commission:

The Central Vigilance Commission is headed by a Central Vigilance Commissioner and it can have two vigilance commissioners. At present, there is no vigilance commissioner working in the Commission.

A three-member selection panel headed by the Prime Minister had met in July to decide on the CVC and vigilance commissioners. The other two members on the panel are Union Home Minister and the Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha.

1ST WOMAN DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CSIR

Nallathamby Kalaiselvi has been appointed as the "first woman director general of CSIR (Council of Scientific and Industrial Research). She is the senior electrochemical scientist and has been appointed for two years.

Kalaiselvi will succeed Shekhar Mande, who retired in April 2022. On Shekar Mande's retirement, Rajesh Gokhale, secretary to the Department of Biotechnology was provided with the additional charge of CSIR.

She is currently holding the office of director of CSIR-Central Electrochemical Research Institute in TamilNadu.

About Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR):

CSIR was set up as an autonomous body in September 1942. Since then, it has emerged as the largest research and development organisation in the country.

It is funded by the Ministry of Science and Technology. It has been registered under Societies Registration Act, 1860.

SAMIR V KAMAT AS CHAIRMAN OF DRDO

According to a Personnel Ministry order, distinguished scientist Samir V Kamat was appointed as Secretary of the Department of Defence Research and Development and Chairman of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).



Kamat, who is Director General, Naval Systems & Materials, at the DRDO will succeed G Satheesh Reddy who has been named as scientific adviser to Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of Kamat as Secretary of the Department of Defence Research and Development and Chairman of DRDO from the date of his assumption of charge till he attains the age of 60 years.

The ACC also approved the appointment of Reddy as scientific adviser to the defence minister, the order said. Reddy was appointed as DRDO chief in August 2018 for two years. He was given a two years extension in the post in August 2020.

About the DRDO: The Defence Research and Development Organisation is the premier agency under the Department of Defence Research and Development in the Ministry of Defence of the Government of India, charged with the military's research and development, headquartered in Delhi, India. It was founded in 1958.

K. SUBRAMANIAM AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF IMF

Former Chief Economic Adviser of India K. Subramaniam was recently appointed as the Executive

Director of India at the International Monetary Fund (IMF). He will replace Surjit S Bhalla, who was appointed as India's executive director on the board of the IMF in 2019.

K. Subramaniam's tenure in this post will start from November 1, 2022 and will continue for a period of three years or till further orders, whichever is earlier.

Subramaniam is currently a Professor at the Indian School of Business. He was the youngest Chief Economic Advisor to the Government of India, serving from 2018 to 2021.

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AWARDS & HONOR

DALAI LAMA: LADAKH'S HIGHEST CIVILIAN AWARD



Tibetan spiritual leader, Dalai Lama was honoured with the 'dPal rNgam Duston' award, the highest civilian honour of Ladakh. This award is given for his immense contribution to humanity, especially towards the union territory.

The sixth award was conferred by Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC), Leh which celebrated the 'dPal rNgam Duston' with great fervour on the occasion of its foundation day at Sindhu Ghat.

The 87-year-old spiritual leader, who is on a visit to the union territory since July 15, appreciated the gesture and stressed maintaining communal harmony in the region.

The 'dPal rNgam Duston' marks the celebration of the remarkable contribution and achievement of the heroes of Ladakh and seeks to instill a sense of pride in the younger generation.

AGRICULTURE INFRASTRUCTURE FUND AWARDS



Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar is set to present Agriculture Infrastructure Fund Awards in New Delhi.

Awards are presented as a part of Agriculture Infrastructure Fund, which was launched in the year 2020, under Aatmanirbhar Bharat Initiative. It is a central government scheme.

About Agriculture Infrastructure Fund:

Union Cabinet approved the "Agriculture Infrastructure Fund Scheme" to inoculate formal credits to farm and farm-processing based activities.

This scheme is a part of "Rs. 20 lakh crore stimulus packages", which was announced amid Covid-19 crisis. Scheme has been launched for the financial year 2020-2029.

It is aimed at providing a medium-long term debt financing facility to invest in projects related to

community farming assets and post-harvest management Infrastructure.

FAHMIDA AZIM WON PULITZER PRIZE 2022

Bangladesh-born Fahmida Azim working for the Insider online magazine of the US has been selected for the Pulitzer Prize 2022. She will be awarded under the category of Illustrated Reporting and Commentary.



She is among the four journalists including Anthony Del Col, Josh Adams and Walt Hickey of Insider being published from New York, selected for their work on the Chinese oppression of the Uyghurs.

The work 'I escaped a Chinese internment Camp' has illustrations by Fahmida Azim.

The citation for the award said that they have been selected for the prize for using graphic reportage and the comics medium to tell a powerful yet intimate story of the Chinese oppression of the Uyghurs, making the issue accessible to a wider public.

About the Fahmida Azim:

Fahmida Azim was born in Bangladesh and is now settled in the US. She is an illustrator and storyteller. Her work centres on themes of identity, culture and autonomy.

Her artworks have been seen in several international journals like the NPR, Glamour, Scientific American, The Intercept, Vice, and The New York Times among others. She has illustrated a number of books including her own notable project 'Muslim Women are everything'.

UNESCO'S INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE LIST

India has nominated the Indian dance form Garba to be inscribed on UNESCO's intangible cultural heritage list. Last year, Durga Puja was included in UNESCO's intangible cultural heritage list and for 2022, India has nominated 'Garba'.

The next UNESCO meeting will be held in November. In July, India was elected by UNESCO to serve on the distinguished intergovernmental Committee of the 2003 Convention for the safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage.

