

TNPSC THERVUPETTAGAM CURRENT AFFAIRS MAY 2022

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TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Manapparai Government Hospital had won first place at the State-level for 'Clean Hospital' in the National Health Mission's 'Kayakalp' programme 2021-22.
- ❖ Tata Sons executive chairman N Chandrasekaran has formally taken charge as chairman of Tata Digital.
 - Chandrasekaran's formal appointment is of significance considering its future plans of raising funds from external investors.
- ❖ As per the Bloomberg Billionaires Index, Adani Group chairman Gautam Adani becomes the fourth richest person in the world.
- ❖ The Russian army has taken control of Ukraine's besieged port city of Mariupol recently.
- ❖ The maximum all-India power demand was recorded at 201.066 GW as on 26 April, 2022.
 - It has surpassed last year's maximum demand met of 200.539 GW, which occurred on 7 July 2021.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister announced that the Chennai-Mahabalipuram East Coast Road will be named Muthamizh Arignar Kalaignar Karunanidhi road to honour the former CM's role in the development of state highways.
- ❖ The Greater Chennai Corporation has named a street after late actor and Padma Shri recipient Vivek.
 - The road in Virugambakkam in Chennai where the actor used to reside has been renamed as Chinna Kalaivanar Vivek Road.
- ❖ The Supreme Court has observed that the reserved category candidates securing higher marks than the last of the general category candidates are entitled to get seat/post in the General category.
- ❖ The Semicon India Conference-2022 will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
 - Bengaluru will host this three-day conference.
- ❖ MS Dhoni returned as captain of Chennai Super Kings on May 1, 2022 after Ravindra Jadeja relinquished the position on April 30th.
- ❖ The Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement between India and the United Arab Emirates came into force on May 1, 2022 which was signed on February 18, 2022.
 - The agreement allows no customs duty to be levied on various products.
- ❖ The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) has appointed Nand Mulchandani, an Indian-American IT expert, as its first-ever Chief Technology Officer.



- ❖ The first Indian sports documentary 'Maitanam- The Story of Football in Kerala' went live on FIFA+ on May 1, 2022.
- ❖ In Asia Badminton Championships, India's P.V. Sindhu won her second Asian bronze medal.
- ❖ Vinay Mohan Kwatra took charge as India's new Foreign Secretary.
 - He succeeded Harsh Vardhan Shringla who retired from service.
- ❖ The Supreme Court held that no individual can be forced to get vaccinated and the right to bodily integrity of a person under Article 21 of the Constitution include the right to refuse vaccinate.
- ❖ Union Bank of India became the first public sector bank to go live on the Account Aggregator ecosystem.
- ❖ Real Madrid won their 35th Spanish league title against Espanyol.
- ❖ Ronnie O'Sullivan wins record seventh world snooker title.
 - This victory has equalled the record set by Stephen Hendry, who reached seven world titles in 1999.
- ❖ India got its 100th unicorn when neo banking fintech portal, "Open", raised fresh capital to push up its value to over a billion dollars.
- ❖ The RBI Monetary Policy Committee Announced the hikes in repo rate by 40 bps to 4.40 percent with immediate effect.
- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the opening session of the Jain International Trade Organisation's JITO Connect 2022.
- ❖ TVS Motor Company has announced the elevation of Sudarshan Venu as Managing Director of the Company.
- ❖ In Manipur, the Poumai tribe has declared that Poumai inhabited areas will be a Drug-Free Zone supporting the State government's War on Drug campaign.
- ❖ The Indian rupee extended its losses and touched an all-time low of 77.42 against the US dollar in early trade on 9th may.
- ❖ Sri Lanka's Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa resigned on 9th May and the Cabinet stands dissolved as per the Sri Lankan Constitution.
- ❖ Indian Grandmaster D Gukesh has emerged as champion in the 1st Chessable Sunway Formentera Open 2022 chess tournament in Punta Prima.
 - It was a hat-trick of titles for him.
- ❖ L&T Infotech and Mindtree, the two independently listed IT services companies under Larsen & Toubro Group announced a merger that would create India's fifth-largest IT services provider.
 - The combined entity will be known as "LTIMindtree".



- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government tabled a Bill in the Assembly to amend a provision of the Goondas Act, 1982, to ease the procedure to grant temporary leave to detenues to attend the funerals of close relatives.
- ❖ Adani Wilmar Limited became the largest Fast Moving Consumer Goods Company in India beating Hindustan Unilever Limited.
- ❖ Defense Minister Rajnath Singh has released a book titled 'INDO-PAK WAR 1971-Reminiscences of Air Warriors'.
- ❖ Santoor maestro Pandit Shivkumar Sharma recently passed away.
 - He received the Padma Shri in 1991 and the Padma Vibhushan in 2001.
- ❖ In Ayodhya, a significant crossing will be developed and named for legendary vocalist Bharat Ratna late Lata Mangeshkar.
- ❖ IRCTC will launch its maiden Bharat Gaurav Tourist train, with a stop in Nepal's Janakpur.
 - This train will go around the Ramayana Circuit, which has been identified under the Swadesh Darshan scheme.
- ❖ India's Avinash Sable broke a 30-year-old record of Bahadur Prasad (1992) in 5000 m, setting a new national record.
- ❖ Reliance Industries' revenue has crossed \$100 billion in fiscal 2022, becoming the first Indian company to reach the milestone.
- ❖ Abhinav Deshwal has won the second gold medal for India in shooting at the ongoing 24th Deaflympics.
- ❖ Uttar Pradesh athlete Annu Rani broke her own national record en route winning the gold in the fourth AFI Indian Open Javelin Throw Competition
- ❖ The eminent Odia litterateur Rajat Kumar Kar passed away recently.
 - He received Padma Shri in 2021 for literature and education.
- ❖ F1 world champion Max Verstappen has won the inaugural Miami Grand Prix-2022.
- ❖ The Vice President of India, released a book titled "The Struggle for Police Reforms in India: Ruler's Police to People's Police" authored by a former IPS officer, Prakash Singh.
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Assembly brought a Bill to empower the State government to appoint the Vice-Chancellor to a State university - Tamil Nadu Agricultural University.
- ❖ In Cyprus International Athletics Meeting 2022, India's Jyothi Yarraji smashed the national record to clinch a gold medal in the women's 100m hurdles.
- ❖ The 12th edition of the IBA Women's World Boxing Championships was kick-started in Istanbul, Turkey.



- ❖ TN Chief Minister inaugurated the 2.3-km three-lane unidirectional flyover at Medavakkam, the longest in Chennai.
 - It will facilitate faster movement of vehicles from Tambaram to Velachery.
- ❖ Russia celebrates Victory Day on May 9th to commemorate Soviet Union's victory over Germany's Nazi forces in World War II.
- ❖ The Tata Group has appointed Campbell Wilson, as Air India's new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Managing Director (MD).
- ❖ Leonid Kravchuk, who led Ukraine to independence during the collapse of the Soviet Union and served as its first president, has died.
- ❖ Young Chennai based rider Sarthak Chavan set a new record for Honda Racing India after securing a podium finish at the Thailand Talent Cup (TTC) 2022.
- ❖ PM Narendra Modi Addressed in the second US-hosted global virtual summit on Covid-19.
- ❖ Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh kicked off the 12th Hockey India Sub-Junior Women National Championship-2022 at Khuman Lampak Sports Complex in Imphal.
- ❖ Sri Lanka's former prime minister Ranil Wickremesinghe has been appointed as the new PM after the resigning of Mahinda Rajapaksa.
- ❖ The Madhya Pradesh high court has issued notices to the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), Centre and the state government on a petition pertaining to the dispute over the monument of Bhojshala in state's Dhar district.
 - Bhojshala is an ASI protected 11th century monument, which Hindus claim is a temple of Vagdevi (Goddess Saraswati), while the Muslim community treats it as Kamal Maula Mosque.
- ❖ Union Minister for Minority Affairs Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi inaugurated India's first 'Amrit Sarovar' in Rampur, Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ Actress Deepika Padukone has become the first-ever Indian brand ambassador of luxury brand Louis Vuitton.
- ❖ Lhakpa Sherpa has just climbed Mount Everest for the 10th time.
 - Her 10-time achievement makes her the first woman to do so.
- ❖ UAE President Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan recently passed away.
 - Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan was appointed new President of UAE.
- ❖ Prime Minister addressed the Utkarsh Samaroh in Bharuch, Gujarat.
 - The event commemorates the district's 100 percent saturation of four main state government initiatives that will help give prompt financial support to individuals in need.



- ❖ Chairman of Bajaj Finserv Limited, Sanjiv Bajaj has assumed the office of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) President for the year 2022-23.
- ❖ Senior IAS officer Nidhi Chibber has been appointed as the chairperson of the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE).
- ❖ 6th Road Safety Conference on “Safer & Sustainable Mobility with Innovations and Technology” held in New Delhi.
- ❖ Former Australian all-rounder Andrew Symonds has recently passed away.
 - He played 26 Tests and 198 one-day internationals.
- ❖ Manik Saha takes oath as new Tripura Chief Minister on May 15.
 - He was named as the CM after Biplab Kumar Deb resigned.
- ❖ President Ram Nath Kovind has a visit to Jamaica.
 - He is the first Indian President to visit this Caribbean country.
- ❖ Rajiv Ranjan and Sitikantha Pattanaik have been named as executive directors by the RBI.
- ❖ The Southwest monsoon has advanced into the Andaman & Nicobar Islands on 16th May.
- ❖ South Korea won the Badminton Uber Cup 2022 by defeating China.
- ❖ Sweden officially announced that it will apply for NATO membership as a deterrent against Russian aggression.
- ❖ The board of directors of Inter Globe Aviation (IndiGo) appointed Pieter Elbers as chief executive officer.
- ❖ Sunil Arora, the former chief election commissioner, has been named as the new non-executive chairman of Gram Unnati's board.
- ❖ The Britain's Prince Charles delivers Queen's Speech at the opening of England parliament by replacing the 96-year-old Queen Elizabeth for the first time in History.
- ❖ Adani Group is set to acquire Swiss multinational company Holcim's stake in Indian companies Ambuja Cements.
- ❖ A British climber Kenton Cool has scaled the world's highest mountain for the 16th time becoming the first foreign climber to make the most Mt Everest summits.
- ❖ Rajasthani singer Mame Khan became the first folk singer to open Red Carpet for India at the Cannes Film Festival.
- ❖ Odisha were crowned as the Champions of the 12th Hockey India Senior Women National Championship 2022.
- ❖ Bajrang Punia and Ravi Kumar Dahiya, both Tokyo 2020 medallists, were selected for the wrestling squad for the Common Wealth Games 2022.



- ❖ BSE Limited approved the appointment of SS Mundra as the company's chairperson.
- ❖ Preeti Shenoy is set to publish a new novel titled "A Place Called Home".
 - The new novel is about secrets, family, and finding yourself.
- ❖ The Union Cabinet Minister of Electronics & Information Technology, Ashwini Vaishnaw has inaugurated the National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT) Centre in Leh, Ladakh.
- ❖ Bharti Airtel board has reappointed Gopal Vittal as Managing Director & CEO for a further period of five years.
- ❖ The Delhi Lieutenant Governor, Anil Baijal has submitted his resignation to President Ram Nath Kovind citing personal reasons.
- ❖ Ruchi Soya, an edible oil company will acquire Patanjali Ayurved's food division.
- ❖ Jitendra Singh, Minister of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions released the e-book 'Civil List – 2022 of IAS officers.
- ❖ India's Nikhat Zareen has won the Women's World Boxing Championships in Turkey.
 - She became only the fifth Indian woman to be crowned world champion.
- ❖ International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia observed on every year May 17.
- ❖ International Tea Day is observed annually on May 21.
 - It aims to raise awareness of the long history and the deep cultural and economic significance of tea around the world.
- ❖ Dharmendra Pradhan, Union Minister for Education and Skill Development, launched the North East Research Conclave (NERC) 2022 at IIT Guwahati.
- ❖ The German Football club Eintracht Frankfurt has triumphed in their first European trophy, the UEFA Europa League, in 42 years since 1980.
 - In 2022, it was held in Spain.
- ❖ The United Arab Emirates (UAE) became the first Gulf country to record a case of monkeypox.
- ❖ Vinai Kumar Saxena has been appointed as the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi.
- ❖ The Union Ministry of Ayush has confirmed the observance of the 8th International Day of Yoga (IDY) at Mysuru city.
- ❖ Manchester City of Football has won 2021/22 Premier League champions.
 - It is their fourth title success in the last five seasons.
- ❖ Haryana beat Jharkhand win Hockey India Sub-Junior Women's National Championship in Imphal.



- ❖ Mansukh Mandaviya, Minister of Health, addressed at the 75th World Health Assembly in Geneva, Switzerland.
- ❖ Captain Abhilasha Barak becomes the first woman officer to join Army Aviation Corps as Combat Aviator after successful completion of training.
- ❖ Indian boxer and Tokyo Olympics Bronze medallist, Lovlina Borgohain was elected as IBA's Athletes' Committee Chair.
- ❖ A new book titled "Listen to Your Heart: The London Adventure" authored by Ruskin Bond.

TAMIL NADU

Horticulture and agriculture colleges

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin virtually inaugurated a Horticulture College and Research Centre at Jeevur in Krishnagiri district.
- ❖ He inaugurated Agriculture College and Research Centres in Karur and at Kilvelur in Nagapattinam district and Chettinadu in Sivaganga district.
- ❖ Mr. Stalin virtually inaugurated a research centre for turmeric at Bhavanisagar in Erode district.
- ❖ Chief Minister M.K. Stalin also inaugurated Nammazhvar Organic Farming Research Centre at the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University.

Siddha Medical University

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Assembly passed a bill to establish a Siddha Medical University in the state.
- ❖ Chief Minister MK Stalin will be its Chancellor.
- ❖ In his capacity as Chancellor of the varsity, the Chief Minister will appoint the Vice-Chancellor from a list of three names shortlisted by the search committee.
- ❖ Health and Family Welfare Minister will be the Pro-Chancellor, as per the Tamil Nadu Siddha Medical University Act, 2022.



Three new sanctuaries

- ❖ As per the Tamil Nadu Forest minister statement, the following Three new sanctuaries would be created in this year. They are
 - One for birds at Nanjanrayan tank in Tirupur
 - Another for elephants at Krishnagiri and
 - Third for slender loris in Dindigul.
- ❖ Slender loris, is an endangered species endemic to South India and Sri Lanka.

Cadaveric liver transplant

- ❖ In a span of two weeks, the Government Stanley Medical College Hospital in Chennai performed the second cadaveric liver transplantation.
- ❖ According to officials of the Transplant Authority of Tamil Nadu, this was the first cadaveric donation at Kilpauk Medical College, Chennai.
- ❖ This was the second liver transplantation performed at Stanley hospital after the COVID-19 pandemic.

Saturation level in food grain production

- ❖ State recording 9% higher production of food grains during 2021-22 when compared to the previous year.
- ❖ It appears to be reaching the level of saturation.
- ❖ Since 2011-12 on an average, the State has been able to produce around 100 lakh tonnes a year.
- ❖ The highest production was in 2014-15, with 127.95 lakh tonnes, followed by last year's production - about 118 lakh tonnes.
- ❖ According to the State government, the target for 2022-23 has been fixed at about 126 lakh tonnes.

Conservation center for Naatu Kuttai cattle

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences has decided to set up a conservation centre for Naatu Kuttai Maadugal at Kattupakkam.
- ❖ It is cattle breed prevalent in Chengalpattu, Kancheepuram, Tiruvallur and Villupuram districts.
- ❖ Conservation centres for Kangeyam, Puliur, Pargur, Umblacherry and Alambadi cattle breeds already set up to prevent extinction.



Tamil Nadu moving towards malaria elimination phase

- ❖ The National Centre for Vector Borne Diseases Control, awarded a certificate to the State in recognition of its performance in malaria elimination and its progress from category II to category I during 2015-2021.
- ❖ The category II denotes the pre-elimination phase and category I denotes the elimination phase.
- ❖ While India has a target of achieving malaria elimination by 2030, Tamil Nadu aims to stamp out the disease by 2024.
- ❖ Out of 38 districts, 31 has zero indigenous cases.

New Formal jobs

February 2022	February 2021	January 2022
1,491	1,924	1,153
36,978	36,616	29,308
45,081	38,868	35,017
20,979	17,135	17,503
30,255	25,897	25,875
35,378	30,001	26,688
1,70,162	150,441	1,35,544

- ❖ About 1.70 lakh jobs were created in Tamil Nadu's formal sector in February 2022.
- ❖ This is an increase of 26% from January 2022 and 13% from February 2021, respectively.
- ❖ The new jobs added are measured in terms of the number of new net enrolments made with the EPFO.



Highest Tax revenue

- ❖ Tamil Nadu's Commercial taxes department revenue has crossed the one lakh crore-mark during 2021-2022.
- ❖ The Registration Department earned revenues to the tune of ₹13,913.65 crore.
- ❖ Both the collections are the highest collection ever in their respective category.

Highest ever power consumption

POWER GENERATION ON THURSDAY (IN MW)	
Thermal	3,885
Hydro	279
Central govt share	5,063
Others	8,143
Total	17,370

- ❖ Tamil Nadu on 28th April recorded its highest ever (387.047 million units) power consumption.
- ❖ The previous highest power consumption in the State was 378.328 MU recorded on March 29 this year.
- ❖ So far, the highest State demand was 17,196 Mega Watt (MW), which was recorded on March 29.
- ❖ The demand, however, touched 17,370 MW on 28th April.

Five new development schemes

- ❖ Tamilnadu CM made the five new development announcements in the State Assembly.
- ❖ The schemes are
 - A free morning breakfast scheme for government school students
 - A scheme to eradicate nutrition deficiency
 - Establishment of schools of excellence and primary health centres in urban areas and the expansion of 'CM in Your Constituency'
 - Setting up of Primary healthcare like centers in urban areas
 - A public grievances redress system, to all 234 constituencies.

In pipeline: Here are the five schemes announced by Chief Minister M.K. Stalin in the T.N. Assembly

- **Free breakfast** for Class I-V government school children in a phased manner
- Initiatives to **eradicate nutrition deficiency**
- Setting up of **Schools of Excellence**
- Setting up of **primary healthcare-like centres** in urban areas
- Expanding the 'CM in Your Constituency' **grievance redressal scheme** to all 234 constituencies in the State

Breakfast scheme

- ❖ Tamil Nadu chief minister has announced that all government primary school students from 1st to 5th standards will be provided nutritious breakfast on all working days.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu is set to become the first state to offer breakfast along with midday meals.
- ❖ This includes the launch of integrated urban health centers within the Corporation and Municipal limits.
- ❖ This scheme will help the school children who skip their breakfast while going to school because of the distance and family situations.

Iron Age in TN



- ❖ Excavations carried out by the Tamil Nadu Department of Archaeology at Mayiladumparai in Krishnagiri district have placed the beginning of the Iron Age in Tamil Nadu 4,200 years before.



- ❖ The Department released a report, 'Mayiladumparai - Beginning of Agrarian Society; 4,200-year-old Iron Age Culture in Tamil Nadu'.
- ❖ The late Neolithic phase was identified before 2200 BCE as there is a cultural deposit of 25 cm below the dated level.
- ❖ It, also announced that the Department of Archaeology would undertake excavations at Pattanam in Kerala, Thalakkadu in Karnataka, Vengi in Andhra Pradesh and Palur in Odisha.

Property tax Increase

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government, which increased the property tax in all urban local bodies last month, has decided to increase it annually.
- ❖ The New bill require the municipal councils to take action to enhance the property tax annually.
- ❖ The new provision the Bill seeks to include in the Chennai City Municipal Corporation Act, 1919; the Tamil Nadu District Municipalities Act, 1920; the Madurai City Municipal Corporation Act, 1971; and the Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation Act, 1981.

Tamil Nadu Urban Local Bodies Act - 1998

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government tabled a Bill in the Assembly that seeks to revive the Tamil Nadu Urban Local Bodies Act, 1998.
- ❖ It is a common Act for all urban local bodies that has remained suspended for over 20 years.
- ❖ On revival of this Act, all Corporation laws, including the Tamil Nadu District Municipalities Act, 1920 and the Tamil Nadu Urban Local Bodies (Suspension of Operation) Act, 2000 would stand repealed.

Appointment of V-C for medical varsity

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government introduced a Bill in the Assembly to empower itself to appoint the Vice-Chancellor of Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University.
- ❖ The Gujarat University Act, 1949, and the Telangana (Andhra Pradesh) Universities Act, 1991, have empowered the respective State governments to appoint the V-Cs.
- ❖ At present, the Governor is also the Chancellor of the State universities,
- ❖ The Governor makes the appointment of V-Cs from a panel of three names recommended by a selection committee.



Rajiv Gandhi Assassination Case

- ❖ The Supreme Court invoked its extraordinary powers to do complete justice and ordered the release of A.G. Perarivalan.
- ❖ Perarivalan was 19 years old when he was arrested in 1991 for buying batteries.
- ❖ That were used to trigger the belt bomb that killed the former prime minister.
- ❖ The top court bench headed by Justice L Nageswara Rao said the Tamil Nadu state cabinet's advice recommending the premature release of all seven convicts in the case was binding on the governor.
- ❖ While delivering the verdict, the Supreme Court used Article 142 to exercise its special powers in any case or matter pending before it to do "complete justice".
- ❖ The Maru Ram case (1980) held that Governor has to abide by aid and advice of state cabinet.
- ❖ If it is not agreeable, then the Governor must send the matter back to the state for reconsideration.

Other instances under Article 142

- ❖ During the Bhopal gas tragedy case had also ordered the US-based Union Carbide Corporation to pay \$470 million compensation to the victims.
- ❖ In the Ram Mandir verdict had refused division of the land, and instead handed over 2.77 acres of disputed area to Hindus.

Article 142

- (1) The Supreme Court in the exercise of its jurisdiction may pass such decree or make such order as is necessary for doing complete justice in any cause or matter pending before it, and any decree so passed or order so made shall be enforceable throughout the territory of India in such manner as may be prescribed by or under any law made by Parliament and, until provision in that behalf is so made, in such manner as the President may by order prescribe.
- (2) Subject to the provisions of any law made in this behalf by Parliament, the Supreme Court shall, as respects the whole of the territory of India, have all and every power to make any order for the purpose of securing the attendance of any person, the discovery or production of any documents, or the investigation or punishment of any contempt of itself.

Opening of Mettur dam

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister ordered to release water from the Mettur dam on May 24.
- ❖ The level of water in the dam stood at 115.35 feet against a full reservoir level of 120 feet.



- ❖ This is the first time since Independence the Mettur dam will be opened in the month of May.

மேடசூர் அணை ிபரங்கள்	
அணை கட்டித் துவங்கிய நாள்	: 20.7.1925
அணை கட்டிமுடிந்த நாள்	: 21.6.1934
அணை கட்டுவதற்கு ஆள்கள்	: 5,4,80 பேர்
அணை நீளம்	: 5,300 அடி
அணை கொள்ளளவு	: 93.50 டி.எம்.சி
அணை அதிகபட்ச உயரம்	: 214 அடி
அணை அதிகபட்ச அகலம்	: 171 அடி
அணை சேமிப்பு உயரம்	: 120 அடி
அணை நீர்ப்பிடிப்பு பரப்பு	: 59.25 ச.கி.மீ

12,000th LHB

- ❖ The Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw launched the 12,000th Link Hadimani Busch (LHB) coach at the Integral Coach Factory (ICF) in Chennai.
- ❖ ICF is the first production unit of Indian Railways to achieve such a benchmark in the production of LHB coaches.
- ❖ Also, the Vande Bharat express coaches are being produced at the LHB shed of Furnishing Factory.

124th Ooty flower show

- ❖ Tamilnadu Chief Minister inaugurated 124th flower show at Government Botanical Garden (GBG) in Ooty.
- ❖ Ooty 200, a logo created to mark 200 years of discovery of the Nilgiris.
- ❖ In 1995, late CM J Jayalalithaa inaugurated the 100th edition of the flower show and the Government Rose Garden.
- ❖ After 22 years, the former CM Edappadi K Palanisamy inaugurated the shows in 2017 and 2018.

Kalaingar Village Integrated Agriculture Development Program

- ❖ M.K. Stalin launched the Kalaingar's All Village Integrated Agriculture Development Project in the districts of Krishnagiri, Dharmapuri and Erode.
- ❖ Under the programme, the schemes implemented by more than 15 departments including agriculture, horticulture and agricultural engineering will be focused on the villages.



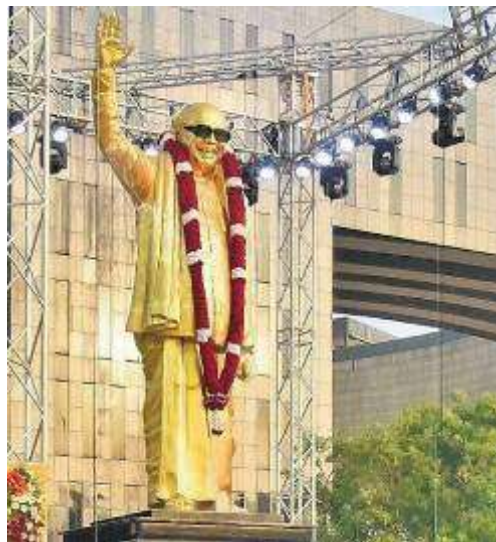
- ❖ The government is planning to cover all the panchayats in the district in a few years.

Housing Units built with Precast system

- ❖ Prime Minister inaugurated 1,152 housing units situated in Perumbakkam of Chennai that were built using precast system.
- ❖ In the Precast system, structures like columns, beams, slabs, etc are manufactured in the factory and brought to the construction site.
- ❖ The Perumbakkam project is part of the Light House Projects (LHP) scheme under the Global Housing Technology Challenge.
- ❖ There is a total of six Light House Projects, including the Perumbakkam project in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ The other five projects are being implemented in Gujarat, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, and Tripura.
- ❖ Among all the six projects Perumbakkam project in Tamil Nadu has the highest number of housing units.

M Karunanidhi's statue

- ❖ The Vice President Venkaiah Naidu unveiling M.Karunanidhi's 16-foot-tall statue at Omandurar Government Estate in Chennai.
- ❖ On the same road, a statue for Mr Karunanidhi was installed in 1975 when he was alive.
- ❖ However, it was removed in the year 1987.



NATIONAL

First Indian company to hit Rs 19 lakh m-cap

- ❖ Reliance Industries Limited has become the first Indian company to hit the Rs 19 lakh crore market valuation mark in intra-day trade.
- ❖ The market heavyweight stock jumped 1.85 percent to its record high of Rs 2,827.10 during the day on the BSE.

Indigenous navigation system - GAGAN

- ❖ IndiGo becomes the first airline in Asia to land its aircraft using the indigenous navigation system GAGAN.
- ❖ This is a huge leap for Indian Civil Aviation and a firm step toward Aatmanirbhar Bharat.
- ❖ India has now become the third country in the world to have its own SBAS system after the USA and Japan.

ABPMJAY - SEHAT scheme

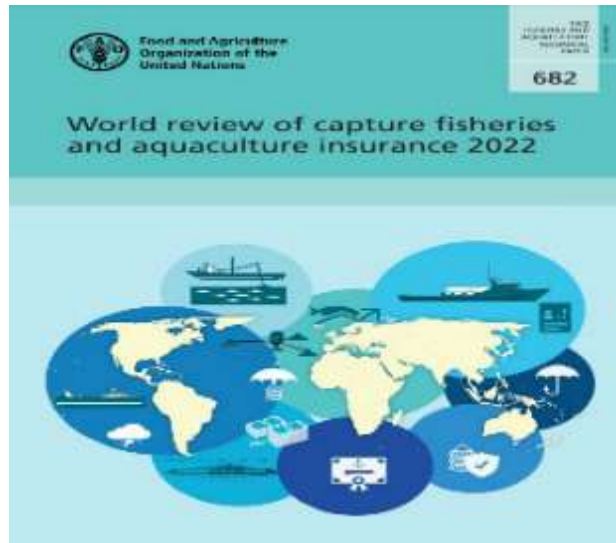


- ❖ The Samba district of the Jammu division has become the first district in India to cover 100% of households under the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (ABPMJAY) - SEHAT scheme.
- ❖ The ABPMJAY SEHAT scheme is the world's largest health insurance scheme fully financed by Government.



- ❖ The people with Ayushman Bharat Golden Card get free treatment up to Rs. 5 lakh in all government and empanelled private hospitals across India.

World Review of Capture Fisheries and Aquaculture Insurance 2022



- ❖ The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has released the ‘World Review of Capture Fisheries and Aquaculture Insurance 2022’.
- ❖ It presents the findings of four national reports viz. China, India, Russia, and the United States conducted in 2020.
- ❖ There is low penetration of insurance products in the Indian fisheries and aquaculture sector.
- ❖ Therefore, it recommended a collaboration of public and private insurance services to recover this sector.
- ❖ The National report of India was authored by the senior scientist Shinoj Parappurathu.
- ❖ Fishing vessels, coastal immovable property, and aquaculture units have abysmal insurance coverage.

Digital India RISC-V (DIR-V) program

- ❖ The launch of the Digital India RISC-V (DIR-V) program was announced by the government of India.
- ❖ It was announced with the aim of creating Microprocessors for the country’s and the world’s future.
- ❖ It also aims to achieve industry-grade commercial silicon and design for the next generation of microprocessors.

