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# ESE-2022

## (Preliminary Examination)

### Current Issues

(July - 2022)

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# Current Issues

(July - 2022)

## POLICY OF GOVERNANCE

### “SURAKSHA MANTHAN 2022”



### Why in News?

- On 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022 The Desert Corps of the Indian Army organised the “Suraksha Manthan 2022”, on aspects of Border & Coastal Security at Jodhpur (Rajasthan).

### KEY POINTS

- The Suraksha Manthan was jointly presided over by Shri Pankaj Kumar Singh, IPS, Director General Border Security Force (BSF), Director General VS Pathania, Indian Coast Guard and Lieutenant General Rakesh Kapoor, General Officer Commanding Desert Corps and attended by serving officers of the Army, BSF and Coast Guard.
- A joint training calendar was also formulated to achieve a higher degree of interoperability and jointness amongst the security forces. Current security threats and challenges, along with joint mitigation response, were deliberated upon and such scenarios would now form part of the forthcoming exercises.
- It was further decided to create an enabling security environment and develop a tangible capability development road map to achieve the same.

## Desert Corp?

- Desert corp is originally known as Konark Corps
- ‘Konark Corps’ was raised on the auspicious day of Shivratri on 26 February 1987 under Lieutenant General A K Chatterjee, ParamVishishtSeva Medal, VishishtSeva Medal during Operation Trident.
- The Corps adopted “Konark” as its formation insignia after Konark Sun Temple of Puri, as a symbolic representation of the radiation of sun in eight cardinal directions, thereby establishing a spiritual link with the Sun City.
- Konark Corps safeguards the largest extent of Nation’s International Border. In addition it preserves the rich bio-diversity and cultural heritage in the states of Rajasthan and Gujarat.
- Besides the operational responsibility, Konark Corps is closely associated with absorption of latest generation equipment as well as adoption of new concepts by the Indian Army.

## PARIKSHA SANGAM



## Why in News?

Pariksha Sangam portal(<http://parikshasangam.cbse.gov.in/>) was launched on July 3rd, 2022.

## KEY POINTS

- Pariksha Sangam portal is an all-in-one portal for all exam activities that is comprehensive.
- the portal will streamline all of the activities related to the board exams, including school results, board results, CBSE circular, latest CBSE news, reference material, sample paper, model paper, a question bank, payments, etc.

### How it works?

- On that Pariksha Sangam Portal, CBSE (Central Board of Secondary Education) will integrate all its other portals like e-message, IPS payment system, OASIS, board circulars, etc.
- Under the Schools section, students and all other stakeholders will be able to access exam reference material, information about pre-exam and exam activities, school DigiLocker and post-exam activities, communication, and an integrated payment system (IPS). All these sections contain more detailed information which is further divided into sub-sections.
- In the Regional Offices section, CBSE aspirants will find information about RO Dashboards for Command, Control, E-Sandesh, Integrated Payment Monitoring for Term 1 and Data Management, Historical Information Repository of Schools, and much more.
- In the Head Office section, Students will find information regarding Exam Reference Material, Pre-Exam Dates/MIS, Exam Conduct MIS, Post Exam Data, Centralized LOC Correction, CMTM, and many more.

### DIGITAL INDIA WEEK 2022



### Why in News?

From July 4th to 9th is celebrated as Digital India Week 2022, the event commemorated the path-breaking journey of the flagship initiative of the Digital India Programme

### KEY POINTS

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated Digital India Week 2022 at Mahatma Mandir in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- The theme of this year Digital India Week is ‘Catalyzing New India’s Techade’ to transform the nation into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy.
- The second day theme is ‘Accelerating Start-up Economy.’

- During the Program Prime Minister launched various Schemes and Initiatives and Digital India Week 2022 also had a three-day long orientation program 'India Stack Knowledge Exchange- Showcasing India Stack and India's Digital Products and Service' from 7<sup>th</sup> July to 9<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

### Digital India Programme?

- The Digital India Programme was launched on July 1, 2015 by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India with a vision to transform the country into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy.
- Digital India is a flagship programme of the Government of India with a vision to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy.
- Digital India is an umbrella programme that covers multiple Government Ministries and Departments

### Digital Initiatives?

1. **Digital India GENESIS:** Digital India GENESIS (Gen-Next Support for Innovative Startups) a national Deep-tech Startup Platform by MeitY with an outlay of 750+ crores was launched by PM Shri Narendra Modi.

The platform envisages impacting and consolidating 10,000+ tech start-ups over the course of the next 5 years, especially from Tier-II & Tier III cities of India which will be equipped with the right tools and backed by a conducive infrastructure for starting and scaling up.

2. **Meri Pehchaan:** is National Single Sign On (NSSO) for One Citizen Login. It is a user authentication service in which a single set of credentials provide access to multiple online applications or services. This offers major benefits for both users and application administrators. It eliminates the need to repeatedly prove their identities to different applications and hold different credentials for each application and also helps identify the real applications as opposed to fake ones.
3. **Indiastack.global:** a global repository of key projects implemented under India Stack like Aadhaar, UPI, Digilocker, Cowin Vaccination Platform, Government e-Marketplace (GeM), DIKSHA Platform and Ayushman Bharat Digital Health Mission. This offering of India to the Global Public Digital Goods repository will help position India as the leader in building

Digital Transformation projects at a population scale and prove to be of immense help to other countries which are looking for such technology solutions.

4. **Digital India Bhashini:** will enable easy access to the internet and digital services in Indian languages, including voice-based access, and help the creation of content in Indian languages. The key intervention in building AI-based language technology solutions for Indian languages will be the creation of multilingual datasets. Digital India Bhashini will enable massive citizen engagement to build these datasets through a crowdsourcing initiative called BhashaDaan.
5. **MyScheme:** a service discovery platform facilitating access to Government Schemes. It aims to offer a one-stop search and discovery portal where users can find schemes that they are eligible for.
6. **The chips to startups:** The C2S Programme aims to train specialized manpower in the area of design of semiconductor chips at Bachelors, Masters and Research levels, and act as a catalyst for the growth of Startups involved in semiconductor design in the country. It offers to mentor at the organisational level and makes available State-of-the-art facilities for design to the institutions. This is part of the India Semiconductor Mission to build a strong design ecosystem in semiconductors.

PM announces the first cohort of 30 Institutions to be supported under Chips to Startup Programme

## “AMRIT VATIKA”



## KEY POINTS

- The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) established Namami Gange Amrit Vatika at Kalindi Kunj Ghat with the installation of 75 trees as part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.
- Yamuna, is one of the focus areas of Namami Gange Programme and informed that a 318 MLD STP at Coronation Pillar has already been commissioned recently whereas 3 other main STPs on Yamuna funded by NMCG are targeted to be completed by December 2022

## Namami Gange Programme?

- ‘Namami Gange Programme’, is an Integrated Conservation Mission, approved as ‘Flagship Programme’ by the Union Government in June 2014 with budget outlay of Rs.20,000 Crore to accomplish the twin objectives of effective abatement of pollution, conservation and rejuvenation of National River Ganga.
- Main pillars of the Namami Gange Programme are:
  1. Sewerage Treatment Infrastructure
  2. River Surface Cleaning
  3. Afforestation
  4. Industrial Effluent Monitoring
  5. Ganga Gram
  6. Public Awareness
  7. Bio-Diversity
  8. River front Development



## LONGEST DOUBLE-DECKER BRIDGE



### Why in News?

Recently, NHAI jointly with Maharashtra Metro achieved the world record for constructing the longest double-decker viaduct.

### KEY POINTS

- The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and Maharashtra Metro achieved the world record for constructing the longest double-decker viaduct with a length of 3.14 km in Nagpur.
- Construction of Maximum Metro stations (3 Metro Stations) on Double Decker Viaduct in Nagpur, Recognized by Asia Book of Records & India Book of Records.
- The three metro stations built along this double-decker viaduct are Chhatrapati Chowk, Jayaprakash Nagar and Ujwal Nagar.
- NHAI has used RIB and spine techniques to build this viaduct.
- This double-decker viaduct made possible a three-layered transport corridor with the first layer occupied by pre-existing highway, the second layer by a flyover highway, and the third layer by Nagpur metro rail.
- The flyover highway is built at the height of nine metres, and the metro at 20 metres.
- While 2.7 km of this multi-layered corridor has a four-lane road on its second level, half km has a six-lane road.



- This project has led to savings on land acquisition and construction costs and also reduced the travel time to the airport from the earlier 30 minutes to mere 4 minutes.
- In February 2021, the union government allocated Rs 5,976 crore for Nagpur Metro Phase-II.
- The Nagpur Metro Rail Phase II Project, spread over 43.8 km in length with 32 stations, covers the rural parts of the Nagpur district and will serve as an extension to the ongoing first phase.

## INDIA'S 1<sup>ST</sup> CARBON-NEUTRAL AIRPORT



### KEY POINTS

- Indian Airports have now submitted the plan and keep monitoring environment friendly measures by December 2024 most Indian Airports will become carbon neutral and achieve Net Zero Emission by 2030.
- The Airports Authority of India, Leh airport is being built as a carbon-neutral airport, a first in India.
- It is a “Geothermal system” in hybridization with Solar PV Plant will be provided in the New airport Terminal Building for heating and cooling purposes.
- This system works by exchanging heat between the air and the ground as its heat pumps are used for space heating and cooling, as well as water heating.
- The main feature of this process is that naturally existing heat is concentrated and used.
- It is estimated that 900 ton of carbon emissions per year will be reduced after adopting the “Geothermal system” at the Leh Airport Terminal Building project.

## What is carbon Neutrality accreditation?

- Carbon neutrality means having a balance between emitting carbon and absorbing carbon from the atmosphere in carbon sinks.
- Airport Carbon and other Green House Gas Emission released into air when fossil fuels are used to generate electricity, in furnaces, and to power vehicles. CO<sub>2</sub> makes up the majority of GHG emissions, with lesser contributions from nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), refrigerants, and other compounds.
- Ground-based airport GHG emissions are caused by gasoline and diesel fuel for airport vehicles and ground support equipment (GSE), fossil fuel for electricity and heating, jet fuel for auxiliary power units (APUs) that power aircraft at airport gates, and other sources that provide energy to planes at airport gates, and other sources.
- Around 2.1 per cent of all human-induced carbon dioxide emissions come from the aviation industry and it is responsible for 12 per cent of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from all modes of transportation.
- The Airports Council International has developed a carbon neutrality accreditation programme for airports that will help them cut carbon emissions.

## “AADHAARFACERD”APP



## KEY POINTS

- The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has launched a face authentication feature through a new mobile app called “AadhaarFaceRd”. For authentication, Aadhaar card holders no longer need to physically visit an enrollment centre for iris and fingerprint scans.
- The UIDAI has started using face authentication as a method of confirming an Aadhaar holder’s identity. Once your facial authentication is successful, it verifies your identity.
- This application enables secure capture of a live person image to perform Aadhaar face authentication.

## Why “AADHAARFACERD” APP needed?

- Recently, the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has canceled about 6 lakh fake Aadhaar cards.
- At the time of making the card, a 12-digit Aadhaar number is issued to the citizen, which in a way confirms his identity but every day, cases of illegal work being done by making fake Aadhaar cards.
- Aadhaar Authentication is done by UIDAI and its authorized agency to verify whether your Aadhaar card is genuine or fake.
- For Aadhaar authentication, people have to go to the local Aadhaar Enrollment Center to scan their fingerprints and iris and match the entered biometric data with their Aadhaar number. Upon receipt of the data, the authentication process is completed.
- Now for the convenience of the general public, the authority has launched the AadhaarFaceRd app through this app, authentication work can be completed sitting at home or anywhere. Now it is not necessary to go to the center for this work.

## INDIA'S FIRST E-WASTE ECO PARK



### Why in News?

Delhi Environment Minister Gopal Rai announced to develop India's first e-waste eco park in Holambi Kalan in Delhi.

### KEY POINTS

- Delhi Environment Minister Gopal Rai convened a joint review meeting with representatives from the Environment Department and the Delhi Pollution Control Committee.
- Approximately 21 acres would be used to create India's first e-waste eco park in Holambi Kalan, a neighbourhood of Delhi.
- Delhi environment department stated that every year the capital city produces over two lakh tonnes of e-waste, or about 9.5 percent of the total amount produced in India.
- With this, Delhi is now the fifth-largest producer of e-waste in India, behind Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal and it has been shown that only 5 per cent of the generated e-waste is properly recycled.
- Because of this delhi government decided to develop India's first e-waste eco park.
- e-waste eco park," refer to the establishment of a place where this e-waste is dismantled, refurbished, recycled, and manufactured in a manner that is scientifically and environmentally sound.
- The park will be ready in about 23 months

## FIRST DIGITAL LOK ADALAT



### KEY POINTS

- During the 18th All India Legal Services Authorities' convention, which was held here, NLSA Chairman Uday Umesh Lalit unveiled the first digital Lok Adalat driven by Artificial Intelligence and block chain technology
- Rajasthan State Legal Services Authority's (RSLSA) digital Lok Adalat was created by Jupitice Justice Technologies, the organization's technological partner.
- Digital Lok Adalat has facilitated claimants to attend the hearings and pre-counselling sessions from the comfort of their homes.
- The digital transformation of lok adalat makes it ergonomic, cost Effective, and time efficient for all stakeholders involved.

## ‘SWANIRBHAR NAARI’, A SCHEME



### KEY POINTS

- Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has launched ‘Swanirbhar Naari’, a scheme to empower indigenous weavers in Assam’s Guwahati.
- This scheme will assist weavers to expand their businesses and support their families financially.
- It has been stated that there will be an online website that will enable them to sell their goods on an internet basis with no intermediaries so that they can get the full benefits.
- This scheme comes under the department of handloom textiles and sericulture to conserve the state’s cultural heritage and promote people who have inherited this skill from their ancestors.
- The scheme enables the improvement of the rural economy via modern technology and inspiration by providing a good work culture and access to beneficial resources and by boosting the production of quality raw materials and completed products.
- A person who wants to avail the benefit of scheme needs to be an Assamese resident only and recipient must be a weaver.
- This scheme will be very beneficial for 4 lakh families in 1st phase economically disadvantaged women who are working with full dedication and sincerity.
- The main aim of this scheme is to create more than 3.72 lack sustainable individual and 822 community assets to provide benefit to those who are giving their 100% to improve their financial condition.
- This scheme would be implemented under MGNREGA to complete the various missions.



## HAR GHAR TIRANGA



### KEY POINTS

- Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign is a campaign under the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav to celebrate the 75th independence Day by bringing National Flag home and hoisting it.
- By urging all citizens to fly the national flag at their homes between August 13 and 15.
- The flag of the country has been changed six times in the last 116 years. However, these changes took place only till independence.
- The last change in the Indian national flag was in 1947, at which time it was also given the name of Tricolor.

### JOURNEY OF INDIAN FLAG





- The first national flag received in 1906:** The country's first proposed flag appeared in 1906 which was hoisted on August 7, 1906 at Parsi Bagan Chowk, Calcutta (now Green Park, Kolkata). This flag had three stripes - green, yellow and red. It had eight lotus flowers in the upper green stripe, which were white in colour. Vande Mataram was written in blue in the yellow stripe in the middle. Apart from this, the pictures of the moon and the sun were painted in white in the red stripe at the bottom.
- The flag was changed the very next year in 1907:** Madam Bhikajikama and some of her revolutionary companions, together raised the new flag of India in Paris by making some changes to the first flag. This flag was also very similar in appearance to the previous one. But it had three stripes of saffron, yellow and green. Vande Mataram was written in the middle. At the same time, eight stars were also formed along with the moon and the sun.
- Annie Besant and Tilak hoisted the new flag 1917:** In 1917 another new flag was proposed for the country. This new flag was hoisted by Dr. Annie Besant and Lokmanya Tilak. This new flag, proposed in the third time, had five red and four green stripes. Towards the end of the flag, there was a triangular shape in black color. At the same time, there was also a Union Jack in the left corner. Whereas along with a moon and a star, it also included seven stars representing the Saptarishi.
- 1921 Proposed flag for India:** All India Congress Committee in 1921, a man from Andhra Pradesh at Bezwada (now Vijayawada) presented a flag to Mahatma Gandhi, it was green and It was red. Gandhiji liked it and made some changes in it. He added another white stripe to it. At the same time, a spinning wheel was also shown in the middle to show the development of the country. Then somewhere it was accepted for the flag of independent India.
- 1931, the proposed national flag:** In 1931 to identify independent India. The newly proposed flag had a saffron color at the top, white in the middle and a green stripe at the end. In this, the whole spinning wheel was also shown in small size in the middle white strip. The spinning wheel in the white band was said to be a symbol of the progress of the nation. This new flag was officially adopted by the Indian National Congress.
- The country finally got the tricolor in 1947:** The flag made in 1931 was adopted as the new national flag of independent India in the Constituent Assembly meeting on July 22, 1947, with one

change. In this flag, instead of the spinning wheel, the Dharma Chakra of Maurya Emperor Ashoka is shown in dark blue color. The wheel of 24 spokes is also called the wheel of the method. This flag was designed by Pingali Venkaiah. It has a saffron stripe on top, white in the middle and a green stripe below. All three are in proportion. Its length and breadth are two times three.

## SECOND BHARAT GAURAV TRAIN



### Why in News?

Recently, IRCTC announces second run of Bharat Gaurav Train flagged off from Madurai to Varanasi.

### KEY POINTS

- The second Bharat Gaurav train in Southern Railway left Madurai with 170 passengers for Varanasi a 12-day pilgrimage to several places, including seven Sakthi Peeth.
- The 12-day Bharat Gaurav round trip Service from Madurai to Varanasi will run via Dindigul, Tiruchchirappalli, Villupuram, Chennai Egmore, Vijayawada, Samalkote, Puri, Jaipur, Howrah, Gaya to reach Varanasi and return to Madurai via Prayagraj Rambagh, Ballarshah, Warrangal and Vijayawada.
- The train will run with a composition of of Four 3AC coaches, Six Sleeper class coaches, 2 pantry cars and 2 SLRs.