A total of 14 elements from India are inscribed on UNESCO'S list of Intangible Cultural Heritage and Humanity. These elements include music, dance, theatre, festivals, rituals, and storytelling.

What is UNESCO'S list of Intangible Cultural Heritage and Humanity?

The UNESCO'S list of Intangible Cultural Heritage was established in 2008 after the convention for the safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, 2003 came into effect.

This list is made up of those intangible heritage elements that help to demonstrate the diversity of cultural heritage.

UNESCO PEACE PRIZE 2022

Former German chancellor Angela Merkel has been awarded the Unesco Peace Prize 2022 for "her efforts to welcome refugees".

In the summer of 2015, as refugees were streaming into Europe, Merkel opened her country's borders and famously declared to Germans "Wir schaffen das", "We can do this."

She eventually pulled back on her pro-immigration stance as support eroded among the public and within her own conservative party.

All the members of the jury were touched by her courageous decision in 2015 to welcome more than 1.2 million refugees, notably from Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan and Eritrea.



About the Unesco Peace Prize:

The honour, which is officially called Felix Houphouët-Boigny-Unesco Peace Prize, is named after the former president of Ivory Coast. It has been awarded each year since 1989 to individuals, organisations or institutions that have made a special effort to promote, research or secure peace.

It is awarded annually. The prize includes a cheque of USD 150,000, a gold medal and a peace diploma. If there are multiple recipients, the cheque is shared equally.

PRAVAHINI



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SPORTS

OFFICIAL SLOGAN OF 2024 PARIS OLYMPICS



The organizers of the 2024 Paris Olympics unveiled “Games Wide Open” as their official slogan. The 2024 Summer Olympics are scheduled to take place from July 26 to August 11, 2024.

The slogan was released alongside a video promising the Olympics and Paralympics would be “faster”, “higher” and “stronger” – as well as “more inclusive, more brotherly, more beautiful.”

Athletes will compete in a total of 329 events in 32 sports. As Paris 2024 aims to be the most gender-balanced Olympic Games in history, the organizers have placed women’s competitions in the spotlight.

International Olympic Committee Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland;

International Olympic Committee President: Thomas Bach;

International Olympic Committee Founded: 23 June 1894, Paris, France.

SUNIL CHHETRI: MEN'S FOOTBALLER OF THE YEAR

Sunil Chhetri and Manisha Kalyan have been named the 2021-22 All India Football Federation (AIFF) Men’s Footballer of the Year and the 2021-22 Women’s Footballer of the Year, respectively.

Manisha had won the Women’s Emerging Footballer of the Year for last season, while this is the 7th time that Sunil won the award, having last won it in 2018-19.

This was Sunil Chhetri’s record seventh AIFF Men’s Footballer of the Year award, having won it previously in 2007, 2011, 2013, 2014, 2017 and 2018-19. No other player has won it more times than the 38-year-old veteran.

Sunil Chhetri is currently third after Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi in the list of highest goal scorers in international football among active players and sixth on the all-time leaderboard.

Manisha Kalyan, who won the 2021-22 AIFF Women’s Footballer of the Year, was the recipient of the Women’s Emerging Footballer of the Year from last season.

INDIA'S ACHIEVEMENT IN CW GAMES

On the 9th day of Commonwealth Games 2022, India won a total of 14 medals, including 4 gold medals to Ravi Dahiya, Naveen Kumar, Vinesh Phogat, and Bhavina Patel; 3 silver medals and 7 bronze medals. So far, it was the best day for India the CWG.



Indian Wrestlers:

Indian Wrestlers finished with a total of 12 medals, including 6 gold. Each wrestler won at least one medal. CWG 2022 became the best game in history of CWG, for the Indian Wrestlers.

They broke the previous record of 5 gold medals at Gold Coast 2018. Ravi Dahiya, Naveen Kumar and Vinesh Phogat won gold medals, respectively in Men’s 57 kg, Men’s 74 kg and Women’s 53 kg categories. 3 other wrestlers, Deepak Nehra, Pooja Gehlot and Pooja Sihag bagged bronze medals.

India women's team:

The Indian women’s cricket team won against England and reached the final. They secured the first ever Commonwealth Games medal for India.

Athletics & Indian Men’s Hockey Team:

Priyanka Goswami secured silver medal in Women’s 10 km Race Walk

Avinash Sable won silver medal in Men’s 3000 Metre Steeplechase. The Men’s Hockey team has also reached the final where it will play against Australia.

INDIA RANKED 4TH IN CWG 2022

The Commonwealth Games 2022 were held from July 28 to August 8, 2022, in which India has been ranked at 4th place, in terms of medals. India bagged a total of 61 medals, comprising 22 Gold, 16 Silver, and 23 Bronze.



This was India’s 4th best performance at the CWG with respect to winning gold medals.

Important facts related to India at CWG 2022 include;

India's best-ever performance at the Commonwealth Games was in 2010, when it bagged 101 medals, including 38 Gold. With respect to overall medals, Birmingham 2022 is 5th best performance, following;

101 medals at CWG 2010 in New Delhi

69 medals at CWG 2002 in Manchester 2002

66 medals at CWG 2018 in Gold Coast

64 medals at CWG 2014 in Glasgow.

At CWG 2022 in Birmingham, India has been placed behind Australia with 178 medals, England with 176 and Canada with 92 medals.

NEERAJ CHOPRA WINS LAUSANNE DIAMOND LEAGUE

Olympic gold medalist Neeraj Chopra recently won the Lausanne Diamond League with a best throw of 89.08m. He became the first Indian to win the Diamond League meeting title.