MSME Sustainable Certification Scheme

- ❖ Narayan Rane, Union Minister for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises launched the MSME Sustainable (ZED) Certification Scheme.
- ❖ ZED aims to provide a roadmap to global competitiveness for the MSMEs of the country.
- ❖ ZED will be attempting to improve performance and productivity.
- ❖ This scheme will be looking to make the manufacturers more environmentally conscious.
- ❖ This scheme will facilitate and enable the MSMEs to adopt Zero Defect Zero Effect (ZED) practices.

National Framework for Malaria Elimination

- ❖ It outlines India's Strategies to Eliminate the Disease by The Year 2030.
- ❖ It aims to eliminate malaria from all low (category 1) and medium (category 2) union territories and states by 2022.
- ❖ It aims to reduce the incidence of malaria to less than 1 case per 1000 in all union territories and states.
- ❖ It aims to eliminate malaria by 2024 in at least 31 states and UTs.
- ❖ By 2027, indigenous transmission of malaria should be eliminated in all union territories and states (category 3).

Asurgarh Fortified Settlement



- ❖ An advanced radiocarbon dating technique that has been conducted on the Asurgarh fort settlement in the Kalahandi district of Odisha.
- ❖ It has placed this settlement in the ninth century BC or the Iron Age.
- ❖ This makes the settlement 2,500-2,600 years older than Odisha's oldest fortified settlement, the Sisupalgarh fort.

- ❖ This settlement was earlier believed to be from the Mauryan period.
- ❖ The first excavation on this site was done by N K Sahu in 1973 on behalf of the Postgraduate Department of History.

Nutrient Based Subsidy



- ❖ The Union Cabinet has approved the Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) rates for Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers for Kharif Season – 2022.
- ❖ It will help farmers to receive notified P&K fertilizers on subsidized, affordable and reasonable rates and support the agriculture sector.
- ❖ The Government is making available fertilizers, namely Urea and 25 grades of P&K fertilizers to farmers at subsidized prices through fertilizer manufacturers/importers.

Most challenging economies

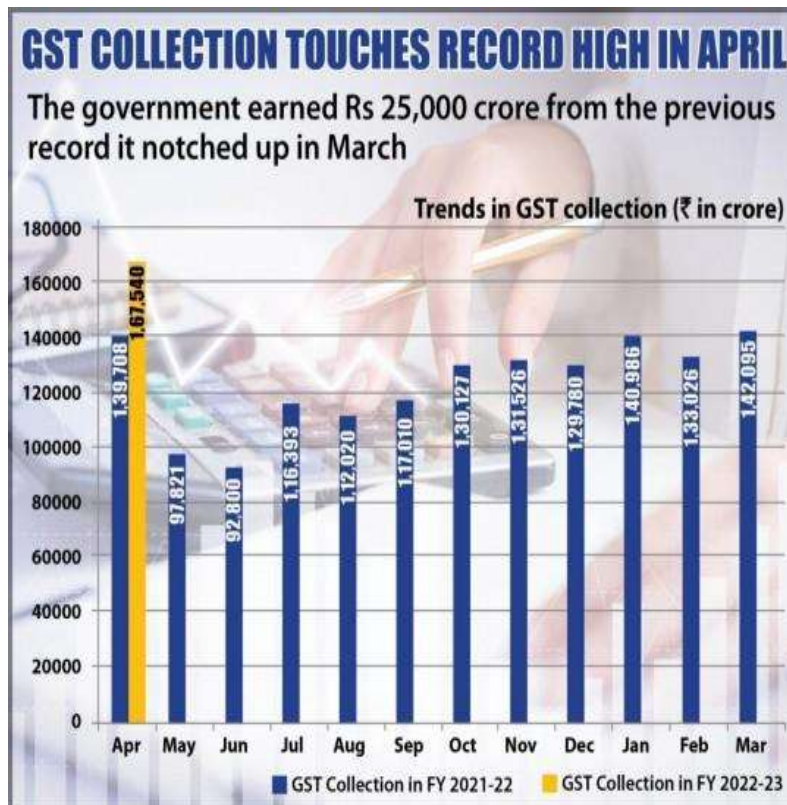
- ❖ The United States Trade Representative (USTR) again placed India on the 'Priority Watch List' along with China, Russia and four others.
- ❖ This is because of lack of adequate intellectual property rights protection and enforcement.
- ❖ India remains one of the world's most challenging major economies with respect to protection and enforcement of IP.



Vice Chief of Army Staff

- ❖ Lt Gen Baggavalli Somashekar Raju becomes the next Vice Chief of Army Staff from May 1.
- ❖ He will succeed incumbent Lt. Gen Manoj Pande.
- ❖ Lt. Gen Manoj Pande has been appointed as the 29th Chief of Army Staff.
- ❖ He has succeeded General MM Naravane.

All-Time High Level GST Collections



- ❖ The GST collections in April hit an all-time high of Rs 1,67,540 crore on the back of better compliance and faster economic recovery.
- ❖ It is Rs 25,000 crore more than the previous highest collection of Rs 1,42,095 crore recorded in March.
- ❖ Month of April 2022 saw the highest ever tax collection in a single day on 20th April 2022.
- ❖ State-wise, Maharashtra saw the most GST collection at Rs 27,495 crore, followed by Karnataka (Rs 11,820 crore), Gujarat (Rs 11,264 crore), Uttar Pradesh (Rs 8,534 crore), Haryana (Rs 8,197 crore).
- ❖ Among the lowest GST-collecting states were Mizoram with just Rs 46 crore, Nagaland (Rs 68 crore), Manipur (Rs 69 crore), Tripura (Rs 107 crore), and Arunachal Pradesh (Rs 196 crore).

World Bank fund for Karmayogi program



- ❖ The World Bank has approved a \$47 million project to support the Government of India's Mission Karmayogi.
- ❖ There are nearly 18 million civil servants employed across India, with approximately two-thirds at the state government and local authority level.
- ❖ The Project is aligned with the India Country Partnership Framework (CPF) FY18-22 which includes strengthening public sector institutions as one of the four areas of engagement for the World Bank in India.

Mandate Document of National Curriculum Framework

- ❖ The Union Minister for Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Dharmendra Pradhan released a mandate document for the National Curriculum Framework under the National Education Policy in Bengaluru.



- ❖ The mandate document is the stepping stone between National Educational Policy and National Curriculum Framework.
- ❖ He described the mandate document as a step forward towards formation of new National syllabus and textbooks.

Ujjwala Diwas

- ❖ The Ujjwala Yojana was launched by the Prime Minister on 1st May 2016 at Ballia, Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has decided to celebrate 1st May 2022 as Ujjwala Diwas
- ❖ The Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) aims to provide free LPG connection to every BPL household.
- ❖ The Prime Minister launched the second phase of the PMUY or Ujjwala cooking gas scheme in August 2021.
- ❖ Ujjwala 2.0 now aims to cover 10 million more beneficiaries in the second phase of the scheme.

India's Pharma Exports 2021-22



- ❖ India's pharma sector recorded its best-ever export performance in 2021-22.
- ❖ India's pharma sector witnessed a growth of 103% since 2013-14.
- ❖ India is a major exporter of Pharmaceuticals, with 60% of the world's vaccines and 20% of generic medicines coming from India.
- ❖ India supplies over 50% of Africa's requirements for generic medicines.
- ❖ India is a leading supplier of DPT, BCG, and Measles vaccines.



- ❖ 70% of WHO's vaccines (as per the essential Immunization schedule) are sourced from India.
- ❖ India has been serving as the 'pharmacy of the world'.
- ❖ The Indian pharmaceutical industry is the world's 3rd largest by volume and 14th largest in terms of value.

Gene bank to preserve biodiversity

- ❖ The Maharashtra Cabinet approved the country's first-of-its-kind gene bank program in the State.
- ❖ It is aimed at conserving native biodiversity to ensure that natural resources are passed on to the next generation.
- ❖ The project has identified seven sections — marine biodiversity; native crop seed; local breed of livestock; freshwater biodiversity; barren land, grazing land and grass land biodiversity; protection and management of forest land; and, rejuvenation of forest land.

Plastindia 2023

- ❖ "Plastindia 2023-11th International Plastic Exhibition & Conference" was recently launched by Union Minister for Chemicals & Fertilizers Mansukh Mandaviya.
- ❖ It will provide opportunities for the exchange of best practices and technologies among industry players.
- ❖ The domestic production and consumption of plastic is estimated at 25 million tonnes
- ❖ India's plastic industry is worth Rs 5 lakh crore currently.

Permanent office for Lokpal

- ❖ The Lokpal of India will finally move into its new permanent office at the World Trade Centre in Nauroji Nagar of south Delhi.
- ❖ The Lokpal and Lokayukta Act, 2013 provided for the establishment of Lokpal for the Union and Lokayukta for States
- ❖ They perform the function of an "ombudsman".
- ❖ They inquire into allegations of corruption against certain public functionaries and for related matters.
- ❖ Lokpal is a multi-member body that consists of one chairperson and a maximum of 8 members.

A long-drawn debate

A short history of the Lokpal Bill from the 1960s to the present

2005: The second ARC recommended that a Lokpal be established without delay

2013: Lokpal Act, 2013, passed in Parliament

2016: Lok Sabha agreed to amend the 2013 Act

1963: The idea of an Ombudsman first came up in Parliament during a discussion on budget allocation for the Law Ministry

1966: The First Administrative Reforms Commission recommended two independent authorities – one at the Centre and one at the State level – to probe complaints against public functionaries, including MPs

1968: Lokpal Bill introduced in Parliament, but was not passed. Eight attempts were made till 2011 to pass the Bill, but all in vain

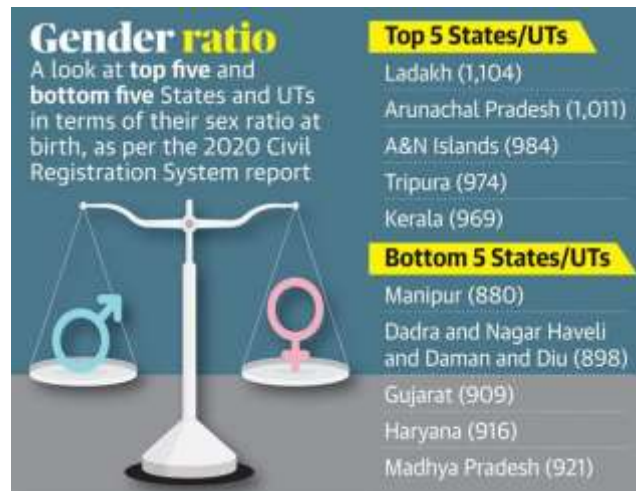
2002: The Constitution review commission headed by M.N. Venkatachaliah recommended appointment of the Lokpal and the Lokayuktas. It also recommended that the Prime Minister be kept out of the Lokpal's ambit

2017: The SC on April 27 clarified that the Lokpal appointment process need not be stalled merely due to the absence of the Leader of the Opposition, who is a member of the Lokpal selection committee as per the 2013 Act

Operation Satark

- ❖ The Railway Protection Force (RPF) has recently started “Operation Satark”.
- ❖ It is focused effort under “Operation Satark” was launched from 5th April to 30th April 2022.
- ❖ It aims to taking action against illicit liquor/FICN/illegal tobacco products / unaccounted gold and any other items being transported through railway network for the purpose of tax evasion and smuggling.

India’s Civil Registration System Report



- ❖ The Central government published the Civil Registration System (CRS) report 2020 based on birth and death reports.



- ❖ According to CRS, death registration has increased by 4.75 lakh in the year 2020 as compared to 2019.
- ❖ Bihar saw the maximum increase in the death rate with 18.3 per cent, followed by Maharashtra with 16.6 per cent and Assam with 14.7 per cent.
- ❖ Manipur saw a -25.4 per cent decrease in the death rate and Chandigarh saw a -22.1 per cent decrease in the death rate.
- ❖ Telangana recorded a -11.0 per cent decrease in the death rate.
- ❖ Highest Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB): In 2020, it is reported by Ladakh (1104) followed by Arunachal Pradesh (1011), Andaman & Nicobar Islands (984), Tripura (974), and Kerala (969).
- ❖ The top five states that recorded Lowest Sex Ratio at Birth in 2020 are Manipur (880), followed by Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu (898), Gujarat (909), Haryana (916) and Madhya Pradesh (921).

National Family Health Survey – 5

TOTAL FERTILITY RATE		
NFHS 5 vs NFHS 4		
LOWEST		
Punjab	1.6	1.6
West Bengal	1.6	1.8
Maharashtra	1.7	1.9
Karnataka	1.7	1.8
Andhra	1.7	1.8
HIGHEST		
Bihar	3.0	3.4
Meghalaya	2.9	3.0
UP	2.4	2.7
Jharkhand	2.3	2.6
Manipur	2.2	2.6

- ❖ The Total Fertility Rate, an average number of children per woman, has further declined from 2.2 to 2.0 at the national level between National Family Health Survey (NFHS) 4 and 5.
- ❖ There are only five States in India which are above replacement level of fertility of 2.1 — Bihar (2.98), Meghalaya (2.91), Uttar Pradesh (2.35), Jharkhand (2.26) Manipur (2.17).

- ❖ The Institutional births have increased from 79% to 89% in India and in rural areas around 87% births are delivered in institutions and the same is 94% in urban areas.
- ❖ The level of stunting among children under five years has marginally declined from 38% to 36% in the country in 4 years.
- ❖ The prevalence of women having a bank or savings account that they use has increased from 53% to 79%.
- ❖ NFHS-6 is scheduled to be conducted during 2023-24.

India's first Regional Rapid Transit System train

- ❖ The National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) will receive India's first semi-high-speed train set for RRTS.
- ❖ The RRTS train sets are produced under the Make in India initiative and can reach a top speed of 180 kilometres per hour.
- ❖ The NCRTC is in charge of putting India's first RRTS corridor between Delhi and Meerut into action.



Film restoration project

- ❖ The Union Minister of Information & Broadcasting Anurag Thakur announced that the World's largest film restoration project under National Film Heritage Mission.



- ❖ Under National Film Heritage Mission, approximately 2,200 films will undergo restoration.
- ❖ The titles have been shortlisted by language wise committees consisting of filmmakers, documentary filmmakers, film historians, producers etc.
- ❖ The Eminent film personalities such as Aparna Sen, Shriram Raghavan, Anjali Menon and Vetrimaaran were part of the committees.

Mobile Container Hospital

- ❖ The RailTel Corporation of India Ltd had designed and established a “Health Cloud”.
- ❖ It is located at Visakhapatnam premises of Andhra Pradesh Med Tech Zone (AMTZ).
- ❖ The Andhra Pradesh Med Tech Zone (AMTZ) is the world’s first integrated medical device manufacturing hub.

National Conference on PM MITRA Scheme

- ❖ A National Conference on PM Mega Integrated Textile Regions and Apparel Park (PM MITRA) Parks Scheme was recently held.
- ❖ PM MITRA Parks will offer an opportunity to create an integrated textiles value chain right from spinning, weaving, processing/dyeing and printing to garment manufacturing at one location.
- ❖ The scheme is intended to generate around 1 lakh direct and 2 lakh indirect jobs per park.

New Draft of National Youth Policy

- ❖ A new draft of the National Youth Policy has been prepared by the central government of India.
- ❖ The new draft has been prepared after the government reviewed the existing National Youth Policy of 2014.
- ❖ A ten-year vision for the development of youth has been envisioned by this draft policy that India is looking to achieve by the year 2030.

New Judges of Supreme Court

- ❖ Justices Sudhanshu Dhulia and Jamshed Burjor Pardiwala took oath as Supreme Court judges.



- ❖ They would be judges 33 and 34, completing the sanctioned judicial strength of the court.
- ❖ Justice Pardiwala is in line to be appointed Chief Justice of India years from now.
- ❖ Justice Pardiwala would be the sixth member of the Parsi community to become a Supreme Court judge.

Periodic Labour Force Survey

- ❖ In the period of October-December 2021, the unemployment rate for all those aged 15 years and above in the country's urban areas slipped from 10.3 per cent.
- ❖ It was recorded in the same quarter a year ago to 8.7 per cent.
- ❖ A periodic labour force survey released by National Statistical Office.
- ❖ In the period from July to September 2021, the unemployment rate for all the individuals in the country aged 15 years and above was 9.8 per cent in the urban areas of India.
- ❖ This was highlighted in the 13th Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS).
- ❖ In the urban areas, the worker population ratio in CWS stood at 43.2 per cent for the October-December 2021 quarter.

Operation Dudhi



- ❖ The paramilitary Assam Rifles felicitated the surviving soldiers of Operation Dudhi.
- ❖ It marked in the country's defence history as India's most successful counter-insurgency operation more than 30 years ago.
- ❖ In 1991, the Assam Rifles had eliminated 72 militants in a single counter-insurgency operation in Jammu & Kashmir.



Kalam Website

- ❖ Lok Sabha Speaker, Om Birla has launched the one-of-its-kind literary initiative Kalam website of the Prabha Khaitan Foundation (PKF) to support and encourage vernacular literature.
- ❖ The aim of Kalam is to popularize Hindi literature and provide a platform for veteran and young authors and poets to talk about their writings and love for vernacular literature.

Supreme Court on sedition law 124A

Evolution of the law

Sedition is a cognisable, non-bailable and non-compoundable offence under Section 124A of Indian Penal Code

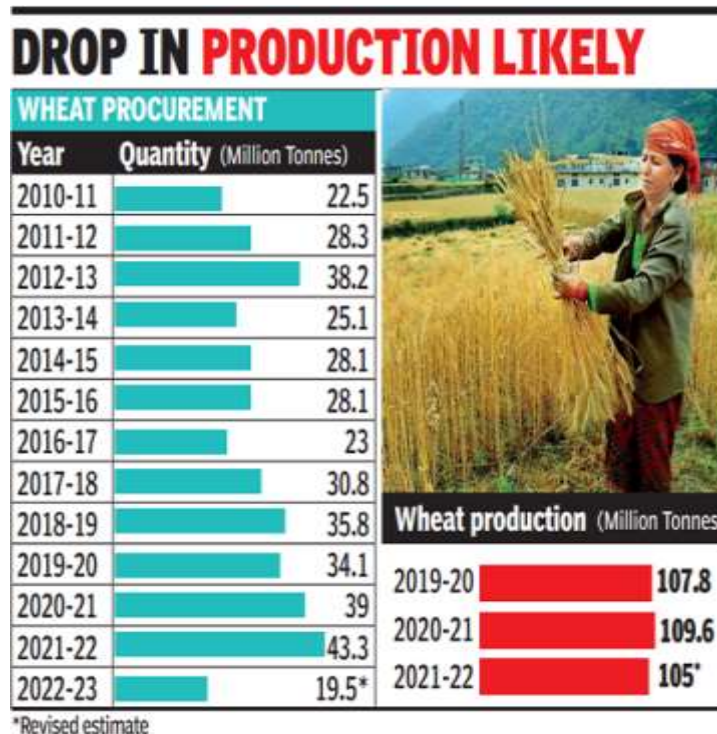
BEFORE INDEPENDENCE	AFTER INDEPENDENCE
<p>1870: The section on sedition is introduced by the British to the IPC</p> <p>The British rulers used the law to muzzle demands for freedom. For instance, Bal Gangadhar Tilak was the first person to be convicted of sedition in colonial India.</p>	<p>1948: In discussions, Indian leaders agree to drop "sedition" from the Constitution</p> <p>1949: "Sedition" is no longer part of the Indian Constitution adopted on November 26 this year. However, Section 124A remains in the IPC</p> <p>1951: Nehru govt brings in first amendment under Article 19(1)(a), and puts in "reasonable restrictions" on the right to free speech</p> <p>1974: Indira Gandhi govt makes Section 124A a cognisable offence that authorises police to make arrests without a warrant</p>
	<p>PRESENTLY</p> <p>2019 data shows that sedition cases rose by 25% and arrests by 41% over the previous year. However, only 3% of cases led to convictions</p>

- ❖ The Supreme Court suspended pending criminal trials and court proceedings under Section 124A (sedition) of the Indian Penal Code.
- ❖ It was argued in court that about 13,000 people were already in jail under the sedition provision.
- ❖ Section 124A says a person commits the crime of sedition, if he/she brings or attempts to bring in hatred or contempt, or excites or attempts to excite disaffection towards, the government established by law in India.
- ❖ It can be by words, either spoken or written, or by signs, or by visible representation, or otherwise.
- ❖ It prescribes the maximum punishment of life imprisonment.
- ❖ The law on sedition was not there in the original IPC, which came into force in 1862.
- ❖ It was added to the Code in 1870 and its ambit was expanded in 1898 with a view to crush the freedom movement.

7 years of PMJJBY, PMSBY, and APY

- ❖ Social security schemes Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) and Atal Pension Yojana (APY) have completed seven years of their launch.
- ❖ These three schemes were launched by Prime Minister on May 9, 2015 in Kolkata.
- ❖ PMJJBY is a life insurance scheme.
- ❖ It offers coverage for death due to any reason.
- ❖ Any individual in the age group of 18-50 years having a savings bank or a post office account are eligible to enrol under the scheme.
- ❖ PMSBY is an accidental insurance scheme.
- ❖ It offers coverage for death or disability due to accident.
- ❖ Any individual in the age group of 18-70 years having a savings bank or a post office account is eligible to enrol under the scheme.
- ❖ APY is an initiative of the Government to provide financial security for the people in the unorganized sector.
- ❖ All bank account holders in the age group of 18 to 40 years are eligible.
- ❖ The contributions to APY differ, based on pension amount chosen.

15-year low Wheat Procurement



- ❖ Wheat procurement by government agencies is set to dip to a 15-year low in the current marketing season, from an all-time high scale last year.
- ❖ It is expected that 18.5 million tonnes (mt) of wheat will be procured this time by government agencies.
- ❖ This will be the lowest since the 11.1 mt bought in 2007-08.
- ❖ Rise in export demand mainly fuelled by Russia – Ukraine war.
- ❖ The war has led to skyrocketing prices and a further increase in demand for Indian grain.
- ❖ Farmers find it more profitable to export now.
- ❖ Lower production due to the sudden spike in temperatures from the second half of March when the crop was in the grain-filling stage, with the kernels still accumulating starch, protein and other dry matter, has taken a toll on yields.

Gallantry and other Defense decorations



- ❖ President of India, conferred 13 Shaurya Chakras for their conspicuous courage displayed during operations.
- ❖ It included six posthumous to the personnel of the Indian Armed forces.
- ❖ Army Chief General Manoj Pande was conferred with the Param Vishisht Seva Medal (PVSM) for his distinguished service of exceptional order at a defence investiture ceremony at Rashtrapati Bhawan.
- ❖ The President also conferred 14 PVSM, four Uttam Yudh Seva Medals (UYSM) and 24 Ati Vishisht Seva Medals (AVSM) for distinguished service of an exceptional order.



Wi-Fi at 100 Railway Stations

- ❖ RailTel launched the Prime Minister Wi-Fi Access Network Interface (PM-WANI) scheme.
- ❖ It aims to providing access to its Public WiFi services across 100 train stations in 22 states.
- ❖ PM-WANI is a Department of Telecom (DoT) initiative to connect all silo Wi-Fi networks for simplicity of use and to increase broadband adoption among the general public.

Baby berth BY Northern Railway

- ❖ Indian Railways has added a 'baby berth' to their trains.
- ❖ The unusual setup would allow women to travel by train while sleeping peacefully next to their children.
- ❖ On Mother's Day, the Lucknow Division of Northern Railways experimented with a baby berth in coach No.194129/B4, berths 12 and 60.

Local body polls every five years



- ❖ The Supreme Court has declared that polls in each state must be conducted before expiry of the five years' term as per the constitutional mandate.
- ❖ The Court ordered initiation of poll process of over 23,000 local bodies in Madhya Pradesh which has been due since 2019.



- ❖ The Panchayats and Urban Local Bodies, are provided with a five-year term of office at every level as per 73rd & 74th Constitutional Amendment Acts.

Events of national importance

- ❖ The Information and Broadcasting Ministry has notified several sporting events as that of national importance.
- ❖ This is declared under the Sports Broadcasting Signals (Mandatory Sharing with Prasar Bharati) Act.
- ❖ The notification, which supersedes the earlier one issued in March 2021.
- ❖ 2021 notification has declared all Olympics Games, Commonwealth Games and Asian Games as events of national importance.

AIR PRIME Playbook

- ❖ AIM-PRIME Playbook was launched by NITI Aayog.
- ❖ Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) is the Government of India's flagship initiative to promote a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship in the country.
- ❖ PRIME stands for Program for Researchers in Innovation, Market Readiness, and Entrepreneurship.
- ❖ The playbook was aimed at promoting early-stage science-based, deep technology ideas to market through training and guidance over a period of 12 months using a blended learning curriculum.

New Chief Election Commissioner

- ❖ Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar was appointed as the next Chief Election Commissioner (CEC).
- ❖ He was appointed as Election Commissioner in August 2020.
- ❖ The President appoints CEC and Election Commissioners.
- ❖ They have a fixed tenure of six years, or up to the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier.

India's First EV Charging Station Powered by bio-gas

- ❖ India's first EV charging station powered by bio-gas was inaugurated in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- ❖ This energy plant will be utilized to power street lights and also to charge electric vehicles.



SSR and SRIMAN Guidelines

- ❖ SSR and SRIMAN Guidelines were released on the occasion of Technology Day.
- ❖ Scientific Social Responsibility (SSR) is vital for strengthening science and society linkages for making S&T ecosystem responsive to societal needs.
- ❖ The guidelines primarily involve bridging science-society, science-science and society-science gaps.
- ❖ Thereby it is bringing trust, partnership and responsibility of science at an accelerated pace towards achieving social goals.
- ❖ SRIMAN stands for Scientific Research Infrastructure Sharing Maintenance and Networks.
- ❖ This Guidelines aims to promote efficient utilisation and wider access of Research Infrastructure (RI) to scientists, researchers and industry professionals across the country.

Centre of Excellence for Khadi

- ❖ Union Minister for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises Narayan Tatu Rane recently inaugurated the Centre of Excellence for Khadi.
- ❖ The hub of the Centre of Excellence for Khadi (CoEK) is located at the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), New Delhi.
- ❖ Its function is to introduce the latest designs and create new fabrics adhering to the global standards and also meeting the needs of domestic and foreign buyers.

PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana extension

- ❖ The Union Cabinet has extended the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PM-GKAY) scheme for another six months, till September 2022.
- ❖ It aims to show care and compassion towards the underprivileged and vulnerable parts of society (Phase VI).
- ❖ The PM-GKAY scheme's Phase-V was set to finish in March 2022.
- ❖ PM-GKAY has been in effect since April 2020, making it the world's largest food security programme.

Breed-Wise Report of Livestock and Poultry

- ❖ Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying Parshottam Rupala released the Breed-Wise Report of Livestock and Poultry.
- ❖ The breed-wise data collection was done during 20th Livestock Census (2018-19).

- ❖ It is the first time in India that breed-wise data is collected digitally instead of on paper mode.
- ❖ Gir cattle breed had the highest population of 68.57 lakh.
- ❖ It is followed by Lakhimi and Sahiwal cattle breeds.
- ❖ Khariar, Kherigarh, Kenkatha, Motu and Haryana cattle breeds have seen a maximum decline in their numbers.
- ❖ As per the 20th Livestock Census, 36.04% of the total livestock population belongs to cattle.
- ❖ Indigenous cattle declined by 6%.
- ❖ Their share in the total cattle population fell to 73% in 2019 from 79% in 2012.



Country's first sensory park

- ❖ India's first sensory park for differently-abled persons of all age groups was inaugurated in Bhubaneswar's Sahidnagar.
- ❖ The park offers facilities like insulated pathways, playing equipment for children, an open-air gym, and other child-friendly services that comply with the universal access guideline.

National Cyber Forensic Laboratory

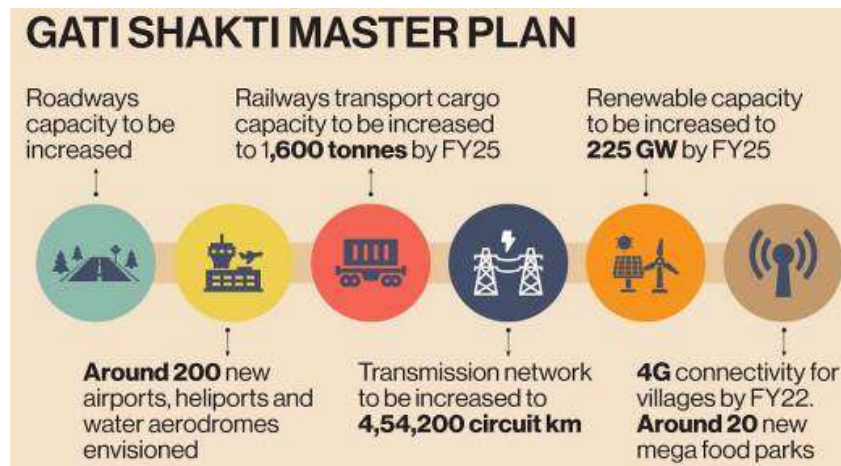
- ❖ The Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the National Cyber Forensic Laboratory (NCFL) in Hyderabad.
- ❖ It is located at the premises of the Central Forensic Science Laboratory located at Ramanthapur in the city.

- ❖ The Cyber and Information Security Division of the Home Ministry has set up the NCFL at the CFSL under Cyber Crime Prevention against Women and Child scheme.
- ❖ The NCFL has created 4 specialized Hi-tech units to address issues in the field of digital forensics, which include
 - Mobile phone embedded system examination unit,
 - Digital storage Media Examination Unit,
 - Advanced Digital Forensic Unit, and
 - Crime Scene Unit.

National Data and Analytics Platform

- ❖ The National Data & Analytics Platform (NDAP) was launched by NITI Aayog for free public use.
- ❖ By making data accessible, interoperable, interactive, and available on a user-friendly platform, the platform intends to democratise access to public government data.
- ❖ It includes basic datasets from a variety of government departments, organises them, and provides analytics and visualisation capabilities.