## Bharat Gaurav Trains

- With the objective of showcasing India's rich cultural heritage and magnificent historical places to the people of India and the world, Indian Railways introduced the "Bharat Gaurav Trains" scheme with effect from 23.11.2021.
- The first service of the theme-based Bharat Gaurav Train from Coimbatore North to Sainagar Shirdi was operated on 14.06.2022.
- Bharat Gaurav scheme also aims to leverage the core strengths of the professionals of the tourism sector to run theme-based trains to tap the vast tourist potential of India
- This scheme allows private players to operate trains on theme-based circuits.

## INTERNATION ISSUES

### BIMSTEC EXPERT GROUP



### KEY POINTS

- The National Security Council Secretariat, Government of India is organizing a two day Meeting of the BIMSTEC Expert Group on Cyber Security Cooperation on 14-15 July 2022 in New Delhi
- The Meeting is based on the agreement made during the meeting of the BIMSTEC National Security Chiefs held at Bangkok in March 2019 that the BIMSTEC Expert Group will formulate an Action plan to deal with Cyber Security challenges in the BIMSTEC Region.
- The in-person meeting is being chaired by the National Cyber Security Coordinator Lt General Rajesh Pant and witness the participation of delegates from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand. All the delegates are experts in Cyber Security from their respective Government organization.

### BIMSTEC?

- BIMSTEC organizes inter-governmental interactions through Summits, Ministerial Meetings, Senior Officials Meetings and Expert Group Meetings and through BIMSTEC Working Group (BWG) based in Bangkok.

- Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) comprising Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand brings together 1.5 billion people – 21% of the world population, and a combined GDP of over US\$ 2.5 trillion.
- The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) is a regional organization that was established on 06 June 1997 with the signing of the Bangkok Declaration. Initially known as BIST-EC (Bangladesh-India-Sri Lanka-Thailand Economic Cooperation), the organisation is now known as BIMSTEC and comprises seven Member States with the admission of Myanmar on 22 December 1997, and Bhutan and Nepal in February 2004.
- Being a sector-driven grouping, cooperation within BIMSTEC had initially focused on six sectors in 1997 (trade, technology, energy, transport, tourism, and fisheries) and expanded in 2008 to incorporate agriculture, public health, poverty alleviation, counter-terrorism, environment, culture, people-to-people contact, and climate change.

#### At Present Sectors:

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| Bangladesh: | Trade, Investment and Development   |
| Bhutan:     | Environment & Climate Change  |
| India:      | Security  |
|             | Sub-sectors: Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime, Disaster Management, Energy         |
| Myanmar:    | Agriculture and Food Security   |
|             | Sub-sectors: Agriculture, Fisheries & Livestock   |
| Nepal:      | People-to-People Contact  |
|             | Sub-sectors: Culture, Tourism, People-to-People Contact (Forums of think tanks, media etc.) |
| Sri Lanka:  | Science, Technology & Innovation (Sri Lanka)  |
|             | Sub-sectors: Technology, Health, Human Resource Development                                 |
| Thailand:   | Connectivity  |

## MARITIME PARTNERSHIP EXERCISE (MPX)



### Why in News?

A Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) was conducted between Japan Maritime Self Defense Force and Indian Navy on 23 Jul 2022 in Andaman Sea.

### KEY POINTS

- A Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) was conducted between Japan Maritime Self Defense Force and Indian Navy on 23 Jul 22 in Andaman Sea.
- INS Sukanya, an offshore patrol vessel and JS Samidare, a Murasame class destroyer, undertook various exercises including seamanship activities, aircraft operations and tactical manoeuvres as part of the operational interaction.
- The two countries have been carrying out regular exercises in IOR towards reinforcing maritime association.
- The exercise was aimed at enhancing interoperability and streamlining seamanship and communication procedures. This exercise is part of the ongoing efforts between the two navies towards ensuring safe and secure international shipping and trade in Indian Ocean Region.

## SOCIAL ISSUES

### MINISTER'S DASHBOARD FOR SCHEMES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING LAUNCHED



#### Why in News?

Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying launched the Minister's dashboard for Animal Husbandry and Dairying in New Delhi on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

#### KEY POINTS

- This dashboard helps in monitoring, and reporting real-time scheme data, and in analysing the schemes' key performance indicators and parameters through a visual matrix.
- The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying has launched several schemes across States/UTs, in an attempt to strengthen the livestock sector in India through the introduction of new technologies, breeding programs, disease control and eradication programs, establishing dairy & meat processing infrastructures, human resource development etc.
- The schemes operate in a time bound manner and need to be reviewed periodically for effective implementation.
- This dashboard includes the following schemes:
  1. Livestock Health and Disease Control Program (LHDCP)
  2. National Livestock Mission (NLM)



3. Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF)
4. National Program for Dairy Development Fund (NPDD)
5. Rashtriya Gokul Mission (RGM)
6. Supporting Dairy Co-operatives and Farmer Producer Organizations (SDCFPO)
7. Dairy processing & Infrastructure Development Fund (DIDF)

- the Minister's Dashboard enables the scheme owners to make policy interventions and improve decision making basis the dynamic data that is captured and periodically refreshed on it.

## ALLURI SITARAMA RAJU STATUE



### Why in News?

On 4<sup>th</sup> July 2022 PM unveiled a 30 feet bronze statue of Alluri Sitarama Raju

### KEY POINTS

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled a 30-feet bronze statue of Alluri Sitarama Raju at Bhimavaram in Andhra Pradesh's East Godavari district on his 125<sup>th</sup> birth Anniversary.
- The 15-tonne statue was carved out at a cost of Rs 3 crore and installed by the Kshatriya Seva Samiti in the Municipal Park in Bhimavaram.
- Allure Sitarama Raju is an inspiration and a symbol of bravery and courage of tribals.
- Sitarama Raju, also referred to by his surname Alluri, was born on July 4, 1897, at Pandrangi village in the then Visakhapatnam district
-

## MISSION KUSHAL KARMI



### KEY POINTS

- Manish Sisodia, the deputy chief minister of Delhi, started Mission Kushal Karmi to help construction workers improve their abilities.
- Delhi government developed this programme with assistance from the Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University (DSEU) and Delhi Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board.
- Under this 15 days special training programme, workers will undergo upskilling which will boost their incomes in future.”
- ”This will help in increasing the income of workers up to Rs 8,000. The government aims to train 2 lakh workers in a year under this programme. Construction companies will also benefit from these skilled workers.
- During the training, all the construction workers will be provided with an amount of Rs 4,200 each.

### Benefits to Workers from Mission Kushal Karmi:

- Wage loss compensation of Rs. 4,200 (Rs 35 per hour of training) to each construction worker after completion of training.
- Improvement in income ranging upto 8,000 per month after completion of training to construction workers.
- Increase in productivity of workers by 40 per cent, increase quality of product produced by 25 per cent and wastage of materials decreases by 50 per cent.

- Improvement in domain skills and soft skills thereby making the worker more proficient and confident.
- Improvement in the understanding of standard safety norms thereby increasing the longevity of work and social security.

## ‘SVANIDHI MAHOTSAV’



## KEY POINTS

- On the occasion of second anniversary of the Prime Minister Street Vendor's AtmaNirbharNidhi (PM SVANidhi) scheme, the Housing and Urban affairs Minister, Hardeep Singh Puri launched the 'SVANidhi Mahotsav'.
- It was celebrated from 9th to 31st of July.
- The festival was organized in 75 cities across all states and Union Territories, and showcase various cultural activities, digital training activities and loan melas.
- It also have functions for felicitation of distinguished Street vendors.
- PM SVANidhi scheme was launched on June 1, 2020 to facilitate working capital loans to the street vendors to help them restart their businesses which were adversely impacted due to the lockdowns imposed during COVID-19 pandemic.
- The scheme facilitates collateral free working capital loan upto Rs 10000 of 1 year tenure with enhanced loan of Rs 20000 and 50000 in the second and third term respectively on repayment of earlier loans, to enable business expansion.
- The scheme incentivizes adoption of digital transactions by way of cashback of upto Rs 100

per month which in turn would build their credit profile facilitating future loans from the lending institutions.

- Till date more than 25 lakh sanctions have been made under these schemes facilitating socio economic upliftment of more than 11 lakh beneficiaries and family members

## YUVA SAMMELAN



### Why in News?

Recently, on 9<sup>th</sup> July Yuva Sammelan was attended by President of India Ram Nath Kovind

### KEY POINTS

- The Yuva Sammelan, which was hosted by "My Home India" in New Delhi, was attended by Ram Nath Kovind, the President of India.
- My Home India is a National NGO, which aims at bringing emotional integration between people from different parts of the country.
- The main motive of the initiative of the NGO is to build an ecosystem of nationhood among the promising youth of the country.
- MyHomeIndia, the social organisation founded by Sunil Deodhar, aims to serve the nation through various social objectives such as helping the North East Indians across the nation, providing scholarships, reuniting lost children with their families, providing medical support to the poor etc.

## **‘EARN WITH LEARN’ SCHEME**



### **KEY POINTS**

- The Tripura government has launched a new scheme named ‘Earn with Learn’ to bring back those who had dropped out of schools following the outbreak of Covid-19. This scheme is a part of the ‘Vidyalaya’.
- The main objective of the scheme is to develop a student as a multifaceted personality with academic excellence and a commitment to an egalitarian society
- ‘Earn with Learn’ Scheme was bring back those who had dropped out of schools following the outbreak of Covid-19 Pandemic.
- This scheme is a part of the ‘Vidyalaya Chalo Abhiyan’ (Let’s go to school). The Government attempted to bring back dropouts in 2020 by implementing the Vidyalaya Chalo Abhiyan, which was first started in 2009 but was unable to make any progress due to the pandemic.
- About 8,000 students between the age group of six and 14 had dropped out of school during the pandemic and have not yet returned.
- This scheme aims at bring them back to school.
- Under this 3<sup>rd</sup> year college students will make efforts to track down the drop-outs.
- And the college students who are willing to participate as volunteer government would pay 500 Rs per Admission for each college student.
- Approx 10000 volunteers are required for implementation of this innovative scheme.
- For this Anganwadi and ASHA workers will also engaged and they will be given 200 Rs per child.

## JAGRITI



## KEY POINTS

- Jagriti is a mascot created by the Department of Consumer Affairs (DoCA) with the goal of empowering customers and raising awareness of their rights.
- Jagriti will be shown as an educated consumer who is advocating for her rights and finding answers to the issues she encounters.
- The Jagriti mascot will be employed to raise consumer awareness of a variety of Departmental topics, including the provisions of the 2019 Consumer Protection Act, hallmarking, the National Consumer Helpline toll-free number 1915, provisions of the Weights and Measures Act, decisions of the Central Consumer Protection Authority, and consumer testimonies regarding grievance redressal.
- Jagriti mascot shall be shown along with tagline “Jago Grahak Jago” in all its media campaigns

## DUNAGIRI

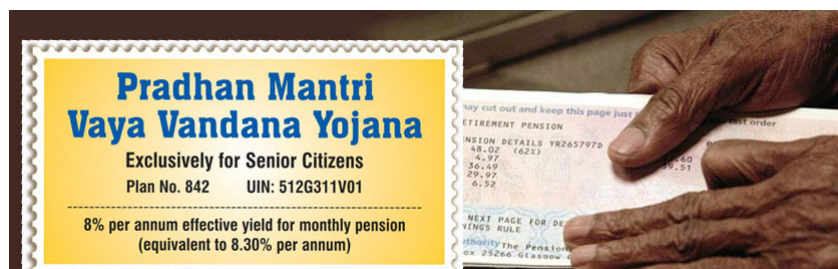




## KEY POINTS

- Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has launched the fourth P17A stealth frigate 'Dunagiri' into the Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited (GRSE) in Kolkata.
- 'Dunagiri' is the fourth ship under P17A project. The P17A Frigates are being equipped with improved stealth features, advanced weapons and sensors and platform management systems.
- The first two ships under P17A Project, were launched in 2019 and 2020 at Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) and GRSE respectively. The 3rd ship (Udaygiri) was launched at MDL in May this year.
- The Project 17A project involves the development of seven advanced guided-missile frigates, of which four will be built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders and the remaining three ships by GRSE.
- The ships will be named Nilgiri, Himgiri, Udaygiri, Dunagiri, Taragiri, Vindhyagiri and Mahendragiri after the names of hill ranges in India.

## PRADHAN MANTRI VAYA VANDANA YOJANA



## Why in News?

- The five years of the Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana are now complete. 21 July, 2017 marked the official launch of the programme.

## KEY POINTS

- The programme is a social security programme for the elderly that aims to provide them with a guaranteed minimum pension based on a guaranteed return on the purchase price or subscription fee.



- The minimum investment required to participate in this scheme has been increased to one lakh 56 thousand 658 rupees for a pension of 12,000 per year and to one lakh 62 thousand 162 rupees for a pension of at least 1,000 rupees per month.
- The programme, which was in place through 2020, has now been extended for an additional three years, through March 31, 2023.

### **Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana**

- Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana (PMVVY) is a Pension Scheme announced by the Government of India exclusively for the senior citizens aged 60 years and above which was available from 4th May, 2017 to 31st March, 2020.
- The scheme is now extended up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 for a further period of three years beyond 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020.
- Under the scheme the pensioner will receive an assured return of 8% for the policy duration of 10 Years.
- The purchase price will be paid back to the beneficiary if the pensioner passes away during the policy tenure.
- If the pensioner survives the entire policy tenure, the purchase price will be paid along with the final pension instalment.

### **PROJECT SURYA**



**KEY POINTS**

- Under project surya initiative women salt pan workers who work in the challenging and extreme temperatures at Rann of kutch marshes will be trained as solar panel and solar pump technicians
- Green energy firm ReNew Power has partnered with United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and Self-Employed Women's Association of India (SEWA) to train 1,000 low-income women salt-pan workers to work in the renewable industry.
- ReNew is providing financial support and familiarization with its renewable facility in the area, while SEWA is the lead implementation partner, UNEP will be responsible for monitoring and evaluating the project
- At present, these women are able to save an average of Rs 10,000 (USD 128) in around 10 months, while a solar panel technician can earn up to Rs 18,000 (USD 130) in a month.

## AWARDS

### SARDAR PATEL OUTSTANDING ICAR INSTITUTE AWARD 2021



#### KEY POINTS

- The National Academy of Agricultural Research Management (NAARM) has bagged the Sardar Patel Outstanding ICAR Institute Award 2021
- Sardar Patel Outstanding ICAR Institute Award objective is to recognize outstanding performance by the ICAR institutes, DUs of ICAR, CAU and State Agricultural Universities, To provide incentive for outstanding institutional/University performance and To promote a sense of institutional pride in achievements.
- The Nature of Award is an individual award under the award consists of Rs. 10,00,000 in cash, a citation and a plaque for SAUs and DUs and for other ICAR Institutes.

#### National Academy of Agricultural Research Management (NAARM)

- It was established by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) in 1976, to address issues related to agricultural research, training and development and education management, in India.

### Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)

- The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is an autonomous organisation under the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India. Formerly known as Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, it was established on 16 July 1929.

### DINESH SHAHRA LIFETIME AWARD' FOR EXCELLENCE IN MUSIC



### KEY POINTS

- Dinesh Shahra Foundation (DSF) has taken a major stride in its efforts to promote soulful Indian music among the masses.
- The Foundation has instituted a first-of-its-kind 'Dinesh Shahra Lifetime Award' for Excellence in Music.
- The initiative is supported by the Indian Arts & Cultural Society.
- The Announcement of this novel recognition was made by Mr Dinesh Shahra, Trustee –DSF during a cultural event titled "Mausiqui" in Mumbai recently.

## RASHTRIYA KHANIJ PURASKAR



### KEY POINTS

- Ministry of Mines has instituted a National level award scheme viz., Rashtriya Khanij Puraskar in three categories of minerals.
- The award money is  
Rs. 3 crore for 1<sup>st</sup> position  
Rs. 2 crore for 2<sup>nd</sup> position  
Rs. 1 crore for 3<sup>rd</sup> positions
- It is a National award to promote mining across the country in order to incentivize the States who take initiative in exploration, auction and operationalisation of mineral blocks.
- Award for the year 2019-20 & 2020-21 have been given during the 6th National Conclave on Mines & Minerals held on 12.07.2022.
- A total of Rs.21.02 Cr has been released to States in the above categories during 6th National Conclave on Mines & Minerals.
- Gujarat received the 1st prize in Rashtriya Khanij Puraskar for the auction of Minor Minerals from Home Minister Shri Amit Shah.

## SPORTS

### DIAMOND LEAGUE COMPETITION



### KEY POINTS

- At the renowned Diamond League competition in Stockholm , Olympic champion javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra won his first-ever medal after breaking his own national mark twice in a month. Chopra had a tremendous throw of 89.94 metres and placed second at the Stockholm Diamond League.
- He broke his own national record for the second time in a month.
- The 2022 Diamond League is the thirteenth season of the annual series of outdoor track and field meetings, organised by World Athletics. The competition is a revision to the top level athletics series since Diamond League foundation in 2010.

### PETRONAS MALAYSIA OPEN 2022





## KEY POINTS

- The 2022 Malaysia Open (officially known as the Petronas Malaysia Open 2022 for sponsorship reasons) was a badminton tournament that took place at the Axiata Arena, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- It was held from 28 June to 3 July 2022 and had a total prize of US \$675,000.
- The 2022 Malaysia Open was the twelfth tournament of the 2022 BWF World Tour and was part of the Malaysia Open championships, which had been held since 1937.
- The Indian team has been a consistent participant at the Malaysia Open.

## List of winners:

- Men's singles title: Viktor Axelsen (Denmark)
- Women's singles title: Ratchanok Intanon (Thailand)
- Men's doubles champions: Takuro Hoki / Yugo Kobayashi of Japan
- Women's doubles champions: Apriyani Rahayu and Siti Fadia Silva Ramadhanti of Indonesia
- Mixed doubles: China's Zheng Siwei and Huang Yaqiong

## 2022 NATIONAL GAMES



## KEY POINTS

- Gujarat will host the 36th National Games 2022 for the first time starting September 27 to October 10, 2022.
- The 2022 National Games of India, also known as Gujarat 2022, will be the 36th edition of the National Games of India and will be held in Ahmedabad, Gandhinagar, Surat, Vadodara, Rajkot and Bhavnagar in the state of Gujarat



- The National Games will have more than 34 sports disciplines to be conducted in six cities.
- Teams are expected from all 28 states and eight union territories of India as well a team representing Indian Armed Forces.
- The sports programme will include athletics, field hockey, football, volleyball, lawn tennis, table tennis, skateboarding and judo, and will also feature traditional sports such as kabaddi, kho-kho, mallakhamba, and yogasana.