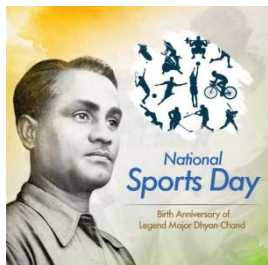
Before Chopra, discus thrower Vikas Gowda is the only Indian to finish in the top three in the Diamond League.

His throw of 89.08m was the third best effort of his career, followed by his second throw of 85.18m. However, his fourth throw was a foul and he again passed his fifth attempt before coming up with 80.04m in the sixth and final round.

Who is Neeraj Chopra?

He is an Indian track and field athlete competing in javelin throw. He has become the first track and field athlete to win an Olympic gold medal for India and second Olympic athletics to win for India after Norman Pritchard, who won two silver medals at 1900 Summer Olympics for India.

NATIONAL SPORTS DAY: 29TH AUGUST



The National Sports Day (NSD) is celebrated every year in India on 29th of August to mark the birth anniversary of legendary hockey player Major Dhyan Chand, who was known as 'The Wizard' or 'The Magician' of hockey for his superb ball control.

About Major Dhyan Chand

The legendary hockey player was born on 29 August 1905 in Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh. He is widely considered as the greatest field hockey player of all time. He had started playing hockey only after joining the Army at the age of 16.

He won gold medals in the Olympics for India in the years 1928, 1934 and 1936. He scored over 400 goals in his career, from 1926 to 1948.

It is believed that after India defeated Germany in the 1936 Olympics final by 8-1, Adolf Hitler offered him a senior post in the German Army, to which Chand refused.

His autobiography "Goal!" was published by Sport & Pastime (Madras) in 1952. The Government of India (GoI) awarded him the 3rd highest civilian honour of Padma Bhushan in 1956.

Beside this, the most noted memorial for him is the Major Dhyan Chand Award, which is the highest award for lifetime achievement in sports and games in India.

'DAHI HANDI' RECOGNIZED AS OFFICIAL SPORT

Chief Minister Eknath Shinde announces that 'Dahi-Handi' will be recognized as an official sport in Maharashtra. The state is set to organize a 'Pro- Dahi Handi' competition.



The Maharashtra Government also announces that the Govindas will get a job under the sports category and if any Govinda loses his life insurance of Rs 10 lakh will be given, also if they end up being partially handicapped insurance of Rs 5 lakh will be given by the Government of Maharashtra.

The decision was taken as many cities of Maharashtra celebrate and enjoy 'Dahi-Handi' as an adventurous sport.

'Dahi-Handi' is a ritual in which devotees of Lord Krishna recreate the 'Makhan Chori' or butter stealing act.

It is one of the mischievous stories of Krishna's childhood. It is also known as 'Gopalakala' and it is observed on the next day of Janmashtami.



DATES & DAYS

MUSLIM WOMEN'S RIGHTS DAY



On August 1, Muslim Women's Rights Day was celebrated across India. The day celebrates the enactment of triple talaq law. It was implemented on August 1, 2019. Practice of triple talaq was made a criminal offence through this law.

Triple talaq allowed Indian Muslim husbands to divorce their wives instantly, by pronouncing the word "talaq" three times continuously. This practice does not take the consent of wives into consideration.

History of the Day:

Indian Muslim Husbands had special privileges over their wives, in accordance with Muslim Personal Law (Shariat) Application Act of 1937.

It included the practice of triple talaq, which is also called as Talaq-a-Biddat. Triple Talaq Law came into force on August 1, 2019, after Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill was passed in Rajya Sabha.

Bill was passed in Rajya Sabha on July 31. Talaq-e-Biddat was made illegal through this law. In 2021, government of India announced to commemorate this day by observing Muslim Women's Rights Day across India.

WORLD LUNG CANCER DAY OBSERVED ON 1ST AUGUST

Every year, World Lung Cancer Day is observed on 01st August to raise awareness about the causes and treatment of lung cancer and highlight the issues of lack of sufficient research funding for the ailment.

Lung cancer is one of the leading causes of cancer deaths among men and women.

World Lung Cancer Day: History

The campaign was first organised in 2012 by the Forum of International Respiratory Societies (FIRS), in collaboration with the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (IASLC) and also the American College of Chest Physicians.

The IASLC is the largest organisation in the world of its kind that only deals with lung cancer.

WORLD ORGAN DONATION DAY: 13TH AUGUST

The World Organ Donation Day is celebrated across the world on August 13, every year. It is celebrated with the aim of raising awareness on organ donations. Apart from this, India celebrated "National Organ Donation Day" every year on November 27.



First Successful Organ Transplant:

In 1953, the first temporarily successful transplantation of the human kidney was done by Jean Hamburger in Paris.

Kidney was transplanted from mother to a 16-year-old boy. However, the first long-term successful kidney transplant was done in 1954 in the United Nations.

Ronald Lee Herrick had donated one kidney to his twin brother, Richard Herrick. Successful transplant was done by Doctor Joseph Murray. For this, Doctor received "Nobel Prize for physiology and medicine" in 1990.

NATIONAL HANDLOOM DAY OBSERVED ON 7TH AUGUST

National Handloom Day is celebrated in India on August 7, every year. The day highlights the contribution of the handloom industry in the socio-economic development of India. It also raises awareness among people regarding the handloom industry. The Ministry of Textile is the nodal agency of the celebration.



About Indian handloom Industry:

Handloom Industry is the largest industry in India. Products manufactured by the weaving community of this sector are popular worldwide.