Gati Shakti Sanchar Portal



- ❖ Department of Telecommunication has launched the “Gati Shakti Sanchar” portal for Centralised Right of Way approvals.
- ❖ It has been launched in line with the PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan.
- ❖ The portal has been developed keeping in view the vision areas of the National Broadband Mission.
- ❖ It is majorly about providing broadband infrastructure to every citizen.



Cotton Council of India

- ❖ The central government has set up the Cotton Council of India to resolve issues related to the pricing of cotton and yarn and bring tangible improvement in the sector.
- ❖ The council will be chaired by industry veteran Suresh Bhai Kotak.
- ❖ The Cotton Council of India is scheduled to meet for the first time on May 28, 2022.
- ❖ During its first meeting, the council is expected to discuss, deliberate and prepare a robust action plan to bring a tangible improvement in the sector.
- ❖ India is the largest producer of cotton in the world.
- ❖ The western zone, including Gujarat and Maharashtra is the biggest producer of cotton in India.
- ❖ The second-biggest producer of cotton in India is the Southern Zone which comprises states like Karnataka, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

India's first 5G test bed

- ❖ Prime Minister launched India's first 5G testbed.
- ❖ It will allow start-ups and industry players to test and certify their technologies domestically.
- ❖ And it lessens the reliance on foreign facilities.
- ❖ The 5G testbed is a significant step toward self-reliance in the direction of critical and modern technologies.
- ❖ The 5G testbed was created as a collaboration project between eight institutes, led by IIT Madras.

Incredible India International Cruise Conference

- ❖ The first Incredible India International Cruise Conference (IIICC) was organized in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- ❖ It is a two-day event jointly organized by the Union Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI).
- ❖ Strategies for developing India as a cruise hub, port infrastructure, and the potential of river cruise tourism in India were some of the issues focused on at the conference.



Navdoot

- ❖ West Central Railway has developed a battery-operated dual-mode locomotive named Navdoot.
- ❖ This engine runs on both modes i.e. battery and electricity.
- ❖ Currently, it is being used during the shunting of trains at Jabalpur, Mudwara, and other stations on a trial basis.
- ❖ This Dual Mode Locomotive has also received the Best Innovation Award from the Railway Board.
- ❖ The same kind of dual-mode locomotive named PASUMAI developed by Chennai Division of Southern Railway in 2020.

GST council recommendations

- ❖ The Supreme Court held that the recommendations of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council are not binding on the Union and state governments.
- ❖ The bench stated that Article 279A of the Constitution does not begin with a non-obstante clause.
- ❖ It also stated that Article 246A does not envisage a repugnancy provision.

Ethanol Blended Petrol



- ❖ The Union Cabinet has approved amendments to the National Policy on Biofuels of 2018.
- ❖ It aims to advance the date by which fuel companies have to increase the percentage of ethanol in petrol to 20%, from 2030 to 2025.



- ❖ The policy to introduce 20% ethanol in petrol will take effect from April 1, 2023.
- ❖ India achieved 9.45% ethanol blending as on March 13, 2022, according to the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.
- ❖ The Centre projects that this will reach 10% by the end of financial year 2022.

BHARAT TAP project

- ❖ Plumbex India Exhibition ceremony of was started by Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs, Sh. Hardeep Singh Puri.
- ❖ He also announced the Bharat Tap project, a campaign to produce low-flow fixtures and sanitaryware to help India enter a new era of water conservation and sustainable development.
- ❖ Plumbex India is a three-day event that will take place in the Pragati Maidan in New Delhi.
- ❖ It is the country's largest solo exhibition on plumbing, water, and sanitation products.

BioRRAP Portal

- ❖ This portal BioRRAP stands for Biological Research Regulatory Approval Portal.
- ❖ It will be catering to the needs of all those seeking regulatory approval for biological development and research in India.
- ❖ This is a portal by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Ministry of Science & Technology.
- ❖ This portal is only for research-related activities.
- ❖ It cannot be used for the purpose of product development.

IIT-JEE Open to 25 Countries

- ❖ IIT-JEE (IIT-Joint Entrance Exam) is set to go global, as the Indian government is planning to take conduct the engineering exam in 25 countries—from the US to Vietnam.
- ❖ IIT-JEE was held in Kuala Lumpur and Lagos last year.
- ❖ Now, the countries where the examinations will be conducted are the US, Australia, South Africa, Singapore, China, Nepal, Indonesia, Malaysia, Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, and the UAE, among others.
- ❖ Earlier, with the cooperation of the Indian government, the IIT-JEE exams were held in 12 countries.



CORPAT Patrol

- ❖ The fourth edition of the Indian Navy-Bangladesh Navy Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT) commenced.
- ❖ The patrolling drill commenced in the northern Bay of Bengal.
- ❖ Both units will undertake joint patrolling along International Maritime Boundary Line.
- ❖ The last IN-BN CORPAT was conducted in October 2020.

1st dental health insurance plan

- ❖ PNB MetLife India Insurance Company has launched India's first dental health insurance plan.
- ❖ This is the first insurance plan in India that covers fixed-benefit outpatient expenses and provides financial assistance with costs related to overall dental health.

The state of inequality in India report

- ❖ The 'State of Inequality in India' Report was released by the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM).
- ❖ The report compiles information on inequities across sectors of health, education, household characteristics and the labour market.
- ❖ The report consists of two parts – Economic Facets and Socio-Economic Manifestations.
- ❖ Five Key Areas: These are income distribution, labour market dynamics, health, education and household characteristics.
- ❖ The report is based on the data derived from various rounds of the
 - Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS),
 - National Family and Health Survey (NFHS) and
 - United Information System for Education Plus.

Highlights

- ❖ India's unemployment rate is 4.8% (2019-20), and the worker population ratio is 46.8%
- ❖ Urban areas have a 44.4% wealth concentration in the highest quintile (20%) and only 7.1% concentration in rural areas.
- ❖ From 1,72,608, the total health centres in India in 2005, increased into total health centres in 2020 at 1,85,505.



- ❖ By 2019-20, 95% of schools would have functional toilet facilities on the school premises.
- ❖ The Gross Enrolment Ratio has also increased between 2018-19 and 2019-20 at all the 3 levels.

First case of Omicron BA.5 variant

- ❖ The first case of Omicron sub-variant BA.5 in India has been detected in Telangana.
- ❖ He is the 1st person tested positive for the sub-variant, as per Indian SARS-COV-2 Genomics Consortium (INSACOG).
- ❖ INSACOG has also confirmed that a South African traveller, was reported positive for the BA.4 variant on arrival at Hyderabad airport.
- ❖ It was the first case of BA.4 Omicron sub-variant in India.
- ❖ A 19-year-old girl in Tamil Nadu was found infected with the BA.4 sub-variant.
- ❖ BA.4 and BA.5 are sub-variants of the Omicron variant circulating globally.

Project WARDEC

- ❖ The Army Training Command and Gandhinagar-based Rastriya Raksha University inked a memorandum of understanding to establish a Wargame Research and Development Centre in New Delhi.
- ❖ The project, was dubbed 'WARDEC' as a prototype.
- ❖ It will be India's first simulation-based training centre.
- ❖ It will use artificial intelligence (AI) to create virtual reality wargames.

Qutub Minar's status

- ❖ The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) argued that the Qutub Minar is not a place of worship and the existing status of the monument cannot be altered.
- ❖ The ASI, however, said the architectural materials and images of Hindu and Jain deities were reused in the construction of the Qutab complex.
- ❖ As per ASI, it will be contrary to the provisions of the AMASR Act, 1958.
- ❖ The basic principle of protection /conservation is not to allow starting of any new practice in a monument declared and notified as a protected one under the Act.



NEFT and RTGS to Post Office savings

- ❖ The Department of Post has made the NEFT and RTGS facilities available to Post Office (PO) savings account holders.
- ❖ PO savings account customers can now send money electronically.
- ❖ RTGS stands for Real Time Gross Settlement, whereas NEFT is for National Electronic Funds Transfer.

Revamped ABHA mobile app

- ❖ The National Health Authority recently launched a revamped Ayushman Bharat Health Account mobile app.
- ❖ The ABHA app was previously known as National Digital Health Mission's Health Records app.
- ❖ ABHA app allows users to access and share their diagnostic reports, prescriptions, Co-WIN vaccination certificates, etc.

Sex Work as 'Profession'

- ❖ The Supreme Court passed an order recognizing sex work as a "profession".
- ❖ Thus, its practitioners across the country are entitled to equal protection as well as dignity under the law of the nation.
- ❖ The children of a sex worker must not be separated from their mother merely on the basis of profession.
- ❖ Basic protection of dignity and human decency must be provided to the sex workers and their children.



Bharat Drone Mahotsav

- ❖ The drone festival is celebrated in India named the Bharat Drone Mahotsav 2022.
- ❖ The two-day Bharat Drone Mahotsav 2022, held at Delhi, is India's biggest-ever drone festival.
- ❖ Recently PM had flagged off 100 Kisan drones in different towns and cities across the country to spray pesticides on the farms.
- ❖ The Kisan Drone Suvidha has the aim of boosting the agricultural sector of the country and transforming the lives of the farmers.

Reconstitution of Inter-State Council

- ❖ The Centre has reconstituted the Inter-State Council, which works to promote cooperative federalism.
- ❖ Headed by the PM, the Council will comprise six Union ministers.
- ❖ Besides, it has Chief Ministers of the 28 states and UTs with a legislature, and administrators of UTs without a legislature.
- ❖ It will also have 10 Union ministers as permanent invitees.
- ❖ The government has also reconstituted the standing committee of the Council, with Home Minister its chairman.

CUET 2022 Norms

- ❖ The central Universities in the North Eastern States and Uttarakhand have been exempted from the CUET 2022 norms.
- ❖ This is due to the issue of geographical conditions, hilly terrain, far-flung location, limited digital connectivity, infrastructure etc.

Investment Incentive Agreement

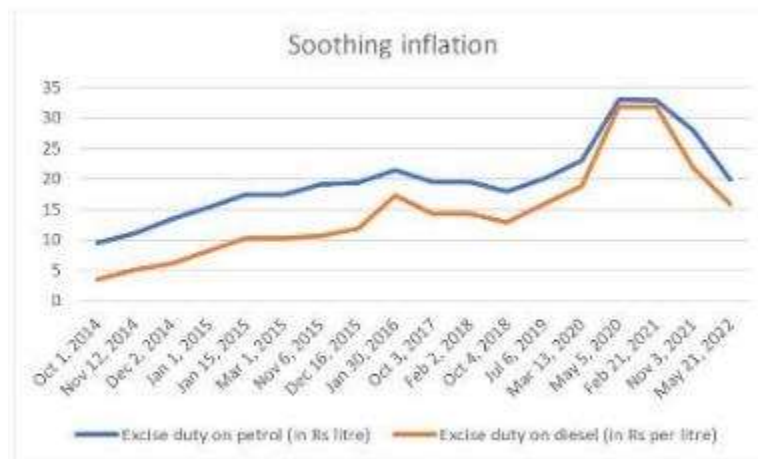
- ❖ India and the United States signed an Investment Incentive Agreement (IIA) at Tokyo, Japan.
- ❖ This supersedes the Investment Incentive Agreement signed between both the countries in the year 1997.
- ❖ The Agreement is the legal requirement for Development Finance Corporation, to continue providing investment support in India.



ONGC on Indian Gas Exchange

- ❖ Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd, became India's first Exploration and Production company to trade domestic gas on Indian Gas Exchange.
- ❖ ONGC is a government-owned oil and gas explorer and producer.
- ❖ It was founded in 1956 and has its headquarters in New Delhi.
- ❖ It produces around 70% of India's crude oil and around 84% of its natural gas.
- ❖ IGX is India's first automated national-level Gas Exchange.
- ❖ It is a place where both buyers and sellers trade Gas.
- ❖ It operates under the regulatory framework of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board

Cut in Excise Duty on Petrol and diesel



- ❖ On May 21, the government announced a cut in excise duty on petrol and diesel by ₹ 8 and ₹ 6 a litre, respectively.
- ❖ The move marked a reduction of petrol rates by ₹ 9.5 per litre and diesel by ₹ 7 a litre.
- ❖ Fuel prices are the highest in Mumbai among all four metro cities.
- ❖ The rates vary across states due to the value-added tax.

Scientific Social Responsibility Guidelines

- ❖ Department of Science and Technology recently released the Scientific Social Responsibility Guidelines.
- ❖ The 104th session of the Indian Science Congress, held in 2017, also stressed the need to introduce SSR guidelines.



- ❖ SSR guidelines aim to ensure greater integration of S&T with society at all levels.
- ❖ SSR is based on the moral obligation of scientists to give back the benefits of science to society.
- ❖ Thus, SSR will be the convergence of scientific knowledge and social conscience.

Reconstitution of CABA

- ❖ The Central Advisory Board on Archaeology (CABA) was formed 7-years ago.
- ❖ Recently, the CABA has been reconstituted by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).
- ❖ The board has been reconstituted by the ASI to include the culture minister as the chairperson.
- ❖ It includes ASI and Culture Ministry officials, state government nominees, MPs, scientists, university representatives, and experts on the Indus Valley script among the members.
- ❖ This board will also consist of 5 persons that will be nominated by the Indian Government along with the former Director-General of ASI.
- ❖ It is revised for a period of three years.

Bilateral Exercise Bongosagar

- ❖ The third edition of Indian Navy – Bangladesh Navy Bilateral Exercise is known as ‘Bongosagar’.
- ❖ Exercise Bongosagar is aimed at developing a high degree of interoperability and joint operational skills through the conduct of a wide spectrum of maritime exercises and operations between the two navies.
- ❖ Indian Naval Ships Kora, an indigenously built Guided Missile Corvette, and Sumedha, an indigenously built Offshore Patrol Vessel are participating in the Exercise.

First-ever National conference of female legislators

- ❖ The President will kick off the two-day National Women Legislators’ Conference-2022 at Thiruvananthapuram.
- ❖ It is expected to draw a large number of female parliamentarians and legislators from throughout the country.
- ❖ The first-ever such event is hosted by the Kerala state Assembly.



- ❖ It is part of the nation-wide celebrations scheduled under the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav honouring India's 75th anniversary of independence.

Swachh Survekshan 2023

- ❖ The Union Government has launched the Eighth Edition of Swachh Survekshan – SS-2023 under Swachh Bharat Mission Urban 2.0.
- ❖ It is designed with the theme of 'Waste to Wealth' as its driving philosophy.
- ❖ The survey would give priority to the principle of 3 Rs - Reduce, Recycle and Reuse.

National Achievement Survey Report

- ❖ The National Achievement Survey report for the 2021 edition has been released by the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education.
- ❖ It assesses the health of school education system in the country by conducting comprehensive evaluation survey of children's learning competencies at classes 3, 5, 8 and 10th with a cycle period of three years.
- ❖ The report reflects the overall assessment of school education system.
- ❖ The last National Achievement Survey was held in 2017.

Additional fertilizer subsidy

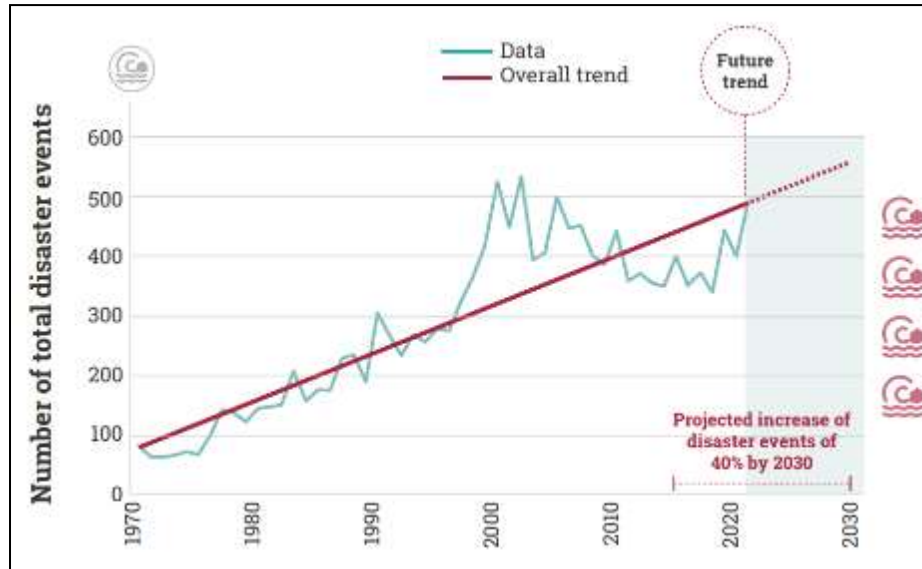
- ❖ The Government will provide an additional fertilizer subsidy of Rs 1.10 lakh crore to protect farmers from the rise in fertilizer prices.
- ❖ With the recent announcement, the government's total fertilizer subsidy will reach Rs 2.15 lakh crore in the current financial year (2022-23).
- ❖ A fertilizer subsidy of Rs 1.05 lakh crore was announced in the 2022-23 Budget.

India's First Olympic Values Education

- ❖ The Olympic Values Education Programme (OVEP) of the International Olympic Committee was launched in Odisha.
- ❖ The OVEP is a practical set of resources aimed at introducing young people to the Olympic values of excellence, respect and friendship.
- ❖ It will be a values-based curriculum, to be implemented initially in 90 schools in Rourkela and Bhubaneswar, catering to about 32,000 children.

INTERNATIONAL

UNDRR Global Assessment Report



- ❖ United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) has released the Global Assessment Report (GAR 2022).
- ❖ According to this report, by 2030, the planet will be facing around 560 disasters annually.
- ❖ Over the last 20 years, Earth has been experiencing 350 to 500 medium- to large-scale disasters annually.
- ❖ This is five times higher than what was reported in the previous three decades.
- ❖ This rapid rise in the frequency of disasters can be attributed to inadequate risk management and climate change.
- ❖ Poor risk management systems and governance are underestimating the true global risk which is putting all socio-economic gains in danger.

Drones in civilian airspace

- ❖ Israel becomes the first-ever country to allow drone flights in civilian airspace.
- ❖ The certification was issued to the Hermes Starliner unmanned system by the Israeli Civil Aviation Authority.
- ❖ The UAVs will be used for the benefit of agriculture, the environment, public welfare, economic activity and against crime.



Suspension of Covid-19 vaccination

- ❖ Denmark has become the first country in the world to suspend the COVID-19 vaccination programme.
- ❖ Around 81 percent of Denmark's 5.8 million population have received both doses of the COVID-19 vaccine.
- ❖ 61.6 percent have received the booster dose as well.

Global Patidar Business Summit 2022

- ❖ Prime Minister inaugurated the Global Patidar Business Summit (GPBS) in Surat.
- ❖ It is being organised under 'Mission 2026' to provide an impetus to the socio-economic development of the Patidar community.
- ❖ It is organised once in every two years.
- ❖ The first two summits were held in Gandhinagar in 2018 and 2020.

Global coal power plant capacity

- ❖ Global coal power plant capacity under development declined in 2021, falling by 13 per cent compared to 2020.
- ❖ The survey taken by the Global Energy Monitor
- ❖ China led global coal power expansion in 2021, with about 25,000 MW of new plants.
- ❖ It is followed by India with about 6,100 MW.
- ❖ China, South Korea and Japan notably pledged to stop funding new coal plants in other countries.
- ❖ However, China continued to lead all countries in the domestic development of new coal plants.



Mission Sagar IX

- ❖ With the overarching aim of providing critical medical aid to Sri Lanka during the ongoing crisis, INS Gharial as part of Mission SAGAR IX reached Colombo.
- ❖ It delivered over 760 kgs of 107 types of critical lifesaving medicines.
- ❖ The shipment was received by Sri Lankan Health Minister Channa Jayasumana.

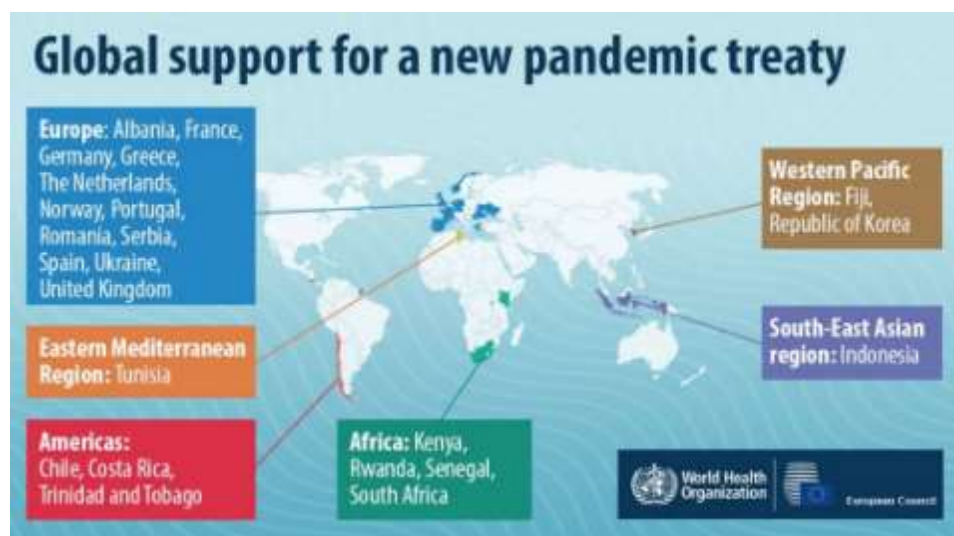
Global Security Initiative

- ❖ Chinese President Xi Jinping has put forward a new Global Security Initiative in Boao Forum for Asia Annual Conference 2022.
- ❖ The initiative is to promote security for all in the world and to oppose unilateralism, and group politics and bloc confrontation.
- ❖ The initiative is aimed at countering the initiatives of west like the Indo-Pacific strategy of the USA, the Quad and the AUKUS (Australia-U.K.-U.S.) security pact.

Mandatory Reporting of Cyber Incidents

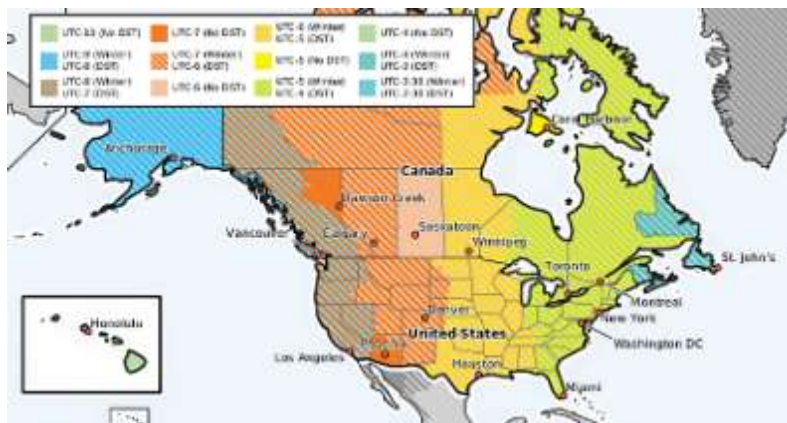
- ❖ All cybersecurity incidents in the country must be informed to the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) by the respective companies within a six hours' time frame.
- ❖ The new guidelines have been mandated by CERT-In to all the companies that are operating in India like intermediaries, service providers, companies, data centres, and government organizations.

WHO's Pandemic treaty



- ❖ Experts in India and across the globe have made various suggestions to first-ever pandemic treaty in the first round of public hearings.
- ❖ The outcome of these public hearings and scores of meetings will only be submitted by 2024, during the 77th World Health Assembly.
- ❖ In December 2021, the World Health Assembly agreed to start a global process to draft the pandemic treaty.
- ❖ The need for an updated set of rules was felt after the COVID-19 pandemic exposed the shortcomings of global health systems.
- ❖ The Health Assembly adopted a decision titled “The World Together” at its second special session since it was founded in 1948.

Daylight Saving Time



- ❖ The US Senate approved the Sunshine Protection Act in March 2022, with the goal of making daylight saving time permanent starting in November 2023.
- ❖ Usually, On the second Sunday of March at 2 a.m., clocks move forward one hour.
- ❖ Then, on the first Sunday of November at 2 a.m

UNDP digital strategy 2022

- ❖ UNDP Digital Strategy 2022-2025 is intended to maintain and accelerate the momentum that has already been generated across UNDP and among its partners.
- ❖ This renewed Digital Strategy builds upon the Strategic Plan.
- ❖ It puts forth a vision whereby digital is an empowering force for people and planet.
- ❖ UNDP launched its first Digital Strategy in mid-2019 to harness digital transformation within the organization.



NATO Exercises

- ❖ The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) conducts, Defender Europe 2022 (DE22) and Swift Response 2022 (SR22) exercise.
- ❖ DEFENDER-Europe 22 demonstrates the United States' unshakable commitment to NATO.
- ❖ Swift Response exercise, is the 6th Airborne Brigade will constitute the core of forces conducting an airborne operation.
- ❖ The exercise began in Poland and will be held in 8 other countries.

Conference on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure

- ❖ The Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) in partnership with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) hosted the International Conference on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (ICDRI) 2022.
- ❖ Prime Minister of India addressed the inaugural session of the International Conference on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (ICDRI), 2022.
- ❖ Prime Ministers of Australia and Japan, as well as Presidents of Ghana and Madagascar, addressed the conference.

Bach Long Pedestrian Bridge

- ❖ The Bach Long pedestrian bridge in Vietnam is a glass-bottomed bridge that is suspended around 500 ft. off the ground.
- ❖ This newly opened bridge is the world's longest such bridge.
- ❖ Bach Long means the white dragon.
- ❖ This bridge is 2000 ft or 632 metres long.
- ❖ This bridge is connecting two mountains as hanging over a lush green valley.
- ❖ This bridge is located in the Son La Province, Northwest Vietnam.

International Research Conference on Insolvency and Bankruptcy

- ❖ The first two-day International Research Conference on Insolvency and Bankruptcy was recently organized in India.
- ❖ It was organized by the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI), jointly with the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (IIMA).
- ❖ Insolvency is a situation that arises due to the inability to pay off the debts due to insufficient assets to meet the liabilities.



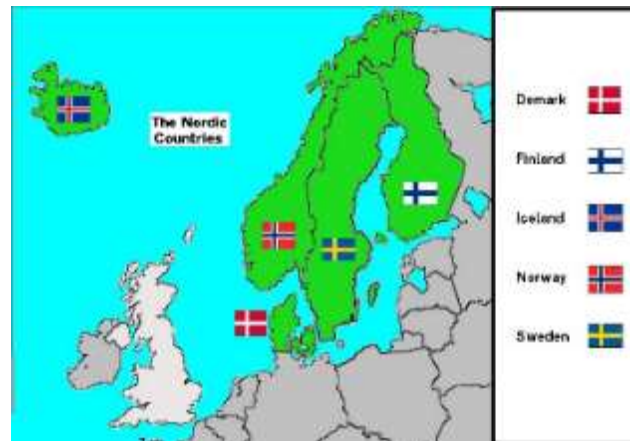
- ❖ Bankruptcy is a situation wherein an application is made to an authority declaring insolvency and seeking to be declared bankrupt.

Indo-German Partnership for Green and Sustainable Development

- ❖ Narendra Modi and German Chancellor Olaf Scholz signed a joint declaration of intent (JDI) establishing the Green and Sustainable Development Partnership.
- ❖ It aims to intensify bilateral and multilateral cooperation and accelerate actions towards climate protection.
- ❖ Under the partnership, Germany has made an advance commitment to investing €10 billion in climate change related projects in India.

2nd India-Nordic Summit

- ❖ Prime Minister participated in the Second India-Nordic Summit held at Copenhagen, the capital of Denmark.
- ❖ The first India-Nordic Summit was held in 2018 in Stockholm, Sweden.
- ❖ Apart from the United States, India is the only other country with which the Nordic countries have summit-level engagement.



UN Energy Action Plan for 2025

- ❖ The United Nations launched the “UN-Energy Plan of Action Towards 2025” and “Energy Compact Action Network”.
- ❖ It sets out a framework for collective action by nearly 30 UN and international organizations.
- ❖ The aim is to achieve the massive pledge made by the organizations at the time of the High-level Dialogue on Energy last September.

Hong Kong's Next Leader

- ❖ John Lee Ka-chiu, a former security chief has recently been elected as the next leader of Hong Kong.
- ❖ This move is being widely regarded as the Chinese government's move to tighten its grip on the city.
- ❖ Carrie Lam is being replaced by John Lee.
- ❖ The Hong Kong National Party was banned under Lee's watch.
- ❖ It was the first party that supported independence for Hong Kong after the British handed the region to China in the year 1997.
- ❖ This party was banned in the year 2018.

Arabian Travel Market

- ❖ The Ministry of Tourism, is going to participate in the Arabian Travel Market (ATM), Dubai -2022 as part of its Incredible India brand line.
- ❖ It also aims to market India as a "Must See, Must Visit" tourist destination.

Yellow Brick Road at pacific



- ❖ A yellow brick road-like structure has been discovered at the bottom of the Pacific Ocean by a team of marine experts.
- ❖ The lake bed where the Yellow Brick Road was discovered looked dry despite being located under about thousands of metres of ocean.
- ❖ The yellow brick road is actually an example of ancient active volcanic geology.
- ❖ It may be a volcanic rock formed in high-energy eruptions where many rock fragments settle to the seabed.