## WORLD MASTERS ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS



### KEY POINTS

- Bhagwani Devi Dagar, a 94-year-old Indian sprinter, won the gold medal in the 100-meter sprint at the Tampere, Finland, World Masters Athletics Championships.
- She finished first in the gold with a timing of 24.74 seconds and she won the bronze in shot-put as well.
- For competitors 35 years of age and older, the World Masters Athletics Championships is a competition organised in the sport of track and field.
- The World Masters Athletics Championships 2022 is the 24th in a series of World Masters Athletics Outdoor Championships. The championships were held between June 29 and July 10, 2022 in Tampere, Finland.
- Athletes qualify for the World Championships by achieving an entry standard or through their placing on the world rankings.

## U20 ASIAN WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIPS



### KEY POINTS

- Indian grapplers at the U20 Asian Wrestling Championships in Manama, Bahrain won 22 medals.
- Winning 4 gold medals, 9 silver and 9 bronze, the talented bunch of grapplers put up a good show and gave a stiff fight to worthy competitors from Iran and Kazakhstan, among other strong nations.

## WORLD GAMES 2022 IN BIRMINGHAM



### KEY POINTS

- Abhishek Verma, archery gold winner from the Asian Games, and Jyothi Surekha Vennam took home bronze at the World Games 2022 in Birmingham, Alabama, USA from 7<sup>th</sup> July to 17<sup>th</sup> July.
- The Indian archery team defeated Mexico's Andrea and Miguel Becerra 157-156 in the bronze medal competition.

- The world game is the 11 day International Multi-sport Event organized with the support of International Olympic Committee held in the year following Summer Olympic Games.
- The host city was chosen by the International World Games Association on January 22, 2015, and the Games featured 30 official sports in 54 disciplines which were contested at 30 venues across the Birmingham area.
- The World Games Birmingham 2022 has mascots – Vulcan and Vesta. It has an opening ceremony theme: “Unlocking The Magic: Celebrating Birmingham's Past, Present and Future.”

## GLOBAL ENERGY PRIZE



## KEY POINTS

- Indian-origin professor of engineering at the University of Houston, Kaushik Rajashekara has won the prestigious Global Energy Prize.
- For his outstanding contributions to transportation electrification and energy efficiency technology while reducing power generation emission.
- Only three people in the world were selected for this year honour bestowed by the global energy association out of a record 119 nominations from 43 countries.
- Rajashekara is joined as a 2022 laureate by Viktor Orlov, chief specialist of the Centre for Innovative Technologies (Rosatom in Russia) and pioneer in thermonuclear physics; and Mercouri Kanatzidis, professor of chemistry and materials science at Northwestern University and senior researcher at the Argonne National Laboratory.
- The awarding ceremony will be held during Russian Energy Week in Moscow on October 12-14.

## SUMMITS

### G20 FMM



#### KEY POINTS

- G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting (FMM) held in Bali, Indonesia attended by S. Jaishankar.
- The 2022 G20 Bali summit is the seventeenth meeting of Group of Twenty (G20)
- Indonesia's presidency began on 1 December 2021, leading up to the summit in the fourth quarter of 2022.
- Indonesia's G20 Presidency has set three priority issues of Global Health Architecture, Digital Economy Transformation, and Energy Transition as comprehensive exit strategy to support global recovery.
- The members of the G20 are: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States, and the European Union.
- India will assume the G-20 presidency on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022 and host the inaugural G-20 Leaders Summit in 2023.

### NRI WORLD SUMMIT 2022



## KEY POINTS

- Michelle Poonawalla has received the Shiromani Award at NRI World Summit 2022 in the United Kingdom for her contribution to the field of art.
- In addition to her, the Shiromani Award was also awarded to Shri Sadhu Bhramvihari, Lord Rami Ranger, Rita Hinduja Chhabria.
- Bharat Shiromani Awards are instituted to honour individuals for their outstanding achievements in their area of expertise; contribution to socio-economic development and nation building.
- The awards are given to those persons of excellence who are deemed worthy of honour.

## I2U2 SUMMIT



## KEY POINTS

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the first virtual I2U2 Summit held virtually on 14 July 2022.
- The I2U2 is a four-nation grouping, where “I” stands for India and Israel, and “U” for the US and the UAE
- I2U2 was initially formed in October, 2021 following the Abraham Accords between Israel

and the UAE, to deal with issues concerning maritime security, infrastructure and transport in the region.

- Each country also has Sherpa- level interactions regularly to discuss the possible areas of cooperation.
- PM Modi was joined by United States President Joe Biden, Israeli PM Yair Lapid and UAE President Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.
- "The leaders discussed the possible joint projects within the framework of 'I2U2' as well as the other common areas of mutual interest to strengthen the economic partnership in trade and investment in our respective regions and beyond.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### ABHYAS: HIGH-SPEED EXPENDABLE AERIAL TARGET



#### KEY POINTS

- Recently, India successfully tested the indigenously-designed Abhyas - a High-speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT) - in Odisha.
- The trial was carried out by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) in Odisha's Chandipur.
- The performance of the aircraft at low altitude including sustained level and high manoeuvrability was demonstrated during the test flight.
- The target aircraft was flown from a ground based controller in a pre-designated low altitude flight path, which was monitored by various tracking sensors deployed by ITR, including radar and electro-optical targeting system.
- ABHYAS is designed & developed by Aeronautical Development Establishment of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).



## PSLV-C53



### KEY POINTS

- The Indian Space Research Organisation on Thursday successfully launched PSLV-C53 which placed three Singapore satellites in orbits.
- The fourth stage of the rocket then turned into an orbital platform for scientific experiments as it began to circle the Earth.
- This is the 55th mission of PSLV and the 15th mission using the PSLV-Core Alone variant. It is the 16th PSLV launch from the second launch pad.
- The mission proposes to demonstrate the utilization of the spent upper stage of the launch vehicle as a stabilized platform for scientific payloads subsequent to the separation of the satellites.

## INDIA'S FIRST-EVER FACTORY TO MANUFACTURE 3D-PRINTED ROCKET ENGINES



### KEY POINTS

- Space tech startup, Agnikul Cosmos has inaugurated India's first-ever factory to manufacture 3D-printed rocket engines in Chennai.
- The facility will use additive manufacturing technology to build 3D printed rocket engines and will be used to produce engines for its own in-house rockets.
- It was unveiled by Tata Sons chairman N Chandrasekaran and ISRO chairman S Somanath in the presence of Pawan Goenka, the chairman of IN-SPACe (Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre).

## SPRINT CHALLENGES



### KEY POINTS

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled 'SPRINT Challenges', aimed at giving a boost to the usage of indigenous technology in the Indian Navy during Naval Innovation and Indigenisation

Organisation (NIIO) seminar 'Swavlamban' in New Delhi on July 18, 2022.

- Defence Innovation Organisation (DIO), aims to induct at least 75 new indigenous technologies/products into the Indian Navy. This collaborative project is named SPRINT (Supporting Pole-Vaulting in R&D through Innovations for Defence Excellence).

## **NIRMAN" ACCELERATOR PROGRAMME**



### **KEY POINTS**

- Startup Incubation and Innovation Centre (SIIC) at IIT Kanpur has launched "NIRMAN" Accelerator Programme.
- The program focuses on the manufacturing startups engaged in healthcare and agriculture domains, to help them overcome the challenges from their prototype to market journey.
- A total of 15 startups will be selected under the program, where they will be granted the opportunity to accelerate their product journey from lab to market. The best performing startups among the cohort of 15 startups will receive a cash award of up to INR 10 Lakhs.

## **VARUNA**



## KEY POINTS

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has unveiled Varuna, India's first passenger drone.
- The Prime Minister was there to address the Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation (NIIO) seminar 'Swavlamban' which took place at Dr Ambedkar International Centre in New Delhi.
- The drone, manufactured by Sagar Defense Engineering Company, is capable of a safe landing even after a technical snag in the air.
- Varuna can carry a human payload, has a range of 25 km. and can carry a 130 kg payload and has 25-33 minutes of flight time.

## 'INDIA INTERNATIONAL BULLION EXCHANGE (IIBX)'



## KEY POINTS

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the 'India International Bullion Exchange (IIBX)', at the Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City) near Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- This exchange facilitate efficient price discovery with the assurance of responsible sourcing and quality, apart from giving impetus to the financialisation of gold in India.
- India's global bullion exchange, the IIBX will facilitate efficient price discovery and ensure

standardisation, quality assurance and sourcing integrity. Until now, only certain banks and nominated agencies were allowed by the Reserve Bank of India to import gold and sell it to dealers and jewellers.

- The prime minister also laid the foundation stone for the headquarters building of the International Financial Services Centres Authority.

## REPORTS

### GLOBAL GENDER GAP INDEX 2022



#### KEY POINTS

- India ranks 135 among a total of 146 countries in the Global Gender Gap Index 2022 of the World Economic Forum (WEF).
- It is the worst performer in the world in the “health and survival” sub-index where it is ranked 146.
- India also ranks poorly among its neighbours and is behind Bangladesh (71), Nepal (96), Sri Lanka (110), Maldives (117) and Bhutan (126). Only Iran (143), Pakistan (145) and Afghanistan (146) perform worse than India in south Asia.

### EXPAT INSIDER RANKINGS



## KEY POINTS

- Mexico has topped the Expat Insider Rankings for 2022, which was released by the InterNations.
- Expat Insider Survey is one of the largest of its kind which covers virtually every aspect of the expat experience, from financing to finding friends. It allows the expats to share their personal experiences and thoughts on life abroad.
- India has been ranked on 36th position out of the 52 countries on the list, with a high affordability score.
- Top 10 countries: Mexico, Indonesia, Taiwan, Portugal, Spain, UAE, Vietnam, Thailand, Australia, Singapore
- The last 10 countries: Greece, Germany, Malta, Italy, Turkey, South Africa, Japan, Luxembourg, Cyprus, Hong Kong, New Zealand, Kuwait.
- Kuwait is the worst country for expats in the ranking.

## OOKLA'S SPEEDTEST GLOBAL INDEX



## KEY POINTS

- India's rankings fell by three spots in the median mobile speeds, according to Ookla's Speedtest Global Index.
- India has at the number 115th spot in May this year, but it dropped down to 118th in June.
- In April and May, India's mobile broadband speeds improved. But the month of June 2022, saw the median mobile download speeds in India decrease from 14.28 Mbps in May to 14.00 Mbps, according to the data.



## HENLEY PASSPORT INDEX 2022



### KEY POINTS

- The Henley Passport Index has recently released the list of the World's Most Powerful Passports for the year 2022.
- India is ranked 87th on the list of the world's most powerful passports in 2022, according to the latest Henley Passport Index from Henley & Partners, an immigration consultancy.
- Three Asian nations Japan, Singapore and South Korea bagged the top three positions on the list, reversing pre-pandemic rankings that were dominated by European nations.

## TAKE HOME RATION REPORT



### KEY POINTS

- NITI Aayog and world food program launched a report titled as take home ration good practices across the state/union Territories.

- Under take home ration the government of india provide the Supplementary Nutrition Component of the Integrated Child Development Services to fill the gap in nutrition among children aswell as pregnant and Lactating women.
- As a way forward the report suggests that in order to realize the full potential of the THR, all components of this value chain need to function at optimum.
- This requires building a robust system for procurement, supply chain management and monitoring that ensures complete transparency, standardized process, sustainability, full coverage, leverages local ties, foster a culture of collaboration and builds trust within a community.
- These measures improve THR access in rural areas, produce THR with high nutrient value, enhance community ownership involving SHGs and promote income generating activities and female empowerment.

### World Food Program

- World Food Program is the world's largest humanitarian organization, saving lives in emergencies and using food assistance to build a pathway to peace, stability and prosperity for people recovering from conflict, disasters and the impact of climate change.
- As of 2020, it served 115.5 million people in 80-plus countries, the largest since 2012, and the WFP was also given the Nobel Peace Prize in 2020.
- WFP was established in 1961 by Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), WFP launched its first programmes in 1963 by the FAO and the United Nations General Assembly.

### KNIGHT FRANK INDIA'S AFFORDABILITY INDEX FOR H1 2022



### KEY POINTS

- According to Knight Frank India's Affordability Index for H1 2022 Ahmedabad has the most affordable housing among the top eight cities, with a ratio of 22 per cent, followed by Pune and

Chennai, each with a ratio of 26 per cent in the first half of the year 2022.

- Knight Frank's proprietary Affordability Index, which tracks the EMI to income ratio for an average household, witnessed steady improvement from 2010 to 2021 across the eight leading cities of India.
- The Eight leading cities are Hyderabad, NCR, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Kolkata, Pune, Ahmedabad and Chennai of the top eight cities in the country, Ahmedabad was the most affordable for home buyers in the first half of calendar year 2022, finds Knight Frank India's latest proprietary study Affordability Index.

## 'YOUTH IN INDIA 2022' REPORT



### KEY POINTS

- According to a report titled Youth in India 2022, released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), by the year 2036, those above the age of 30 will form the majority of the country's population.
- The states of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, which experienced a rise in proportion of youth population to total population till 2021, are expected to see a decline from hereon.
- These two states along with Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan are projected to have over half around 52% of country's youth.
- India's favourable demographic dividend is at an inflection point of sorts, with the population share of the youth starting to taper off even as the share of the elderly is expected to steadily surge during 2021-2036.
- Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Himachal Pradesh are projected to see a higher elderly population than the youth by 2036.
- Proportion of youth to total population of the country had increased from 26.6% in 1991 to

27.9% in 2016 and then declined, and would reach 22.7% by 2036, according to the 'Youth in India 2022' report.

- As per to the recently released United Nations world Population Prospects(WPP) 2022, India is projected to surpass china as the world most populous country in 2023.

## ECONOMIC SCENARIO

### "ZERO COUPON ZERO PRINCIPAL INSTRUMENTS"



#### Why in News?

- The government has designated "zero coupon zero principal instruments" as securities in preparation for the creation of a social stock exchange.
- The instruments will be governed by rules made by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).
- Declaration of zero coupon zero principal instruments as securities under the securities contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956.
- It means an instrument issued by a Not for Profit Organisation (NPO) which will be registered with the social stock exchange segment of a recognised stock exchange.

### 47<sup>TH</sup> GST COUNCIL MEETING



## KEY POINTS

- The 47th GST Council met under the Chairmanship of Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman in Chandigarh.
- The meeting was attended by Union Minister of State for Finance Shri Pankaj Choudhary besides Finance Ministers of States & UTs and senior officers of the Ministry of Finance & States/ UTs.
- In case of Cheques, lose or in book form, Maps and hydrographic or similar charts of all kinds, including atlases, wall maps, topographical plans and globes, printed and Parts of goods of heading 8801 exemption from GST will be withdrawn.
- Exemption on transport of passengers by air to and from NE states & Bagdogra is being restricted to economy class.
- Exemption on transportation by rail or a vessel of railway equipment and material, storage or warehousing of commodities which attract tax (nuts, spices, copra, jaggery, cotton etc.), Services by RBI, IRDA, SEBI, FSSAI, Fumigation in a warehouse of agricultural produce, GSTN, Services provided by the cord blood banks by way of preservation of stem cells, and Renting of residential dwelling to business entities (registered persons) is being withdrawn.
- Hotel accommodation priced upto Rs. 1000/day shall be taxed at 12%, Room rent (excluding ICU) exceeding Rs 5000 per day per patient charged by a hospital shall be taxed to the extent of amount charged for the room at 5% without ITC and Tax exemption on training or coaching in recreational activities relating to arts or culture, or sports is being restricted to such services when supplied by an individual.
- The GST rates have been increased for services supplied by a foreman in a chit fund, jobs related to leather goods and footwear, processing of hides and skins, manufacturing of clay bricks, contracts for roads, bridges, railways, metro among others.

## BUSINESS REFORMS ACTION PLAN (BRAP)



### KEY POINTS

- Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and Telangana are among the seven states that have been classified as “top achievers” in rolling out the Business Reforms Action Plan (BRAP) for 2020 the 5th edition of the BRAP exercise released by finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman, set by the department for the promotion of industry and internal trade (DPIIT).
- Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh figure under the Achievers category.
- Assam, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Jharkhand, Kerala, Rajasthan and West Bengal have been placed in the Aspirers category
- Andaman & Nicobar, Bihar, Chandigarh, Daman & Diu, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Delhi, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Puducherry and Tripura have been clubbed under the Emerging Business Ecosystems category.
- The BRAP report comprises of 301 reform points, covering 15 business regulatory areas like access to Information, labour, single window system, sectoral reforms, environment, and other reforms related to lifecycle of a typical business. In it, sectoral reforms have been introduced for the first time.
- 118 new reforms were included to further augment the reform process. Sectoral reforms with 72 action points spread across 9 sectors namely Trade License, Healthcare, Legal Metrology, Cinema Halls, Hospitality, Fire NOC, Telecom, Movie Shooting and Tourism were introduced for the first time to expand the scope of reform agenda.



## PERSONS IN NEWS

### ATTORNEY GENERAL (A-G)



### KEY POINTS

- Attorney General (A-G), K.K. Venugopal has been re-appointed as the country's top law officer for a period of three months.
- The Attorney General for India is a constitutional post the top legal officer of the country as per Article 76 of the constitution.
- There is no fixed term for the Attorney General of India. The Constitution mentions no specified tenure of Attorney General.
- Venugopal took over as the 15th Attorney General for India on July 1, 2017.
- Attorney General is appointed by the President on the advice of the government.

## CHAIRMAN OF GAIL



### KEY POINTS

- Sandeep Kumar Gupta, Director for Finance at Indian Oil Corporation, has been picked to head India's largest gas utility GAIL (India) Ltd.
- The Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) selected Gupta, 56, for the post of chairman and managing director of GAIL.
- He replaces Manoj Jain, who retired on August 31, 2022.