It is a significant employment source across rural areas of India. This sector is an important player in women empowerment. 70% of all weavers and allied workers are women.

The Indian handloom sector exports its products to more than 20 countries worldwide, like the UK, the USA, France, Germany, and South Africa.

History of the day

India's handloom industry played a significant role in the **Swadeshi Movement, which was launched on August 7, 1905.**

The Swadeshi movement was aimed at curbing dependency on foreign goods and boosting domestic production.

Thus, the **National Handloom Day is celebrated on August 7**, the same day when the Swadeshi Movement was started. First National Handloom Day was celebrated on August 7, 2015; in Chennai.

WORLD BIOFUEL DAY COMMEMORATES ON 10TH AUGUST



World Biofuel Day is commemorated on **10 August** every year to raise awareness about the use of non-fossil fuels as an alternative to conventional fossil fuels.

During this day, the government and private organisations come together to spread awareness about the **importance of non-fossil fuels as a different source of energy.**

World Biofuel Day: History

August 10 was chosen as World Biofuel Day since it was on this date in 1893 that German inventor Sir Rudolf Diesel successfully ran his diesel engine on peanut oil.

This was a path-breaking discovery as it created a safer, renewable and sustainable alternative to fossil fuels.

In India, the **Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoP&NG)** and the **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC)** started celebrating World Biofuel Day, 2015 onwards.

WORLD HUMANITARIAN DAY OBSERVED ON AUGUST 19TH

World Humanitarian Day is celebrated on **August 19** every year to recognise all aid and health workers who volunteer to help victims of disasters and crises against all odds.

The day aims to spread awareness about the need for humanitarian assistance worldwide.

The UN hopes that the day will serve as a reminder to people of the risk taken by some to save lives and support humanitarian causes.

The 2022 campaign, according to the **United Nations, shines a light on "thousands of volunteers, professionals and crisis-affected people who deliver urgent health care, shelter, food, protection, water and much more."**

World Humanitarian Day 2022:

The **United Nations** has decided to use digital art to narrate stories of people in need and those who help them. At the centre of the campaign, **the international body said, is a series of beautifully illustrated aid worker profiles.**

These profiles narrate the breadth and depth of humanitarian work and collectively symbolise the wider humanitarian village.

World Humanitarian Day: History

On 19 August 2003, a **bomb attack on the Canal Hotel in Baghdad, Iraq, killed 22 humanitarian aid workers, including the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq, Sergio Vieira de Mello.**

Five years later, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a **resolution designating 19 August as World Humanitarian Day (WHD).**

INDIA CELEBRATES SADBHAVNA DIWAS

India celebrates Sadbhavna Diwas in memory of **Rajiv Gandhi's birth anniversary.** Sadbhavna Diwas 2022 commemorates the 78th birth anniversary of Rajiv Gandhi on 20th August 2022.

Sadbhavna Diwas was instituted after the death of Rajiv Gandhi in 1992, by Congress. **Sadbhavna Diwas promotes peace, harmony, empathy, and unity among all citizens of India.**

Several cultural events and contests are organized across the country.

About Rajiv Gandhi

Rajiv Gandhi was born on 20th August 1944 and he was an Indian politician representative of the Indian National Congress.

Rajiv Gandhi served as Prime Minister of India from 1984 to 1989. He was the youngest Prime Minister of India; he was only 40 years old when he was appointed as the Prime minister of India.

He comes from the family of India's greatest politicians. **He was the grandson of the first Prime minister of India Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru** and was the son of the first female prime minister of India Indira Gandhi. Rajiv Gandhi, the **youngest Prime Minister**, always promoted communal harmony, unity, and integrity in India. He

was also considered as the Ambassador of Goodwill in the rest of the World.

WORLD MOSQUITO DAY OBSERVED: 20TH AUGUST



The monsoon season is when mosquito-borne illnesses including **malaria, dengue fever, and chikungunya** are most prevalent.

World Mosquito Day reminds us that Millions of people worldwide are in danger of

dying from it, despite the fact that it is treatable and preventable.

According to the **World Health Organization**, there was a 69,000% increase in malaria-related deaths between the years of 2019 and 2020.

World Mosquito Day is recognised in honour of Sir Ronald Ross, who in 1897 identified the connection between mosquitoes and the spread of malaria.

His research revealed that female mosquitoes spread malaria among people. The goal of this **World Mosquito Day** is to increase public knowledge of the reasons why people get malaria and how to prevent it.

The **London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine** has been hosting an annual celebration of the British physician's achievements since the 1930s.

Their programme creates awareness about the reasons, precautions, and preventions in addition to keeping people informed.

The **World Mosquito Day** highlighted the work being done by NGOs and other groups fighting diseases brought on by malaria.

AKSHAY URJA DIWAS: 20TH AUGUST



Every year on the **20th of August India observes Akshay Urja Diwas or Renewable Energy Day**. Akshay Urja Diwas 2022 or Renewable Energy Day aims to spread awareness about the development and adoption of

renewable energy in India.

Akshay Urja Diwas 2022, marks its importance by **promoting and lining up the alarming rate of depletion of Natural resources**. This day makes people aware of the use of natural resources like wind energy, solar energy, and hydropower.

Akshay Urja Diwas was first established in 2004 to support renewable energy development programs in India and promote the usage of natural resources.

In 2004, the **first event was facilitated by then Prime Minister Manmohan Singh**, where he released a stamp with 12000 children forming a human chain to promote the use of green energy sources.