1st Asian country join NATO Cyber Defense Group

- ❖ South Korea became the first Asian country join in North Atlantic Treaty Organization Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence.
- ❖ South Korea's National Intelligence Service is joined as a contributing participant in the NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence.
- ❖ Now, the total NATO CCDCOE has 32 countries as its official members.
- ❖ It includes 27 NATO member countries and 5 five non-NATO states as contributing participants.
- ❖ South Korea has participated in the Locked Shields 2022, the largest and most complex annual international live-fire cyber defence exercise in the world.
- ❖ It has been participating two years in a row since 2020.

Chair of the Association of Asian Election Authorities

- ❖ India has been unanimously elected as the new Chair of the Association of Asian Election Authorities (AAEA) for 2022-2024.
- ❖ Commission on Elections, Manila was the current chair of AAEA.
- ❖ The new member of the Executive Board now includes Russia, Uzbekistan, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Taiwan and the Philippines.
- ❖ The Election Commission of India's 3-member delegation is headed by Deputy Election Commissioner Nitesh Vyas, along with CEO Manipur Rajesh Agrawal and CEO Rajasthan Praveen Gupta.

Severe National Emergency

- ❖ North Korea has confirmed its first-ever case of Covid-19 and declared a "severe national emergency".
- ❖ This country has never admitted to a case of Covid-19, with the government imposing a rigid coronavirus blockade of its borders since 2020.
- ❖ Experts believe North Korea has not vaccinated any of its 25 million people.
- ❖ It rejected offers of vaccinations from the World Health Organisation, and China and Russia.

Replacement of Russia on UNHRC

- ❖ The UN General Assembly has voted overwhelmingly for the Czech Republic to replace Russia on the Human Rights Council.
- ❖ UNHRC is the world organization's leading human rights body.



- ❖ Russia was suspended from the council last month by a vote in the General Assembly.
- ❖ It was also suspended from the World Tourism Organization.

world's most valuable company

- ❖ Oil giant Saudi Aramco has dethroned Apple Inc. to become the world's most valuable company.
- ❖ Aramco traded near its highest level on record, with a market capitalization of about \$2.43 trillion, surpassing that of Apple for the first time since 2020.
- ❖ The iPhone maker fell 5.2% to close at \$146.50 per share, giving it a valuation of \$2.37 trillion.
- ❖ However, the move proves short-lived.

Intersolar Europe 2022

- ❖ Bhagwant Khuba, Union Minister of State for New and Renewable Energy, has participating Intersolar Europe 2022 in Munich, Germany.
- ❖ In Munich, the Indian Union Minister will deliver a keynote talk at the investment promotion event India's Solar Energy Market.
- ❖ The Indo-German Energy Forum (IGEF) is organising the event.

7th highest recipient of foreign remittance

- ❖ The World Bank published a report on migration and development this week.
- ❖ As per the report, Bangladesh was the 7th highest recipient of remittance from abroad in 2021.
- ❖ India topped the list in the world receiving USD 89 billion in remittance
- ❖ It is followed by Mexico at USD 54 billion, and China at USD 53 billion last year.

Macolin Convention

- ❖ The 12th meeting of Interpol's Match-Fixing Task Force (IMFTF) held at Abh Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.
- ❖ It is concluded with a call for harmonised global efforts to curb competition manipulation.
- ❖ Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) was one of the participants in it.



- ❖ The participants discussed the emerging uses of technology, big data and social media given that criminal syndicates were increasingly operating across betting and sports markets.
- ❖ The Council of Europe Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions, is known as the Macolin Convention.
- ❖ It is a multilateral treaty aimed at checking match-fixing.
- ❖ It came into force on September 1, 2019.

Promotion of Hindi Language At UN

- ❖ The government of India has contributed USD 800,000 to the UN as part of the initiative which aims to enhance public outreach of the organisation in Hindi.
- ❖ 'Hindi @ UN' project was launched by India in 2018.
- ❖ It was launched in collaboration with the UN Department of Public Information to disseminate information about the UN to the Hindi-speaking population across the world.

Sky Bridge 721



- ❖ The world's largest suspension bridge in Czech Republic has opened for tourists.
- ❖ The bridge connects two mountain ridges
- ❖ And it hangs 95 metres (312 feet) above a valley.
- ❖ It can be accessed by cable car.
- ❖ It is 721 metres, or 2,365 feet long.
- ❖ Tourists will enter it at an elevation of 1,125 metres and exit it 10 metres higher.



- ❖ The Czech Republic Sky Bridge is 154 metres longer than Nepal's Baglung Parbat Footbridge.
- ❖ Nepal's Baglung Parbat Footbridge currently holds the Guinness World Record for the longest suspension footbridge.

SCO-RATS meet

- ❖ At a conference hosted by New Delhi, India, Pakistan, and other members of the Shanghai Collaboration Organisation (SCO) discussed enhancing cooperation in fighting various regional security problems.
- ❖ The conference is being held as part of the SCO's Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS).
- ❖ India assumed chairmanship of the Council of Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure of SCO (RATS SCO) on October 28 last year for a period of one year.
- ❖ The Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS), is headquartered in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

1st International Migration Review Forum

- ❖ First International Migration Review Forum to be held under the auspices of the General Assembly at the United Nations.
- ❖ It will serve as the primary inter-governmental global platform to review the progress made at the local, national, regional and global levels in implementing the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.
- ❖ It will consist of four interactive multi-stakeholders round tables, a policy dialogue and a plenary.

France's first female prime minister

- ❖ Elisabeth Borne, the French minister for labour, has been appointed prime minister.
- ❖ She is the first woman to hold the post in more than 30 years.
- ❖ Also, she is the second female prime minister in modern French history.
- ❖ Borne is the first French female prime minister since Édith Cresson.
- ❖ Cresson briefly headed the cabinet from May 1991 to April 1992.



4th largest vehicle market

- ❖ India has surpassed Germany to become 4th largest vehicle market in the world.
- ❖ The 1st place was occupied by China, followed by the US and Japan.
- ❖ This report released by Organisation Internationale des Constructeurs d'Automobiles (OICA) or the International Organization of Motor Vehicle Manufacturers.
- ❖ India is expected to become the third-largest Vehicle market by 2025.
- ❖ However, it requires India to surpass Japan which sold 4,448,340 units in 2021.

BRICS Foreign Ministers Meeting

- ❖ The BRICS Ministers of Foreign Affairs meeting was hosted by China.
- ❖ In January 2022, the BRICS Chairmanship was handed over to China by India.
- ❖ During this foreign minister's meeting, the BRICS Foreign Ministers also holds a "BRICS+" dialogue with other foreign ministers from various other developing countries and emerging markets.
- ❖ 'Foster High-Quality BRICS Partnership Usher in a New Era for Global Development' is the theme for BRICS 2022.

India-Jamaica Friendship Garden

- ❖ 'India-Jamaica Friendship Garden' was recently inaugurated at the Hope Royal Botanical Gardens in St. Andrew, Jamaica.
- ❖ President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated the garden.
- ❖ President and other officials planted saplings of three Sandalwood trees, which are native to Southern India.
- ❖ He also inaugurated "Dr. BR Ambedkar Avenue".

Summit For Democracy

- ❖ The Election Commission of India to lead 'Summit for Democracy' on 'Election Integrity' in partnership with 100 Democratic Countries.
- ❖ As the part of 'Summit for Democracy', India is going to lead the 'Democracy Cohort on Election Integrity'.
- ❖ India is to shares its knowledge, technical expertise and experiences with other democracies of the world.
- ❖ Leaders of more than 100 countries, civil society organizations, private sector, media and others to participate in the summit.



Climate Change: Greenhouse gas, sea level rise

- ❖ Four key climate change indicators all set new record highs.
- ❖ Greenhouse gas concentrations, sea level rise, ocean heat and ocean acidification all set new records.
- ❖ Covid-19 lockdowns had had no impact on atmospheric greenhouse gases concentrations.
- ❖ Global mean sea level reached a new record high in 2021, rising an average of 4.5 millimetres per year throughout 2013 to 2021.
- ❖ This is more than double the average annual rise of 2.1 mm per year between 1993 and 2002.

NDB at India

- ❖ The New Development Bank (NDB) of the BRICS countries plans to open its regional office of India at the Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City).
- ❖ It aims to cater to infrastructure and sustainable development needs of the country.
- ❖ The NDB was established by BRICS nations Headquartered in Shanghai.
- ❖ The New Development Bank formally opened in July 2015.

Global Food Security Call to Action Meeting

- ❖ The United States Secretary of State, Antony Blinken has chaired a “Global Food Security Call to Action” meeting of foreign ministers from around 30 countries.
- ❖ It aims to reviewing the urgent development and humanitarian needs and identifying steps to address the challenges of global nutrition, food security, and resilience.
- ❖ This meeting has been held days after India decided to ban wheat exports.
- ❖ So that skyrocketing prices in the country due to shortages can be checked.

Indo-Pacific Economic Framework

- ❖ 13 countries have joined a new, US-led Asia-Pacific trade initiative names as Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity.
- ❖ Thirteen countries including US, India, and Japan are part of the trade initiative.
- ❖ Others on the starting list of members are Australia, Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand and Vietnam.

- ❖ IPEF is intended to offer US allies an alternative to China's growing commercial presence across the Asia-Pacific.

Australia's new Prime Minister

- ❖ Australia's Labor Party leader, Anthony Albanese was sworn in as the country's new prime minister.
- ❖ He became the country's 31st Prime Minister.
- ❖ Australia's Head of State is the Queen of Australia (British), Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.
- ❖ Under the Australian Constitution, the executive power is exercised by the Governor-General as the Queen's representative.
- ❖ The Governor-General is appointed by the Queen on the advice of the Prime Minister of Australia.
- ❖ The Prime Minister is Head of Government.

Mandatory Quarantine for Monkeypox



- ❖ Belgium became the first country to introduce mandatory quarantine for those infected with monkeypox.
- ❖ Anyone testing positive in the country will have to remain isolated for 21 days (three weeks).
- ❖ The WHO recorded 100 confirmed cases of monkeypox from 12 different countries.
- ❖ Monkeypox is a rare viral infection.
- ❖ It is most commonly found in tropical areas of west and central Africa.
- ❖ It was first discovered in 1958.



- ❖ The first human infection was recorded in the Democratic Republic of Congo in 1970.
- ❖ The first case in the US and UK was reported in 2003 and 2018, respectively.

First airport for drones and flying cars

- ❖ The world's first airport for electric drones and flying cars opened in the centre of a city in the United Kingdom.
- ❖ The pop-up Air-One has been built in the city of Coventry.
- ❖ It's designed for zero-emission electric drones and air taxis.
- ❖ And the airport itself is powered by hydrogen fuel cells.
- ❖ The project is aims to demonstrate the potential of urban air mobility to cut congestion and air pollution.



Meeting of Board of Governors of NDB

- ❖ Nirmala Sitharaman chaired the 7th Annual Meeting of Board of Governors of NDB.
- ❖ The meeting was also attended by Governors/Alternate Governors of Brazil, China, Russia, South Africa and the newly joined members Bangladesh and United Arab Emirates (UAE).
- ❖ This year's theme for the Annual Meeting was "NDB: Optimising Development Impact".

Finland and Sweden NATO membership

- ❖ Turkey's president announced the country's opposition to Finland and Sweden joining NATO.
- ❖ NATO members, Norway, Denmark and Iceland have all said they are ready to support Sweden and Finland.

- ❖ UK has already given security guarantees to both countries to cover the transition period.
- ❖ However, without the support of all NATO members, Sweden and Finland cannot join the military alliance.



Bankrupt Declaration of country - Srilanka

- ❖ Sri Lankan Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe has declared the country bankrupt as it faces a fuel crisis and food shortages.
- ❖ Meanwhile, Sri Lanka's central bank has secured foreign exchange to pay for fuel and cooking gas shipments that will ease crippling shortages.
- ❖ Most of Sri Lanka's petrol stations have run dry as the island nation battles its most devastating economic crisis since independence in 1948.

Poliovirus case

What is polio

- Poliomyelitis (polio) is a highly infectious viral disease, mainly affecting children
- According to WHO, the virus is transmitted from person-to-person, mainly through the faecal-oral route

STRAINS

- There are three types of polio virus strains — P1, P2 and P3
- P2 was eradicated globally in 1999
- India attained a polio free status in 2014 after successfully eliminating the wild P1 and P3 strains

VACCINATION SCHEDULE

OPV: At 6 weeks, 10 weeks and 14 weeks
IPV: At 6 weeks and 14 weeks
OPV booster: Between 16 and 24 months



- ❖ Mozambique has identified its first case of wild poliovirus Type 1 after a child contracted the disease.
- ❖ It is the country's first such case since 1992.
- ❖ It is the second imported case of wild poliovirus in Southern Africa this year.
- ❖ As of today, wild poliovirus is endemic only in Afghanistan and Pakistan.
- ❖ There are three variants of the poliovirus, numbered 1 to 3.
- ❖ For a country to be declared polio-free, the wild transmission of all three kinds has to be stopped.
- ❖ For eradication, cases of both wild and vaccine-derived polio infection have to be reduced to zero.
- ❖ India was declared polio-free in January 2014, after three years of zero cases.

Global Report on Assistive Technology (AT)

- ❖ The World Health Organisation and UNICEF jointly launched the first Global Report on Assistive Technology (GReAT).
- ❖ This report is the culmination of the 71st World Health Assembly resolution in 2018 to prepare a global report on effective access to assistive technology.
- ❖ More than 2.5 billion people need one or more assistive products, such as wheelchairs, hearing aids, or apps that support communication and cognition.
- ❖ A billion of them are denied access.
- ❖ Particularly in low and middle income countries, access can be as low as 3% of the need for these life-changing products.
- ❖ The number of people in need of one or more assistive products is likely to rise to 3.5 billion by 2050.
- ❖ AT is any item, piece of equipment, software program or product system that is used to increase, maintain or improve the functional capabilities of persons with disabilities.

World's Highest Weather Station

- ❖ The National Geographic Society has installed the "world's highest weather station" on Mount Everest.
- ❖ It is located at an altitude of 8,830 metres to automatically measure various meteorological phenomena.
- ❖ This weather monitoring system is powered by solar energy.



75th World Health Assembly

- ❖ The 75th World Health Assembly is being held in Geneva, Switzerland.
- ❖ This is the first in-person Health Assembly since the COVID-19 pandemic began.
- ❖ “Health for peace, peace for health” is the theme for this year’s assembly.
- ❖ India’s one million ASHA (Accredited Social Health Activist) workers, who have been at the forefront of healthcare delivery in India have been honoured with the Global Health Leaders Award 2022.

Quad Summit 2022

- ❖ Recently it was held at Tokyo, Japan.
- ❖ The Quad or the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue is a group made of four nations, India, Japan, the US, and Australia.
- ❖ It is a strategic forum that features semi-regular summits, information exchange, and military drills.
- ❖ The key focus of the summit is the development of the Indo-Pacific region highlighting the threats like terrorism, disinformation, and territorial disputes.

World Economic Forum (WEF) - Annual Meeting

- ❖ WEF held its Annual Meeting 2022 in the Davos, Switzerland as the first global in-person leadership event since the start of the pandemic.
- ❖ The theme of the WEF Annual Meeting 2022 will be “Working Together, Restoring Trust”.
- ❖ The meeting convenes at a strategic point where public figures and global leaders will meet in person to reconnect, exchange insights, gain fresh perspectives and advance solutions.

3rd Global Organic Expo

- ❖ 3rd Global Organic Expo 2022 held at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), PUSA, New Delhi.
- ❖ It provides a platform for Organic Producers, Aggregators, Processors, Value Chain Integrators, and the Industry Partners by offering Global level conference.
- ❖ Theme of the Expo is “Profitability for Humanity”.

4th Regional Security Dialogue on Afghanistan

- ❖ The two-day security dialogue on Afghanistan held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.
- ❖ India, Tajikistan, Russia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Iran, Kyrgyzstan and China participate in this Dialogue.
- ❖ This meeting was a follow up from the 3rd Regional Security Dialogue on Afghanistan held in New Delhi in November 2021.

Europe's Record Dam Removal



- ❖ According to the 2021 Dam Removal Progress report, around 239 dams were removed from rivers across 17 European countries.
- ❖ This is a 137% increase from the previous year.
- ❖ Till now 4,984 dams have been removed.
- ❖ In 2021, Spain removed the highest number of barriers over its rivers (108).
- ❖ Countries like Portugal, Montenegro, and Slovakia removed riverine barriers for the first time.

New chair of WTO committee

- ❖ Anwar Hussain Shaik from India has been made the chair of the World Trade Organisation's Committee on Technical Barriers on Trade.
- ❖ Shaik will take this role from Elisa Maria Olmeda de Alejandro from Mexico.
- ❖ WTO is a 164-member multilateral body.
- ❖ It formulates rules for global exports and imports and adjudicates disputes between countries on trade-related issues.
- ❖ India is a founder member since 1995.

ECONOMY

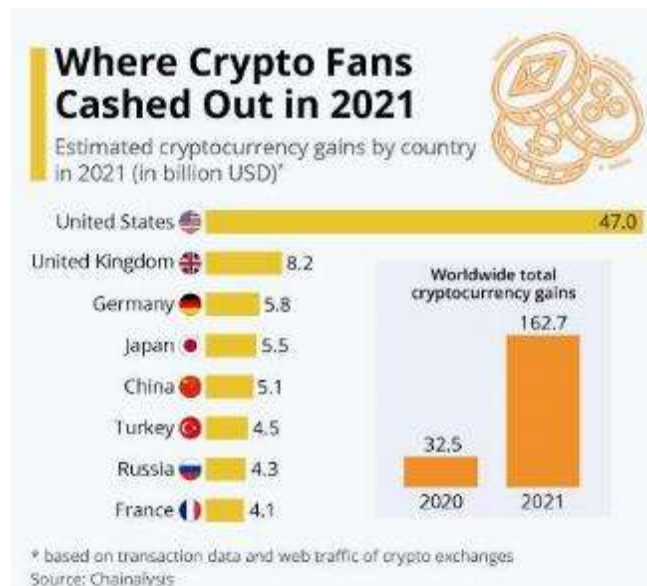
World's biggest amount of real-time transactions

- ❖ India's payments system has been registered the highest number of real-time transactions in the world last year, with 48 billion.
- ❖ India surpassed China, which had 18 billion real-time transactions.
- ❖ Also, it was 6.5 times larger than the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, France, and Germany combined.

New Member of MPC

- ❖ The RBI central board gave its approval to appoint Rajiv Ranjan as an ex-officio member of the RBI's monetary policy committee.
- ❖ Mridul Saggar is being replaced by Rajiv Ranjan.
- ❖ The MPC has six members.
- ❖ There are three officials who are from the RBI and there are three external members who are nominated by the central government.
- ❖ This committee's chairperson is the Governor of the RBI.

Cryptocurrency Gains by Country



- ❖ India ranked 21st in Chainalysis 2021 Cryptocurrency Gains by Country.
- ❖ Investors around the world realized total Crypto gains of \$162.7 billion in 2021, compared to \$32.5 billion in 2020.



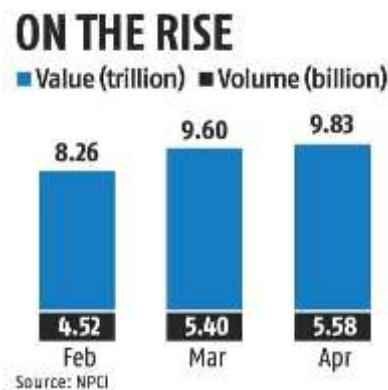
- ❖ Ethereum is the most noteworthy gainer among the crypto assets.
- ❖ It is topped by the United States with an estimated realized Crypto gain of \$49.95 billion.
- ❖ The US is followed by the United Kingdom Germany, Japan and China.

Revenue Deficit Grant

- ❖ The Department of Expenditure (Ministry of Finance) released Rs 7,183.42 crore as a revenue deficit grant to 14 states.
- ❖ This is the 2nd monthly installment of the Post Devolution Revenue Deficit (PDRD) grant to states.
- ❖ The eligibility of States was decided by the Fifteenth Finance Commission based on the gap between the assessment of a state's revenue and expenditure after taking into account the assessed devolution
- ❖ As per the Article 275 of the Indian Constitution the Post Devolution Revenue Deficit (PDRD) grant is provided.

5.58 Bn transactions in UPI

- ❖ Unified Payments Interface (UPI), India's flagship digital payments platform, has recorded 5.58 billion(bn) transactions worth Rs 9.83 trillion in April 2022.
- ❖ This is the highest ever number of transactions recorded by UPI.
- ❖ Compared to April 2021, the transaction volume increased by 111% and the transaction value increased by nearly 100%.



Retail inflation

- ❖ The Consumer Food Price Index jumped to 8.4% from 7.7% in March, with food prices rising at a faster clip of 8.5% in rural India.



- ❖ This is the fourth month in a row that retail inflation has stayed above the 6% mark.
- ❖ Transport and Communication inflation raced to nearly 11% in April from just 8% in March.
- ❖ Clothing and footwear costs continued to be a bugbear for households.
- ❖ Its combined inflation is 9.85% in April up from 9.4% in March.
- ❖ Among the States, West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh recorded a much higher inflation rate than the national average, at 9.1%.
- ❖ It closely followed by Telangana and Haryana which reported inflation of around 9%.
- ❖ By contrast, Kerala (5.08%) and Tamil Nadu (5.37%) clocked the lowest inflation rates in April.



Export of wheat, onion seeds

- ❖ Citing threat to food security, the Government has “prohibited” export of wheat.
- ❖ The Ministry of Commerce and Industry also placed export of onion seeds under the “prohibited” category.
- ❖ India is a crucial supplier of wheat to its neighbours.
- ❖ Apart from Afghanistan which recently received large consignments of wheat from India on humanitarian grounds, Bangladesh is another big importer of Indian wheat.
- ❖ India produced around 7 million tonnes of wheat during 2021-22.
- ❖ And out of that nearly 50% was imported by Bangladesh.

April Wholesale Price Index (WPI)



- ❖ The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) based inflation rate surged to 15.1 percent in the month of April, highest since 2011-12.
- ❖ In the month of March, the WPI rate stood at 14.55 percent.
- ❖ In the month of April, the inflation rate for manufactured products shot up to 10.85 percent.
- ❖ This is due to chemicals, basic metals, chemical products, machinery, textiles, and electrical and other equipment.
- ❖ The fuel inflation rate stood at 38.66 percent due to high inflation in major categories of diesel, petrol, aviation fuel, and LPG.
- ❖ The core-WPI inflation for the non-fuel and non-food components rose to 11.1 percent which is a four-month high.

FDI inflow hits all-time high



- ❖ India recorded the "highest ever" annual foreign direct investment of \$83.57 billion in 2021-22.

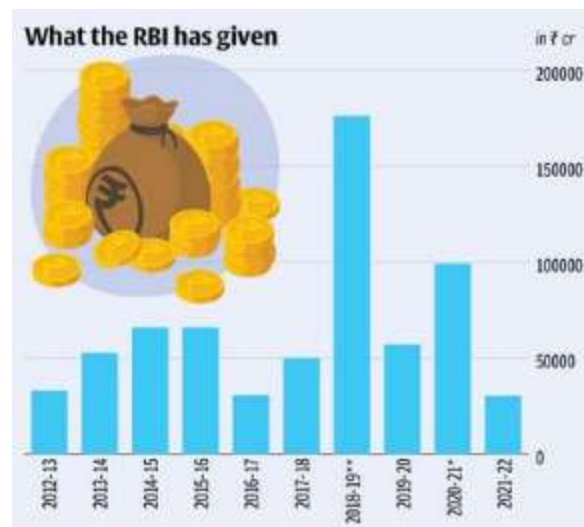


- ❖ In 2020-21, the inflows were \$81.97 billion.
- ❖ The FDI equity inflows in manufacturing rose 76% in FY22.
- ❖ The FDI increased by around 22% post-Covid from March 2020 to March 2022 at \$171.84 billion.
- ❖ The inflows of \$141.10 billion reported pre-Covid from February 2018 to February 2020.

Import duties on sunflower & soybean oil

- ❖ The Centre allowed duty-free import of 20 lakh metric tonnes each of crude soybean oil and crude sunflower oil for this year as well as 2023-24.
- ❖ Earlier, in October, the government had reduced the basic import duties on edible oils amid runaway prices.
- ❖ The import duty on crude palm oil had been slashed to 2.5%, from 10%.
- ❖ Duty on crude soya and sunflower oils were cut to 2.5%, from 7.5%.

Surplus transfer to the Central



- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India has sanctioned a surplus transfer to the Central Government of 30,307 crore rupees for the fiscal year 2021-22.
- ❖ The 596th meeting of the central board of the RBI was held under the Chairmanship of Governor Shaktikanta Das.
- ❖ The board agreed to keep the Contingency Risk Buffer at 5.50 percent after examining the present economic condition, global and domestic issues, and the effect of recent geopolitical developments.



Sale of Hindustan Zinc stake

THE STORY SO FAR

2002:

- Atal Bihari Vajpayee-led NDA govt decides to divest majority shareholding in Hindustan Zinc
- Vedanta's Sterlite Industries acquires 26%; additional 20% purchased through open offer

2003: Anil Agarwal-led group further buys 19% stake in HZL

2009: Sterlite exercises call option, which was contested by Centre; Vedanta invokes arbitration to claim settlement

2022: Vedanta withdraws arbitration

- ❖ The Union Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the sale of the government's remaining stake of 29.5% in Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL).
- ❖ Vedanta group's stake in Hindustan Zinc Limited is 64.92%.
- ❖ The government is also planning to offload its 7.91% stake in ITC.
- ❖ The government's disinvestment target for FY23 stands at Rs 65,000 crore.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

First Private Flight to ISS

- ❖ Three businessmen and a former NASA astronaut splashed down of the Florida coast, USA.
- ❖ They spending more than two weeks aboard the International Space Station.
- ❖ it is a landmark mission for the commercial sector.

Oldest and furthest star

- ❖ Earendel, a newly spotted star to be the most distant one to be seen until now.
- ❖ It is believed to be a whopping 12.9 billion light years away from us.
- ❖ It would be the discovery of one of the earliest stars, formed less than a billion years after the Big Bang.



Gravitational lensing

- ❖ It was possible to see this particular star only because of a phenomenon called gravitational lensing.
- ❖ It is known that when light from a star or galaxy passes close to a massive object such as another galaxy, a black hole or any massive entity, it gets bent by gravity.
- ❖ Thus, the image of the source of the light may appear distorted from the original.
- ❖ This phenomenon is called gravitational lensing.

New Class of Superconducting Material

- ❖ Nagoya University researchers have now detailed the superconducting properties of a new class of superconducting material, magic-angle twisted bilayer graphene.
- ❖ The Low temperatures are required for a material to behave as a superconductor. such as -270°C .
- ❖ Superconductors are materials that conduct electrical current with practically no electrical resistance at all.

Planet Parade



- ❖ Four planets - Venus, Jupiter, Mars, and Saturn were align in a straight line after 1,000 years during the last week of April 2022.
- ❖ The rare and unique planet alignment will occur which is also popularly known as the 'Planet Parade'.
- ❖ The alignment of the 3 planets on one side of the sun is very common.

World's largest cyber exercise

- ❖ The Tallinn, Estonia NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence, is organising the Locked Shields 2022.
- ❖ It is the largest and most complex annual international live-fire cyber defence exercise in the world.
- ❖ This year's exercise has particular importance as it takes place amid the rising threat of cyber-attacks since the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

Pilot Project of Methanol-blended Petrol



Blended Power

Niti Aayog to move a proposal for **15% petrol blending with methanol**

Diesel will also be blended if sufficient methanol available

METHANOL WILL COST LESS THAN ₹20 A LITRE

METHANOL WILL BE PRODUCED FROM COAL

Petrol blending will lower cost by **at least 10%**

Minor tweak in engines needed to run on blended **M-15 fuel**

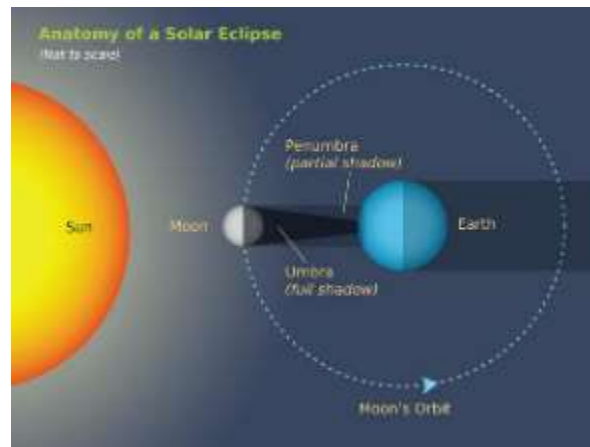
It will reduce fuel import bill by **₹100 billion by 2030**

- ❖ The Indian Oil Corporation rolled out M15 petrol on a pilot basis in Assam's Tinsukia district.
- ❖ M15 is a blend of 15 % methanol and 85 % Petrol.
- ❖ It helps lower greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by about 5 to 10%.
- ❖ Blending 15% methanol in petrol would bring down GHG emissions by 20% in terms of particulate matter, NOx, and Sox.
- ❖ Methanol is a liquid chemical with the formula CH₃OH.
- ❖ It is a light, volatile, colorless, and flammable liquid.

First solar eclipse of this year

- ❖ The first solar eclipse of this year was witnessed in some parts of the world on Saturday, April 30, 2022.
- ❖ A solar eclipse is a phenomenon in which the moon passes between the sun and the earth.
- ❖ It forming a dark shadow on the earth that can completely or partially block sunlight in some areas.

- ❖ This was also coincided with another celestial event – the second new moon of the month, also known as the Black Moon.