## PRESIDENT OF FINANCIAL ACTION TASK FORCE (FATF)



### KEY POINTS

- T. Raja Kumar of Singapore has been appointed as the president of Financial Action Task Force (FATF) the Anti-Money laundering Watchdog.
- The President is the principal spokesperson for the FATF and represents the FATF externally.
- The Financial Action Task Force is an Inter-Governmental body established in 1989 during the G7 Summit in Paris.

- Its secretariat is located at the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development headquarters in Paris.
- The objectives of the FATF are to set standards and promote effective implementation of legal, regulatory and operational measures for combating money laundering, terrorist financing and other related threats to the integrity of the international financial system.

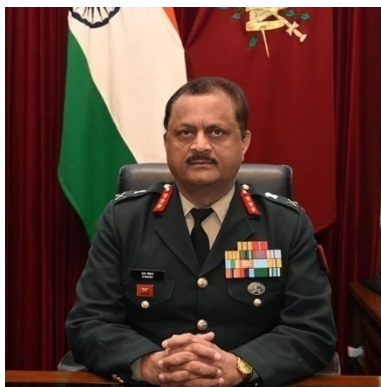
## 14TH PRIME MINISTER OF ISRAEL



### KEY POINTS

- Yair Lapid has been officially became the 14th prime minister of Israel, after replacing the Naftali Benett.
- He is a former journalist who serving as PM of Israel since 1 July 2022.
- Yair Lapid's term could be the short one as he take over the caretaker government ahead of Israel's election which was scheduled to take place on November 1.

## INDIA'S LIEUTENANT GENERAL



## KEY POINTS

- India's Lieutenant General, Mohan Subramanian has been appointed the Force Commander in the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS).
- The UN mission in South Sudan, on 9 July 2011 South Sudan became the newest country in the world.
- Lieutenant General Subramanian has succeeded Lieutenant General Shailesh Tinaikar of India.

## DEPUTY ELECTION COMMISSIONER



## KEY POINTS

- Senior bureaucrat R K Gupta was appointed as the deputy election commissioner, an order issued by the Personnel Ministry said.
- He is a Central Secretariat officer he will serve as deputy election commissioner till 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023.
- He comes in place of T Sreekanth

## Election Commission of India (ECI)

- The Election Commission of India (ECI) is an autonomous constitutional authority responsible for administering Union and State election processes in India.
- Election commission of india was established on 25<sup>th</sup> January 1950.
- The secretariat of the commission is in New Delhi
- The body administers elections to the Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, and State Legislative Assemblies in India, and the offices of the President and Vice President in the country.

## YOUNGEST ANALOG ASTRONAUT



### KEY POINTS

- Jahnavi Dangeti is the youngest to complete the Analog Astronaut programme from the Analog Astronaut Training Centre at Krakow in South Poland.
- She has completed the two-week training programme from June 14 to 25 at the AATC, it is a private agency set up by European Space professionals to carry out spaceflight scientific studies.
- The AATC has picked up six persons from all over the world which includes three women for the programme based on their previous achievements and association with space programmes.
- Jahnavi titled ASTRA-45 and in 2021, Ms Jahnavi had completed NASA's International Air and Space Programme (IASP) at the Kennedy Space Centre in the U.S.

### Analog Astronaut Training Centre:

- Analog Astronaut Training Centre is a private company, which accelerates human spaceflight scientific studies.
- AATC was created by former European Space Agency professionals: engineer and scientist.
- In 2018, the company established a laboratory to simulate space environment for scientific experiments focused on space biology and medicine.
- It is located in Rzepiennik, South of Poland.
- In 2021 the company has reached 32 successfully organized analog simulations, what positions Poland on the top in Europe considering the number of organized expeditions.

### National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

- The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is an independent agency of the US federal government responsible for the civil space program, aeronautics research and space research.
- NASA was established in 1958, succeeding the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA).
- NASA headquarters at Washington, D.C., United States.

### 15TH PRESIDENT OF INDIA



### KEY POINTS

- Daughter of a tribal family coming from a very ordinary house in Odisha, Draupadi Murmu has been elected as the 15th President of India.
- She is the ex-Jharkhand Governor, veteran politician from Odisha, and she is the second woman after Pratibha Patil to hold the top office.
- Pratibha Patil served as the 12th President of the country from 25 July 2007 to 25 July 2012.
- The term of the incumbent President Ram Nath Kovind ends on July 24, Draupadi Murmu sworn in as the President of India on July 25, 2022.
- She belongs to Santhal tribe

## Santhal tribe

- President Murmu was born into a Santhali family.
- Santhals are one of the largest tribes mostly settled in West Bengal, Odisha and Jharkhand. They also live in Bihar and Assam.
- Their official language is Santhali.
- Few other notable people from the Santhali community are Babulal Marandi, Hemant Soren, Shibu Soren and Raghunath Murmu.

## Political career:

- In 1997, Droupadi Murmu was elected as the councillor of the Rairangpur Nagar Panchayat as an independent candidate from a reserved seat for women. She then joined the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).
- She won the 2000 Odisha Legislative Assembly election from Rairangpur Assembly constituency and served two terms in the Odisha Legislative Assembly between 2000 and 2009.
- During the BJP and BJD coalition government in Odisha, she was the Minister of State with Independent Charge for Commerce and Transportation from 6 March 2000 to 6 August 2002, and Fisheries and Animal Resources Development from 6 August 2002 to 16 May 2004.
- In 2007, she received the Nilkanth Award for the Best MLA of the Odisha Legislative Assembly.
- In 2009, she lost the Lok Sabha election from Mayurbhanj Lok Sabha constituency as the BJD and BJP alliance had ended.
- She was elected to the BJP National Executive (ST Morcha) in 2013, and was the district president till 2015.
- Murmu was sworn in as the Governor of Jharkhand on 18 May 2015, becoming the first woman to hold the position.
- The BJP was in power in the Jharkhand Government for most of her six-year tenure as a governor and was also in power in the Union Government throughout her tenure.
- Her six-year tenure as Governor began in May 2015 and ended in July 2021



## IMPORTANT DAYS

### CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS DAY



- CA Day is a celebration of the foundation of Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) annually on 1st July.
- In India for accounting and auditing professions, the ICAI is the only licensing and regulatory body.

### What is ICAI?

- The ICAI was set up by an Act of the Parliament to regulate the profession of chartered accountancy in the country. ICAI, which functions under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India, is the second-largest professional chartered accountants' body in the world.
- In India, the ICAI is the sole body for the licensing and regulation of the financial audits and accounting profession in India. It is also one of the oldest professional institutes in the country.
- The body is managed in by a council comprising 40 members, in accordance with the provisions of the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949 and the Chartered Accountants Regulations, 1988. Thirty two members of the council are elected by the chartered accountants while the remaining eight members are nominated by the central government.

## NATIONAL DOCTOR'S DAY



### KEY POINTS

- India celebrates July 1 as 'National Doctor's Day' commemorating the iconic and internationally renowned medical practitioner, Dr Bidhan Chandra Roy who served as a physician, a freedom fighter, an educationist and a politician.
- The day, commemorated by Indian Medical Association (IMA), celebrates all doctors and healthcare workers who have been tirelessly serving people by risking their own lives.
- The theme this year is 'Family doctors on the front line.'

### Who is Dr Bidhan Chandra?

- Dr Bidhan Chandra Roy was born on July 1, 1882, and passed away on the same day in 1962. Also called Doctors' Day, it has been celebrated across the nation every year since 1991. Dr Bidhan Roy was also a prominent freedom fighter. The Bharat Ratna recipient established many medical institutes such as the Jadavpur T.B. Hospital, Kamala Nehru Memorial Hospital, Chittaranjan Cancer Hospital and the Chittaranjan Seva Sadan for women and children.

## INTERNATIONAL DAY OF COOPERATIVES



### KEY POINTS

- International Day of Cooperatives is marked annually on the first Saturday of July. This year, the day will be observed on 2 July.
- The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) passed a resolution on 16 December 1992 to declare the first Saturday of July 1995 as the International Day of Cooperatives.
- The date was chosen as it marked the centenary of the International Cooperative Alliance's establishment.
- This year's theme for International Day of Cooperatives is - "Cooperatives Build a Better World."

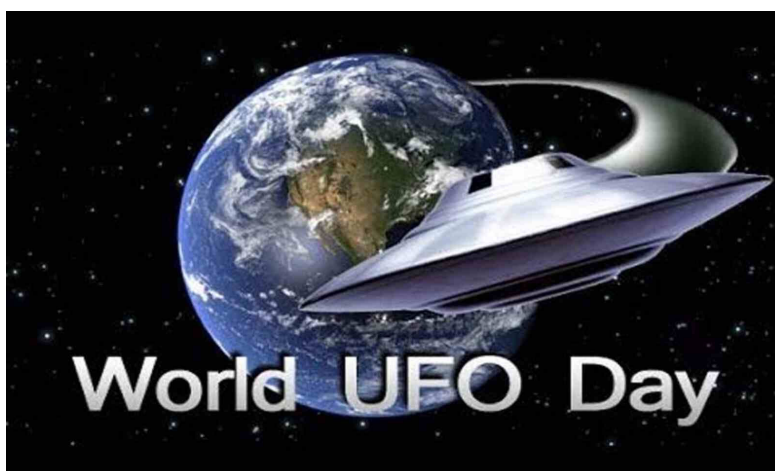
## WORLD SPORTS JOURNALISTS DAY



## KEY POINTS

- World Sports Journalists Day is observed on July 2 every year to celebrate the services of sports journalists for the promotion of sports.
- In 1994, the International Sports Press Association (A.I.P.S.) celebrated World Sports Journalists Day for the first time in honor of its 70th anniversary.
- The main agenda of celebrating World Sports Journalists Day is to promote sports as a medium of peace across the world.

## WORLD UFO DAY (WUD)



## KEY POINTS

- The World UFO Day (WUD) is held on July 2 every year globally. \
- It is a day dedicated to the undoubted existence of Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO) by World UFO Day Organization (WUFODO).

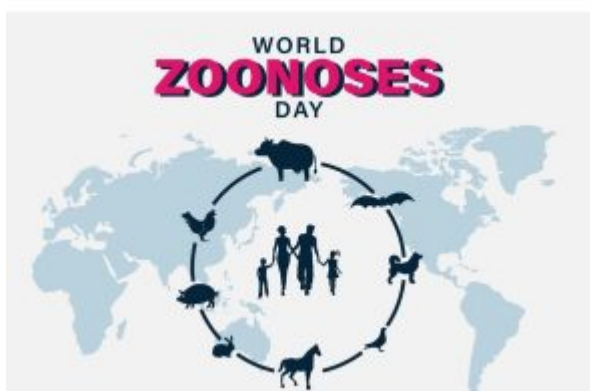
## INTERNATIONAL PLASTIC BAG FREE DAY



### KEY POINTS

- The International Plastic Bag Free Day is held on July 3 around the world to spread awareness that a plastic bag free world.
- The main goal of the day is to raise awareness of the growing harm that the use of this non-biodegradable substance is causing to the environment

## WORLD ZOO NOSES DAY



### KEY POINTS

- World Zoonoses Day is marked annually on 6 July to commemorate the first vaccination administered against a zoonotic disease like influenza, ebola and West Nile virus.
- Zoonotic diseases originate in animals and can spread to humans. Infections occur through bites or contact with the infected animal's bodily fluids. Virus, bacteria, fungi, prions or parasites cause zoonosis.

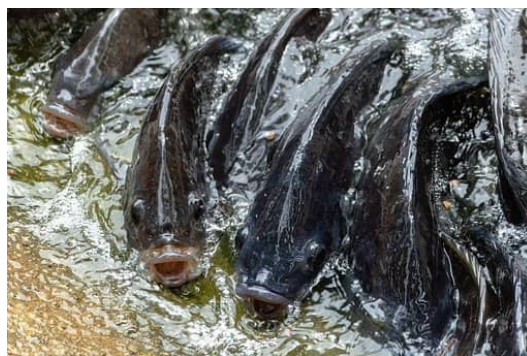
## WORLD CHOCOLATE DAY



### KEY POINTS

- World Chocolate Day is celebrated on July 7 every year to commemorate the invention of chocolate
- July 7 is celebrated as World Chocolate Day worldwide. This is because it is believed that chocolate first came to Europe on this day in 1550

## NATIONAL FISH FARMERS DAY



### KEY POINTS

- National Fish Farmers Day is celebrated on 10th July every year to demonstrate solidarity with all fisher folk, fish farmers and concerned stakeholders throughout the Country.
- Every year, this annual event is celebrated to commemorate Professor Dr. Hiralal Chaudhury and his colleague Dr. Alikunhi for their contribution in achieving the successful induced breeding of major carps on 10th July, 1957 at Angul in Odisha for the first time in the country through administration of carp pituitary hormone extract in the breeding of major carps.

## WORLD POPULATION DAY



### KEY POINTS

- World Population Day is observed every year on July 11 to raise awareness about global population issues.
- The Day was first marked on 11 July 1990 in more than 90 countries.
- The theme of World Population Day 2022 is for a universe of 8 billion which expects a strong future for all guaranteeing freedom and decisions for all.

## INTERNATIONAL MALALA DAY



### KEY POINTS

- International Malala Day is celebrated every year on July 12 on the occasion of young activist Malala Yousafzai's birthday.
- At age 17, Malala was the youngest recipient ever of the Nobel Peace Prize. The day also honors the rights of children and women.



- Malala Day 2022 provides an opportunity to world leaders to ensure compulsory and free education for every child.

## WORLD PAPER BAG DAY



## WORLD PAPER BAG DAY

### KEY POINTS

- Every year, World Paper Bag Day is observed on July 12 to raise awareness of the importance of using paper bags instead of plastic bags.
- The theme for Paper Bag Day this year is, “If You're 'fantastic', Do Something 'dramatic' To Cut The 'Plastic', Use 'Paper Bags'.”

## WORLD YOUTH SKILLS DAY



### KEY POINTS

- World Youth Skills Day 2022 is observed annually on July 15.
- It focuses on the strategic importance of equipping young people with skills for employment, decent work and entrepreneurship.
- The theme for 2022 is 'Transforming youth skills for the future'.

## WORLD DAY FOR INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE



### KEY POINTS

- World Day for International Justice is observed on July 17 to commemorate the organisations that work to bring justice to the victims of international criminal acts.
- The theme for World Day for International Justice 2022 is “Achieving Social Justice through Formal Employment

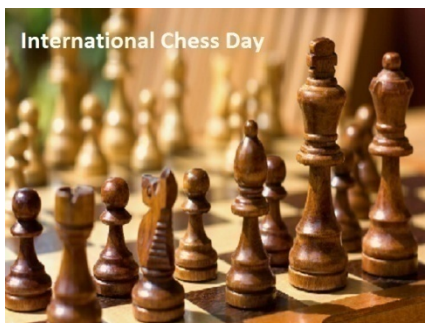
## NELSON MANDELA INTERNATIONAL DAY



### KEY POINTS

- Every year on July 18 the world marks Nelson Mandela International Day.
- The day is a remembrance of the first democratically elected President of South Africa.
- The theme for Nelson Mandela International Day 2022 is “do what you can with what you have and where you are,”

## WORLD CHESS DAY



### KEY POINTS

- World Chess Day is celebrated annually on July 20 globally.
- On 12 December 2019, the General Assembly proclaimed 20 July as World Chess Day to mark the date of the establishment of the International Chess Federation (FIDE) in Paris in 1924.
- World Chess Day 2022 will be observed with the theme ' Women in Chess.

## INTERNATIONAL MOON DAY



### KEY POINTS

- The General Assembly declared International Moon Day, a United Nations-designated international day to be observed annually on 20 July.
- International Moon Day 2022 is chosen as the day to educate and promote awareness on the status and prospects for humanity.
- In cooperation with United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA), the International Moon Day 2022 will be observed as an annual event and general public celebrations will be held all over the world.

## WORLD BRAIN DAY



### KEY POINTS

- The World Federation of Neurology (WFN) celebrates World Brain Day on every July 22, focusing on a different theme each year.
- The main objective of this day of the brain is to increase public awareness and promote advocacy related to brain health.
- This year's theme for World Brain Day is “Brain health for all”.

## WORLD FRAGILE X AWARENESS DAY



### KEY POINTS

- The World Fragile X Awareness Day is marked on 22 July every year to celebrate families impacted by Fragile X and highlight the progress of research to find a cure.
- In July 2000 the 106th Congress designated July 22 as National Fragile X Awareness Day.
- National Fragile X Awareness Day celebrates those impacted by Fragile X syndrome. The day also raises support for research, education and awareness.

## NATIONAL BROADCASTING DAY



### KEY POINTS

- National Broadcasting Day is observed every year on July 23 in India. It aims to remind us about the impact of radio on our lives.
- The day also marks the start of organised radio broadcasts in the country by All India Radio.
- All India Radio started broadcasting in 1923 via 2 private stations called the Radio Club of Bombay and Calcutta Radio Club.
- It was on July 23, 1927, that organised broadcasting kick-started in India.
- It was on July 23 that All India Radio began its journey as a private company called Indian Broadcasting Company Ltd (IBC).

## INCOME TAX DAY



- The Income Tax department observes July 24 every year as Income Tax Day or 'Aaykar Diwas'.
- INCOME TAX DAY 2022: The Income Tax Day or Aaykar Diwas was introduced in 2010 to commemorate 150 years of this tax in India.

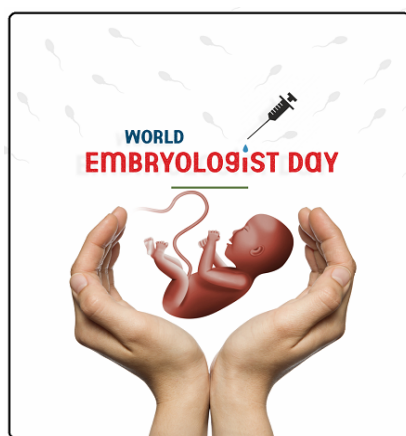
## WORLD DROWNING PREVENTION DAY



### KEY POINTS

- World Drowning Prevention Day is observed every year on July 25 and was established by the UN General Assembly Resolution.
- Do one thing – to prevent drowning” theme for this year.
- The purpose of the WDPD is raising awareness of drowning prevention and celebrating the actions and initiatives that lifesaving organisations around the world are taking to prevent this.