The **Ministry of New & Renewable Energy Source (MNRE)** planned to arrange the first informative campaign or event along with the Prime Minister of India Manmohan Singh.

WORLD ORGAN DONATION DAY

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Apart from this, India celebrates "**National Organ Donation Day**" every year on November 27.

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Successful transplant was done by Doctor Joseph Murray. For this, Doctor received "Nobel Prize for physiology and medicine" in 1990.

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY: 12TH AUGUST

International Youth Day is celebrated on 12 August every year. This day is celebrated to raise awareness regarding issues that are faced by the world's youth.



The objective of International Youth Day 2022 is to amplify the message that action is needed across all generations to achieve the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** and leave no one behind.

It will also raise awareness of certain barriers to intergenerational solidarity, notably ageism, which

impacts young and old persons while having detrimental effects on society as a whole.

The theme for 2022's edition of International Youth Day is **"Intergenerational solidarity: creating a world for all ages."** Cooperation and harmony between the youth and older generations is necessary to achieve sustainable development goals, as per **Agenda 2030 of the United Nations (UN)**.

WORLD ELEPHANT DAY: 12TH AUGUST



World Elephant Day is celebrated on 12 August every year to raise awareness about the plight of elephants all over the world.

The day tries to highlight why these animals should be protected and what laws and measures **can be enacted to ensure their survival**.

The **main objective of World Elephant Day** is to create awareness on elephant conservation and to share knowledge and positive solutions for the better protection and management of wild and captive elephants.

World Elephant Day: History

On 12 August 2012, **World Elephant Day was co-founded by Canadian filmmaker Patricia Sims** and the Elephant Reintroduction Foundation of Thailand, an initiative of HM Queen Sirikit.

This day was observed for the first time on 12 August 2012. And since then, **World Elephant Day has been celebrated every year**.

PARTITION HORRORS REMEMBRANCE DAY: 14TH AUGUST



India commemorated **"Partition Horrors Remembrance Day"** on **August 14**. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had announced to observe this day in 2021.

August 14 also marks Independence Day in Pakistan. India was partitioned into India and Pakistan on August 14, 1947.

This event had led to violence, communal riots and loss of property. It is considered to be the most **violent and abrupt displacement in world's history because**.

Britain wanted to **leave India as soon as possible after World War II** because its own condition was deteriorating. Earlier, governor-general Lord

Mountbatten supposed to make India independent by June 1948. But he decided to advance the date.

Cyril Radcliffe was appointed to redraw the boundaries of India and Pakistan. He had never been to India before.

WORLD SENIOR CITIZENS DAY: AUGUST 21

World Senior Citizens' Day is celebrated on August 21 every year. It is also known as **National Senior Citizens' Day in the United States (US)**. The day is observed with the intent to highlight the contributions of elderly people in human society and honour them.



The **day is also celebrated to bring attention** to various issues that affect the elderly, such as health issues and abuse by younger people, whether family or outsiders.

As noted by the United Nations (UN), the elderly population is projected to reach more than 1.5 billion by 2050. This rise will be **prominently seen in East Asia and South-East Asia**.

Less developed nations will host more than two-thirds of the planet's elderly people by 2050. With a growing elderly population, it is pertinent that a robust system exists which supports their all-around wellbeing.

World Senior Citizen's Day: History

World Senior Citizens' Day has its roots back in the August 19, 1988 proclamation by the then **President of the United States of America, Ronald Reagan**.

Named proclamation 5847, Reagan highlighted the achievements of older people in **American families, communities and the nation**.

The United States Congress passed a House Joint Resolution numbered 138, which allowed Reagan to declare the **third Sunday of August annually, as "National Senior Citizens Day."**

INT. DAY FOR VICTIMS OF ACTS OF RELIGIOUS VIOLENCE

Every year on 22 August the **International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief** is observed.

This day emphasises the significance of aiding victims of religious persecution as part of the UN's efforts to



promote Human Rights related to religious or belief freedom.

It was **first made official in 2019** with aim to honour victims and survivors of heinous acts who often remain forgotten. **This day comes a day after the International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism**, which is observed on 21 August.

Following an unprecedented rise of violence against religious communities and people belonging to religious

minorities, **United Nation General Assembly (UNGA) on 28 May 2019, adopted resolution A/RES/73/296 designating 22 August as International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief.**

UNGA recognized the importance of providing victims of **acts of violence based on religion or belief and members of their families** with appropriate support and assistance in accordance with applicable law.

PRAVAHINI



REPORT & INDEXES

FORTUNE GLOBAL 500 LISTS OF 2022



In the **Fortune Global 500 list of 2022**, 9 Indian public and private companies have been added. Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India has been ranked at 98th position in the list, **with revenue worth USD 97,266.7 million.**

LIC has been added to the list for the first time, after it was **listed on Indian stock exchanges in May 2022.**

Other countries in the 2022 Fortune 500 list include;

Reliance Industries Ltd. has been placed at 104th position, with USD 93,982 million revenue in 2021-22. This year, the rank of Reliance has jumped by 51 spots.

US's Walmart Inc. claims the first position, for the ninth consecutive year. It has maintained the first position for the 17th time, since 1995.

Saudi Arabia's Saudi Aramco is at 6th. It has again reclaimed its title of **most profitable company worldwide**, with earnings of USD 105 billion.

Top companies in 2022 Fortune Global 500 list include;

Walmart, U.S
State Grid, China
China National Petroleum, China
Sinopec, China
Saudi Aramco, Saudi Arabia

Apple, U.S
Volkswagen, Germany
China State Construction Engineering, China
CVS Health, U.S.