PK2 molecule

- ❖ Researchers at IIT Mandi have identified a drug molecule that can be used to treat diabetes.
- ❖ The molecule, called PK2, is able to trigger the release of insulin by the pancreas.
- ❖ It can potentially be used as an orally administered medicine for diabetes.
- ❖ PK2 was also able to prevent and even reverse beta cell loss, a cell essential for insulin production.
- ❖ It is making it effective for both Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes.



India's first Hydrogen-fueled electric vessel

- ❖ Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways would develop and build India's first indigenous hydrogen-fueled electric vessels at Cochin Shipyard Limited.
- ❖ Fuel cells fuelled by Hydrogen are an efficient, environmentally friendly, zero-emission direct current power source.



- ❖ It has already been used in heavy-duty bus, truck, and train applications.
- ❖ It is now being developed for marine applications.

ICGS 'Kamla Devi'

- ❖ Fast patrol vessel ICGS 'Kamla Devi', named after social reformer and freedom activist Kamladevi Chattopadhyay.
- ❖ 'Kamla Devi' was scheduled to be the fourth ship in the series of five such FPVs.
- ❖ But it became the fifth as the fourth one was exported to the Republic of Seychelles as the 'SCG PS Zoroaster' in 2021.

Kamladevi Chattopadhyay

- ❖ She worked towards the upliftment of artisans and craftsmen across the country.
- ❖ She also worked for the socio-economic betterment of women in India.
- ❖ She was awarded the Padma Bhushan, the Padma Vibhushan and the Ramon Magsaysay Award.

P-75I and Air-independent propulsion

- ❖ France's Naval Group announced that it is withdrawing from the Indian Navy's P-75I submarine project.
- ❖ The Project 75 India-class submarines are a planned class of diesel-electric submarines.
- ❖ P-75I project will be India's first project under the Strategic Partnership Model.
- ❖ Air-independent propulsion is a technology that allows a non-nuclear submarine to operate without access to atmospheric oxygen.

Background

- ❖ In 1999, the Cabinet Committee on Security approved a 30-year plan for the Indian Navy to indigenously build and induct 24 submarines by 2030.
- ❖ In the first phase, two lines of production were to be established — the first, P-75; the second, P-75I.
- ❖ Each line was to produce six submarines.
- ❖ The first submarine under the P 75 project was commissioned in 2017.
- ❖ The final submarine, Vagsheer, was launched in April 2022.

NASA Human Exploration Rover Challenge 2022

- ❖ The Human Exploration Rover Challenge has been won by two Indian student groups from Punjab and Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ As many as 91 teams, including 33 high schools and 58 colleges were involved in the challenge.

Award	Winners
STEM Engagement Award	High School Division: Decent Children Model Presidency School, Punjab, India
	College/University Division: Institute Tecnologico de Santa Domingo, Santa Domingo, Dominican Republic
Social Media Award	High School Division: Bledsoe Country High School, Pikeville, Tennessee
	College/University Division: Vellore Institute of Technology, Vellore, India

ISRO mission to Venus

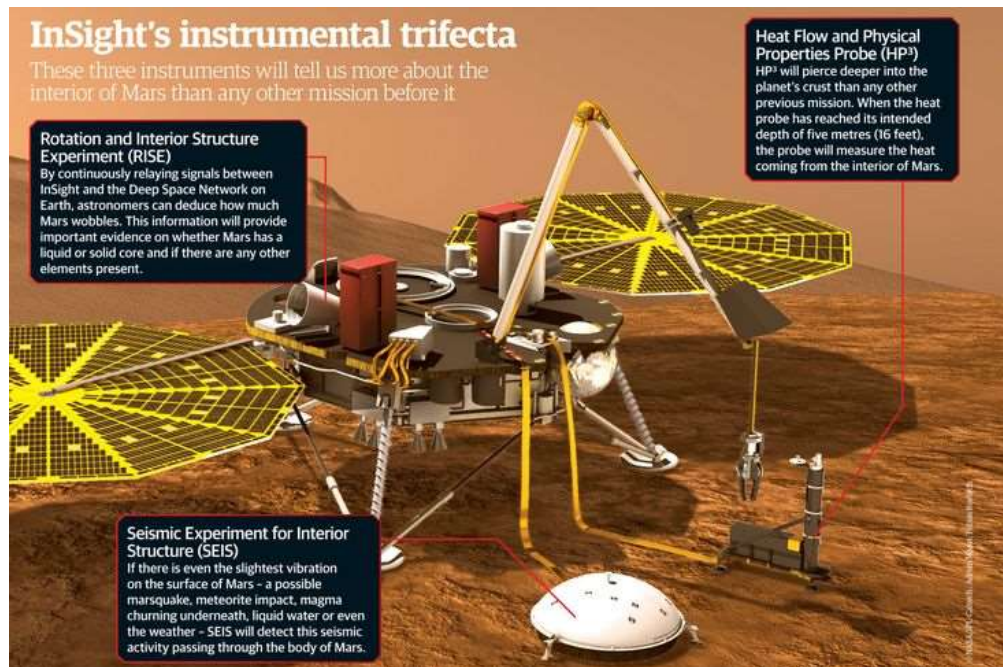
- ❖ The Indian Space Research Organisation will send a spacecraft to orbit Venus to study what lies below its surface.
- ❖ ISRO is expecting to launch the mission by December 2024
- ❖ It is with an orbital manoeuvre planned for a year after that.
- ❖ The orbital manoeuvre is the use of propulsion systems to change the orbit of a spacecraft.
- ❖ It enables a spacecraft to enter a planet's orbit.
- ❖ The aim of the mission is to study Venus' atmosphere, which is toxic and corrosive in nature as clouds of sulfuric acid cover the planet.

Shigella bacteria



- ❖ Food samples collected from an eatery at Cheruvathur in Kasaragod at Kerala following the death of a girl due to food poisoning.
- ❖ It revealed the presence of salmonella and shigella bacteria.
- ❖ Shigella is a bacterium that belongs to the enterobacter family — a group of bacteria that reside in the intestine, not all of which cause disease in humans.
- ❖ There are four types of Shigella bacteria that affect humans — Shigella sonnei, Shigella flexneri, Shigella boydii, and Shigella dysenteriae.
- ❖ The fourth type causes the most severe disease because of the toxin it produces.
- ❖ In the first phase, the scheme would be launched in some Corporations, municipalities and villages.

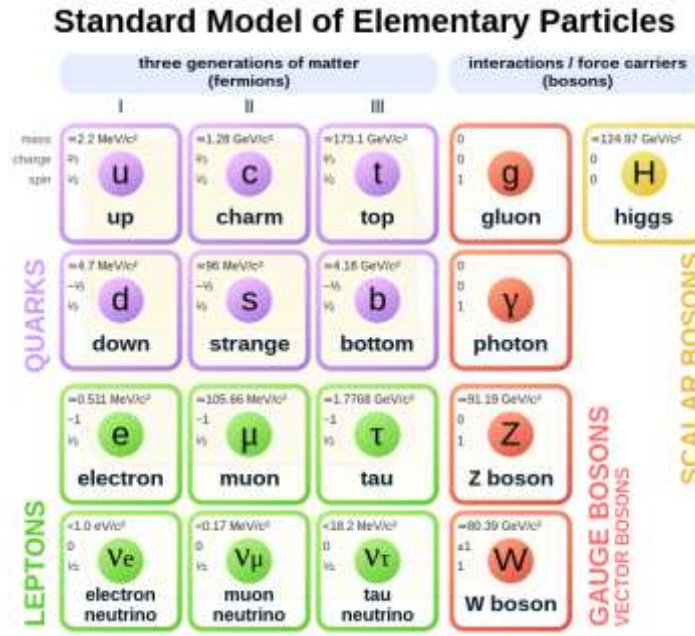
Marsquake



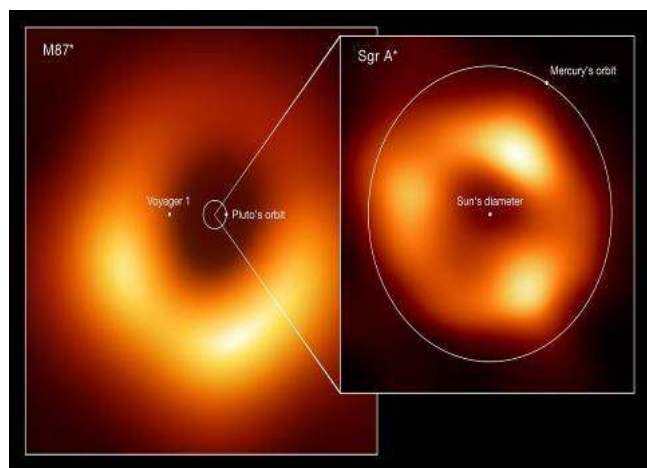
- ❖ NASA has reported that, its InSight Mars lander detected the largest quake ever observed on another planet.
- ❖ The rover first landed on Mars in November 2018.
- ❖ And has since heard 1,313 quakes.
- ❖ On Earth, quakes are caused by shifts in tectonic plates.
- ❖ Mars, however, does not have tectonic plates, and its crust is a giant plate.
- ❖ Therefore, 'marsquakes' are caused due to stresses that cause rock fractures or faults in its crust.

W boson

- ❖ Scientists re-measured the mass of the “W boson” particle.
- ❖ They found that it weighs more than the Standard Model suggests it should.
- ❖ The new measurement is the most accurate measurement ever of the W boson’s mass.
- ❖ The new measurement suggests that the Standard Model is incomplete.



First Image of a black hole



- ❖ Astronomers have unveiled the first image of the supermassive black hole at the center of our own Milky Way galaxy.



- ❖ The image was produced by a global research team called the Event Horizon Telescope (EHT) Collaboration, using observations from a worldwide network of radio telescopes.
- ❖ This is the first image of Sgr A* or Sagittarius A the supermassive black hole at the centre of our galaxy.
- ❖ It's the first direct visual evidence of the presence of this black hole.

Grown Plants in Moon Soil

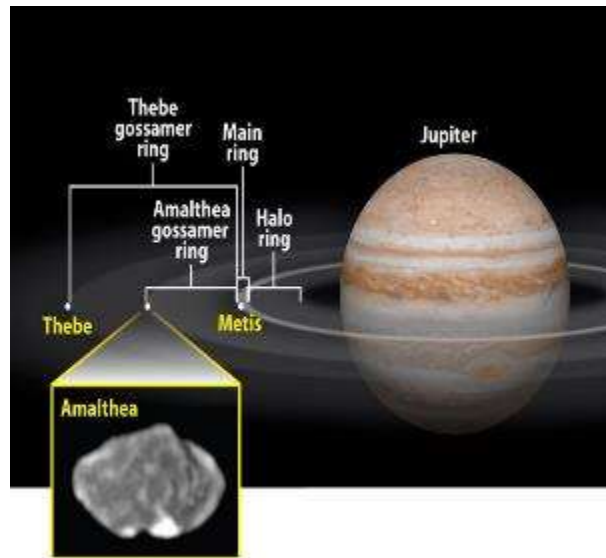
- ❖ Scientists have grown plants in soil from the Moon.
- ❖ It is a first in human history and a milestone in lunar and space exploration.
- ❖ It is a first step toward one day growing plants for food and oxygen on the Moon or during space missions.
- ❖ The lunar soil - 12 grams or just a few teaspoons - was collected during the Apollo 11, 12 and 17 missions to the Moon.

Asteroid to pass by Earth



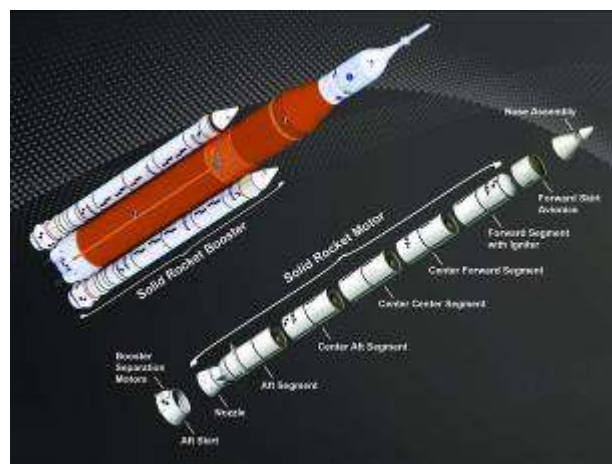
- ❖ A giant 1,600 feet asteroid passed by the Earth on May 15.
- ❖ Asteroid 388945 (2008 TZ3) made a close approach to our planet on May 16.
- ❖ This was passing the Earth from a distance of about 2.5 million miles away.
- ❖ However, this is not the first time that Asteroid 388945 will be visiting us.
- ❖ It passed very close to Earth in May 2020- at a distance of 1.7 million miles.
- ❖ As per the scientists, the space rock routinely passes the Earth in every two years, while orbiting the sun.
- ❖ The next time it will come close will be in May 2024.
- ❖ But it will be much farther - 6.9 million miles away.

Amalthea



- ❖ The moon Amalthea is one of Jupiter's 53 named satellites.
- ❖ It was the first to be discovered after the four Galilean moons.
- ❖ And it is the fifth-largest overall.
- ❖ In terms of proximity to Jupiter, Amalthea is the planet's third moon.
- ❖ It takes just 12 hours to make a full orbit.
- ❖ It has only been observed by three spacecraft: Voyager 1 and Voyager 2 in 1979, and the Galileo spacecraft in 2002.
- ❖ Only two missions have visited Amalthea: Voyager and Galileo.

Solid rocket booster tests





- ❖ The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully carried out the static test of the HS200 solid rocket booster.
- ❖ The successful completion of this test is a crucial milestone for ISRO's famous Gaganyaan human space flight programme.
- ❖ The HS200 booster was designed and developed by VSSC in Thiruvananthapuram.
- ❖ While the propellant casting was completed at SDSC in Srihari Kota.
- ❖ The S200 motor is the first stage of the LVM3 launch vehicle.
- ❖ It was designed as a strap-on rocket booster for launching a 4,000 kg class satellite to geosynchronous transfer orbit.

INS Surat & INS Udaygiri

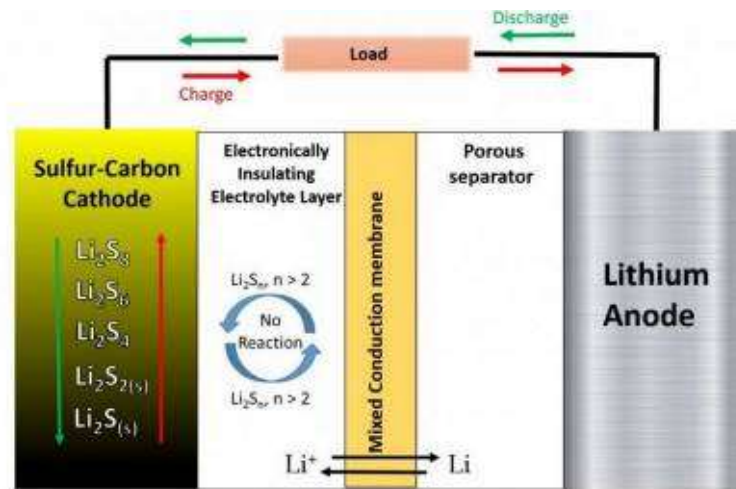
- ❖ Two indigenous warships of the Indian Navy were launched recently.
- ❖ They are, Project 15B destroyer Indian Naval Ship (INS) Surat and the Project 17A frigate INS Udaygiri.
- ❖ 'Surat' is the fourth ship of Project 15B Destroyers.
- ❖ 'Udaygiri', named after a mountain range in the state of Andhra Pradesh, is the third ship of Project 17A Frigates.
- ❖ These are follow-on of the P17 Frigates (Shivalik Class) with improved stealth features, advanced weapons and sensors and platform management systems.

Twin Aeronomy Mission

- ❖ ISRO has planned a twin aeronomy mission to capture the effects of space weather events on the Earth's atmosphere.
- ❖ It aims to capture the latitudinal and longitudinal effects of space weather events on the Earth's upper atmosphere.
- ❖ The twin Aeronomy mission named as DISHA-H&L mission.
- ❖ This mission will comprise two satellites.
 - One at high inclination orbit (DISHA-H)
 - Second at low inclination orbit (DISHA-L)
- ❖ DISHA stands for 'Disturbed and Quiet time Ionosphere-Thermosphere systems at High Altitudes'.



Lithium-Sulphur batteries



- ❖ Engineers at Drexel University in Philadelphia developed a new Lithium-Sulphur (Li-S) cell technology.
- ❖ It could pave the way for the development of more efficient, sustainable and cost-effective batteries than the current lithium-ion (Li-ion) batteries.
- ❖ It uses Sulphur instead of the cobalt found in Li-ion batteries.
- ❖ Sulphur is an extremely common element that is cheaply available.
- ❖ While Cobalt is rare and expensive.
- ❖ Also, they have a higher theoretical energy density.
- ❖ And it can hold twice the charge of a regular Li-ion battery.

Anti-ship missile

- ❖ DRDO successfully conducted maiden test firing of the indigenously developed Naval Anti-ship missile.
- ❖ The missile was launched aboard Seaking 42B Naval Helicopter from Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Balasore in Odisha.
- ❖ This is the first indigenously-made air-launched Anti-ship missile system for the Indian Navy.



Super Flower Blood Moon lunar eclipse

- ❖ The first lunar eclipse of 2022 occurred on 15th May.
- ❖ The Moon was seen in stunning red colour.
- ❖ This is also called a Super Moon and a Blood Moon.
- ❖ It is a 'total lunar eclipse.'
- ❖ A Super Moon is a full moon that appears to be bigger when it comes closer to Earth.
- ❖ When the Moon appears reddish it is called Blood Moon.
- ❖ A total lunar eclipse is when the Moon is completely covered, as it moves into the inner part of Earth's shadow.



World's First Habitable Planet search



- ❖ Chinese scientists have proposed a space project to survey the sky through a space-borne telescope.
- ❖ It aims to hunt for habitable Earth-like planets outside the solar system, about 32 light-years from Earth.
- ❖ The project, named Closeby Habitable Exoplanet Survey (CHES).
- ❖ It would be the first space mission specially designed to search for habitable terrestrial planets around nearby Sun-like stars.

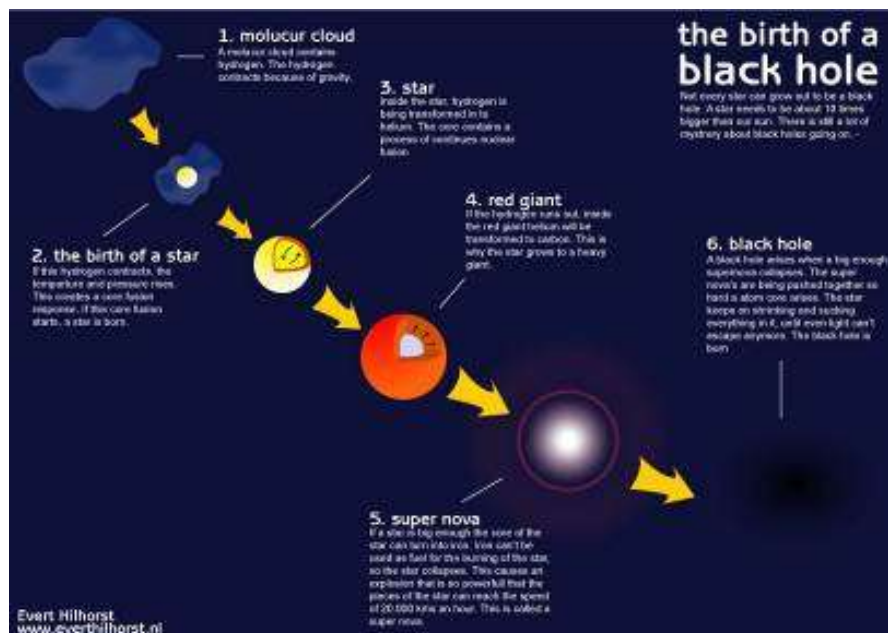
Icy Lava Flows in Pluto

- ❖ New findings about Pluto have been reported by the NASA's New Horizons probe.
- ❖ The probe reported that icy lava flows have covered substantial tracts of its surface.
- ❖ The findings drew particular attention to a mountainous feature named Wright Mons.
- ❖ A mountainous feature named Wright Mons was found on Pluto.

- ❖ That rises 4-5 km above its surroundings.
- ❖ The only spacecraft to visit Pluto is NASA's New Horizons.
- ❖ It passed close by in July 2015.

Black Hole Birth

- ❖ India's Astrosat space telescope has witnessed the birth of a black hole in space for the 500th time.
- ❖ A black hole is a place in space where gravity is so strong that even light cannot escape its pull.
- ❖ Astrosat, consisting of five science instruments, studies the universe in ultraviolet, optical, and X-ray radiation.
- ❖ Launched in 2015, Astrosat has been observing Gamma-Ray Bursts (GRB) that happen when a star dies.



GM crop research Norms

- ❖ The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) has issued guidelines easing norms for research into genetically modified (GM) crops and circumventing challenges of using foreign genes to change crops profile.

Safety Assessment of Genome Edited Plants- 2022

- ❖ This guideline is a road map for the development and sustainable use of genome editing technologies in India.

- ❖ It exempts researchers who use gene-editing technology to modify the genome of the plant from seeking approvals from the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee.
- ❖ The guidelines say that all requirements that researchers must adhere to develop transgenic seeds will apply to gene-edited seeds except clauses that require permission from the GEAC.

Flying Trainer HANSA-NG

- ❖ It is developed by the CSIR-National Aerospace Laboratories (CSIR-NAL).
- ❖ The HANSA-NG, or HANSA-New Generation, is one of the most advanced flying trainers.
- ❖ HANSA-NG is an upgraded version of HANSA, which saw the first flight in 1993, and was certified in 2000.
- ❖ It is an ideal aircraft for Commercial Pilot Licensing (CPL) due to its low cost and low fuel consumption.

PARAM PORUL Supercomputer



- ❖ Param Porul is a state-of-the-art supercomputer dedicated to the nation at NIT Tiruchirappalli.
- ❖ PARAM PORUL supercomputing facility is established under Phase 2 of the National Supercomputing Mission.
- ❖ PARAM Siddhi-AI is the fastest supercomputer in India built under NSM with a capacity of 5.26 Petaflops.



ENVIRONMENT

Global Land Outlook 2

- ❖ The second edition released by the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), ahead of the UNCCD's COP15 in Africa.
- ❖ Up to 40% of the earth's land area has already been degraded, mainly due to modern agriculture.
- ❖ The report predicts further degradation of an area roughly the size of South America by 2050.

Mother Nature - 'living being'

 The court is hereby declaring Mother Nature a Living Being having the status of a legal person with all corresponding rights, duties and liabilities of a living person, in order to preserve and conserve it
JUSTICE S. SRIMATHY
Madurai Bench of Madras High Court



- ❖ Madras High Court declared 'Mother Nature as A Living Being Having All Rights Duties and Liabilities of a Living Person'.
- ❖ In 2017, the Uttarakhand HC ruled that the Ganga, the Yamuna, their tributaries, and the glaciers and catchments feeding these rivers in Uttarakhand had rights as a living entity".
- ❖ In 2018, the same HC ruled that the entire animal kingdom had rights similar to that of a living person.
- ❖ In March 2020, the Punjab and Haryana High Court passed an order declaring the Sukhna Lake in Chandigarh city a living entity.

Use of Disposable Masks in Cement Mixture

- ❖ Researchers have demonstrated a way of incorporating Single-use masks into a mixture of cement to create more durable and stronger concrete.
- ❖ The mixture that was made using mask materials was 47 percent stronger than the cement that is commonly used.
- ❖ If not reused the disposable masks do not decay for decades and thus, they pose a risk to the ecosystem.



State of World's Forests Report – 2022

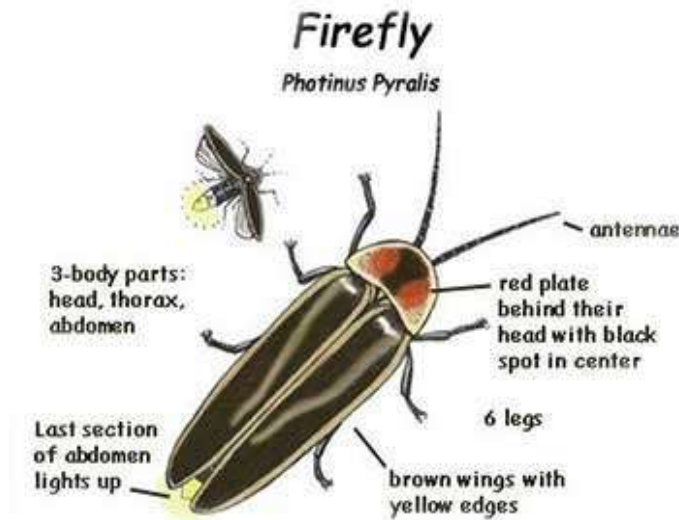
- ❖ It is the flagship publication of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.
- ❖ It is published every two years.
- ❖ Total Forests cover 4.06 billion ha (31%) of the earth's geographical area.
- ❖ The world has lost 420 million hectares approximately 10.34% of its total forest area in the last 30 years (between 1990 and 2020) due to deforestation.
- ❖ 10 mha of forests were lost every year between 2015 and 2020.
- ❖ India and China could emerge as the biggest hotspots for new zoonotic viral diseases over the next few decades if human pressure on forests continues to increase.

Intense heat wave

SIZZLING SPOTS	DELHI-NCR
46.5 Hathras (UP)	46* Sports Complex (C'wealth Games Village)
46 Hisar AMFU (Haryana)	45.8 Mungeshpur
45.9 Patiala (Punjab)	45.6 Gurgaon
45.9 Allahabad (UP)	* Temps in °C on Thurs Some stns may be affected by urban heat islands
45.8 Chandrapur (Maha)	

- ❖ A heatwave is declared when the maximum temperature is over 40 degrees Celsius and at least 4.5 notches above normal.
- ❖ India Meteorological Department said April was the hottest in northwest India in 122 years.
- ❖ It has also been an unusually hot April– with temperatures touching above 40 degrees Celsius – in large parts of Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal.
- ❖ The average maximum temperature till April 27 was 35.7 degree Celsius.
- ❖ This the highest in five years for this month.
- ❖ Based on absolute recorded temperatures, a heatwave is declared when an area logs a maximum temperature of 45 degree Celsius.
- ❖ A severe heatwave is declared if the maximum temperature crosses 47 degrees.

New firefly species



- ❖ A new species of synchronous fireflies has been identified in the Anamalai Tiger Reserve
- ❖ Several lakhs of fireflies were seen coordinating their flashes across the forest.
- ❖ The illumination was found emerging in one tree.
- ❖ And the relay was carried across the forest and the cycle continued all night
- ❖ Each tree seemed to have a different flashing pattern.

Largest Megaraptor Dinosaur

- ❖ An apex-predator dinosaur has been discovered by Argentine palaeontologists.
- ❖ *Maip macrothorax* is the scientific name given to this dinosaur.
- ❖ This dinosaur fossil was discovered in Argentina's Santa Cruz Province in the year 2019.
- ❖ This newly discovered dinosaur lived around 70 million years ago somewhere during the end period of the Cretaceous period.
- ❖ This species became extinct about 66 million years ago.

World's smallest marine mammal

- ❖ The world's smallest marine mammal 'Vaquita Porpoise' are on the verge of extinction with just 10 lefts in their sole habitat within Mexico's Gulf of California
- ❖ The International Union for Conservation of Nature re-listed the critically endangered porpoise.

- ❖ The vaquita porpoises weigh up to 55 kg and measure about 1.5m in length,
- ❖ It is making the smallest of all cetaceans (aquatic group of mammals).



State of the World's Birds

- ❖ State of the World's Birds is an annual review of environmental resources.
- ❖ It is BirdLife International's flagship science publication.
- ❖ According to the new review 'State of the World's Birds', approximately 48% of existing bird species worldwide are known or suspected to be undergoing population declines.
- ❖ The threat has been attributed to almost half of the 10,994 recognised extant species of birds to the expanding human footprint on the natural world and climate change.
- ❖ The trend towards declining bird diversity is just as alarming in India, where recent annual trends have been calculated for 146 species.
- ❖ Of these, nearly 80% are declining in numbers, and almost 50% plummeting strongly.
- ❖ Just over 6% of the species studied show stable populations and 14% show increasing population trends.
- ❖ Humans eat 14% of the world's surviving species of birds.

Pantanal wetland

- ❖ The world's largest wetland, known as the Pantanal, in South America is at risk of collapse.
- ❖ This is due to a series of local and apparently minor decisions that fail to account for their cumulative impact on one of Earth's most biodiverse ecosystems.

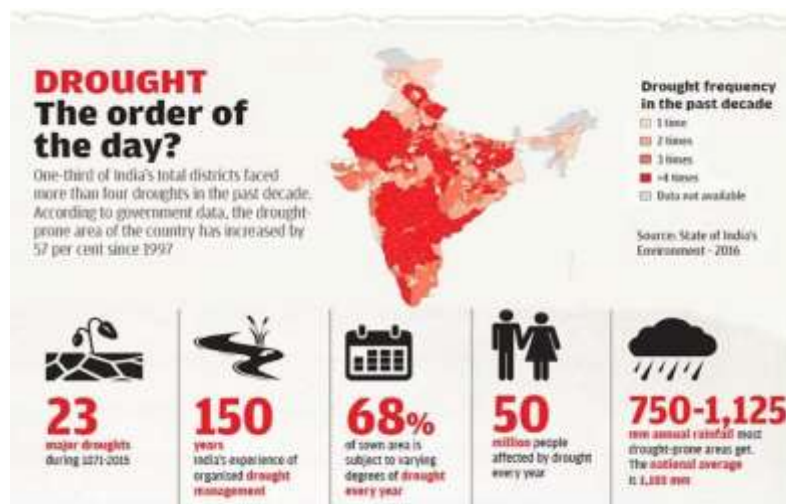
- ❖ It Spanning more than 179,000 km² in Brazil, Paraguay and Bolivia.