## WORLD EMBRYOLOGIST DAY



### KEY POINTS

- World IVF Day also known as World Embryologist Day is celebrated on the 25th of July every year.



- This day marks the birth date of first baby that was conceived and successfully birthed
- On July 25, 1978, Louise Joy Brown became the first baby to be born through in vitro fertilisation (IVF) method.

## INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE CONSERVATION OF THE MANGROVE ECOSYSTEM



### KEY POINTS

- International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem is observed every year on July 26.
- This day is celebrated to raise awareness of the importance of mangrove ecosystems as “a unique, special and vulnerable ecosystem”.

## KARGIL VIJAY DIWAS





## KEY POINTS

- Kargil Vijay Diwas is commemorated every 26 July in India, to observe India's victory over Pakistan in the Kargil War for ousting Pakistani Forces
- As the fight came to an end on July 26, 1999, when Indian troops established victory by recapturing all the Indian posts that had been occupied by Pakistani infiltrators
- Kargil Vijay Diwas celebrated in honour of the Army's successful mission called operation Vijay
- On July 7, 1999, during the Kargil conflict, the country lost one such courageous son, Captain Vikram Batra. He is often termed the 'Kargil War Hero'.

## EARTH OVERSHOOT DAY



## KEY POINTS

- Earth Overshoot Day falls on 28 July
- This day marks a tipping point when people have used up "all that ecosystems can regenerate in one year"
- Humanity currently uses 74% more than what the planet's ecosystems can regenerate-1.7 Earths.
- From Earth overshoot Day until the end of the year, humanity operates on ecological deficit spending.

## WORLD HEPATITIS DAY



### KEY POINTS

- World Hepatitis Day is observed each year on 28 July to raise awareness of viral hepatitis, which causes inflammation of the liver that leads to severe disease and liver cancer.
- This year 'I can't wait' theme stresses importance of testing, treatment
- It highlights the need to accelerate the fight against viral hepatitis and the importance of testing and treatment for the real people who need it.
- The campaign amplify the voices of people affected by viral hepatitis calling for immediate action and the end of stigma and discrimination.

## INTERNATIONAL TIGER DAY



### KEY POINTS

- International Tiger Day is observed globally on 29th July every year. This day aims to encourage all to take appropriate action to save the wild cats.

- The day was founded in 2010 at St Petersburg Tiger Summit in Russia in order to raise awareness about the decline of wild tiger numbers, leaving them on the brink of extinction, and to encourage the work of Tiger Conservation.
- This year's theme for International Tiger Day 2022 is “India launches Project Tiger to revive the tiger population”.

## WORLD NATURE CONSERVATION DAY



### KEY POINTS

- World Nature Conservation Day acknowledges that a healthy environment is a foundation for a stable and healthy society.
- the theme for this year is “Cut Down on Plastic”.
- World Nature Conservation Day is meant to create awareness among the masses about the conservation of natural resources, especially nonrenewable ones.

## WORLD DAY AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS



## KEY POINTS

- In 2013, the UN General Assembly adopted resolution A/RES/68/192 designated July 30 as the World Day against Trafficking in Persons.
- UN General Assembly declared that such a day was necessary to "raise awareness of the situation of victims of human trafficking and for the promotion and protection of their rights."
- The theme for 2022 is "Use and Abuse of Technology".

## WORLD RANGER DAY



## KEY POINTS

- World Ranger Day is observed on 31st July every year.
- The theme of World Ranger Day 2022 is "DIVERSITY".
- The International Ranger Federation established this day to honour the contribution of Park Rangers to the preservation of nature.
- World Ranger Day offers a chance to support their vital work, which ranges from environmental campaigning to education.
- The day is also an opportunity to pay tribute to rangers who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

## Questions on Current Issues (JULY – 2022)

01. Which of the following Statement(s) is/are Correct regarding Suraksha Manthan 2022?

1. The Desert Corps of the Indian Army organised the “Suraksha Manthan 2022”, on aspects of Border & Coastal Security at Gandhi Nagar (Gujarat).
2. A joint training calendar was also formulated to achieve a higher degree of interoperability and jointness amongst the security forces.

(a) 1 only      (b) 2 only      (c) Both 1 and 2      (d) Neither 1 nor 2

01. Ans: (b)

**Sol:** Statement 1 is Incorrect: The correct Statement is about Suraksha Manthan 2022: The Desert Corps of the Indian Army organised the “Suraksha Manthan 2022”, on aspects of Border & Coastal Security at Jodhpur (Rajasthan).

Statement 2 is Correct: A joint training calendar was also formulated to achieve a higher degree of interoperability and jointness amongst the security forces. Current security threats and challenges, along with joint mitigation response, were deliberated upon and such scenarios would now form part of the forthcoming exercises. It was further decided to create an enabling security environment and develop a tangible capability development road map to achieve the same. Hence the correct answer is Option (b).

02. 'CAPSTONE', which has been seen in the news, is a satellite launched by which space agency?

(a) ESA      (b) ISRO      (c) NASA      (d) SpaceX

02. Ans: (c)

**Sol:** NASA has recently launched a 25-kg satellite ‘CAPSTONE’, which is short for Cislunar Autonomous Positioning System Technology Operations and Navigation Experiment. The satellite is designed to test a unique and elliptical lunar orbit. CAPSTONE will enter an elongated orbit called a near rectilinear halo orbit (NRHO). It will provide data about operating in an NRHO and showcase key technologies.

NASA stands for National Aeronautics and Space Administration. NASA was started on October 1, 1958, as a part of the United States government. NASA is in charge of U.S. science and technology that has to do with airplanes or space. Hence the correct answer is Option (c).

03. Which of the following Statement(s) is/are NOT correct regarding Namami Gange Amrit Vatika?

1. The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) established Namami Gange Amrit Vatika at Kalindi Kunj Ghat on the River Ganga.
2. Namami Gange Program’s main areas of concentration is cleaning up Ganga tributaries, particularly Yamuna.

(a) 1 only      (b) 2 only      (c) Both 1 and 2      (d) Neither 1 nor 2



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**03. Ans: (a)**

**Sol:** Statement 1 is Incorrect: The correct Statement is that with the installation of 75 trees as part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) established Namami Gange Amrit Vatika at Kalindi Kunj Ghat on the River Yamuna in New Delhi.

Statement 2 is Correct: Namami Gange Program's main areas of concentration is cleaning up Ganga tributaries, particularly Yamuna. The attendees were inspired by him to join the Clean Yamuna initiative. The National Mission for Clean Ganga regularly hosts a cleanliness drive on the River Yamuna in Delhi on the fourth Saturday of each month. Hence the correct answer is Option (a).

**04. Which of the following Statement(s) is/are Correct regarding National Doctors' Day?**

**National Doctors' Day is celebrated on 01 July every year in INDIA.**

**The theme for National Doctor's Day 2022 is "Family Doctors on the Front Line."**

(a) 1 only      (b) 2 only      (c) Both 1 and 2      (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**04. Ans: (c)**

**Sol: Both Statements are Correct.** National Doctors' Day is celebrated on 01 July every year in INDIA, and it was first observed on 01 July 1991 in the honour of Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy. National Doctors' Day is a day celebrated to recognize the contributions of physicians to individual lives and communities. Hence Statement 1 is Correct.

The theme for National doctors' day 2022 is 'Family Doctors on the Front Line'. This theme highlights doctors' contribution and shows them gratitude as they care 24x7 for the whole of humanity or a community as their family. Hence Statement 2 is also correct. Thus Correct answer is Option (c).

**05. 2022 Resilient Democracies Statement' is associated with which global association?**

(a) BRICS      (b) ASEAN      (c) G-7      (d) G-20

**05. Ans: (c)**

**Sol:** Leaders of the powerful G7 grouping and its five partner countries, including India issued a joint statement titled '2022 Resilient Democracies Statement'. The leaders affirmed that they are committed to open public debate and the free flow of information online and offline while guarding the freedom, independence and diversity of civil society actors.

The Group of Seven is an inter-governmental political forum consisting of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States. The G7 Summit 2022 took place at Schloss Elmau in Germany. Japan will host the 2023 Group of Seven (G7) summit in Hiroshima.

06. In the PSLV-C53 mission, ISRO launched three satellites of which country?

- (a) Nepal (b) Bangladesh  
(c) New Zealand (d) Singapore

06. Ans: (d)

**Sol:** The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has launched three satellites from Singapore in its Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C53) mission. It is being launched from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota. PSLV-C53 is also the second dedicated mission of NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), a corporate arm of the Department of Space. ISRO has successfully launched the PSLV-C52 mission in February 2022 by injecting Earth Observation Satellite (EOS-04).

07. Consider the following statements regarding Public Distribution System (PDS).

1. The concept of a buffer stock was first introduced during the Second Five Year Plan.
2. The Central Government takes the responsibility for procurement, storage, transportation and bulk allocation of food grains, at subsidised prices.
3. The responsibility of distribution to consumers including target groups through a network of fair price shops (FPSs) rests with the State Governments.

Which of the above statements is/are Incorrect?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) 2, 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

07. Ans: (a)

**Sol:** Statement 1 is **Incorrect:** The Correct Statement is that the concept of a buffer stock was first introduced during the 4<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan (1969- 74) and a buffer stock of 5 million tonnes of food grains was envisaged. Hence the correct answer is Option (a).

Public Distribution System (PDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and State Governments. The Central Government takes the responsibility for procurement, storage, transportation and bulk allocation of food grains, at subsidised prices. The responsibility of distribution to consumers including target groups through a network of various fair price shops (FPSs) rests with the State Governments.

The buffer stock provides the basic and most flexible instrument for moderating short-term effects of supply or production shortfalls. The concept of a buffer stock was first introduced during the 4<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan (1969- 74) and a buffer stock of 5 million tonnes of food grains was envisaged. The buffer stock figures are normally reviewed after every 5 years.

08. India sets world record for building longest double-decker bridge in which of the following Indian City?

- (a) New Delhi (b) Nagpur (c) Jabalpur (d) Kanyakumari



**08. Ans: (b)**

**Sol:** The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and Maharashtra Metro achieved the world record for constructing the longest double-decker viaduct with a length of 3.14 km in Nagpur. The longest viaduct with highway flyover and metro rail supported on single column piers. The maximum metro stations constructed on a double-decker viaduct are recognized by the Asia Book of Records & India Book of Records. The development is the fulfilment of the promise by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's Government on building world-class infrastructure in New India.

**09. Consider the following statements.**

- 1. Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) is the parent ministry of the India Meteorological Department (IMD).**
- 2. In the hills, clouds don't easily dissipate and can get trapped over a certain area, bringing torrential showers and even a cloud burst.**
- 3. Convergence of the winds flowing from opposite directions can lead to formation of cumulonimbus clouds over the hilly region.**

**Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?**

- (a) 1, 2                      (b) 1, 3                      (c) 2, 3                      (d) All of the above

**09. Ans: (d)**

**Sol:** Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) is the parent ministry of the India Meteorological Department (IMD). July has seen the monsoon revive over many parts of the country, including Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand. Moisture laden easterly winds have been travelling from lower levels, reaching up to western Himalayas. These winds have been colliding with the westerly winds flowing across the upper levels.

Convergence of the winds flowing from opposite directions led to formation of cumulonimbus clouds over the Kashmir region. In the hills, clouds don't easily dissipate and can get trapped over a certain area, bringing torrential showers and even a cloud burst. Monsoons in previous years too have seen similar short torrents that have caused immense damage.

**10. The Union Cabinet approved the categorization of which institution as an 'International Organization', in July 2022?**

- (a) Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure                      (b) One Sun One World One Grid  
 (c) BIMSTEC                      (d) International Solar Alliance

**10. Ans: (a)**

**Sol:** The Union Cabinet approved the categorization of Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) as an 'International Organization'. The cabinet also approved signing of the Headquarters Agreement (HQA) with CDRI, for grant of exemptions and privileges under Section-3 of the United Nations (Privileges & Immunities) Act, 1947.

**11. Which of the following Statement(s) is/are Correct regarding Carbon-Neutral Airport?**

1. The Airports Authority of India, Leh airport is being built as a carbon-neutral airport, a first in India
2. The main feature of this process is that naturally existing heat is concentrated and used.
3. A “Geothermal system” in hybridization with Solar PV Plant will be provided in the New airport Terminal Building for heating and cooling purposes.

(a) 1, 2 only                      (b) 2, 3 only                      (c) 1, 3 only                      (d) 1, 2 and 3

**11. Ans: (d)**

**Sol:** The Airports Authority of India, Leh airport is being built as a carbon-neutral airport, a first in India. A “Geothermal system” in hybridization with Solar PV Plant will be provided in the new airport Terminal Building for heating and cooling purposes. This system works by exchanging heat between the air and the ground as its heat pumps are used for space heating and cooling, as well as water heating.

The main feature of this process is that naturally existing heat is concentrated and used. It is estimated that 900 tons of carbon emissions per year will be reduced after adopting the geothermal system at the Leh Airport Terminal Building project.

**12. Which of the following Statement(s) is/are NOT correct regarding “AadhaarFaceRd” mobile app?**

1. The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has launched a face authentication feature through a new mobile app called “AadhaarFaceRd”.
2. For authentication, Aadhaar card holders need to physically visit an enrollment centre for iris and fingerprint scans.
3. This application enables secure capture of a live person image to perform Aadhaar face authentication.

(a) 1 only                      (b) 2 only                      (c) 3 only                      (d) 1, 3 only

**12. Ans: (b)**

**Sol:** The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has launched a face authentication feature through a new mobile app called “AadhaarFaceRd”. For authentication, Aadhaar card holders no longer need to physically visit an enrollment centre for iris and fingerprint scans. The UIDAI has started using face authentication as a method of confirming an Aadhaar holder’s identity. Once your facial authentication is successful, it verifies your identity.

Residents are now using the Aadhaar Face Authentication feature by downloading the UIDAI RDApp, which can be used for various Aadhaar Authentication Apps like Jeevan Praman, PDS, Scholarship schemes, COWIN, and Farmer Welfare schemes. Aadhaar Face Authentication technology has been developed in-house by UIDAI.

**13. The Indian Government recently organised a ‘National Conclave’ on which fruit?**

- (a) Banana      (b) Apple      (c) Dragon Fruit      (d) Pine Apple

**13. Ans: (c)**

**Sol:** National Conclave on Kamlam (Dragon Fruit) was organized under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India. The objective of this conclave was to give thrust to increase the area, production and productivity, marketing, branding of Kamlam (Dragon Fruit) and also to enhance the farmer’s income. A Technical Session was also conducted to address the issues related to planting material, cultivation practices, post-harvest & marketing and research on Kamlam (Dragon Fruit). Progressive farmers of States namely Haryana, Karnataka, Gujarat and Nagaland shared their experiences during the workshop.

**14. Which state or UT has approved the construction of India's first e-waste Eco Park for the effective management of e-waste?**

- (a) Delhi      (b) Gujarat      (c) Tamil Nadu      (d) Kerala

**14. Ans: (a)**

**Sol:** The Delhi government will set up the country's first e-waste eco-park, where recycling and re-manufacturing work will be done in a safe and scientific manner. At present, Delhi produces 2 lakh tonnes of e-waste every year. At the e-waste eco-park, recycling and re-manufacturing work will be done in a safe and scientific manner.

**15. Which institution has developed an Artificial Intelligence-based tool -‘PIVOT’, that can predict cancer-causing genes?**

- (a) IISc Bengaluru      (b) IIT Madras      (c) IIT Delhi      (d) IIT Bombay

**15. Ans: (b)**

**Sol:** Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) researchers have developed an Artificial Intelligence-based tool- ‘PIVOT’, which can predict cancer-causing genes in an individual.

This tool will help in devising personalized cancer treatment strategies. It is based on a machine learning model that classifies genes as tumour suppressor genes, oncogenes or neutral genes.

**16. Which of the following Statement(s) is/are Correct regarding Anthrax?**

1. Anthrax, also known as woolsorter’s disease is a zoonotic disease.
2. It is primarily a disease of herbivores, with both domestic and wild animals being affected by it.
3. Host animals shed the bacteria into the ground, which sporulates when exposed to the air.

- (a) 1, 2      (b) 1, 3      (c) 2, 3      (d) All of the above

16. Ans: (d)

**Sol:** Anthrax, also known as malignant pustule or woolsorter's disease, is a rare but serious disease caused by the rod-shaped bacteria known as *Bacillus anthracis*. It occurs naturally in soil and, according to the WHO it is primarily a disease of herbivores, with both domestic and wild animals being affected by it.

Anthrax is a zoonotic disease, meaning that it is naturally transmissible from animals (usually vertebrates) to humans. People can get the disease through contact with infected animals or animal products that are contaminated with bacteria. Domestic and wild animals can get infected when they breathe in or ingest spores in contaminated soil, plants or water.

17. Lisbon Declaration' which was seen in the news, is associated with the conservation of which entity?

- (a) Freshwater Glaciers      (b) Air      (c) Ocean      (d) Mountains

17. Ans: (c)

**Sol:** The UN Ocean Conference 2022 concluded with the unanimous adoption of the Lisbon Declaration "Our Ocean, our future, our responsibility." More than 150 countries agreed to scale up science-based and innovative actions to address the ocean emergency. The Lisbon Declaration takes into account the capacity challenges being faced by the developing countries, mainly the Small Island Developing States and Least Developing Countries.

18. 'Naari ko Naman' scheme has been launched in which Indian State?

- (a) Himachal Pradesh      (b) Madhya Pradesh  
(c) Uttar Pradesh      (d) Uttarakhand

18. Ans: (a)

**Sol:** Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur launched the 'Naari Ko Naman' scheme. It aims to 50 per cent concession on bus fares to women for travel within the state. The state government also announced to sanction 25 new posts of women drivers in the 'Ride With Pride' government taxi service - an initiative to ferry women passengers and senior citizens.