NATURE INDEX 2022 RELEASED

The **Nature Index 2022** was recently released. Survey for the index was conducted based on research articles published in **chemistry, life sciences, physical sciences and earth & environment.**

Highlights of Nature Index 2022:

In the index, **University of Hyderabad has secured first position among Indian Universities** while has been placed at 16th position among all institutions in the academic sector.

Hyderabad was ranked first with 72 research papers and a share of 19.46 in the academic sector.

Ranking of other Indian universities can be summed up as;

Rank 23rd - Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Hyderabad.

Rank 26th - Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Tirupati.

Rank 54th - Amity University.

Rank 76th - National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER) Hyderabad.

Rank 82nd - International Institute of Information Technology (IIIT), Hyderabad

Rank 92nd - Andhra University

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

RUSSIA SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHED IRAN'S SATELLITE



A Russian rocket has successfully launched an Iranian satellite into orbit from southern Kazakhstan. An Iranian satellite named Khayyam into orbit by the Soyuz rocket from the Russia-leased Baikonur launch facility

in Kazakhstan.

The name of the satellite was named after Omar Khayyam, a Persian scientist who lived in the 11th and 12th centuries.

The satellite fitted with the high-resolution camera will be used for environmental monitoring and will remain fully under its control.

"Khayyam" Iranian satellite:

Iran says the satellite is designed for scientific research including radiation and environmental monitoring for agricultural purposes. Iran's space agency has received the first telemetry data sent from the satellite.

Iran has said the satellite fitted with the high-resolution camera will be used for environmental monitoring and will remain fully under its control. If it operates successfully, the satellite would give Iran the ability to monitor its arch-enemy Israel and other countries in the Middle East.

ISRO LAUNCHED TINIEST ROCKET TO DISPLAY TRICOLOUR

A tiny satellite launch vehicle will be sent from Sriharikota by the Indian Space Research Organization on 7th August 2022. It is a three-stage vehicle, and each step of propulsion uses solid fuel.

The goal of the project is to place an Earth observation satellite called EOS-02 into low earth orbit along with a satellite called "Azaadi SAT." The satellite will be launched from Sriharikota.

750 female students from government schools in remote areas from Kashmir to Kanyakumari created the "Azaadi Satellite."

About the AzaadiSAT launch:

In order to mark India's 75th anniversary of independence, Prime Minister Narendra Modi declared on August 15 that this spacecraft would be launched.

A co-passenger satellite called "AzaadiSAT" will be aboard SSLV in honour of India's festival of "Azaadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav."

It was designed specifically for the 75th anniversary of Independence Day. Young females will have options to choose "space research" as their job because it will foster their scientific temperament.

RAJNATH SINGH HANDED OVER (F-INSAS) SYSTEM

Defence Minister of India, Rajnath Singh handed over to the Indian Army the much-awaited Future Infantry Soldier as a System (F-INSAS) at the unveiling ceremony of various defence and strategic systems held in Delhi.



The full gear of the F-INSAS includes an AK-203 assault rifle, which is a Russian-origin gas-operated, magazine-fed, select-fire assault rifle.

About the (F-INSAS) System:

The units of the rifle, which has a range of 300 metres, will be manufactured by an India-Russia joint venture. A rifle-mounted holographic sight with a range of 200 meters has been provided for target acquisition.

A helmet-mounted night vision facility has been provided for infantry. The helmet and vest can protect from 9 mm ammunition and AK-47 assault rifles.

A hands-free headset has been provided for communication with command posts and other elements on the battlefield.

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) conceptualised the F-INSAS project in the early 2000s in line with the targets of the Army's Infantry Soldier Modernisation Programme to optimise the soldier's performance across the full spectrum and duration of a military operation.

WHAT IS ARTEMIS 1 PROGRAMME?

NASA is in full preparation to send its astronauts to moon again. The US space agency is currently focusing on the launch of its Artemis I rocket which is scheduled

to be launched on August 29, 2022. This rocket is moved to the launch pad for final preparation.



Artemis Programme

Artemis Programme is an international human space flight programme funded by the US Government.

The main objective of the programme is to launch a manned mission to the south pole region of the moon by 2024.

The programme is predominantly carried out by NASA. The other international partners in the programme are JAXA (Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency), Italian Space Agency, UK Space Agency, UAE space Agency, Brazilian Space Agency, Australian Space Agency, State Space Agency of Ukraine, Canadian Space Agency, and the European Space Agency.

The total cost of the programme is estimated to be 35 billion USD. The programme is to be implemented in three parts. They are Artemis I, Artemis II and Artemis III.

WHAT IS FACIAL RECOGNITION TECHNOLOGY?



It is a technology capable of matching a human face from a digital image or a video frame against a database of faces, typically employed to authenticate users through ID verification services, works by pinpointing and measuring facial features from a given image.

The Need Of The Technology: To facilitate investigation of crime and detection of criminals. Facial recognition is used when issuing identity documents and, most often, combined with other biometric technologies such as fingerprints (preventing ID fraud and identity theft).

Face match is used at border checks to compare the portrait on a digitized biometric passport with the holder's face.

How The System Works:

Face Detection: The picture of the targeted face is detected/captured from a video or photo.

Face Analysis: The system will read the geometry of the targeted face. After that, it will match the picture with those in a database. The system examines different

nodal points of a human face, such as space between eyes, the shape of cheekbones, etc.

Converting an Image to Data: In the 3rd step, face analysis is then turned into a numerical code known as a face print. Every person has a unique face print.