UNCCD COP15

- ❖ India addressed the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP15) of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) in Cote d'Ivoire (Western Africa).
- ❖ COP 15 is a key moment in the fight against desertification, land degradation and drought.
- ❖ Theme: 'Land. Life. Legacy: From scarcity to prosperity'.
- ❖ The Delhi Declaration of 2019, signed by 14th CoP of the UNCCD.
- ❖ UNCCD was established in 1994.

The Drought in Numbers 2022 – Report





- ❖ The Drought in Numbers, 2022 report was released at the ongoing 15th Conference of Parties (CoP15) to UNCCD.
- ❖ The latest assessment analysed droughts and impacts on life and livelihood over 122 years covering 196 countries.
- ❖ Since 2000, there has been a 29 per cent increase in frequency and duration of droughts in the world.
- ❖ Geographically, India's drought vulnerability compares with that of sub-Saharan Africa.
- ❖ The effect of severe droughts was estimated to have reduced India's gross domestic product by 2-5 per cent over the 20 years from 1998-2017.

Global Annual to Decadal Climate Update

- ❖ The global annual to decadal climate update report was recently issued by the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO).
- ❖ There is a 50 per cent chance that the world may temporarily breach 1.5°C of warming in one of the next five years.
- ❖ There is a 93 per cent chance that at least one year between 2022 and 26 will replace 2016 as the warmest year on record.
- ❖ The chance of temporarily exceeding 1.5°C has risen steadily since 2015, when it was close to zero.
- ❖ India could be among the few regions globally where below normal temperatures have been predicted for the year 2022 and the next four years.
- ❖ This may be because of the possible increase in rainfall activity in this decade.
- ❖ Many parts of India will receive above-normal rainfall.
- ❖ This will keep temperatures low.

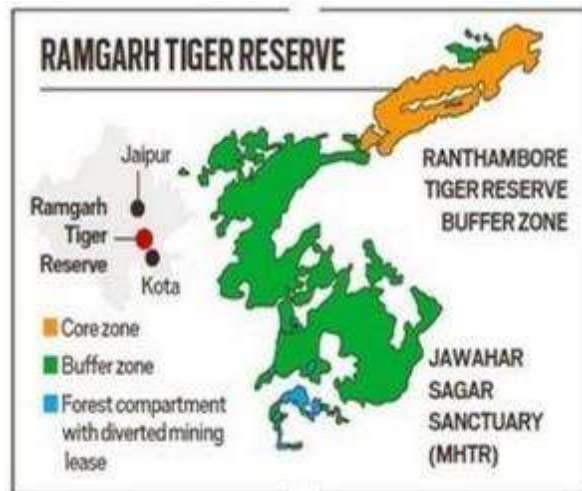
Albino striped narrow snake

- ❖ A specimen of an albino Striped Narrow Headed Snake (*Xylophis perroteti*) was collected from the Nilgiris forest division.
- ❖ The snake is endemic to the Southern Western Ghats.
- ❖ It usually occupies Shola-grassland mosaic ecosystems above 1,000 meters above sea level.
- ❖ For the first time albinism has now been recorded in the species collected from the Nilgiris forest.

Seoul Forest Declaration

- ❖ The 15th World Forestry Congress concluded in Seoul, South Korea.
- ❖ In this, the Seoul Forest Declaration was adopted.
- ❖ This event was hosted by the South Korean government in Seoul.
- ❖ The World Forestry Congress is held for five days.
- ❖ It is hosted by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).
- ❖ This event is held every six years with the aim of sharing environmental and forest-related problems from across the globe like biodiversity loss, climate change, and desertification.
- ❖ Also, various solutions are devised and discussed in this event.
- ❖ The Seoul Forest Declaration highlights that the investment in landscape and forest restoration must be tripled across the globe by the year 2030 to meet the internationally agreed-upon targets.
- ❖ In the year 1926, the first Congress was held in Italy.

India's 52nd tiger reserve



- ❖ The Ramgarh Vishdhari Sanctuary in Rajasthan was notified as India's 52nd tiger reserve.
- ❖ It has become the fourth tiger reserve in Rajasthan after Ranthambore, Sariska and Mukundra.
- ❖ The Ramgarh Vishdhari Sanctuary includes the tiger habitat between Ranthambore Tiger Reserve in the northeast and Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve on the southern side.

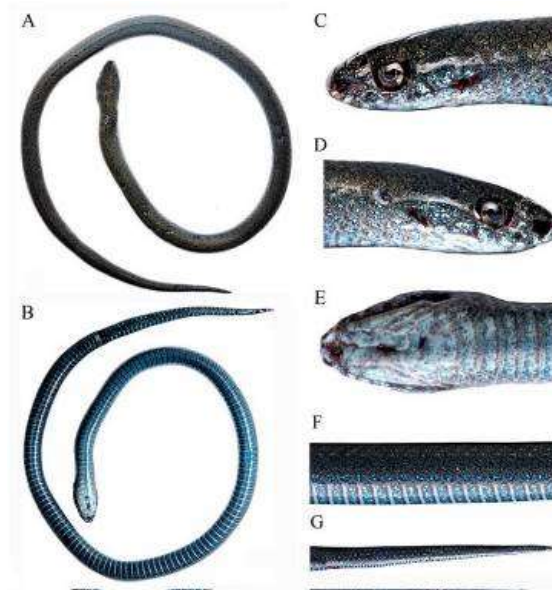
Report on Circular Economy in Municipal Solid and Liquid Waste

- ❖ The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has released a report on 'Circular Economy in Municipal Solid and Liquid Waste.'
- ❖ This report has been released at a time when cities across India are struggling to get rid of municipal waste.
- ❖ The cities of the nation are also not able to come up with new landfill sites.

Biodiversity register

- ❖ Kolkata became the first major metropolitan city in India to prepare a detailed register of biodiversity.
- ❖ This document listed 399 species of plants.
- ❖ These species include 138 trees, 126 Chinese vegetables, 33 medicinal plants and nearly 100 other plants.
- ❖ The report also listed 283 fauna species, including nearly 70 butterflies, 47 fish, 84 birds, and 22 mammals.

Blue-Bellied Kukri Snake



- ❖ The blue-bellied kukri snake (*Oligodon melaneus* Wall) was rediscovered from Manas National Park.
- ❖ The rediscovery of *Oligodon melaneus* has been reported after 112 years.
- ❖ It was last collected in July 1908 from Tindharia in West Bengal, about 267 km west of Manas.



- ❖ It is endemic to eastern India.
- ❖ It was described in 1909 by Frank Wall based on two specimens from Tindharia, Darjeeling and London.

Alliance of CEO Climate Action Leaders

- ❖ The India chapter of the Alliance of CEO Climate Action Leaders has been launched by the World Economic Forum.
- ❖ It aims to boost India's decarbonization and climate action efforts.
- ❖ The Indian chapter of the Alliance will be bringing together the businesses, government, and various other key stakeholders to achieve India's target of net zero by 2070.

The Sela Macaque Monkey

- ❖ A new species of old-world monkey recorded from Arunachal Pradesh has been named after Sela Pass in Arunachal Pradesh.
- ❖ The Sela Pass is a strategic mountain pass at 13,700 ft above sea level.
- ❖ The New Species has been named Sela Macaque.
- ❖ There are some distinct morphological traits to differentiate the two species.
- ❖ The Sela macaque has a pale face and brown coat.
- ❖ The Arunachal macaque has a dark face and dark brown coat.





STATES

Karnataka's target to become malaria-free

- ❖ Karnataka has set a target to eliminate malaria by 2027.
- ❖ This is three years before the 2030 target set by the Union government.
- ❖ Malaria is a life-threatening disease caused by parasites.
- ❖ That parasites are transmitted to people through the bites of infected female Anopheles mosquitoes.

India's first Amrit Sarovar

- ❖ India's first `Amrit Sarovar` has been completed in Rampur's Gram Panchayat Patwai, Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ Under the Amrit Sarovar initiative, 75 water bodies will be developed and rejuvenated in each district as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.
- ❖ Seventy-five ponds in Rampur were selected to be developed as Amrit Sarovar.

Govt reinstates IAS officer

- ❖ IAS officer Shah Faesal has been reinstated in service after the government accepted his application for the same.
- ❖ Faesal has submitted his resignation in January 2019.
- ❖ He had founded the J&K People's Movement (JKPM), a political party in March 2019
- ❖ He was detained under the stringent Public Safety Act immediately after the abrogation of the special status of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir.
- ❖ He was released from detention on June 3, 2020.

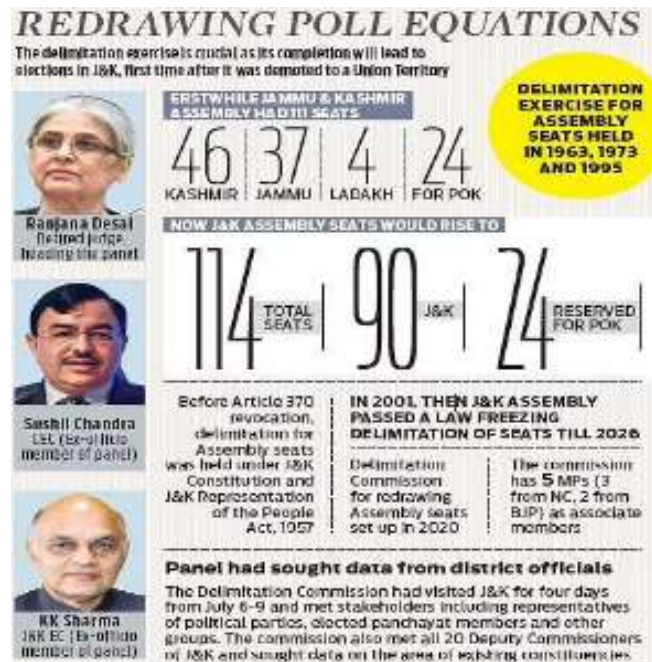
Nation's first ethanol plant

- ❖ Bihar's CM Nitish Kumar has inaugurated India's first ethanol plant in Purnia district, Bihar.
- ❖ It is the country's first grain-based ethanol plant.
- ❖ In Bihar, 17 ethanol production plants are being set up.
- ❖ It is likely to produce 35 crore litres of fuel every year.
- ❖ These plants will utilize sugarcane, molasses, maize and broken rice.

First 10 GW Solar State

- ❖ Rajasthan became the first state in India to reach 10 GW of cumulative large-scale solar installations.
- ❖ The state has a total installed power capacity of 32.5 GW.
- ❖ This includes renewables 55 percent, thermal energy 43 percent, and nuclear energy accounting for the remaining 2%.

J&K Delimitation Commission



- ❖ The Commission, chaired by retired Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai and including Chief Election Commissioner Sushil Chandra and J&K State Election Commissioner K.K. Sharma as ex-officio members
- ❖ The delimitation was carried out based on the 2011 Census and other considerations like geographical features and access.
- ❖ The new Assembly would have 90 seats, 47 in Kashmir and 43 in Jammu.
- ❖ This was increased from the earlier 83, with six of the additional seats being in Jammu and one in Kashmir.
- ❖ For the first time in J&K, nine seats have been reserved for Scheduled Tribes.
- ❖ Six of the ST reserved seats were in Jammu region and three in the Kashmir Valley.
- ❖ Seven seats had been reserved for Scheduled Castes.
- ❖ There are five Parliamentary Constituencies in the region.



Basava Jayanti 2022

- ❖ Basava Jayanti is a Hindu festival celebrated by Lingayats in Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Maharashtra to honour the birthday of Lord Basavanna.
- ❖ As per the Hindu calendar, the birth of Basavanna falls on the 3rd day of Vaisahaka month in the Shukla paksha.
- ❖ The main objective of the celebration is to share the ancient wisdom of universal brotherhood, "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam."
- ❖ Basavanna made significant contributions in developing the sharana community.
- ❖ This community produced great social reformers and poets such as Akka Mahadevi and Allam Prabhu.

First tribal health observatory

- ❖ Odisha is planning to create India's "only" observatory, which will house data on the state's indigenous population's health.
- ❖ It will monitor illness burden, health-seeking behaviour, and the healthcare delivery system in relation to tribal health in the state in a systematic and continuing manner.

India's first 'Flow Chemistry Technology Hub'

- ❖ India's first 'Flow Chemistry Technology Hub' was opened in Hyderabad.
- ❖ "Flow chemistry", is also known as "continuous flow chemistry".
- ❖ It is the process of performing chemical reactions in a tube or pipe.
- ❖ Here, a chemical reaction is run in a continuously flowing stream rather than in batch production.

Malpe floating bridge

- ❖ In order to encourage tourism, Karnataka's first floating bridge was inaugurated at Malpe beach with the co-operation of the locals.
- ❖ It is a 100-metre-long and 3-metre-wide bridge.

Hathi Mitras

- ❖ Village residents known as hathi mitras or 'friends of elephants' dedicatedly track pachyderm movements to help prevent casualties and crop loss.

- ❖ Their services are important as Chhattisgarh has emerged as a new battleground for human-elephant conflict.
- ❖ They warn people about their movement and send updates in a Whatsapp group created for the purpose.

Delhi Startup Policy



WHAT IS RECOGNISED AS A STARTUP

- ▶ Shall be registered no more than 5 years before the date of application
- ▶ Registered as private limited company, partnership firm or a limited-liability partnership
- ▶ Has annual turnover not exceeding ₹5 crore for any preceding financial year
- ▶ Entity not formed by splitting up or restructuring of an existing business
- ▶ Working towards innovation, development or improvement of products/processes/services, or a scalable business model with high potential of employment generation or wealth creation

INCORPORATED OR REGISTERED IN DELHI
Start-up Evaluation Committee, with members of government and private sector, to evaluate and approve applications for entrepreneur, startup and incubator recognition

FOCUS AREAS UNDER NEW POLICY

- ▶ Renewable energy, clean-tech artificial intelligence and robotics
- ▶ Automation and technical innovation
- ▶ Cyber security
- ▶ Big data education
- ▶ Solid waste management
- ▶ Urban infrastructure planning and environment
- ▶ Industrial revolution 4.0 technologies
- ▶ Creative ideas pertaining to agriculture, e-commerce, healthcare, logistics, transportation, rural innovation, e-governance

- ❖ Recently, the Chief Minister of Delhi launched the 'Delhi Startup Policy'.
- ❖ It aims to promote entrepreneurship in Delhi by creating an enabling ecosystem for people to launch startups.
- ❖ The government wants to make Delhi the “startup destination of the world”.

Incentives for Direct Seeding of Rice

- ❖ The Punjab government recently announced incentives for farmers opting for Direct Seeding of Rice.
- ❖ In the Direct Seeding of Rice (DSR) technique, the seeds are sown directly in the field rather than transplanting the seedlings.
- ❖ A tractor-powered machine is used to drill the seeds into the soil.

- ❖ There is no nursery preparation.
- ❖ DSR technique can help save 15% to 20% of water.

Tomato Fever

- ❖ Kerala has reported at least 82 cases of Tomato Fever in Kollam city.
- ❖ It is also known as Tomato flu is a rare kind of viral infection that is affecting children below the age of 5.
- ❖ The main symptoms of Tomato Fever include rashes and skin irritation and dehydration.
- ❖ The children affected with Tomato Fever have red rashes almost the size of tomatoes and also show signs of dehydration on the tongue.



Shaili App

- ❖ The government of Kerala is set to launch an Android App 'Shaili'.
- ❖ It aimed at diagnosing and controlling lifestyle diseases among the people in the state of Kerala.
- ❖ The app has been set up as part of the population-based screening project launched by the Health Department under the Nava Kerala Karma plan.

First 'smoke-free state'

- ❖ Himachal Pradesh became the first LPG enabled, also, smoke-free state.
- ❖ This milestone was achieved due to the Ujjwala Scheme and Grahini Suvidha Yojana by Centre.
- ❖ The Ujjwala scheme was introduced by the government to get rid of the smoke.
- ❖ The Grahini Suvidha Scheme was introduced to assist the women of rural areas.

Cyclone Asani and Karim

- ❖ It is a pair of cyclones in the Indian Ocean region, one in the northern hemisphere and one in the southern hemisphere.
- ❖ They Named cyclone Asani and cyclone Karim respectively.
- ❖ These are twin cyclones originating in the same longitude and now drifting apart.
- ❖ While ‘Asani’ circles anti-clockwise, its twin ‘Karim’ is brewing clockwise south of the equator.
- ❖ Asani, a name is given by Sri Lanka and Cyclone ‘Karim’, is named by the South African country Seychelles.

Buddhavanam Project

- ❖ Buddhavanam is a Buddhist heritage theme park developed by the Telangana State Tourism Development Corporation at Nagarjunasagar in Nalgonda district.
- ❖ It is the largest Buddhist tourism centre in Asia spread across 274 acres
- ❖ The park is divided into 8 segments.



Reinstate an old pension scheme

- ❖ Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel announced the government's plan to revert to the old pension scheme for state employees.
- ❖ He also announced the quadruple the monthly MLA local area development money.
- ❖ It will not, however, apply to members of the All-India Services, such as IAS and IPS.



World largest IRESP

- ❖ Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy laid foundation stone for world's largest 5,230 MW Integrated Renewable Energy Storage Project (IRESP).
- ❖ It is the first project in the world which will produce green hydrogen.
- ❖ Also, the IRESP is a first of its kind single location energy storage project with wind and solar capacities.

Lok Milni scheme

- ❖ Chief Minister of Punjab, Bhagwant Mann launched a programme called Lok Milni.
- ❖ It is a first-of-its-kind public interaction program.
- ❖ This interactive programme was launched with the aim of providing a single-window platform to the people of the state for the redressal of the complaints that they have.

State-Owned OTT Platform

- ❖ The Kerala government will launch a state-owned over-the-top (OTT) platform on November 1.
- ❖ It will be offering film lovers an array of movies, short films and documentaries of their choice.
- ❖ Kerala will become the first state in India to have a state-owned OTT platform.
- ❖ The OTT platform named as CSPACE.

Incentive for direct seeding

- ❖ The Punjab Cabinet has authorised a Rs 1,500 per acre incentive for farmers who grow paddy using the direct seeding of rice technology.
- ❖ It aims to provide incentives to farmers who promote the DSR (Direct Seeding of Rice) technique, which uses less water and is more cost-effective.
- ❖ It uses significantly less water for irrigation, enhances percolation, decreases farm labour dependency.
- ❖ And it improves soil health, increasing paddy and wheat yields by 5-10%.

Drone in healthcare

- ❖ Redcliffe Labs, a unit of Redcliffe Lifetech in the U.S., has come up with its first commercial drone flight in the country's healthcare sector.

- ❖ The company has recently opened its commercial drone corridor between Uttarkashi and Dehradun.
- ❖ Thus, Uttarakhand becomes the 1st Indian state to roll out drone in healthcare.

4th edition of Shirui Lily Festival

- ❖ In Manipur, the 4th Edition of State-Level Shirui Lily Festival 2022 has begun.
- ❖ This annual festival is organised by the Department of Tourism, Government of Manipur.
- ❖ This four-day-long festival aims to create and raise awareness of the Shirui Lily flower.
- ❖ It is also the State Flower of Manipur.

Killing of wild boars

- ❖ Kerala government has empowered local bodies to cull wild boars that pose a threat to agriculture crops or human life.
- ❖ The secretaries of the local bodies concerned will act as the delegated officers.
- ❖ Wildlife (Protection) Act of 1972 prohibits the hunting of any wild animal specified in Schedules I, II, III and IV of the Act.
- ❖ A wild animal listed under these schedules can be hunted/killed only after getting permission from the Chief Wildlife Warden (CWLW) of the state.
- ❖ Under Section 62 of the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972, States can send a list of wild animals to the Centre requesting it to declare them vermin for selective slaughter.

CONDITIONS APPLY		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The hunting team should comprise the range forest officer, watchers, wildlife protection officials, an animal husbandry official and a trained shooter ➤ Police should be called in to keep residents at safe distance 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Should not kill an animal returning to forest ➤ Panchayat president/member should be present ➤ Carcass should be either burnt using kerosene or buried in a pit at least 5-ft deep
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Should not kill a breastfeeding boar (those seen along with piglets) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Report in prescribed format should be submitted to chief wildlife warden within 24 hrs



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

Book by Padma Bhushan Vinod Rai

- ❖ Padma Bhushan Vinod Rai has authored a new book titled “Not Just A Nightwatchman: My Innings in the BCCI”.
- ❖ He is the former (11th) Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) India.
- ❖ The book features his 33-month stint as the Chairman of the Supreme Court-appointed Committee of Administrators (CoA) of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).
- ❖ The book is published by Rupa Publications India Pvt. Ltd.
- ❖ He was honored with Padma Bhushan in 2016 for civil service.
- ❖ He was appointed as the first Chairman of the Banks Board Bureau(BBB) in 2016.

Haj Committee of India – chairperson

- ❖ AP Abdullahkutty has been elected as the chairperson of the Haj Committee of India.
- ❖ Also for the first time, two women have been chosen as its vice-chairpersons.
- ❖ They are Munnawari Begum and Mafuja Khatun.
- ❖ Ministry of Minority Affairs is the nodal ministry to conduct the Haj pilgrimage in India.
- ❖ Haj pilgrimage for the Indian pilgrims is conducted either through Haj Committee of India (HCoI), or the Haj Group Organisers (HGOs) approved by the Ministry.

India Pharma and India Medical Devices Awards 2022

- ❖ The India Pharma Awards 2022, and India Medical Device Awards 2022 were handed over by the Minister of State for the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers Bhagwanth Khuba.
- ❖ The awards were given to various industry players in the field of medical and pharmaceutical devices.



Winner of the award Indian Pharma Leader of the Year	This award was given to Cipla Ltd.
Winner of the award for the category India Pharma Innovation of the Year	This award was bestowed upon Glenmark Pharmaceuticals Ltd.
Winner of the award Indian Pharma (Formulation)	The winner of this award is Micro Labs Ltd.
Winner of the award Indian Pharma CSR of the year	Zydus Lifesciences Ltd received this award for its works in the field of rural healthcare. In this category, the runner-up is Glenmark Pharmaceuticals while Lupin Ltd took third place.
Winner of the award for the category of India Medical Device Leader of the Year	This award was conferred upon Poly Medicare Ltd. The runner-up in this category was Healthium Medtech Ltd and Transasia Bio-Medicals Ltd took third place.
Winner of the award India Medical Device Company of the Year	This award was conferred to Chennai-based Trivitron Healthcare Pvt Ltd. In the second place was Nice Neotech Medical Systems Pvt Ltd and Kanak Latex Industries Pvt Ltd. was placed third.
Winner of the award India Medical Device MSME of the Year	This award was conferred upon Nice Neotech Medical Systems Pvt Ltd. Premium Healthcare Disposables Pvt Ltd came second in this category and AVI Healthcare Pvt Ltd came third.
Winner of the award Indian Medical Device Start-up of the Year	This award was bestowed upon Vanguard Diagnostics Pvt Ltd, which manufactures high-quality in-vitro diagnostics products and reagents.
Winner of the award Indian Medical Device Innovation of the Year	This award was handed out to Vapi-based Meril Lifesciences Pvt Ltd.

Forbes Billionaires List 2022

TOP 5 RICHEST INDIANS

- 

1. Mukesh Ambani
Net worth: **\$90.7 Billion**
- 

2. Gautam Adani and family
Net worth: **\$90 Billion**
- 

3. Shiv Nadar
Net worth: **\$28.7 Billion**
- 

4. Cyrus Poonawalla
Net worth: **\$24.3 Billion**
- 

5. Radhakishan Damani
Net worth: **\$20 Billion**

(Source: Forbes Billionaires 2022)



- ❖ Forbes has released the 36th annual ranking of billionaires across the globe.
- ❖ Elon Musk Chief Executive Officer of Tesla and SpaceX has topped the list
- ❖ Elon Musk has topped the list for the first time.
- ❖ India's Mukesh Ambani, Chairman of Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) has ranked 10th.
- ❖ Mukesh Ambani is the only Indian among the top 10 on the list.

Whitley Gold Award

- ❖ The snow leopard expert and wildlife conservationist Charu dutt Mishra has won the prestigious Whitley Gold Award.
- ❖ It is referred as "Green Oscars".
- ❖ It is given by Whitley Fund for Nature (WFN) of United Kingdom.
- ❖ It recognises his contribution to involving indigenous communities in the conservation and recovery of big cat species in Asia's high mountain ecosystems.
- ❖ This is his second Whitley Fund for Nature (WFN) Award.
- ❖ He got the first in 2005.

Best Infrastructure Project' Award

- ❖ Border Roads Organisation's Atal Tunnel, received the Indian Building Congress (IBC) 'Best Infrastructure Project' award.
- ❖ It is located in Rohtang, Himachal Pradesh.
- ❖ It was dedicated to the nation on October 3, 2020.

Highest diplomatic award by Peru

- ❖ The former Honorary Consul of Peru in Mumbai, Ardeshir B.K. Dubash has received the Order of "Merit in the Diplomatic Service of Peru Jose Gregorio Paz Soldan".
- ❖ Dubash was designated as Honorary Consul of Peru in 1973.
- ❖ The Order of Merit was instituted in 2004.
- ❖ It was named after José Gregorio Paz Soldán, the former prime minister of Peru.

Leaders, Politicians, Citizens – book

- ❖ "Leaders, Politicians, Citizens: Fifty Figures Who Influenced India's Politics" authored by author-journalist Rasheed Kidwai.



- ❖ It compiles stories of 50 personalities who influenced India's political landscape.
- ❖ The 50 personalities featured in the book include Teji Bachchan, Phoolan Devi, Indira Gandhi, Rajiv Gandhi, Jayalalithaa, APJ Abdul Kalam, and Karunanidhi among others.

ENBA Award 2021

- ❖ Doordarshan has won ENBA Award 2021 for the best in-depth Hindi series for its TV series based on pet care 'Best Friend Forever'.
- ❖ This was awarded at the 14th edition of the Exchange4media News Broadcasting Awards (ENBA).

World Food Prize 2022

- ❖ Rosenzweig was selected for the award for her research to understand the relationship between climate and food systems and forecast how both will change in the future.
- ❖ In 2021 Leading nutrition expert Dr. Shakuntala Haraksingh Thilsted won the prize and in 2020 Indian-American soil scientist - Dr. Rattan Lal won the prize.
- ❖ The World Food Prize is the foremost international honour recognizing the achievements of individuals who have advanced human development by improving the quality, quantity or availability of food in the world.
- ❖ The Prize is presented each October on or around UN World Food Day (16th October).
- ❖ It was conceived by Nobel Peace Prize laureate Norman Borlaug in 1986.
- ❖ It is promoted as the Nobel or the highest honours in the field of food and agriculture.
- ❖ It is now administered by the World Food Prize Foundation.

First Indian woman to scale five peaks

- ❖ Priyanka Mohite has become the first Indian woman climber to scale five peaks above 8,000 metres.
- ❖ She is also the first Indian woman to scale Mount Annapurna.
- ❖ The 30-years old Priyanka Mohite is also the winner of the Tenzing Norgay Adventure Award 2020.
- ❖ The five peaks are



- Mt Annapurna (8,091 m)
- Mount Everest (8,849m)
- Mount Lhoste (8,516m)
- Mount Makalu (8,849m) and
- Mount Kilimanjaro (5,895m)

Nepal's Kami Rita Sherpa

- ❖ Nepal's Kami Rita Sherpa has climbed Mt Everest, the tallest peak in the world for the 26th time to set a new world record.
- ❖ He broke his own previous world record.
- ❖ In 1994, he made his first summiting of the peak.
- ❖ He has climbed Everest almost every year since.

Member of the Order of the British Empire

- ❖ Guruswamy Krishnamoorthy, CEO of Penlon, will receive the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (Civil Division) Award 2022 – Honorary Member of the Order of the British Empire.
- ❖ Guruswamy Krishnamoorthy hails from Madurai, Tamil Nadu, India.
- ❖ The British Honorary Awards are awarded twice a year, first during the new year and again in June, on the date of the Queen's official birthday.
- ❖ Guruswamy led a group of companies that formed a consortium with Penlon firm as its hub.
- ❖ In 12 weeks, 11,700 ventilators were provided to the United Kingdom government.

Romain Rolland Book Prize 2022

- ❖ The fifth Romain Rolland Book Prize – Romain Rolland Book Prize 2022 has been awarded to the Bengali translation of the French novel "Meursault, contre-enquête" (The Meursault Investigation).
- ❖ The award was presented to translator Trinanjan Chakraborty and publisher Esha Chatterjee of Patra Bharati.
- ❖ The Romain Rolland Book Prize, which was established in 2017, honours the finest translation of a French title into any Indian language, including English.



Pulitzer Prize 2022

- ❖ Pulitzer Prize 2022 winners in Journalism, Books, Drama and Music were announced recently.
- ❖ The winner's list included The Washington Post, including Indians Adnan Abidi, Sanna Irshad Mattoo, Amit Dave, and the late Danish Siddiqui of Reuters in Journalism.
- ❖ Danish Siddiqui got awarded the Pulitzer Prize in 2022 for the second time for clicking moving photos during the second Covid-19 wave in India.
- ❖ He has been awarded the Pulitzer Prize 2022 posthumously.
- ❖ He died at the age of 38 on July 16, 2021.
- ❖ The revered photographer passed away in Afghanistan while covering the Taliban takeover of the country.