19. Which of the following Statement(s) is/are Correct regarding Digital India Week 2022?

1. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated Digital India Week 2022 at Mahatma Mandir in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
2. The theme of this Digital India Week is 'Catalyzing New India's Techade' to transform the nation into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy.

- (a) 1 only      (b) 2 only      (c) Both 1 and 2      (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**19. Ans: (c)**

**Sol:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated Digital India Week 2022 at Mahatma Mandir in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. The theme of this Digital India Week is ‘Catalyzing New India’s Techade’ to transform the nation into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy. Digital India Week 2022 will also have a three-day long orientation program ‘India Stack Knowledge Exchange- Showcasing India Stack and India’s Digital Products and Service’ from 7th July.

The Digital India Week 2022 programme will demonstrate the digital platforms like Aadhaar, UPI, Cowin and Digilocker among others which have provided ease of life to the citizens. Startups, government leaders and industry and academia experts will participate in this programme. An exhibition with more than 200 stalls has been set up at Mahatma Mandir by Indian unicorns and startups. Prime Minister Modi also visited this exhibition and interacted with the people connected with startups and unicorns.

**20. Which of the following Statement(s) is/are Correct regarding States’ Startup Ranking Framework?**

1. Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry has released ‘Start-ups Ranking 2021’.
2. Gujarat, Karnataka and Meghalaya were categorised as best performers while Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Mizoram and Ladakh have an emerging start-up ecosystem.
3. Kerala, Maharashtra, Odisha, Telangana and Jammu and Kashmir were ranked as the top performers section.

(a) 1, 2 only      (b) 2, 3 only      (c) 1, 3 only      (d) 1, 2, 3

**20. Ans: (d)**

**Sol:** Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry has released ‘Start-ups Ranking 2021’. The ranking focuses on seven reform areas. Gujarat, Karnataka and Meghalaya were categorised as best performers while Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Mizoram and Ladakh have an emerging start-up ecosystem. Kerala, Maharashtra, Odisha, Telangana and Jammu and Kashmir were ranked as the top performers section. Hence the Correct answer is Option (d).

**21. Greenko has signed an MoU with which IIT to launch India's first dedicated school for sustainable science and technology?**

(a) IIT Madras    (b) IIT Delhi    (c) IIT Kharagpur    (d) IIT Hyderabad

**21. Ans: (d)**

**Sol:** Renewable energy major Greenko and IIT Hyderabad have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to launch India’s first dedicated school for sustainable science and technology. It will be the nation’s first institution solely focused on teaching sustainable science and technology. In order to establish a school where students would be trained toward sustainable goals like climate change mitigation, circular economy, energy transition, among others, the renewable energy company Greenko has partnered with IIT-Hyderabad. The Greenko School of Sustainable Science and Technology (GSSST) will open toward the end of this year, according to a statement from the company, and by June 2023, the first batch of students will

be admitted for the MTech and Ph.D. programmes in sustainable science and technology, followed by the BTech programme.

**22. Fields Medal, which was seen in the news recently, is associated with which field?**

- (a) Mathematics (b) Architecture  
(c) Photography (d) Sports

**22. Ans: (a)**

**Sol:** Fields Medal is also described the Nobel Prize in mathematics. Ukrainian mathematician Maryna Viazovska, who works in Switzerland, was named as one of four recipients of the 2022 Fields Medal. The Fields Medal is awarded by the International Mathematical Union (IMU), an international non-governmental and non-profit scientific organisation to promote international cooperation in mathematics.

**23. What is the name of the one-stop portal for all CBSE exam activities launched by the CBSE Board?**

- (a) ePariksha (b) Diksha Vidya (c) OneExam (d) Pariksha Sangam

**23. Ans: (d)**

**Sol:** The CBSE Board has launched a portal called ‘Pariksha Sangam’ to streamline board examination results, sample papers, and other details in one single window. According to cbse-digital-education.com, the newly launched Pariksha Sangam portal “will integrate various examination-related processes to be conducted by the school’s regional offices and the Headquarters of the CBSE Board”.

Pariksha Sangam is another portal where students will be able to check Class 10th and Class 12th board results easily. The Pariksha Sangam has been divided into three main sections: Schools (Ganga), Regional offices (Yamuna), and Head office (Saraswati). The Pariksha Sangam portal will streamline all the activities related to CBSE Board Result 2022 for classes 10th and 12th. For instance CBSE circular, Latest CBSE news, reference material, sample paper, model paper, Question Bank, school results, and much more.

**24. Which of the following Statement(s) is/are Correct regarding Government security (G-sec) yields?**

1. G-sec yields indicates the broader trend of interest rates in the economy.
2. If G-sec yields start going up, it means lending to the government is becoming riskier.
3. Government securities or government bonds, are instruments that governments use to borrow money.

- (a) 1, 2 only (b) 2, 3 only (c) 1, 3 only (d) All of the above

**24. Ans: (d)**

**Sol:** G-secs, or government securities or government bonds, are instruments that governments use to borrow money. G-secs carry the lowest risk of all investments. G-sec yields change over time; often several times during a single day. This happens because of the manner in which G-secs are structured. Every G-sec has a

face value, a coupon payment and price. The price of the bond may or may not be equal to the face value of the bond.

Here's an example: Suppose the government floats a 10-year G-sec with a face value of Rs 100 and a coupon payment of Rs 5. If one were to buy this single G-sec from the government, it would mean that one will give Rs 100 to the government today and the government will promise to 1) return the sum of Rs 100 at the end of tenure (10 years), and 2) pay Rs 5 each year until the end of this tenure. At this point, the face value of this G-sec is equal to its price, and its yield (or the effective interest rate) is 5%.

G-secs are the safest investments in any economy, and the G-sec yield is the lowest risk-free interest rate in any economy. As such, they are a good way to figure out the broader trend of interest rates in the economy. If G-sec yields (say for a 10-year bond) are going up, it would imply that lenders are demanding even more from private sector firms or individuals; that's because anyone else is riskier when compared to the government.

**25. Consider the following statements regarding Special Drawing Right (SDR).**

- 1. The Special Drawing Right (SDR) is an interest-bearing international reserve asset created by the IMF.**
- 2. The value of the SDR is not set by IMF, rather it is directly determined by supply and demand in the market.**
- 3. It can be held and used by member countries, private entities or individuals.**

**Which of the above statements is/are NOT correct?**

- (a) 1, 2 only                      (b) 2, 3 only                      (c) 1, 3 only                      (d) All of the above

**25. Ans: (b)**

**Sol:** The Special Drawing Right (SDR) is an interest-bearing international reserve asset created by the IMF in 1969 to supplement other reserve assets of member countries.

The SDR is based on a basket of international currencies comprising the U.S. dollar, Japanese yen, euro, pound sterling and Chinese Renminbi. It is not a currency, nor a claim on the IMF, but is potentially a claim on freely usable currencies of IMF members. The value of the SDR is not directly determined by supply and demand in the market, but is set daily by the IMF on the basis of market exchange rates between the currencies included in the SDR basket.

It can be held and used by member countries, the IMF, and certain designated official entities called "prescribed holders"—but it cannot be held, for example, by private entities or individuals. Its status as a reserve asset derives from the commitments of members to hold, accept, and honor obligations denominated in SDR.

**26. Which city was ranked first in India in the EIU 'Global Liveability Index 2022'?**

- (a) New Delhi                      (b) Chennai                      (c) Bengaluru                      (d) Mumbai



26. **Ans: (a)**

**Sol:** The European Intelligence Unit (EIU) recently released the Global Liveability Index 2022, which ranked 173 cities on the basis of their living conditions. Five Indian cities- Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Ahmadabad and Bangalore were included in the list. Delhi was ranked the best at 140, followed by Mumbai at 141, Chennai and Ahmadabad at 142 and 143 respectively. Bengaluru was the last of Indian cities at 146th rank.

27. **Scientists have discovered a large ozone hole over which of the following region?**

- (a) Tropics      (b) Western Europe      (c) Mediterranean      (d) Africa

27. **Ans: (a)**

**Sol:** The new ozone hole has been discovered above the tropics, the area between the tropic of Cancer and the tropic of Capricorn. The scientists at Canada's Waterloo University have discovered a large ozone hole in the lower stratosphere, which is seven times larger than the one over Antarctica. The new ozone hole was discovered over the tropics and has reportedly been there for over 30 years. The large ozone hole in the lower stratosphere over the tropics is comparable in depth to that of the Antarctic hole but it is roughly seven times larger in area. The discovery was made by Qing-Bin Lu, a scientist from the University of Waterloo in Ontario, Canada. The study was published in the journal AIP Advances.

28. **Dr Rajendra Prasad Memorial Award, which was recently announced, is associated with which field?**

- (a) Public Administration      (b) Social Service  
 (c) Teaching      (d) Entrepreneurship

28. **Ans: (a)**

**Sol:** Union Science and Technology Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh announced setting up of Dr. Rajendra Prasad Memorial Award in public administration in the field of academic excellence. He announced the award in memory of the first President of India, while he chaired the meeting of Executive Council of Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) in New Delhi.

The institute has to have a futuristic vision for the next 25 years to attain the goals set by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and, to achieve this, the institute needs to have an integrated approach to work in cohesion with similar departments/organizations/set-ups and entities with similar scope and focus, related to training, administrative expertise. The Minister said that IIPA has the capacity and it needs to continue performing by having an enlarged pool of experts and a wide spectrum of activities.

29. **Which institution released the 'Global Findex database 2021'?**

- (a) IMF      (b) World Bank      (c) RBI      (d) World Economic Forum

29. **Ans: (b)**

**Sol:** The World Bank released the Global Findex Database 2021: Financial Inclusion, Digital Payments, and Resilience in the Age of COVID-19. It surveyed how people in 123 economies use financial services.

throughout 2021. As per the report, large share of the global population without formal banking lives in India and China because of their size. The report also found that women are more likely to be unbanked than men.

**30. Consider the following statements.**

- 1. Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services was released by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES).**
- 2. The World Network of Biosphere Reserves is created by UNEP.**
- 3. The Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve is designated as the first biosphere reserve in India.**

**Which of the above statements is/are NOT correct?**

- (a) 2 only                      (b) 1, 3                      (c) 2, 3                      (d) 1, 2, 3**

**30. Ans: (a)**

**Sol:** Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services released in 2019 by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES). World Network of Biosphere Reserves, created in 1971 by UNESCO. The Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve was the first biosphere reserve in India designated in the year 1986 by UNESCO. It stretches across the States of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala.

**31. Consider the following statements regarding India Plastics Pact, sometimes seen in news.**

- 1. India Plastics Pact (IPP) was launched as a collaboration between Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).**
- 2. It is a collaborative initiative between businesses, governments and NGOs that aims to transform the current linear plastics system into a circular plastics economy.**

**Which of the above statements is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 only                      (b) 2 only                      (c) Both 1 and 2                      (d) Neither 1 nor 2**

**31. Ans: (b)**

**Sol:** The India Plastics Pact is an ambitious, collaborative initiative that aims to bring together businesses, governments and NGOs to reduce, reuse, and recycle plastics in their value chain. The Pact aims to transform the current linear plastics system into a circular plastics economy. The India Plastics Pact aims to promote public-private collaborations that enable solutions to eliminate the plastic waste problem in India and bring innovation to the way plastic is designed, used and reused. The vision, targets and ambition of the India Plastics Pact are aligned with the circular economy principles of the Ellen MacArthur Foundation's New Plastics Economy.

**32. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change will organize "Hariyali Mahotsav at which of the following Indian City?**

- (a) Bangalore (b) Hyderabad (c) New Delhi (d) Mumbai

**32. Ans: (c)**

**Sol:** Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change will be organizing “Hariyali Mahotsav” on 8th July, 2022 at Talkatora Stadium, New Delhi in the spirit of “Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav”. The mahotsav is being organized by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change in collaboration with the State Governments, Police Institutions and Schools of Delhi for undertaking plantation drives on the occasion.

Hariyali Mahotsav, the “Tree Festival” is being organized to create awareness about the importance of trees in sustaining not only the life of the present generations but also to secure the future of forthcoming generations. Trees play extremely important role in mitigating adverse effects of climate change. Ceremonial Plantation drives are being organized with participation of 75 Nagar Vans throughout the country, 75 Police Stations and 75 Schools in Delhi/NCR and 75 degraded plantation sites in the different states as part of this Mahotsav.

**33. Which state has topped in the state ranking for implementation of the National Food Security Act (NFSA) through ration shops?**

- (a) Jharkhand (b) Andhra Pradesh (c) Odisha (d) Uttar Pradesh

**33. Ans: (c)**

**Sol:** The National Food Security Act (NFSA) was enacted on July 5, 2013 and in order to celebrate the day, the conference was organized to deliberate and discuss nutritional security, food security, best practices followed in Public Distribution System, crop diversification, reforms in PDS and storage sector.

Odisha has been adjudged the top ranked State followed by Uttar Pradesh at the 2nd spot and Andhra Pradesh at third amongst the General Category States in ‘State Ranking Index for NFSA’. Among the Special Category states/UTs, Tripura stood first followed by Himachal Pradesh and Sikkim respectively. Further, among the 3 UTs where Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) Cash is operational, Dadra and Nagar Haveli & Daman and Diu is the top ranked UT.

**34. Which of the following Statement(s) is/are Correct regarding Red Sanders?**

1. Red Sanders is a flora-species that is endemic to a distinct tract of forests in Eastern Ghats region of Andhra Pradesh.
2. The export of Red Sanders from India is prohibited as per the Foreign Trade Policy.
3. Red Sanders is also listed in Appendix-II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wildlife Fauna and Flora (CITES).

- (a) 1, 2 only (b) 1, 3 only (c) 2, 3 only (d) All of the above

**34. Ans: (d)**

**Sol:** Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) had recently recovered 14.63 MT of Red Sanders. Intelligence was developed by DRI that red sanders logs were concealed in an export consignment declared to contain “assorted toiletries”, for being smuggled out of the country. Accordingly, Operation Rakth Chandan was launched and close surveillance was kept on the suspect export consignment.

Red Sanders is a flora-species that is endemic to a distinct tract of forests in Eastern Ghats region of Andhra Pradesh and fall under ‘endangered list’ in the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List. Red Sanders is also listed in Appendix-II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wildlife Fauna and Flora (CITES). Its rich hue and therapeutic properties are responsible for its high demand across Asia, particularly China, for use in cosmetics, medicinal products and high-end furniture/woodcraft. The export of Red Sanders from India is prohibited as per the Foreign Trade Policy.

**35. Consider the following statements.**

1. The Asiatic cheetah was declared extinct in India and is a critically endangered species surviving only in Iraq.
2. Guru Ghasidas National Park is located in Chhattisgarh.
3. Kuno National Park is the planned location in India for the reintroduction of African cheetahs.

**Which of the above statements is/are NOT correct?**

- (a) 1 only      (b) 2 only      (c) 2, 3 only      (d) 1, 2, 3 only

**35. Ans: (a)**

**Sol:** The Asiatic cheetah was declared extinct in India in 1952 and is a critically endangered species surviving only in Iran. In 1947, there were confirmed records of the cheetah’s presence in India.

India and Namibia signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to reintroduce the African cheetah in India. The agreement will prepare the ground for the relocation of the first batch of cheetahs from Namibia to Madhya Pradesh’s Kuno National Park.

**36. Who is the author of the book "Mind Master: Winning Lessons from a Champion's Life"?**

- (a) Manjoot Singh      (b) Gitika Tripathi  
 (c) Sanjay Tiwari      (d) Viswanathan Anand

**36. Ans: (d)**

**Sol:** Hachette India has announced the expanded paperback edition of five-time world chess champion Viswanathan Anand’s widely acclaimed memoir “Mind Master: Winning Lessons from a Champion’s Life”. The book, featuring a bonus chapter on how to navigate uncertainty and rapidly changing realities in the wake of the pandemic, will hit the stands on July 15. It is written by Anand with author-journalist Susan Ninan.

In “Mind Master”, Anand looks back at a lifetime of games played, opponents tackled and circumstances overcome and draws from its depths significant tools that will help every reader to navigate life’s challenges. There are many nuggets that Anand touches upon with characteristic wit, easy wisdom and disarming candour in the book.

**37. Which city is the host of the '2022 Global biodiversity conclave'?**

- (a) Bonn            (b) Paris            (c) Geneva            (d) Davos

**37. Ans: (a)**

**Sol:** The 2022 Global biodiversity conclave is organised in Bonn, Germany. Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) announced that Assessment on the Sustainable Use of Wild Species will be released. Sustainable use of wild species keeping in mind the well-being of communities that depend on them for livelihood will be the focus of the report to be released.

**38. Floods occur frequently in the Brahmaputra River basin due to which of the following factors?**

1. The Brahmaputra often witnesses heavy rainfall in its catchment area.
2. The tributaries of Brahmaputra are large and bring large water and sediment volume.

Select the correct answer code:

- (a) 1 only            (b) 2 only            (c) Both 1 and 2            (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**38. Ans: (c)**

**Sol:** The Brahmaputra Valley is said to be one of the most hazard-prone regions of the country — according to the National Flood Commission of India, about 32 lakh hectares or over 40 per cent of the Assam’s land is flood-prone due to this. An important reason apart from the ones mentioned in the question is the ageing of embankments. The filling of embankments with sediment, wear and tear and unscientific distribution across the river valley is one of the major reasons.

**39. Which company has launched the Startup School India initiative which aims to gather relevant information on startup building into a systematic curriculum?**

- (a) Infosys            (b) Google            (c) Microsoft            (d) TCS

**39. Ans: (b)**

**Sol:** Tech Giant, Google launched the Startup School India initiative, which aims to gather relevant information on startup building into a systematic curriculum to help 10,000 startups in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities. The nine-week virtual programme will involve fireside chats between Google leaders and collaborators from across the startup ecosystem.

Startup School is a series of guided online trainings designed to equip early-stage startup founders with the tools, products, and knowledge that growing companies need. With close to 70,000 startups, India is the

third largest birthing ground for startups in the world. And as more Indian founders lead their companies successfully to IPOs or unicorn status.