Finding a Match: In the last step, the face print or code is compared against other face prints from a database. The database usually contains pictures with identification, which can be compared.

DRDO & INDIAN NAVY FLIGHT TESTED VL-SRSAM MISSILE

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Indian Navy successfully flight-tested the indigenously designed and developed Vertical Launch Short Range Surface-to-Air Missile (VL-SRSAM) from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) in Chandipur off the coast of Odisha.

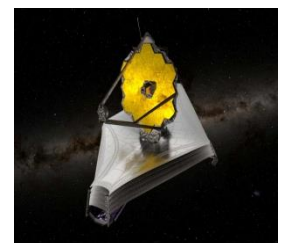


The flight test was carried out from a naval ship against a high-speed unmanned aerial target for demonstration of vertical launch capability.

During the test launch, flight path and vehicle performance parameters were monitored using flight data, captured by various range instruments such as radar, electro-optical tracking system (EOTS) and telemetry systems deployed by ITR in Chandipur.

JAMES WEBB SPACE TELESCOPE (JWST)

The James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) has captured such a spectacular picture of the planet Jupiter for the first time. Actually this picture was taken by James Webb on 27 July 2022.



Images of Jupiter's stormy Great Red Spot, Ring, Aurora and Aurora at the North and South Poles were not clearly visible in any photo taken to date.

Apart from this, all the parts of this planet are visible in a single line in a wide field picture. Its dim rings, its two satellites i.e. the moons Amalthea and Adrastea and the bright stars are visible in the Milky Way behind them. The format of the picture was infrared.

The infrared images were artificially tinted blue, white, green, yellow and orange.

What is James Webb Space Telescope?

The **James Webb Space Telescope** is a large infrared **telescope**. It will study every phase in the history of universe. This includes formation of solar system, Big Bang and other theories that support life on other planets.

The **Telescope** is capable of looking about the past **such as the first galaxies formed in the early universe** through its longer wavelengths. These wavelengths will help the telescope to peer inside dust clouds from where the planets and stars are formed.

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ADDITION OF NEW RAMSAR SITES



According to the union environment ministry, 6 new wetlands from Tamil Nadu, and 1 each from Karnataka, Goa, Madhya Pradesh and Odisha have received Ramsar recognition as "Wetlands of International Importance".

With the inclusion of 10, the total number of Ramsar Sites stands at 64.

Newly recognised sites are;

Koonthankulam Bird Sanctuary– It is a man-made wetland, located in Tirunelveli district of Tamil Nadu. It is the largest reserve for migratory waterbirds and breeding residents in south India. Paddy is also irrigated in the sanctuary, on 190 acres of land.

Nanda Lake– Nanda Lake is the freshwater marshes, located adjacent to one of the rivulets of the Zuari river in Goa.

Satkosia gorge– It expands along the Mahanadi River in Odisha. It was set up in 1976 as a wildlife sanctuary. The Deccan Peninsula and the Eastern Ghats meet at Satkosia.

Vembannur Wetland Complex, Tamil Nadu
Vellode Bird Sanctuary, Tamil Nadu
Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary, Tamil Nadu and
Udhayamarthandapuram Bird Sanctuary, Tamil Nadu
Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary, Karnataka and
Sirpur Wetland, Madhya Pradesh.

TIRANGA UTSAV ORGANIZED BY MINISTRY OF CULTURE



The Ministry of Culture organized "Tiranga Utsav" on August 2, 2022 to celebrate the contributions of Pingali Venkayya to the country.

Tiranga Utsav was an evening filled with cultural and musical performances. It was organised in New Delhi, on the occasion of the 146th Birth Anniversary of Pingali Venkayya.

Highlights of the event include:

The Tiranga Utsav marked the presence of Union Home Affairs Minister Amit Shah as the chief guest. On the occasion, Amit Shah released the commemorative Postal Stamp to honour Pingali Venkayya. 'Amar Chitra Katha' was also released in his memory.

Amit Shah also felicitated the family members of Pingali Venkayya at the event. The Tiranga Anthem was also released.

Who was Pingali Venkayya?

Pingali Venkayya was an Indian freedom fighter and a follower of Mahatma Gandhi. He designed a flag, based on which Indian National Flag was designed later.

He belonged to a Telugu Brahmin family and was born at Bhatlapenumarru, near Machilipatnam (in present day Andhra Pradesh).

FIFTH ELEPHANT RESERVE IN TAMIL NADU

The proposal to designate 1,197.48 sq.km in Kanyakumari and Tirunelveli as the Agasthiyar Malai Elephant Reserve was approved by the Union Environment Ministry. Tamil Nadu will oversee this Agasthiyar Malai Elephant Reserve, which is the fifth elephant reserve.



The forest department may be eligible for additional financing through the centrally sponsored Project Elephant after notifying the Agasthiyar Malai Elephant Reserve.

Agasthiyar Malai Elephant Reserve status will put more of an emphasis on protecting and conserving elephants as indicator animals that indicate a healthy ecosystem, even when the area is already protected as a reserve forest or wildlife sanctuary.

Identification of elephant corridors will allow for the adoption of improved management techniques.

GOOGLE LAUNCHED 'INDIA KI UDAN INITIATIVE'

Tech giant, Google has launched 'India Ki Udaan' to mark 75 years of Independence. The project executed by Google Arts & Culture celebrates the country's

achievements and is “themed on the unwavering and undying spirit of India over these past 75 years”.



As part of the country-wide celebrations, Google also announced its collaboration with the Ministry of Culture.