Special Bangla Academy Award

- ❖ West Bengal Chief Minister, Mamata Banerjee received the Bangla Academy Award for her “relentless literary pursuit”.
- ❖ The award, introduced this year by Sahitya Academy, was presented to Banerjee for her book “Kabita Bitan”.
- ❖ This book which pays tribute to the best writers of West Bengal.
- ❖ Despite being on the stage, Mamata Banerjee did not accept the award on her own.
- ❖ It was received by state Education Minister Bratya Basu on her behalf.

World's oldest chess grandmaster

- ❖ The world's oldest grandmaster, Yuri Averbakh, passed away aged 100.
- ❖ He won the Moscow Championship in 1949 and earned the Grandmaster title in 1952.
- ❖ He was also awarded the grandmaster title by the International Chess Federation.

Modi @20: Dreams Meeting Delivery' book

- ❖ Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu has released the book “Modi@20 Dreams Meet Delivery” in New Delhi.
- ❖ The book presents different facts of the distinct thought process, the pioneering, pro-active approach and the quintessential, transformational leadership style that Modi has come to be so closely identified with.



Royal Gold Medal 2022

- ❖ Noted architect Balkrishna Vithaldas Doshi, 94, has been conferred with prestigious Royal Gold Medal 2022.
- ❖ It is considered as the world's highest honours for architecture.
- ❖ This award is presented to recognize a lifetime's work of an individual that had a significant impact on advancing the field of architecture.
- ❖ In the year 2018, he became the first Indian to be conferred with the Pritzker Architecture Prize.
- ❖ He was conferred the Padma Bhushan by the Indian central government in the year 2020.

Templeton Prize

- ❖ American Theoretical physicist and author, Dr Frank Wilczek has been awarded the Templeton Prize 2022.
- ❖ It is the world's largest individual lifetime achievement award.
- ❖ He already won the Nobel Prize (Physics) in 2004.
- ❖ He became the 6th Nobel laureate to receive the Templeton Prize since its inception in 1972.

World's best nurse

- ❖ Anna Qabale Duba won the inaugural Aster Guardian Global Nursing Award.
- ❖ She was a Kenyan nurse stationed at the Marsabit County Referral Hospital
- ❖ This is the recognition for endorsing education and campaigning against outdated cultural practices like Female Genital Mutilation in her community.

First Indian layman to be declared saint

- ❖ Deva sahayam became the first layman from India to become a saint.
- ❖ He took the name "Lazarus" after embracing Christianity in 1745.
- ❖ While preaching, he particularly insisted on the equality of all people, despite caste differences.
- ❖ This aroused the hatred of the higher classes.
- ❖ And he was arrested in 1749.
- ❖ After enduring increasing hardships, he was shot on 14 January 1752.
- ❖ Deva sahayam was recognised by Pope Francis in 2014.
- ❖ It cleared the path to his canonisation in 2022.
- ❖ Nine others, including four women, were also canonised along with Deva sahayam.



Billboard Music Awards 2022

- ❖ BTS won awards in three categories including Top Duo/Group, Top Song Sales Artist and Top Selling Song.
- ❖ The group won the Top Duo/Group award in 2019 and 2021 as well.
- ❖ BTS has now 12 Billboard Music Awards.
- ❖ BTS has broken the records of Destiny's Child, who won 11 Billboard Music Awards.

Wangari Maathai Forest Champions' Award

- ❖ Cameroon Activist, Cécile Ndjebet has won the 2022 Wangari Maathai Forest Champions Award.
- ❖ This is the recognition of her outstanding contribution to preserving forests and improving the lives of people who depend on them.
- ❖ The award was presented by the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF).
- ❖ It is chaired by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

Lifetime Achievement Award

- ❖ A.R. Venkatachalapathy, has been selected for the Lifetime Achievement Award (Iyal Award), of the Canada-based Tamil Literary Garden, for 2021.
- ❖ He is the Historian and professor of the Madras Institute of Development Studies (MIDS).
- ❖ He played a major role in taking Tamil literature and Tamil culture to people in foreign countries.
- ❖ He has been writing on history, language, culture, society and politics for the last 40 years and has written over 60 books and articles.
- ❖ Justice Chandru also selected for Iyal award for his 'Nanum Neethipathiyanen' book.

Commander of the Order of the British Empire

- ❖ Chairman of the Piramal Group, Ajay Piramal has received an honorary Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) by Her Majesty the Queen.
- ❖ He received the award for services to the UK-India trade relationship as India Co-Chair of the UK-India CEO Forum.
- ❖ The award was Instituted in 1917 by King George V.



William E. Colby Award 2022

- ❖ Author and journalist, Wesley Morgan has won the William E. Colby Award 2022 for his military and intelligence writing.
- ❖ He was awarded for his book “The Hardest Place: The American Military Adrift in Afghanistan’s Pech Valley.”
- ❖ The Colby Award is presented by Norwich University in Northfield, Vermont.
- ❖ The Colby award was established in 1999.

Amazon Smbhav Entrepreneurship Challenge 2022

- ❖ Subhash Ola has won the 1st prize for the Amazon Smbhav Entrepreneurship Challenge 2022.
- ❖ His enterprise “Geniusenergy Critical Innovation Private Limited” has won the Start-up of the Year award.
- ❖ It serves business in a variety of industries for their energy needs, helps them reduce cost, and at the same time protects the environment.

Director-General of WHO

- ❖ The World Health Organization has again re-appointed Mr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus as Director-General of WHO for the second term.
- ❖ His re-election was confirmed during the 75th World Health Assembly in Geneva, Switzerland.
- ❖ He was the sole candidate.
- ❖ Dr Tedros was first elected in 2017.
- ❖ Before joining the WHO, he was served as Minister of Foreign Affairs and as Minister of Health in Ethiopia.

CII EXCON Committed Leader Award

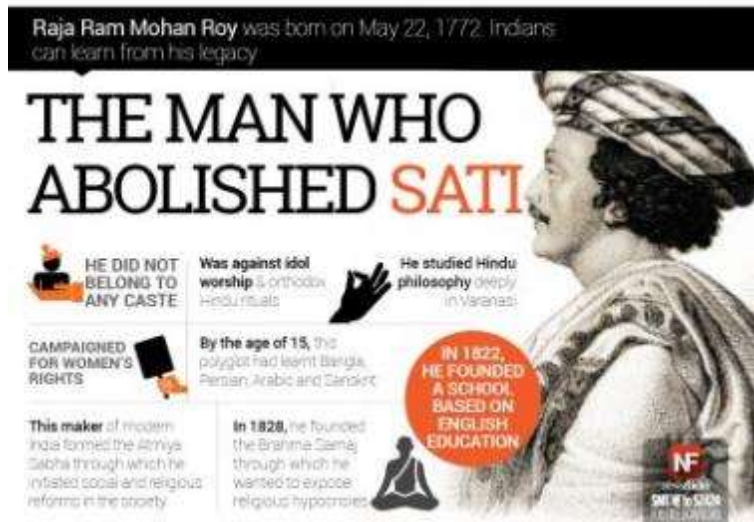
- ❖ Anjali Pandey of Cummins India has been awarded the Committed Leader Award at CII EXCON 2022.
- ❖ This recognises for her efforts to create a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive workplace.

Rhythm Mamania scale Everest Base Camp

- ❖ A10-year-old, Rhythm Mamania, has become one of the youngest Indian mountaineers to summit the Everest Base Camp (EBC).

- ❖ She has joined young Indian climbers to climb the base camp.
- ❖ Rhythm has achieved a rare feat by completing the climb to the base camp at an altitude of 5,364 meters in 11 days.

Ram Mohan Roy's 250th birth anniversary



- ❖ The 250th Birth Anniversary of Raja Ram Mohan Roy was celebrated on May 22nd this year.
- ❖ He is popularly remembered as the father of Indian renaissance.
- ❖ He was born on 22 May, 1772 in Radha Nagar (Bengal Presidency).
- ❖ He represented Akbar II in England where he pleaded for his pension and allowances.
- ❖ Akbar II awarded him the title 'Raja'.
- ❖ He stood against the practice of the Sati which led to Abolition of Sati Act, 1829
- ❖ He Started Atmiya Sabha in 1814 in order to crusade against idol worship, meaningless rituals and superstitious beliefs
- ❖ In 1817, along with David Hare, he founded the Hindu College at Calcutta.
- ❖ The Calcutta Unitarian Committee, was jointly founded by William Adam and Rammohun Roy in September 1821.
- ❖ He created the 'Brahma Sabha' in 1828 (set up with Debendranath Tagore).
- ❖ In 1822, he set up the Anglo-Hindu school which taught mechanics and Voltaire's philosophy.
- ❖ In 1825, he started the Vedanta college where Indian learning, as well as the Western social and physical sciences, were taught.



Sangita Kalanidhi awards 2020-22

- ❖ The Madras Music Academy announced these awards.
- ❖ Santanagopalan will receive the Sangita Kalanidhi award for the year 2020.
- ❖ Bhakthavathsalam has been chosen for the award for the year 2021.
- ❖ Krishnan and his sister Vijayalakshmi will receive the award for 2022.
- ❖ Nagaswaram player Kizhvelur G. Ganesan has been selected for the Sangita Kala Acharya award for 2020.
- ❖ Vocalist and musicologist Ritha Rajan was chosen for 2021.
- ❖ Musicologist Vainika R.S. Jayalakshmi was chosen for 2022.
- ❖ The TTK award for 2020 goes to vocalist Thamarakkad Govindan Namboothiri.
- ❖ Mridhangam and jalatarangam player Nemani Somayajulu will get the award for 2021 and
- ❖ kanjira artist A.V. Anand was given for 2022.
- ❖ Musicologist award for 2022 goes to V. Premalatha.
- ❖ The Nritya Kalanidhi awardees are Rama Vaidhyanathan (2020), Narthaki Nataraj (2021) and Bragha Bessell (2022).

75th Cannes Film Festival Award

- ❖ Indian filmmaker Shaunak Sen's 'All That Breathes', won L'Oeil d'Or 2022, the top prize for documentary films in the 75th Cannes Film Festival.
- ❖ The film revolves around the lives of two brothers who rescue and treat injured birds especially black kites in a basement near Delhi's Wazirabad.
- ❖ The special jury award was given to Lithuanian filmmaker Mantas Kvedaravicius' final film Mariupolis 2.
- ❖ The L'Oeil d'or is a documentary film award that was established in 2015.
- ❖ It was awarded for the first time on May 23, 2015.
- ❖ The award is conferred to the best documentary presented in one of the sections of the Cannes Film Festival.

First Dalit Female mayor

- ❖ Mohinder K Midha, an Indian-Origin Politician from the UK's Opposition Labour Party has been elected mayor of the Ealing Council in West London.
- ❖ She has become the first female mayor of a local London Council belonging to the Dalit Community.



VASVIK Industrial Research Award 2020

- ❖ A Gopalakrishnan, Director of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) - Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute has won the VASVIK Industrial Research Award for the year 2020.
- ❖ This is the recognition of his significant contribution towards the research works related to fish genetics.
- ❖ The research works related to fish genetics which is relevant for conserving many commercially important and endangered species.

SPORTS

Archery World Cup Stage -1

- ❖ India wins 2 gold medals in Archery World Cup Stage -1 in Turkey.
- ❖ Abhishek Verma, Rajat Chauhan and Aman Saini won gold medal in compound men's team event.
- ❖ Tarundeep Rai and Ridhi won another gold in recurve mixed team event

Laureus Sportsman of the Year 2022

- ❖ F1 champion Max Verstappen has been named the 2022 Laureus Sportsman of the Year.
- ❖ Jamaican Olympic sprinter Elaine Thompson-Herah has been named Sportswoman of the Year.
- ❖ Other awardees are

Category	Winner
Breakthrough of the Year prize	Emma Raducanu
Laureus Sporting Icon Award	Valentino Rossi
Laureus Lifetime Achievement Award	Tom Brady
Exceptional Achievement Award	Robert Lewandowski
World Team of the Year Award	Italy Men's Football Team
World Comeback of the Year Award	Sky Brown (Skateboard)
Sportsperson of the Year with a Disability Award	Marcel Hug
Laureus Sport For Good Society Award	Real Madrid
Action Sportsperson of the Year	Bethany Shriever

Asian Wrestling Championship

- ❖ Deepak Punia settled for the silver medal in the 86 kg category, while Vicky Chahar grabbed a bronze in the 92kg competition.
- ❖ It is Deepak's fourth medal at the Asian Championship, held at Ulaanbaatar in Mongolia.
- ❖ Earlier he won one silver (2021) and two bronze (2019, 2020).
- ❖ Totally India signed off with 17 medals from the event.
- ❖ Ravi Dahiya was the lone gold medal winner for India.

Seventh Santosh Trophy title

- ❖ Kerala beat West Bengal and won the 75th Santosh Trophy 2022.
- ❖ This is its seventh Santosh Trophy title
- ❖ Also, it is a third win in a Santosh Trophy tournament on home soil.
- ❖ Earlier, they had won two editions in Kochi, in 1973-74 and 1992-93.

Khelo India University Games 2021



RANK	UNIVERSITY				TOTAL
1	JAIN UNIVERSITY	7	2	1	10
2	SAVITRI MAHILAKA UNIVERSITY	4	5	8	17
3	PANJAB UNIVERSITY	4	5	4	13
4	AKNIA UNIVERSITY	4	3	2	9
5	POURBAH UNIVERSITY	5	3	2	10
6	SHYVAJ UNIVERSITY	4	1	2	7
7	PUNJAB UNIVERSITY	2	2	2	6
8	UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS	2	2	-	4

- ❖ JAIN (Deemed-to-be University) with 20 gold, 7 silver and 5 bronze medals has won the 2nd edition of the Khelo India University Games 2021.
- ❖ Lovely Professional University (LPU) with 17 golds has placed second and Punjab University placed third with 15 gold medals.
- ❖ Siva Sridhar has emerged as the star swimmer by winning 11 gold.



IWF Junior World Weightlifting Championship

- ❖ Harshada Sharad Garud made history by being the first Indian woman to win a gold medal at the IWF Junior World Championships.
- ❖ Only two Indians have won a medal in the IWF Junior World Championships before.
- ❖ Mirabai Chanu was a bronze medallist in 2013 while Achinta Sheuli was a silver medallist the previous year.

Junior World Weightlifting Championship 2022

- ❖ Gyaneshwari Yadav, from Chhattisgarh's Rajnandgaon bagged a silver medal in Junior World Weightlifting Championship 2022.
- ❖ She was the first player from the state to play the World Championships and win a medal in the junior category.

24th Deaflympics

- ❖ Shooter Dhanush Srikanth has won gold and Shourya Saini has won the bronze in the men's 10m air rifle competition in the 24th
- ❖ This 24th Deaflympics held at Caxias do Sul, Brazil.
- ❖ The Indian badminton team also won gold after beating Japan.
- ❖ Ukraine is leading the chart with 19 gold, six silver and 13 bronze medals.
- ❖ With the two gold and one bronze medal, India has placed eighth on the medals table.

Madrid Open title 2022

Category	Winner
Men's singles:	Carlos Alcaraz (Spain)
Women's singles:	Ons Jabeur (Tunisia)
Men's doubles:	Wesley Koolhof (Netherlands) & Neal Skupski (United Kingdom)
Women's doubles:	Gabriela Dabrowski (Canada) & Giuliana Olmos (Mexico)

- ❖ Carlos Alcaraz (Spain) has clinched the men's singles Madrid Open title 2022.
- ❖ It is his second Masters 1000 crown after Miami 2022.
- ❖ And this is his fourth title of the year.
- ❖ Ons Jabeur (Tunisia) has clinched the women's singles title to become the first African player to win a WTA 1000 event.



Thomas Cup Badminton Final 2022

- ❖ India created a history by beating 14-time champions Indonesia in the Thomas Uber Cup Final 2022.
- ❖ This is the first time that India has become the Thomas Cup Champion.
- ❖ The championships are generally conducted once in every two years since 1982.

Archery Asia Cup 2022 Stage 2

- ❖ Indian archers wrapped up a highly successful Asia Cup 2022 Stage-2 campaign in Sulaymaniyah, Iraq.
- ❖ Indian archers wrapped up a highly successful Asia Cup 2022 Stage-2 campaign in Sulaymaniyah, Iraq with a total of 14 medals – eight golds, four silvers and two bronze.
- ❖ The Indian team of women archers Parneet Kaur, Aditi Swami, and Sakshi Chaudhary has won India's first gold medal of the continental meet after defeating Kazakhstan in Iraq.
- ❖ The men's team of Prathamesh Fuge, Rishabh Yadav, and Jawkar Samadhan has won the second gold for India.
- ❖ The compound mixed duo of Prathmesh Fuge & Parneet Kaur won the third Gold Medal at Asia Archery Cup.

ISSF Junior World Cup

- ❖ Indian pistol pairs Esha Singh and Saurabh Chaudhary clinched the mixed team pistol gold at the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) Junior World Cup in Suhl, Germany.
- ❖ The team of Palak and Sarabjot Singh has settled for the silver medal in the same event.
- ❖ Ramita and Paarth Makhija also won silver in the 10m air rifle mixed team competition.
- ❖ In all, India has so far won 10 medals, including four gold.

Highest-paid athletes list for 2022

- ❖ Lionel Messi has topped the list of Forbes Highest-Paid Athletes 2022 with a reported income of \$130 million.
- ❖ He is followed by Basketball player, LeBron James with \$121.2 million and Cristiano Ronaldo was third with \$115 million.

- ❖ Forbes calculates the estimates based on prize money, salaries and bonuses, and sponsorship deals.

Rank	Country	Name	Sport	Earnings
1	Argentina	LIONEL MESSI	FOOTBALL	£107M
2	USA	LEBRON JAMES	BASKETBALL	£99M
3	Spain	CRISTIANO RONALDO	FOOTBALL	£94M
4	Brazil	NEYMAR	FOOTBALL	£78M
5	USA	STEPH CURRY	BASKETBALL	£76M
6	USA	KEVIN DURANT	BASKETBALL	£76M
7	Switzerland	ROGER FEDERER	TENNIS	£74M
8	Mexico	CANELO ALVAREZ	BOXING	£74M
9	USA	TOM BRADY	NFL	£69M
10	Greece	G ANTE TOKOUNMPO	BASKETBALL	£66M

Italian Open 2022

- ❖ The Italian Open is also known as the “Rome Masters” for the male edition.
- ❖ World No.1 Novak Djokovic has defeated Stefanos Tsitsipas to win the 79th edition of the Italian Open.
- ❖ Novak Djokovic became the fifth man in the Open Era to earn 1,000 match wins.
- ❖ In women’s singles, Iga Swiatek has won the Italian Open title after defeating Ons Jabeur.

Category	Winner	Runner-up
Men’s singles	Novak Djokovic (Serbia)	Stefanos Tsitsipas (Greece)
Women’s singles	Iga Świątek (Poland)	Ons Jabeur (Tunisia)
Men’s doubles	Nikola Mektić and Mate Pavić (Croatia)	John Isner (United States) & Diego Schwartzman (Argentina)
Women’s doubles	Veronika Kudermetova and Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova (Russia)	Gabriela Dabrowski (Canada) & Giuliana Olmos (Mexico)

36th Reykjavik Open 2022

- ❖ Rameshbabu Praggnanandha wins Reykjavik Open 2022 held in Iceland at the age of 16.
- ❖ He became the youngest player ever to defeat the world champion, Magnus Carlsen.



- ❖ It was his second win against the world champion Magnus Carlsen within 3 months.
- ❖ In 2013, Praggnanandha won the World Youth Chess Championship under-8 title.

International Professional Boxing Tournament

- ❖ The first ever professional international boxing tournament of Bangladesh was held in Dhaka.
- ❖ India's two-time national Champion Harsh Gill won his bout by defeating Bangladesh's Hira Miah.

World record in Australian Swimming Championships

- ❖ Olympic gold medalist Ariarne Titmus has broken the women's 400-meter freestyle world record at the Australian swimming championships.
- ❖ Titmus clocked 3 minutes 56.40 seconds in final in Adelaide.
- ❖ The previous benchmark of 3:56.46 set by her American rival Katie Ledecky at the 2016 Olympics.

IPL 2022

- ❖ Gujarat Titans won the IPL 2022 trophy by defeating inaugural champions Rajasthan Royals (RR) at the Narendra Modi Stadium, Ahmedabad.
- ❖ IPL Awards 2022 Full List of Winners

Category	Winners
IPL 2022 Champions	Gujarat Titans
Emerging Player of the Season	Umran Malik
Super Striker of the Season	Dinesh Karthik
Game Changer of the Season	Jos Buttler
Perfect Catch of the Season	Evin Lewis
Purple Cap	Yuzvendra Chahal
Orange Cap	Jos Buttler
Most Valuable Player	Jos Buttler
Super Striker of the Season	Jos Buttler
Fairplay Award	Gujarat Titans and Rajasthan Royals
Runner-up trophy	Sanju Samson
Fastest Delivery of the Season	Lockie Ferguson
Let's Crack it Sixes Award	Jos Buttler
Powerplay of the Season	Jos Buttler



IMPORTANT DAYS

May Day – May 01

- ❖ May Day is also called International Workers' Day or Labour Day.
- ❖ The date, May 1, was chosen to commemorate the Haymarket affair.
- ❖ It occurred in Chicago in USA on 4 May 1886.
- ❖ The first Labour Day in India was hosted by the Labour Kisan Party in Madras in 1923 under the leadership of Singara velar.

Maharashtra Day – May 01

- ❖ It commemorates the formation of the state of Maharashtra.
- ❖ The Bombay state was divided into Gujarat and Maharashtra in 1960.
- ❖ Gujarat was formed where people spoke Gujarati and Kutchhi.
- ❖ The other region was named Maharashtra where people spoke Konkani and Marathi.

World Laughter Day - May 01

- ❖ The first Sunday of May is celebrated as World Laughter Day.
- ❖ It is observed since 1998.
- ❖ It aims to raise awareness about laughter and its many healing benefits.

World Tuna Day – May 02



- ❖ This day is established by the United Nations to raise awareness about the importance of tuna fish.



- ❖ It aims to spread awareness among people regarding the importance of conserving Tuna fish.
- ❖ Tuna fish has several rich qualities such as Omega 3, Vitamin B12, proteins and other minerals.
- ❖ This year it is being celebrated under the theme “Our Tuna, Our Heritage”.

World Press Freedom Day – May 03

- ❖ It aims to inform that freedom of the press and freedom of expression are fundamental human rights.
- ❖ The day also provides a chance to pay tribute to media professionals who risked or lost their lives in the line of duty.
- ❖ This year’s theme is “Journalism under digital siege”.
- ❖ UNESCO adopted the Windhoek declaration on May 3 in 1993.
- ❖ That aimed toward the ‘development of a free, independent and pluralistic press.

World Asthma Day – May 03

- ❖ It is celebrated on the first Tuesday of May every year.
- ❖ And this year it falls on 3 May 2022.
- ❖ It aims to raise awareness about the condition and seek better healthcare facilities for asthma care.
- ❖ 'Closing Gaps in Asthma Care' is the theme for the 2022 observation.

Coal miner’s day - 4 May

- ❖ The day is celebrated to highlight the contributions of coal miners in meeting our energy demands.
- ❖ The day honours the accomplishments and sacrifices made by coal mine workers so far.
- ❖ The first-ever coal mine was opened in 1575 by one George Bruce of Carnock, Scotland.
- ❖ In India, the coal mining business began in 1774 at Raniganj coalfield, West Bengal.



International Firefighters Day - 4 May

- ❖ This day is marked to pay respect to those firefighting experts who have lost their lives in the line of duty.
- ❖ Day originated after a tragic incident occurred in Linton town of Australia, on December 2, 1998.
- ❖ 4 May is also Saint Florian's Day.
- ❖ Saint Florian is the patron saint of firefighters.
- ❖ He was said to be one of the first commanding firefighters of an actual Roman battalion and saved many lives

World Portuguese Language Day - 5 May

- ❖ It was officially established in 2009 by the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries.
- ❖ In 2019, the 40th session of UNESCO's General Conference decided to proclaim 5 May of each year as "World Portuguese Language Day".
- ❖ It has more than 265 million speakers spread through all continents.

International Midwives Day - 5 May

- ❖ This day is celebrated to recognise the work of midwives and raise awareness about the status of midwives for the essential care they provide to mothers and their new borns.
- ❖ International Day of the Midwife was established by the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM) in 1992.
- ❖ This year is also the ICM's centennial.
- ❖ So to celebrate this, this year's theme is 100 years of progress.

World Hand Hygiene Day - May 5

- ❖ It aims to maintain global promotion, visibility, and sustainability of hand hygiene in health care.
- ❖ World Health Organization launched the "Save Lives: Clean Your Hands" global annual campaign in 2009.
- ❖ It is celebrated as World Hand Hygiene Day on 5th May.
- ❖ This year, WHO is marking the day with the theme – Unite for safety: clean your hands.

International No Diet Day - May 6

- ❖ On this day, people are made aware of body acceptance, leaving aside behaviour like body shaming, which includes people of all shapes and sizes.
- ❖ Forgetting problems like obesity, increasing weight, weakness, and belly fat, people express their love towards themselves on this day.
- ❖ In the year 1992, this Day was celebrated for the first time in the UK by British lady Mary Evans.

Rabindranath Tagore Jayanti - May 7



- ❖ According to the Bengali calendar, Rabindranath Tagore Jayanti is celebrated on 25th day of Boisakh.
- ❖ As per the English calendar, it is being celebrated on 7th May 2022.
- ❖ This year it is 161st birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore.
- ❖ Rabindranath Tagore was born on 7th May 1861 in Jorasanko Thakurbai in Kolkata.
- ❖ He founded Shantiniketan to provide education.
- ❖ And later this became Viswa Bharti University.
- ❖ Rabindranath Tagore had written many literatures, songs and poems such as Gitanjali, Bhikharini, Kabuliwala, Amar Shonar Bangla, Jana Gana Mana and many more.
- ❖ He wrote approximately 2230 songs in his whole life.
- ❖ In his last 13 years of life, he painted approx. 3000 paintings and showed his creativity power.



World Athletics Day - May 7

- ❖ It aims to raise awareness about the importance of fitness and encourage them to play sports, especially athletics.
- ❖ In 1996, World Athletics Day was started by the then International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) President Primo Nebiolo.

International Astronomy Day - May 7

- ❖ The International Astronomy Day was first observed in 1973 by Doug Berger.
- ❖ It aims to increase the general public's interest in the vast field of astronomy.
- ❖ International Astronomy Day is observed two times a year.
- ❖ While one is celebrated in Spring and the other one is in Autumn.
- ❖ This year 2022 the days will fall on 7 May and 1 October.

Time of Remembrance and Reconciliation for Those Who Lost Their Lives during the Second World War – May 08/09

- ❖ The day pays tribute to all the victims of the Second World War.
- ❖ This year is the 77th Anniversary of World War II.
- ❖ On 2nd March of 2010, by a resolution, the UN General Assembly declared 8–9 of May as the Remembrance Day.

World Red Cross Day – May 8

- ❖ It aims to commemorate the birth anniversary of the founder of the Red Cross and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Henry Dunant.
- ❖ He was born on 8th May 1828 in Geneva.
- ❖ He was the recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize.
- ❖ On May 8 of 1948, the world celebrated its first Red Cross Day.
- ❖ The theme for 2022 is 'Be Human Kind'.

Mother's Day – May 8

- ❖ Mother's Day observed on the second Sunday of May every year.
- ❖ This year it falls on 8 May and observed in almost 100 countries.
- ❖ Anna Jarvis was founded Mother's Day to honour her and "all mothers" in 1908.



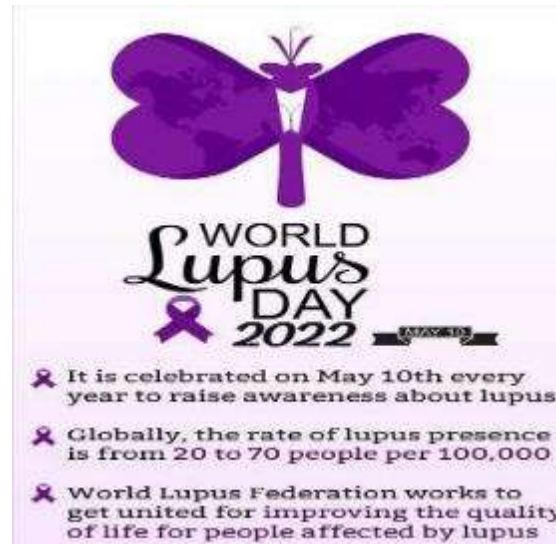
World Thalassemia Day - 08 May



- ❖ It aims to spread awareness about thalassemia being a blood disorder, myths related to the disease, and to help the patients lead a normal life.
- ❖ Theme of 2022 is "Be Aware. Share. Care: Working with the global community as one to improve thalassaemia knowledge."

World Lupus Day - 10 May

- ❖ Lupus is a disease that fatally affects more than 5 million people across the planet.
- ❖ This day is observed with the aim of generating awareness about this autoimmune disease which is also known as systemic lupus erythematosus.
- ❖ This day was created by Lupus Canada in the year 2004 with the aim of raising awareness about this disease.
- ❖ The exact cause of this disease's occurrence is yet unknown
- ❖ But it has been suspected that it is due to certain factors like genes, hormones, and the environment.



International Day of Argania – 10 May

- ❖ The United Nations observed 10th May 2022, the second International Day of Argania.
- ❖ This day promoting the Argan tree as an intangible cultural heritage of humanity and an ancestral source of resilient and sustainable development.
- ❖ The day will be celebrated this year under the theme “The Argan tree, symbol of resilience”.
- ❖ The argan tree (*Argania spinosa*) is a native species of the sub-Saharan region of Morocco, in the southwest of the country.
- ❖ It grows in arid and semiarid areas.