**40. Which of the following Statement(s) is/are Correct regarding 'TiHAN'?**

1. **India's first Autonomous Navigation facility, TiHAN inaugurated by Union Minister of State for Science & Technology, Jitendra Singh at the IIT Hyderabad campus.**
2. **India's mobility sector is one of the world's largest markets and the TiHAN – IITH will be the source of futuristic technology generation for autonomous vehicles.**

**(a) 1 only      (b) 2 only      (c) Both 1 and 2 only      (d) Neither 1 nor 2**

**40. Ans: (c)**

**Sol:** TiHAN stands for “Technology Innovation Hub on Autonomous Navigation.” TiHAN was inaugurated at the campus of IIT Hyderabad. Union Ministry of Science and technology has developed the navigation facility with an outlay of Rs. 130 crores. It is a multidisciplinary initiative that has been launched to make India a global player in ‘smart mobility’ technology for futuristic and next generation. This platform will provide for high quality research facility between industry, academia and R&D labs at local and global levels.

A real-time CPS system is being developed and deployed by TiHAN, using autonomous UAVs and ground or surface vehicle. This will find applications in many sectors of national importance. India's mobility sector is one of the world's largest markets and the TiHAN – IITH will be the source of futuristic technology generation for autonomous vehicles. TiHAN Testbed will provide a unique platform for high quality research between academia, industry and R&D labs both at the national and international level, thus making India a global leader in autonomous navigation technologies.

**41. 'Convention for the Safeguarding of the ICH is associated with which institution?**

- (a) UNICEF (b) Centre for Cultural Resources and Training  
(c) World Economic Forum (d) UNESCO

**41. Ans: (d)**

**Sol:** India has been elected to the Intergovernmental Committee of UNESCO's 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) for the 2022-2026 cycle. India has already served as a member of the ICH Committee twice from 2006 to 2010 and from 2014 to 2018. India will be a part of two Committees of UNESCO — Intangible Cultural Heritage (2022-2026) and World Heritage (2021-2025).

42. 'Mission Vatsalya', which has been seen in the news, is a scheme implemented by which Union Ministry?

- (a) Ministry of Education
- (b) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- (c) Ministry of Women and Child Development
- (d) Ministry of MSME

42. Ans: (c)

**Sol:** Mission Vatsalya is an umbrella scheme for child protection services in the country implemented by the Women and Child Development (WCD) Ministry. The Ministry released the guidelines for the scheme. Funds to states will be approved through the Mission Vatsalya Project Approval Board (PAB), which will be chaired by the WCD Secretary, who will approve annual plans and financial proposals received from states and UTs for release of grants.

43. Consider the following statements regarding derecho, recently seen in news.

1. Derecho is associated with a “band of rapidly moving showers or thunderstorms”.
2. Being a cold-weather phenomenon, a derecho generally occurs during winter time.
3. They occur only across central and eastern parts of the United States.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1, 2
- (c) 2, 3
- (d) 1, 3

43. Ans: (a)

**Sol:** States of Nebraska, Minnesota and Illinois in the US were hit by a storm system called a derecho. A derecho, is “a widespread, long-lived, straight-line windstorm” that is associated with a “band of rapidly moving showers or thunderstorms”.

Being a warm-weather phenomenon, a derecho generally – not always – occurs during summertime beginning May, with most hitting in June and July. However, they are a rare occurrence as compared to other storm systems like tornadoes or hurricanes. For a storm to be classified as a derecho it must have wind gusts of at least 93 km per hour; wind damage swath extending more than 400 km. They mostly occur across central and eastern parts of the United States. Derechos have also been documented elsewhere across the world. In 2010, Russia witnessed its first documented derecho. They have also swept through Germany and Finland, and more recently in Bulgaria and Poland.

44. National Monument Authority declaring Mangarh hillock as a monument of National Importance. Mangarh hillock is located in which state?

- (a) Rajasthan
- (b) Madhya Pradesh
- (c) Gujarat
- (d) Odisha



**44. Ans: (a)**

**Sol:** A team from National Monuments Authority lead by Shri Tarun Vijay, Chairman, National Monuments Authority, submitted a report on declaring Mangarh hillock in Rajasthan as a monument of National Importance in the year of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. This report carries relevant details about the Mangarh hillock and recommendations by National Monuments Authority.

**45. Who became the first woman and second Indian to feature on the 'wall of former chief economists' of the IMF?**

(a) Gita Gopinath

(b) Padmasree Warrior

(c) Komal Mangtani

(d) Dhivya Suryadevara

**45. Ans: (a)**

**Sol:** India-born Gita Gopinath became the first woman and second Indian to feature on the 'wall of former chief economists' of the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The first Indian to achieve the honour was Raghuram Rajan who was Chief Economist and Director of Research of IMF between 2003 and 2006. Gopinath was appointed as IMF Chief Economist in October 2018 and was later promoted as the IMF's First Deputy Managing Director in December last year. Gopinath had served as the first female chief economist of the Washington-based global lender for three years.

**46. Which of the following Statement(s) is/are Correct regarding Bharat Gaurav Train?**

1. Recently, IRCTC announces second run of Bharat Gaurav Train flagged off from Madurai to Varanasi.
2. The first service of the theme-based Bharat Gaurav Train from Coimbatore North to Sainagar Shirdi was operated.

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

**46. Ans: (c)**

**Sol:** The second Bharat Gaurav train in Southern Railway left Madurai with 170 passengers for Varanasi a 12-day pilgrimage to several places, including seven Sakthi Peeth. The 12-day Bharat Gaurav round trip Service from Madurai to Varanasi will run via Dindigul, Tiruchchirappalli, Villupuram, Chennai Egmore, Vijayawada, Samalkote, Puri, Jaipur, Howrah, Gaya to reach Varanasi and return to Madurai via Prayagraj Rambagh, Ballarshah, Warrangal and Vijayawada.

With the objective of showcasing India's rich cultural heritage and magnificent historical places to the people of India and the world, Indian Railways introduced the "Bharat Gaurav Trains" scheme with effect from 23.11.2021. The first service of the theme-based Bharat Gaurav Train from Coimbatore North to Sainagar Shirdi was operated on 14.06.2022. Bharat Gaurav scheme also aims to leverage the core strengths of the professionals of the tourism sector to run theme-based trains to tap the vast tourist potential of India. This scheme allows private players to operate trains on theme-based circuits.



**50. Which of the following Statement(s) is/are Correct regarding Maritime Partnership Exercise?**

- 1. A Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) was conducted between Japan Maritime Self Defense Force and Indian Navy on 23 Jul 22 in Andaman Sea.**
- 2. The two countries have been carrying out regular exercises in IOR towards reinforcing maritime association.**
- 3. The exercise was aimed at enhancing interoperability and streamlining seamanship and communication procedures.**

**(a) 1 only      (b) 2 only      (c) 2, 3 only      (d) All of the above**

**50. Ans: (d)**

**Sol:** A Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) was conducted between Japan Maritime Self Defense Force and Indian Navy on 23 Jul 22 in Andaman Sea. INS Sukanya, an offshore patrol vessel and JS Samidare, a Murasame class destroyer, undertook various exercises including seamanship activities, aircraft operations and tactical manoeuvres as part of the operational interaction.

The two countries have been carrying out regular exercises in IOR towards reinforcing maritime association. The exercise was aimed at enhancing interoperability and streamlining seamanship and communication procedures. This exercise is part of the ongoing efforts between the two navies towards ensuring safe and secure international shipping and trade in Indian Ocean Region.

**51. The Minister's dashboard for Animal Husbandry and Dairying includes which of the following schemes?**

- (a) Livestock Health and Disease Control Program (LHDCP)**
- (b) Rashtriya Gokul Mission (RGM)**
- (c) Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF)**
- (d) All of the above**

**51. Ans: (d)**

**Sol:** Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying launched the Minister's dashboard for Animal Husbandry and Dairying in New Delhi. This dashboard helps in monitoring, and reporting real-time scheme data, and in analysing the schemes' key performance indicators and parameters through a visual matrix. The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying has launched several schemes across States/UTs, in an attempt to strengthen the livestock sector in India.

This dashboard encapsulates the following schemes:

1. Livestock Health and Disease Control Program (LHDCP)
2. National Livestock Mission (NLM)
3. Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF)
4. National Program for Dairy Development Fund (NPDD)

5. Rashtriya Gokul Mission (RGM)
6. Supporting Dairy Co-operatives and Farmer Producer Organizations (SDCFPO)
7. Dairy processing & Infrastructure Development Fund (DIDF)

**52. Which state became the first state in the country to have 13 expressways?**

- (a) Gujarat      (b) Uttar Pradesh      (c) Maharashtra      (d) Punjab

**52. Ans: (b)**

**Sol:** Yogi Adityanath has laid the groundwork for Uttar Pradesh's greatest highway network. With 13 expressways currently in operation, the state is the first in the country to achieve so. Thirteen expressways totaling 3200 km, six of which are in use, are also being built.

**53. Which state topped in delta ranking of Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban mission?**

- (a) Uttar Pradesh      (b) Jharkhand      (c) Karnataka      (d) Gujarat

**53. Ans: (b)**

**Sol:** Jharkhand has topped in the delta ranking of Syama Prasad Mookerjee Rurban Mission with composite score of 76.19 in the month of June. The state has improved its position to eighth place in overall ranking of the mission, which was launched by the Central Government in 2016. It aims to promote local economic development, enhancing basic services and creating well planned Rurban clusters.

**54. UN-Habitat World Cities Report 2022 said India's urban population is estimated to stand at 675 million in which year?**

- (a) 2035      (b) 2027      (c) 2030      (d) 2032

**54. Ans: (a)**

**Sol:** According to a UN report, India's urban population is expected to reach 675 million in 2035, ranking second only to China's urban population of one billion people. The report also noted that after the Covid-19 pandemic, the world's urban population is once again on track to increase by another 2.2 billion people by the year 2050.

**55. Which of the following Statement(s) is/are Correct regarding the statue of Alluri Sitarama Raju?**

1. Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled a 30-feet bronze statue of Alluri Sitarama Raju at Bhimavaram in Andhra Pradesh on his 125<sup>th</sup> birth Anniversary.
2. Allure Sitarama Raju is an inspiration and a symbol of bravery and courage of tribals.

- (a) 1 only      (b) 2 only      (c) Both 1 and 2      (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**55. Ans: (c)**

**Sol:** The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi launched the year-long 125<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary celebration of legendary freedom fighter Alluri Sitarama Raju in Bhimavaram, Andhra Pradesh.

As part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, the Government is committed to giving due recognition to the contribution of freedom fighters and making people across the country aware of them. As part of the endeavour, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched the year-long 125<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary celebration of the legendary freedom fighter, Alluri Sitarama Raju, in Bhimavaram. Born on 4th July 1897, Alluri Sitarama Raju is remembered for his fight against the British, in order to safeguard the interests of the tribal communities in the Eastern Ghats region. He had led the Rampa rebellion, which was launched in 1922. He is referred to as “Manyam Veerudu” (Hero of the Jungles) by the local people.

**56. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the first-ever 'Artificial Intelligence in Defence' (AIDef) symposium and exhibition in Which city in India?**

- (a) Dehradun      (b) New Delhi      (c) Hyderabad      (d) Pune

**56. Ans: (b)**

**Sol:** The Department of Defense Production, Ministry of Defense, will host the first-ever Artificial Intelligence in Defence symposium and exhibition in New Delhi, which will be officially inaugurated by Union Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh. The event will include a demonstration of the most innovative AI-enabled products that have been created by services, research organisations, industry, start-ups, and entrepreneurs.

A ‘GenNext AI’ Solutions Competition has been organised to get bright innovative ideas from students on futuristic AI solutions. The top three ideas curated by AI experts will also be felicitated. An exhibition of AI products has also been organised. The event is likely to be attended by dignitaries from friendly foreign countries, senior officials from Ministry of Defence and other Ministries of Government of India, representatives from research institutes, academia and the Industry.

**57. Which of the following Statement(s) is/are Correct regarding the winners of Wimbledon 2022?**

1. Serbia Novak Djokovic won a seventh Wimbledon men's title and 21<sup>st</sup> Grand Slam crown with a four-set triumph over Nick Kyrgios.
2. Elena Rybakina created history by becoming the first-ever Asian Wimbledon champion, defeating Ons Jabeur of Tunisia in the final in of women’s singles category.

- (a) 1 only      (b) 2 only      (c) Both 1 and 2      (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**57. Ans: (c)**

**Sol:** Serbia Novak Djokovic won a seventh Wimbledon men’s title and 21<sup>st</sup> Grand Slam crown with a four-set triumph over Nick Kyrgios. Kyrgios gave his best to challenge the more experienced rival in his first Major final, but he could take only one set, propelling Djokovic toward the 21st Major crown. Elena Rybakina created history as she defeated Tunisia's Ons Jabeur in Wimbledon 2022 women's singles.

The Wimbledon Championships 2022 is a Grand Slam tennis tournament that takes place at the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club in Wimbledon, London, United Kingdom. The tournament will be played on grass courts,

**58. Which of the following introduced Internet Exchanges in Durgapur and Bardhaman in July 2022?**

- (a) NASSCOM (b) NIXI (c) COAI (d) NITI Aayog

**58. Ans: (b)**

**Sol:** Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar- Minister of State, Electronics and Information Technology, Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Government of India in august presence of Shri S S Ahluwalia, Member of Parliament Bardhaman-Durgapur Lok Sabha inaugurated two new Internet Exchange points (IXP) of NIXI at Durgapur and Bardhaman. The launch of these Internet exchanges is under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Digital India vision to connect every Indian with open, safe & trusted and accountable internet and Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology's (MeitY) vision 1000 days. Internet exchanges in states are expected to contribute to the enhancement and improvement of Internet and Broadband services in West Bengal and neighbouring regions, ISPs will benefit with improved internet services offered by them to its end users, bringing about a change in the lives of the people.

**59. India's International Economic resilience improves to what position in 2022?**

- (a) 1<sup>st</sup> position (b) 2<sup>nd</sup> position (c) 3<sup>rd</sup> position (d) 4<sup>th</sup> position

**59. Ans: (b)**

**Sol:** In the ranking of International Economic Resilience (IER) of the Top 10 Countries in each of the years between 2019 and 2022, India has consistently improved its position from sixth position in 2019 to third position in 2021 and is projected to further improve it to second position in 2022.

**60. Which of the following statements is correct regarding Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)?**

1. India will take over the SCO Presidency in 2023 and will host the SCO Summit in New Delhi.
2. Iran has proposed to create a new single currency for carrying out trade among SCO members.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**60. Ans: (b)**

**Sol:** India will host the upcoming SCO Summit in 2023, which will be held in Samarkand, Uzbekistan. Iran has also approached the SCO with a proposal to create a new single currency for carrying out trade among SCO members, in a push to counter the increasing weaponization of the US dollar-dominated global financial system. 2021 SCO summit in Dushanbe agreed for Iran to join.

61. Clofazimine, recently seen in the news, is related to which of the following diseases?

- (a) Diabetes      (b) Malaria      (c) Dementia      (d) Leprosy

61. Ans: (d)

**Sol:** Clofazimine, by itself, has not been associated with serum aminotransferase elevations during therapy or to instances of clinically apparent acute liver injury. It is a fat soluble, brick red dye that is used in combination with other agents in the therapy of leprosy.

62. 'State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2022' report has been released by which organisation?

- (a) NITI Aayog      (b) U.N. Agencies      (c) World Economic Forum      (d) World Bank

62. Ans: (b)

**Sol:** The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2022 report was issued by U.N. agencies: FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO. The number of undernourished people in India has declined in the last 15 years to 224.3 million in 2019-2021. The report also noted that there are more obese adults and anaemic women in India, the world's second most populous country.

63. The oldest documented light in the history of the universe, which has been released, was captured by which telescope?

- (a) James Webb Space Telescope      (b) Voyager Space Telescope  
(c) Hubble Space Telescope      (d) Akash Space Telescope

63. Ans: (a)

**Sol:** US President Biden unveiled an image taken by the James Webb Space Telescope. The James Webb Space Telescope is a space telescope designed primarily to conduct infrared astronomy. As the largest optical telescope in space, its high infrared resolution and sensitivity allow it to view objects too early, distant, or faint for the Hubble Space Telescope.

64. Consider the following statements:

1. India currently hosts the largest tiger population.
2. The Nagarjun sagar - Srisailem Tiger Reserve is the largest in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only      (b) 2 only      (c) Both 1 and 2      (d) Neither 1 nor 2

64. Ans: (c)

**Sol:** Currently, India has the largest tiger population in the world. It is the home for nearly 3000 tigers. The largest tiger reserve in India is the Nagarjunsagar-Srisailem Tiger Reserve. Located in the Nallamala forest,



the reserve spreads over five districts, Kurnool District, Prakasam District, Guntur District, Nalgonda District and Mahabub Nagar district, with an area of 3,728 sq. International Tiger Day is celebrated every year on 29th July.

**65. Consider the following statements:**

**1. Hepatitis is caused by a variety of infectious viruses and noninfectious agents.**

**2. Antiviral medications can treat both acute and chronic forms of hepatitis E.**

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

**(a) 1 only      (b) 2 only      (c) Both 1 and 2      (d) Neither 1 nor 2**

**65. Ans: (a)**

**Sol:** Hepatitis is an inflammation of the liver that is caused by a variety of infectious viruses and noninfectious agents leading to a range of health problems, some of which can be fatal. Hepatitis is currently, no specific medical therapies are available to treat hepatitis E. Because the infection is often acute, it typically resolves on its own. Doctors will typically advise people with this infection to get adequate rest, drink plenty of fluids, get enough nutrients, and avoid alcohol. However, pregnant women who develop this infection require close monitoring and care.

**66. Which of the following Statement(s) is/are NOT correct regarding World Paper Bag Day?**

- 1. Every year, World Paper Bag Day is observed on July 30 to raise awareness of the importance of using paper bags instead of plastic bags.**
- 2. Paper bags can easily be used to replace one-time-use plastic bags which are non-biodegradable.**
- 3. The theme for Paper Bag Day this year is, “If You’re ‘fantastic’, Do Something ‘dramatic’ To Cut The ‘Plastic’, Use ‘Paper Bags’.”**

**(a) 1 only      (b) 2 only      (c) 2, 3 only      (d) 1, 2 and 3**

**66. Ans: (a)**

**Sol:** Statement 1 is NOT correct. Every year, World Paper Bag Day is observed on July 12 to raise awareness of the importance of using paper bags instead of plastic bags. This day is dedicated to spreading awareness of the ill effects of plastic and how detrimental they are to our environment. Paper bags can easily be used to replace one-time-use plastic bags which are non-biodegradable or, in other words, take hundreds of years to decompose in landfills.