It was officially launched at a glittering event held at the Sunder Nursery in Delhi in the presence of Union Culture and Tourism Minister G Kishan Reddy and senior officials of the culture ministry and Google.

About the 'India Ki Udaan':

This initiative offers a unique view of India's remarkable moments and lets people discover some of the most memorable moments in India's modern history, its iconic personalities, its proudest scientific and sporting achievements, and how women in India continue to inspire the world.

11 MORE WETLANDS ADDED IN RAMSAR LIST

In the 75th year of Independence, India has added 11 more wetlands in the Ramsar Sites list. Thus, the total number of Ramsar sites in India stands at 75, covering an area of 13 lakh 26 thousand 677 Hectare.

Four sites have been added from Tamil Nadu, three from Odisha, two from Jammu & Kashmir and one each from Madhya Pradesh & Maharashtra.

Addition of these sites to the list will help in conservation and management of wetlands and their wise use.

In 2022, 28 sites have been included in the Ramsar sites list, so far. Tamil Nadu accounts for the maximum number of Ramsar sites. Total of 14 from the state are Ramsar sites. Uttar Pradesh has 10 Ramsar sites.

WHAT IS TOMATO FLU?



Recently, some parts of Kerala reported Tomato Flu among children less than five years of age.

What is Tomato Flu?

The infection has been named 'tomato flu' because of the red, painful blisters that appear on a patient's body and gradually enlarge to the size of a tomato. The 'tomato flu' is caused by Coxsackievirus A 16.

It belongs to the Enterovirus family. The enteroviruses are an ancient and important group of RNA viruses. Humans are the only hosts for the enteroviruses (NPEVs).

The infectious disease is caused by intestinal viruses and is rare in adults as they usually have immune systems strong enough to defend them from the virus.

Transmission: Tomato flu is very contagious and children are at increased risk of exposure to tomato flu as viral infections are common in this age group and spread is likely to be through close contact.

CHANDIGARH INT. AIRPORT NAMED AFTER BHAGAT SINGH

Recently Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann and Haryana Deputy CM Dushyant Chautala collectively decided to name Chandigarh International Airport after Shaheed Bhagat Singh.



Earlier Punjab Vidhan Sabha had passed a resolution to name the airport as 'Shaheed-E-Azam Sardar Bhagat Singh International Airport, Mohali' but haryana objected it due to mohali in its name.

Later Haryana Vidhan Sabha passed a resolution on renaming the terminal, but with the use of 'Chandigarh'.

He was an Indian socialist revolutionary and folk hero of India's Independence movement following his two acts of dramatic violence against the British and his execution at age 23.

Bhagat Singh and his associate Shivaram Rajguru had shot a British police officer, John Saunders in December 1928. Following this, Bhagat Singh (aged 23) was convicted and hanged on March 23, 1931.

Background

Bhagat Singh was a Sandhu Jat. He was born in 1907 in Punjab Province of British India. On his birth, his father Kishan Singh and two uncle, Ajit Singh & Swaran Singh, were released from jail.

His father and uncles were members of Ghadar Party which was led by Kartar Singh Sarabha and Har Dayal.

WORLD'S LARGEST RELIGIOUS MONUMENT IN WB

The largest religious monument in the world, the Temple of Vedic Planetarium in West Bengal, which will

serve as the headquarters of the **International Society of Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON)**, will also have the world's biggest dome. The Vedic Planetarium will offer guests a tour of the various parts of the cosmic creation.

The **Temple of Vedic Planetarium** is ISKCON founder **Srila Prabhupada's vision** and is apparently inspired by the design of the Capitol building in the United States. Srila Prabhupada stated his preference for the temple's exterior style in July of 1976.

The Temple of Vedic Planetarium is in West Bengal's Mayapur in the Nadia district and, once completed, it will be larger than the Taj Mahal and St. Paul's Cathedral in the Vatican.

The temple will open in 2024, following a two-year delay brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. **It will purportedly replace Cambodia's 400-acre-large Angkor Wat temple complex as the largest religious monument.**

NATIONAL MARITIME SEARCH EXERCISE 'SAREX 22'

The **Indian Coast Guard** recently conducted its biennial **National Maritime Search and Rescue Exercise SAREX 22** off the Chennai coast.

The objective of this exercise is to avoid accidents at sea and save lives by conducting rescue operations. During this, 24 observers from 16 countries participated in the exercise organized under the theme '**Capacity Building Towards Maritime Security**'.

This was the 10th exercise conducted by the Coast Guard. During this exercise, new technology like remote controlled lifebuoys were demonstrated over the Bay of Bengal.



Indian Coast Guard

It is an armed force, search and rescue agency that protects maritime interests of India. It is a **Maritime Law Enforcement Agency**. It was established in 1978 by the Coast Guard Act, 1978. **It operates under the Ministry of Defence.**

PRAVAHINI



THE HINDU DAILY ARTICLES' ANALYSIS BY SUCCESS MANTRA SMART COACHING

In this competitive world, the demand for "authentic Current Affairs updates" from a reliable source has been increasing for the past few years, with the growth of awareness and aspirants' educational goals.

Keeping this in mind, Success Mantra Smart Coaching, via its YouTube Channel 'Success Mantra Digital', aims to make 'The Hindu Daily Articles Analysis' accessible to everyone and everywhere across the platform. It offers the latest important news with a minute update, especially for aspirants who are preparing for their dream entrance exams like CLAT, AILET, CUET, DU-LLB, MH-CET, IPU-CET, NCHM and many more.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IHZTJwt8JFo&list=PLDrM_6OHOo1lcuxmRN-icOWjZUIhevkl





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