National Technology Day – May 11

- ❖ This day mark the anniversary of the Pokhran nuclear tests (Pokhran-II) conducted in May 1998.
- ❖ They were a series of five nuclear tests conducted under the administration of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam at the Indian Army’s Pokhran Test Range in Rajasthan’s Thar desert from 11th to 13th May 1998.
- ❖ Operation Shakti was the code name of the Pokhran-II nuclear tests
- ❖ The first nuclear tests were conducted by India in 1974.
- ❖ It was code-named, Smiling Buddha.
- ❖ National Technology Day was first observed on 11th May 1999.



International Nurses Day – May 12

- ❖ It aims to honour the services of nurses.
- ❖ It is the birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale, the English social reformer, statistician and founder of modern nursing.
- ❖ She was also known as Lady with the Lamp.
- ❖ The theme for this year's Nurses' Day is "Nurses: A Voice to Lead – Invest in Nursing and respect rights to secure global health".

International Day of Plant Health – May 12

- ❖ It aims to raise global awareness on how protecting plant health can help end hunger, reduce poverty, protect biodiversity and the environment, and boost economic development.
- ❖ The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in March 2022 passed a resolution to mark this day.
- ❖ The year 2020 was declared as International Year of Plant Health (IYPH) by the United Nations (UN).
- ❖ However, the IYPH was extended till 1 July 2021 to complete the pending activities, which were severely disrupted by the coronavirus pandemic.

World Migratory Bird Day – May 14

- ❖ It aims to raise awareness and highlighting the need for the conservation of migratory birds and their habitats.
- ❖ The main focus of the day is to draw attention to the threats faced by migratory birds, their ecological importance, and the need for international cooperation to conserve them.
- ❖ The Day is celebrated bi-annually on the second Saturday in May and in October.
- ❖ "Impact of Light Pollution on Migratory Birds" is the theme of this year's World Migratory Bird Day campaign.

International Day of Families - 15 May

- ❖ The International Day of Families not only promotes the value of a healthy and well-balanced family, but also increases understanding of the economic, demographic, and social dynamics that influence families.
- ❖ The Universal Peace Federation also observes this day since they see family as a microcosm of the entire society.

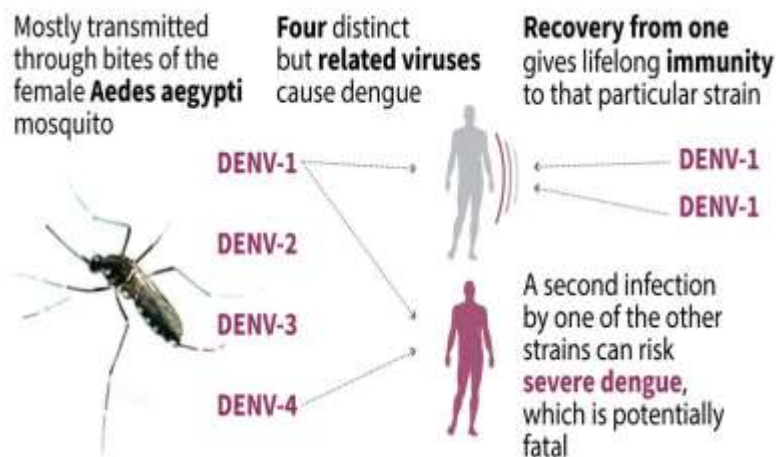
- ❖ In 1993, the United Nations General Assembly declared May 15 to be the International Day of Families.
- ❖ The theme for this year ‘Families and Urbanization’ aims to raise awareness about the necessity of family-friendly urban policy.

Day of Vesak - 16 May

- ❖ This year Vesak Day or Buddha Purnima has celebrated on 16 May 2022.
- ❖ “Vesak” is the Day of the Full Moon in the month of May.
- ❖ It was on the Day of Vesak two and a half millennia ago, in the year 623 B.C., that the Gautama Buddha was born.
- ❖ It was also on the Day of Vesak that the Buddha attained enlightenment.
- ❖ And it was on the Day of Vesak that the Buddha in his eightieth year passed away.

National Dengue Day - 16 May

- ❖ It aims to raise awareness about dengue and its preventive measures, and preparedness for control of the vector-borne disease before the transmission season begins.
- ❖ Dengue is spread through the bite of the female mosquito (*Aedes aegypti*).
- ❖ These mosquitoes carry viruses that cause West Nile Virus illness and yellow fever.
- ❖ Dengue is a mosquito-borne disease.
- ❖ It is caused by the dengue virus of four distinct serotypes — DEN-1, DEN-2, DEN-3 and DEN-4.



International Day of Living Together in Peace - 16 May

- ❖ In 2017, the UN General-Assembly declared that May 16 is to be observed as International Day of Living Together in Peace to promote inclusion, tolerance, solidarity and peace.
- ❖ The day is meant to signify unity in differences and diversity.
- ❖ UNGA has declared the period of 2001-2010 to be observed as "International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for Children of the World."

International Day of Light – May 16

- ❖ It commemorates the first successful operation of the laser by scientist and engineer Theodore Maiman in 1960.
- ❖ The laser is a prime illustration of how a scientific breakthrough may help society in areas such as communications, healthcare, and many others.
- ❖ This day is a call to strengthen scientific cooperation and harness its potential to foster peace and sustainable development.

Sikkim Statehood Day - May 16



- ❖ Sikkim joined the Union of India on May 16, 1975.
- ❖ In 1950, the Indo-Sikkimese treaty was signed.
- ❖ With this, Sikkim became a protectorate of India.
- ❖ The Namgyal dynasty ruled Sikkim till 1975.
- ❖ In 1975. the Sikkim Prime Minister appealed to India for Sikkim to join Union of India.

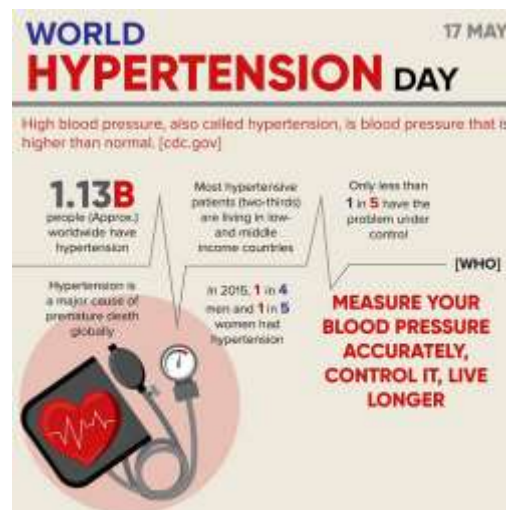


- ❖ A referendum was held in which 97.5% supported to join India abolishing the monarchy.
- ❖ The 35th amendment made Sikkim as an “Associate State”.
- ❖ Sikkim was the only state to get this designation.
- ❖ The 36th amendment repealed the 35th amendment and made Sikkim a full state.

World Telecommunication and Information Society Day – May 17

- ❖ World Telecommunication Day commemorates the founding of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the signing of the first International Telegraph Convention in 1865.
- ❖ World Information Day highlights the importance of information technology and the wide range of issues raised by the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS).
- ❖ In November 2006, both the days came together to celebrate annually by organising appropriate programmes.

World Hypertension Day – May 17



- ❖ World Hypertension Day is marked as a day focused on creating awareness about Hypertension and its symptoms.
- ❖ Hypertension or high blood pressure occurs when the blood pressure rises to an unhealthy level of 140/90.
- ❖ It is considered to have touched a dangerous level when the blood pressure measurement goes over 180/120.
- ❖ The theme for 2022 is ‘Measure Your Blood Pressure Accurately, Control it, Live Longer.’



World AIDS Vaccine Day - May 17

- ❖ The origin of the World AIDS Vaccine Day is rooted in a speech delivered by former US President Bill Clinton on May 18, 1997.
- ❖ In 1998, the first World AIDS Vaccine Day was observed for the first time to commemorate the first anniversary of Clinton's speech.
- ❖ HIV was first discovered in 1983.

International Museum Day – May 18

- ❖ It to raise awareness among people about the museums as an important means of cultural exchange and development of mutual understanding, cooperation, and peace among people.
- ❖ The theme of International Museum Day 2022 is "The Power of Museums".
- ❖ Since 1977, every year, ICOM has organised International Museum Day.

World Bee Day – May 20

- ❖ On this day Anton Janša, the pioneer of beekeeping, was born in 1734.
- ❖ The purpose of the international day is to acknowledge the role of bees and other pollinators for the ecosystem.
- ❖ The UN Member States approved Slovenia's proposal to proclaim 20 May as World Bee Day in December 2017.

World Metrology Day – May 20

- ❖ It aims to create awareness about the Metrology, the science of measurement and its application.
- ❖ The day highlights the use of Metrology in scientific fields, innovation, industries, trading and other fields.
- ❖ The day is an annual celebration of the signing of the Metre Convention on 20th May 1875.
- ❖ The theme for World Metrology Day 2022 is Metrology in the Digital Era.

National Endangered Species Day – May 20

- ❖ The National Endangered Species Day is observed on the third Friday of May every year.
- ❖ The day was created and founded by David Robinson and the Endangered Species Coalition in 2006.



- ❖ The day spread awareness about the importance of protecting endangered species, and their habitats and taking actions necessary to protect them.

World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development – May 21

- ❖ The day aims to celebrate the richness of the world's cultures and highlight the significance of its diversity as an agent of inclusion and positive change for achieving peace and sustainable development.
- ❖ In the year 2001, UNESCO adopted the 'Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity' as a result of the destruction of the Buddha statues of Bamiyan in Afghanistan in 2001.
- ❖ Then in December 2002, the UN General Assembly declared 21 May to be World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development.

Anti-Terrorism Day – May 21



- ❖ It was on this day in the year 1991 that former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated.
- ❖ The objective behind observing Anti-Terrorism Day is to spread the message of peace, humanity, unity, and harmony among the people, and to make them aware of the anti-social acts of terrorism.

International Day for Biological Diversity (IDB) – May 22

- ❖ It aims to increase awareness and understanding of the issues of biodiversity.
- ❖ When first created by the Second Committee of the UN General Assembly in late 1993, 29 December.
- ❖ This date marks of entry into force of the Convention of Biological Diversity.



- ❖ Initially, this date was designated the International Day for Biological Diversity.
- ❖ In December 2000, the UN General Assembly adopted 22 May as IDB.
- ❖ The theme in 2022 is “Building a shared future for all life”.

International Day to End Obstetric Fistula – May 23

- ❖ It is a condition that affects many girls and women during childbirth in developing countries.
- ❖ In 2003, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and its partners launched the global Campaign to End Fistula.
- ❖ The day was officially recognised in 2012.
- ❖ The Obstetric fistula is a devastating childbirth injury, and a neglected public health and human rights issue.

World Turtle Day – May 23

- ❖ The day is celebrated to raise awareness among people to protect turtles and tortoises and their disappearing habitats around the world.
- ❖ Tortoises and turtles play an important role in the ecological design of Earth.
- ❖ These reptiles are known to survive and thrive across a range of diverse habitats around the globe.
- ❖ This year’s theme for World Turtle Day is “Shellebrate”.
- ❖ The theme asks “everyone to Love and Save Turtles”.

Commonwealth Day – May 24

- ❖ Previously known as Empire-day, Commonwealth Day is celebrated by the collection of 54 commonwealth countries every year.
- ❖ It is marked on the second Monday of May in most of these countries.
- ❖ But in India and a few more, it is observed on May 24.
- ❖ These 54 countries unite together for various common goals.
- ❖ The theme 2022 is ‘Delivering a Common Future’.

World Schizophrenia Day – May 24

- ❖ It aims to increase awareness about the disorder and educate people about the challenges faced by the patients.

- ❖ May 24 was declared as World Schizophrenia Day to honour Dr. Phillippe Pinel of France.
- ❖ He emerged as one of the significant personalities to give treatment and human care for mentally unwell people.
- ❖ Schizophrenia is a serious mental disorder characterized by distortions in thinking, perception, emotions, language, sense of self, and behaviour.



Global Accessibility Awareness Day – May 19

- ❖ It is an awareness day focusing on digital access and inclusion for the more than one billion people alive today who live with disabilities or impairments.
- ❖ It is marked annually on the third Thursday of May.

International Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories - May 25/31

- ❖ On December 06, 1999, the UN General Assembly called for the annual observance of the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories.
- ❖ A Non-Self-Governing Territory is defined as a Territory “whose people have not yet attained a full measure of self-government.”

World Thyroid Awareness Day - May 25

- ❖ It aims to promote awareness and understanding of thyroid diseases, their symptoms, prevention, and treatments.



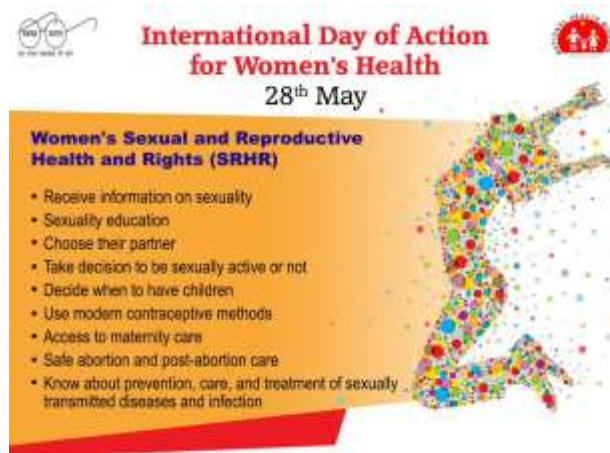
- ❖ The day came into existence in 2008 on a proposal by the European Thyroid Association.
- ❖ Thyroid Awareness Week observed between May 22 and 28.
- ❖ Thyroid Federation international has announced the theme for 2022, “It’s not you. It’s your thyroid.”

International Missing Children’s Day - May 25

- ❖ It aims to honour missing and abducted children and celebrate those who were recovered.
- ❖ In 1983, the former US President Ronald Reagan first announced United States' National Missing Children's Day.
- ❖ It was first observed in 2001 through the efforts of the International Centre for Missing and Exploited Children, European Commission and the Missing Children Europe.

International Day of Action for Women’s Health – May 28

- ❖ The objective of the day is to spread awareness about the health and rights of women.
- ❖ The International Women’s Health Day came into existence in 1987 when the South African government officially recognised it during that time.



World Menstrual Hygiene Day – May 28

- ❖ It aims to highlight the importance of good menstrual hygiene management at a global level.
- ❖ It was initiated by the German-based NGO WASH United in 2014.



World hunger Day – May 28

- ❖ The objective of this day is to raise awareness about more than 820 million people living in chronic hunger worldwide.
- ❖ It is observed since 2011.
- ❖ It also, spread awareness about the malaise of chronic hunger but also to solve hunger and poverty through sustainable undertakings.

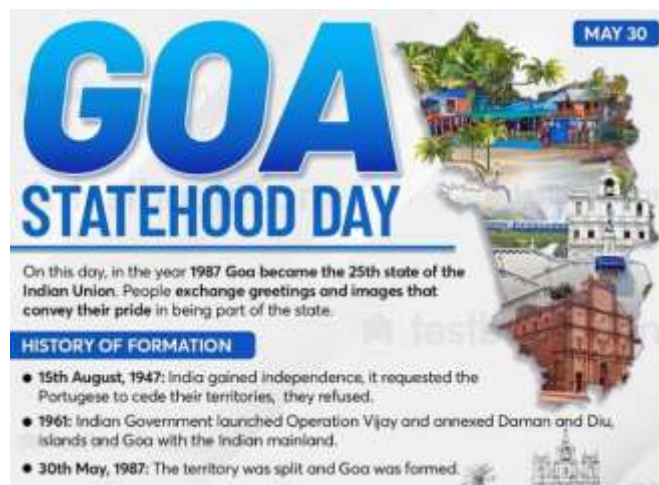
Africa Day – May 25

- ❖ Africa Day is the annual commemoration of the foundation of the Organisation of African Unity on 25 May 1963.
- ❖ It is celebrated in various countries on the African continent, as well as around the world.
- ❖ The organisation was transformed into the African Union on 9 July 2002 in Durban, South Africa.

International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers – May 29

- ❖ This day is observed to recognise the service and sacrifice of the more than one million personnel who have served under the blue flag since 1948.
- ❖ The first UN peacekeeping mission was established on 1948.
- ❖ The theme for this year’s International Day of UN Peacekeepers is “People. Peace. Progress. The Power of Partnerships.”

Statehood Day of Goa – May 30



- ❖ In 1961, Indian Government launched Operation Vijay and annexed Daman and Diu islands and Goa with the Indian mainland.



- ❖ Goa Liberation Day is observed on 19th December every year in India.
- ❖ On 30th May, 1987, the territory was split and Goa was formed.
- ❖ Daman and Diu remained Union Territory.

World No Tobacco Day – May 31

- ❖ It aims to raise awareness about the damage caused by consuming tobacco.
- ❖ This year, the theme for World No Tobacco Day is “Tobacco: Threat to our environment.”
- ❖ The WHO member countries agreed to observe World No-Tobacco Day on May 31 in 1987.

MISCELLANEOUS

THE Impact Rankings 2022

TOP 10 INDIAN UNIVERSITIES IN TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION'S IMPACT RANKINGS 2022	
RANK	UNIVERSITIES
41	Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham
74	Lovely Professional University
101-200	Shoolini University of Biotechnology and Management Sciences
201-300	Amity University, Gurugram
201-300	University of Calcutta
201-300	Chitkara University
201-300	KIIT University
301-400	JSS Academy of Higher Education and Research
301-400	Symbiosis International University
301-400	VIT University

- ❖ Calcutta University has been ranked first among all the central and state-aided public universities in the country.
- ❖ The varsity has been ranked 14th globally in the ‘Decent Work and Economic Growth’ sub-category.
- ❖ 64 universities from the country featured in the rankings making India the fourth best-represented country.

- ❖ Eight universities from India made it into the top 300 list globally.
- ❖ Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham claiming 41st place in the overall table and eighth place for SDG 3 (good health and well-being) and SDG 5 (gender equality).

World Press Freedom Index 2022

- ❖ The 2022 edition of the World Press Freedom Index has been published by the Reporters Without Borders.
- ❖ It assessing the state of journalism in 180 countries and territories.
- ❖ India has dropped down to 150th rank with Pakistan at 157th.
- ❖ The trio of Nordic countries has grabbed a top position with Norway at first place followed by Denmark and Sweden.
- ❖ On the other hand, the top 10 countries below the press freedom index include nations such as China, North Korea, Iran, Cuba, and Myanmar.

Rank	Countries	Rank	Countries
1.	Norway	176	Myanmar
2.	Denmark	177	Turkmenistan
3.	Sweden	178	Iran
4.	Estonia	179	Eritrea
5.	Finland	180	North Korea

Cannes Film Festival 2022





- ❖ India will be the official 'Country of Honour' at the upcoming Marche's Du Film which will be organized alongside the Cannes Film Festival 2022 in France.
- ❖ It is also the first time that such honour has been bestowed on any country.
- ❖ As India celebrates its 75 years of Independence this year, it also coincides with Cannes Film Festival's 75th anniversary.

Global Report on Food Crises

- ❖ The 2022 Global Report on Food Crises was recently published.
- ❖ It was highlighting acute food insecurity globally.
- ❖ The report published by Global Network Against Food Crises.
- ❖ Around 193 million people in 53 countries or territories experienced acute food insecurity at crisis or worse levels in 2021.
- ❖ Around 6 lakh people in Ethiopia, southern Madagascar, South Sudan, and Yemen were classified in the most severe phase of acute food insecurity.
- ❖ The three main drivers are Conflict, Weather extremes, Economic shocks.

62nd raising day of BRO

- ❖ The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) was founded on 7th May 1960 as a leading road construction agency.
- ❖ It is working under the Ministry of Defence.
- ❖ Shramena Sarvam Sadhyam (everything is achievable through hard work) is its motto.
- ❖ Its primary role is to provide road connectivity in India's border areas.

Rakhigarhi Harappan site

- ❖ The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has made a significant discovery in Haryana's Rakhigarhi village, one of the oldest Indus Valley sites
- ❖ The archeologists discovered copper and gold objects, along with artifacts, beads, sealed scripts with motifs and ceilings with Harappan script and elephant depictions.
- ❖ The excavations have revealed a structure of multi-tier houses, lanes, and a drainage system.
- ❖ Three of the seven mounds at the site revealed copper and gold jewellery, terracotta toys, and thousands of clay pots and seals.
- ❖ The space could also have been a 5000-year-old jewellery-making unit.

Maharana Pratap Jayanti 2022

- ❖ Maharana Pratap Jayanti is being celebrated in Rajasthan.
- ❖ According to English calendar the birth anniversary of the 13th king of Mewar, Maharana Pratap, is celebrated on May 9, 1540.
- ❖ Pratap's father, Udai Singh II was the 12th ruler of the Mewar dynasty, who founded Udaipur.
- ❖ Maharana Pratap fought many battles with the Mughals.
- ❖ But the most historic battle was the Battle of Haldighati 1576.



Biggest White Diamond

- ❖ The Rock, the world's largest white diamond, was auctioned for 18.6 million Swiss francs (\$18.8 million).
- ❖ But it significantly less than the previous record for such a gem.
- ❖ Christie's auction house in Geneva of Switzerland sold the 228.31-carat stone, which was larger than a golf ball.

Menstrual leave

- ❖ Spain could become the first European country to introduce three days medical leave per month for women with severe period pain.
- ❖ The leave could be extended to five days in some circumstances.
- ❖ A small group of countries like India, Japan, Taiwan, Indonesia, South Korea and Zambia provide menstrual leaves.



- ❖ In India, there is no legal right for women to get menstrual leaves.
- ❖ But Bihar provides two days of government-approved leave during periods.

Fostering Effective Energy Transition 2022 report

- ❖ It is a special edition report on the global energy transition released by the World Economic Forum in collaboration with Accenture.
- ❖ It called for urgent action by both public and private sectors to ensure resilient energy transition.
- ❖ The report found that energy transition is not matching with the growing urgency for change.
- ❖ Energy affordability, energy security, and sustainability are becoming more important than ever.
- ❖ Thus, a comprehensive approach with a proper timeline is critical to achieving long-term climate goals.

35 million years old rare snake fossil

- ❖ Scientists have discovered a 35 million years old Madtsoiidae snake fossil from the molasse deposits of Ladakh.
- ❖ This reveals their prevalence in the subcontinent for much longer time than previously thought.
- ❖ Madtsoiidae is an extinct group of medium-sized to gigantic snakes.
- ❖ They first appeared during the late Cretaceous.
- ❖ And it is mostly distributed in the Gondwanan landmasses.
- ❖ Their Cenozoic record is extremely scarce.
- ❖ From the fossil record, we infer that the whole group disappeared in the mid-Paleogene across most Gondwanan continents.
- ❖ However, in Australia the species survived with its last known taxon Wonambi till late Pleistocene.

Global report on Infection Prevention and Control

- ❖ The new report of WHO shows that where good hand hygiene and other cost-effective practices are followed, 70% of those infections can be prevented.
- ❖ Healthcare-associated infections (HAI) are among the most frequent adverse events occurring during health service delivery



- ❖ On an average 7% of patients in high-income countries and 15 % in low- and middle-income countries, will acquire a HAI during their time in hospital.
- ❖ Approximately one in four hospital-treated sepsis cases and almost half of all cases of sepsis with organ dysfunction treated in adult intensive-care units are health care-associated.

Global Food Policy Report 2022

- ❖ Global Food Policy Report 2022 was published by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).
- ❖ India's food production could drop 16% and the number of those at risk for hunger could increase 23% by 2030 due to climate change.
- ❖ The number of Indians at risk from hunger in 2030 is expected to be 73.9 million in 2030.
- ❖ The average temperature across India is projected to rise by between 2.4°C and 4.4°C by 2100.
- ❖ Similarly, summer heat waves are projected to triple by 2100 in India.
- ❖ Global food production will grow by about 60% over 2010 levels by 2050 in the context of climate change.
- ❖ Globally, about 70 million more people will be at risk from hunger because of climate change, including more than 28 million in East and Southern Africa.

Global 2000 list of public companies

- ❖ Forbes Global 2000 ranks the largest companies in the world using four metrics: sales, profits, assets and market value.
- ❖ Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries Ltd climbed two spots to No. 53 on this list.
- ❖ It is followed by State Bank of India at No. 105, HDFC Bank at No. 153 and ICICI Bank at No. 204.
- ❖ Berkshire Hathaway took the No. 1 spot for the first time.
- ❖ Industrial and Commercial Bank of China, dropped to No. 2 after nine consecutive years at the top of the list.
- ❖ Saudi Arabian Oil Company (Saudi Aramco) took the 3 Spot.



Indian firms	Position
Oil and Natural Gas Corporation	228
Housing Development Finance Corporation Ltd	268
Indian Oil Corporation	357
Tata Consultancy Services Ltd	384
Tata Steel	407
Axis Bank	431

World Economic Situation and Prospects

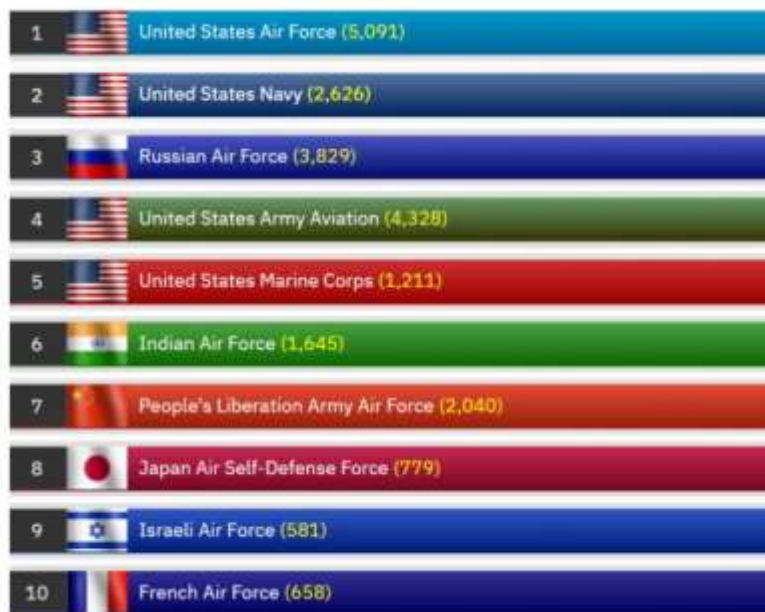
- ❖ The World Economic Situation and Prospects (WESP) report was released by the United Nations.
- ❖ This report has been published by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) of the UN.
- ❖ The global economy this year is expected to grow by only 3.1 per cent.
- ❖ The earlier prediction in January was 4.0 per cent.
- ❖ This report has highlighted that India is still the world's fastest-growing major economy even though the Russia-Ukraine conflict is impacting gross domestic product (GDP) across the globe.
- ❖ According to the report, in 2022, India has been projected to grow by 6.4 per cent.
- ❖ This is slower than 2021's 8.8 per cent.

Third Advance Estimates for Production of Major Crops

- ❖ The Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has released the third advance estimate of the production of major agricultural crops for 2021-22.
- ❖ The food grains production in the country has been estimated at 314.51 million tonnes.
- ❖ This is a record high.
- ❖ And it is higher by 3.77 million tonnes from the food grain production during 2020-21.
- ❖ During 2021-22, the average food grain production was higher by 23.80 million tonnes as compared to the previous five years from 2016-17 to 2020-21.
- ❖ There has been an estimated record production of maize, rice, oilseeds, pulses, rapeseed, gram, sugarcane, and mustard.

World Air Power Index 2022

- ❖ World Directory of Modern Military Aircraft (WDMMA) has released the World Air Powers Ranking of 2022.
- ❖ The Indian Air Force (IAF) has been placed at the third position on the World Air Power Index in terms of the total fighting strength of the various air services of different nations of the world.
- ❖ This report has placed the Indian Air Force (IAF) above the Chinese Aviation based armed forces (PLAAF), Japan Air Self-Preservation Power (JASDF), Israeli Aviation based armed forces, and French Air and Space Power.
- ❖ United States Air Force has been placed at the top and followed by Russia.



World of Work Report

- ❖ The International Labour Organization has released the Ninth Edition of ILO Monitor on the World of Work Report.
- ❖ 2 crore jobs might have lost between the last quarter of 2021 and the first quarter of 2022.
- ❖ Deterioration of the gender gap in work hours in the second quarter of 2020 in the lower-middle-income countries.
- ❖ For every 100 women at work prior to the pandemic, 12.3 women would have lost their job as an average through the entire period considered by the report.
- ❖ For every 100 men at work prior to the pandemic, 7.5 men would have lost their job as an average through the entire period considered by the report.



- ❖ A “great and growing divergence between richer and poorer economies” continues to characterise the recovery.

TIME 100 Most Influential People List

- ❖ This list has been divided into six categories that are Pioneers, Icons, Artists, Titans, Innovators, and Leaders.
- ❖ Indian business man Gautam Adani, Supreme Court lawyer Karuna Nundy, and Kashmiri human rights activist Khurram Parvez have been featured in this list

Travel and Tourism Development Index 2021

- ❖ India has been ranked at 54th place in the Travel and Tourism Development Index 2021.
- ❖ In 2019, India had ranked at 46th position.
- ❖ It was released by World Economic Forum.
- ❖ In the 2021 index, the top place has been taken by Japan.
- ❖ The country is followed by the United States, Spain, France, and Germany respectively.