The theme for Paper Bag Day this year is, “If You’re ‘fantastic’, Do Something ‘dramatic’ To Cut The ‘Plastic’, Use ‘Paper Bags’.” The significance of Paper Bag Day is to discourage the use of plastic bags and generate consciousness about how harmful they are to the environment as it takes thousands of years to decompose. However, paper bags are biodegradable and an important cornerstone to preserving our planet.

(a) Varanasi      (b) Amritsar      (c) Jaipur      (d) Bengaluru

**68. Which institution released the 'Cost-of-Living Crisis in Developing Countries' report?**

(a) World Bank

(b) UNDP

(c) International Monetary Fund

(d) World Economic Forum

**Sol:** United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) released a report on 'Cost-of-Living Crisis in Developing Countries'. It shows that inflation will have only negligible impact on poverty in India. As per the report, targeted transfers help poorer households cope with price spikes. In India, targeted and time-bound transfers of food and cash were given to the vulnerable through PMGKAY and PMGKY.

69. Which Indian city and the state have been named in TIME magazine's list of the world's 50 greatest places of 2022?

(a) Dehradun and Himachal Pradesh      (b) Ahmedabad and Kerala  
(c) Jaipur and Kerala      (d) Kolkata and Gujarat

**69. Ans: (b)**

**Sol:** The southern state of Kerala and Ahmedabad, the capital city of Gujarat were the two Indian entries into the list of the world's greatest places of 2022. Ahmedabad and Kerala are big attraction for a huge number of tourists from India as well as abroad. Kerala is famous for its beaches and backwaters, on the other hand Ahmedabad is famous for Sabarmati riverfront and Gandhi Ashram. Time Magazine has prepared profile pages for both the destination, highlighting the reasons why they are part of its prestigious list. Magazine has tagged Kerala as "Ecotourism hot spot" and Ahmedabad as a "city of higher learning".

According to Time magazine's profile for Kerala, it is among India's most beautiful states. It has a number of spectacular beaches and lush backwaters, palaces, as well as temples. Reason being this, it is called as "God's own country". In year 2022, Kerala is boosting motor-home tourism, in a bid to inspire new pas de deux for exploration and accommodation.

According to profile, Ahmedabad is the first UNESCO World Heritage City in India. It exaggerates ancient landmarks as well as contemporary innovations. Reason being this, Ahmedabad is known as “mecca for cultural tourism.”

**70. Consider the following statements regarding the Financial Intelligence Unit - India (FIU-IND):**

- 1. It collects financial intelligence about offences under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act.**
- 2. It can impose fines on banking companies if they fail to comply with the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act.**
- 3. It reports to the Enforcement Directorate.**

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 only      (b) 1 and 2 only      (c) 3 only      (d) 1, 2 and 3**

**70. Ans: (b)**

**Sol:** Financial Intelligence Unit – India was set by the Government of India vide O.M. dated 18th November 2004 as the central national agency responsible for receiving, processing, analyzing and disseminating information relating to suspect financial transactions. It collects financial intelligence about offences under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act.

The Act empowers the Director of FIU-IND to impose fines on banking companies, financial institutions or intermediaries if they or any of its officers fails to comply with the provisions of the Act.

FIU-IND is also responsible for coordinating and strengthening efforts of national and international intelligence, investigation and enforcement agencies in pursuing the global efforts against money laundering and related crimes. FIU-IND is an independent body reporting directly to the Economic Intelligence Council (EIC) headed by the Finance Minister.

**71. Which city will host World Athletics Championships 2025?**

- (a) Kuala Lumpur      (b) London      (c) Beijing      (d) Tokyo**

**71. Ans: (d)**

**Sol:** The World Athletics Council has selected Tokyo (Japan) to host the 2025 World Athletics Championships. At the World Athletics Council Meeting in Oregon, USA, the Council also announced that the 2024 World Athletics Cross Country Championships will be held in Medulin and Pula in Croatia and the 2026 World Athletics Cross Country Championships will be held in Tallahassee, Florida.

**72. The MIST is an international submarine cable communication network that will traverse undersea to connect India with which of the following countries?**

- 1. Myanmar      2. Thailand      3. Maldives      4. Switzerland**

**Which of the following options is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only      (b) 1, 2 and 3      (c) 3 and 4 only      (d) 2, 3 and 4**

**72. Ans: (a)**

**Sol:** Recently, the union environment ministry's expert appraisal committee (EAC) on Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) matters has given its go-ahead for the construction of an 8,100km-long undersea, transnational fibre optic cable system connecting Mumbai to Singapore, via Chennai.

The MIST is an international submarine cable communication network that will traverse undersea to connect India with countries such as Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore. It will provide secure, reliable, robust and affordable telecom facilities in Asia with the main trunk route being from Tuas in Singapore to Mumbai in India.

The project is officially known as the Myanmar/Malaysia-India-Singapore Transit (MIST) Submarine Cable System and is being executed by the global technology provider NEC Corp.

**73. Recently, Dahla Dam was in the news, it is located in which of the following countries?**

- (a) Pakistan      (b) Tajikistan      (c) Afghanistan      (d) Turkmenistan

**73. Ans: (c)**

**Sol:** The Dahla Dam also called as Arghandab Dam, is located in the Kandahar Province in Afghanistan. It was built by the United States nearly 70 years ago to provide water for irrigation. Recently, the Taliban have captured the Dahla Dam, Afghanistan's second-biggest dam, which provides water for irrigation and drinking for the provincial capital. Taliban has captured the dam after several months of fierce fighting.

**74. Consider the following statements regarding the 'Swachh Sagar, Surakshit Sagar' campaign:**

1. It is a 75 days-long coastal clean-up campaign that will culminate on International Coastal Clean Up Day.
2. A mobile app "Eco Mitram" has been launched to spread awareness about the campaign.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 only      (b) 2 only      (c) Both 1 and 2      (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**74. Ans: (c)**

**Sol:** Swachh Sagar, Surakshit Sagar is a 75 days-long coastal clean-up campaign for cleaning at least 75 beaches along the Indian coast. It started July 5, 2022, and will culminate on September 17, 2022, on 'International Coastal Clean Up Day.'

The activity is being organised by MoES jointly with the Indian Coast Guard, MoEF&CC, MoYAS, NDMA, Paryavaran Sanrakshan Gatividhi, other government departments, voluntary organisations, the public and students. The steps/initiatives would include support for awareness campaigns, competitions, and workshops/seminars on the issues through Earth Day, Ocean Day, and other such occasions in schools, colleges and universities.

**75. What is the name of India's first unique blood group?**

- (a) RHE Negative      (b) AMU Positive      (c) SNE Negative      (d) EMM Negative

**75. Ans: (d)**

**Sol:** EMM Negative Blood Group is the first distinct blood type in India. Only 9 persons in the entire globe have the rarest blood type as of today, but a 65-year-old man from Rajkot, Gujarat, has been found to have it. The 65-year-old guy was receiving medical attention in Ahmedabad for a heart attack.

**76. Which of the following Statement(s) is/are Correct regarding Global Gender Gap Report 2022?**

1. India has been ranked at 135th place in terms of gender parity, as per the annual Gender Gap Report 2022 of the World Economic Forum (WEF).
  2. The Global Gender Gap Index benchmarks gender parity across five key dimensions
- (a) 1 only      (b) 2 only      (c) Both 1 and 2      (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**76. Ans: (a)**

**Sol:** The Global Gender Gap Index for 2022 has been released by the World Economic Forum (WEF). India ranks 135 among a total of 146 countries in the Global Gender Gap Index 2022 of the World Economic Forum (WEF). It is the worst performer in the world in the “health and survival” sub-index where it is ranked 146.

The Global Gender Gap Index was first introduced by the World Economic Forum in 2006 to compare countries’ gender gaps across four dimensions: economic opportunities, education, health and political leadership.

Iceland has retained its position as the world’s most gender-equal country, among 146 nations on the index. Finland, Norway, New Zealand and Sweden are the top five countries on the list respectively. Afghanistan is the worst-performing country in the report. India ranks 146 in health and survival, 143 in economic participation and opportunity, 107 in educational attainment and 48th in political empowerment.

**77. Which countries are associated with the 'I2U2 Grouping'?**

- (a) India-Israel-UAE-USA      (b) India-Iran-UK-USA  
 (c) India- Finland -UK-USA      (d) India- Italy -UAE-USA

**77. Ans: (a)**

**Sol:** The leaders of the West Asian QUAD – India, Israel, the US and UAE will meet for the first ever virtual summit. The meeting has been called by the White House and will be addressed by the US President Joe Biden. US President Joe Biden is also making a visit to West Asia – Israel and Saudi Arabia. The White House has given a new acronym to identify the new grouping as I2U2: India, Israel and UAE and the US. Recently, UAE and Israel had signed a Free Trade Agreement (FTA), while India and the UAE too have signed a Free Trade Agreement (FTA).

**78. The SAH-BHAGITA scheme to reward RWAs for property tax compliance was launched in which state/UT?**

- (a) Delhi                      (b) Assam                      (c) Maharashtra                      (d) Puducherry

**78. Ans: (a)**

**Sol:** New Delhi Lieutenant Governor announced significant changes in the property tax policy of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) after its unification. He also launched 'SAH-BHAGITA scheme' to reward Residential Welfare Association (RWAs) for property tax collection and waste management systems.

**79. In which city, did the Ministry of Culture host the 'Dhammacakka Day 2022 celebration'?**

- (a) Varanasi                      (b) Bengaluru                      (c) Patna                      (d) Sarnath

**79. Ans: (d)**

**Sol:** The President of India, Ram Nath Kovind addressed the Dhammacakka Day 2022 celebrations at Sarnath, Uttar Pradesh. The Ministry of Culture in association with the International Buddhist Confederation is celebrating the Ashadha Purnima Divas, as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.

**80. Which of the following statements regarding China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is not correct?**

- (a) It is an infrastructure project that seeks to create economic and trade hubs with road and rail infrastructure.  
 (b) The corridor will link the capital cities of China-Pakistan.  
 (c) It is a part of China's larger Belt and Road Initiative.  
 (d) Both (a) and (b)

**80. Ans: (d)**

**Sol:** The CPEC is a collection of infrastructure projects that have been under construction throughout Pakistan beginning 2013. The CPEC is part of China's larger Belt and Road Initiative, which aims to spread Chinese investments in trade and connectivity infrastructure to bring Central Asian and European markets closer. Hence statement (b) is correct. ○ New Delhi has protested the project from its inception since it passes through large chunks of Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

The CPEC is a 3,000 km route of infrastructure projects that seek to create a series of contiguous economic and trade hubs with road and rail infrastructure. Hence statement (a) is correct. It will link places like China's restive western province of Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region and the new Gwadar port in Pakistan's equally unquiet Balochistan state.

**81. 'Denial of Safe Haven initiative' and 'Workshop on Anti-Corruption and Economic Development' are associated with which bloc?**

- (a) ASEAN      (b) BRICS      (c) G-20      (d) European Union

**81. Ans: (b)**

**Sol:** Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh recently addressed the BRICS Anti-Corruption Ministerial Meet and reiterated India's commitment to implement the FATF Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Terrorism financing standards. Dr Jitendra Singh expressed satisfaction over the finalization of the BRICS Denial of Safe Haven initiative and shared experiences at the BRICS Workshop on Anti-Corruption and Economic Development.

**82. The Chairman of public sector banks are selected by the which Institution?**

- (a) Banks Board Bureau      (b) Reserve Bank of India  
 (c) Union Ministry of Finance      (d) Management of concerned bank

**82. Ans: (a)**

**Sol:** Recently, it was the 53rd anniversary of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi nationalising 14 banks. Setup in 2016. BBB selects top officials (MD, CEO, Chairman and full-time Directors) for PSBs, LIC and other public sector financial institutions. Actual appointment done by the Finance Ministry's Department of Financial Services.

**83. Jyothi Surekha Vennam has won a bronze medal for India in which sports at The World Games 2022 in Birmingham?**

- (a) Wrestling      (b) Archery      (c) Sprinting      (d) Shooting

**83. Ans: (b)**

**Sol:** Abhishek Verma, archery gold winner from the Asian Games, and Jyothi Surekha Vennam took home bronze at the World Games 2022 in Birmingham, Alabama, USA. The Indian archery team defeated Mexico's Andrea and Miguel Becerra 157-156 in the bronze medal competition. Abhishek Verma and Jyothi Surekha Vennam took home the gold at the Archery World Cup in Paris.

**84. Regarding the Modhera Sun Temple, consider the following statements:**

1. It is on the banks of Pushpavati River in Tamil Nadu.
2. It was built in the 11th century during the Chalukya dynasty.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 only      (b) 2 only      (c) Both 1 and 2      (d) Neither 1 nor 2



**84. Ans: (b)**

**Sol:** The Ahmedabad Railway Station at Kalupur in Ahmedabad City will be developed on the theme of Modhera Sun Temple in the next five years. Modhera Sun Temple is located in Mehsana, neighbouring Ahmedabad district of Gujarat. Situated on the banks of Pushpavati River. Built in the 11th century during the Chalukya dynasty in honour of the Sun God,

It is one of the major tourist destinations in North Gujarat. It is surrounded by a terra-formed garden of flowering trees and songs of birds. The remains of the Sun Temples at Modhera are relics of times gone by when reverence of the natural elements fire, air, earth, water and sky were at their peak sharing space with myriad manifestations of Vedic gods.

**85. Which state has become the first state in the country to initiate the process of implementing the Centre's New Education Policy?**

- (a) Telangana                      (b) Karnataka                      (c) Uttarakhand                      (d) Odisha

**85. Ans: (c)**

**Sol:** Uttarakhand has become the first state in the country to initiate the process of implementing the Centre's New Education Policy. Uttarakhand CM Pushkar Singh Dhami has initiated this process by inaugurating 'Bal Vatikas' at Anganwadi Kendra across the state to strengthen the pre-primary education system.

The implementation of the New Education Policy (NEP) marks the beginning of culture-based education in the country focusing on the overall personality development of students. The NEP replaces the Macaulay system of education which was followed in the country for decades. "It offers children an opportunity to pursue choice-based education.

**86. Consider the following statements regarding Pichavaram Mangrove Forest:**

1. It is located in West Bengal and is a part of Sundarbans National Park.
2. It is recently added in the Ramsar sites of wetlands.
3. It is also a part of the World Network of Biosphere Reserves (Man and Biosphere Reserve).

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only                      (b) 1 and 3 only                      (c) 2 only                      (d) 2 and 3 only

**86. Ans: (c)**

**Sol:** Pichavaram is a village near Chidambaram in Cuddalore District, Tamil Nadu, and India. It is located between the Vellar estuary in the north and Coleroon estuary in the south. The Vellar-Coleroon estuarine complex forms the Killai backwater and the mangroves that are permanently rooted in a few feet of water. World Network of Biosphere Reserves (Man and Biosphere Reserve). Presently, there are 18 notified biosphere reserves in India and Pichavaram is not part of it.

**87. Consider the following statements regarding Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO)?**

- 1. The Mission is under the European Space Agency.**
- 2. It aims to search for evidence that water persisted on the surface of Mars.**

**Which of the following statements is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 only      (b) 2 only      (c) Both 1 and 2      (d) Neither 1 nor 2**

**87. Ans: (b)**

**Sol:** Recently, Scientists from National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) released the first pieces of the multispectral maps made by the Compact Reconnaissance Imaging Spectrometer for Mars (CRISM).

NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO) has been mapping minerals on the red planet for the last 16 years with the help of CRISM. CRISM is a visible-infrared spectrometer whose primary goal is to look for mineralogical evidence for past water on the surface and subsurface of Mars.

**88. Which city, Space tech startup Agnikul Cosmos has opened India's first rocket engine factory?**

- (a) Kochi      (b) Hyderabad      (c) Chennai      (d) Bengaluru**

**88. Ans: (c)**

**Sol:** Agnikul Cosmos opened India's first rocket engine factory in Chennai. Space tech startup, Agnikul Cosmos has inaugurated India's first-ever factory to manufacture 3D-printed rocket engines in Chennai. The facility will use additive manufacturing technology to build 3D printed rocket engines and will be used to produce engines for its own in-house rockets. It was unveiled by Tata Sons chairman N Chandrasekaran and ISRO chairman S Somanath in the presence of Pawan Goenka, the chairman of IN-SPACe (Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre).

The company facility will use additive manufacturing technology to build 3D printed rocket engines and will be used to produce engines for its own in-house rockets. This will allow the factory to produce eight engines every month and build the number of engines required to launch Agnibaan – its two-stage launch vehicle, expected to launch by the end of the year. Agnikul was founded in 2017 by Srinath Ravichandran, Moin SPM and SR Chakravarthy (professor of IIT-Madras).

**89. Which is the Theme of 2022 World Youth Skills Day?**

- (a) Reimagining youth skills post-pandemic**
- (b) Reimagining youth skills Covid-19**
- (c) Transforming youth skills for the new generation**
- (d) Transforming youth skills for the future**

**89. Ans: (d)**

**Sol:** World Youth Skills Day 2022 is observed annually on July 15. It focuses on the strategic importance of equipping young people with skills for employment, decent work and entrepreneurship. This day is to equip

young people around the world with essential skills for employment, work, and entrepreneurship. This day is meant to commemorate, acknowledge and celebrate the importance of equipping young people with skills for employment and entrepreneurship.

Every year, World Youth Skills Day is marked with a certain theme set by the United Nations. The theme for 2022 is 'Transforming youth skills for the future'.

**90. Which state, Union cabinet has approved the setting up of the Gati Shakti University?**

- (a) Maharashtra      (b) Rajasthan      (c) Gujarat      (d) Uttar Pradesh

**90. Ans: (c)**

**Sol:** The Union Cabinet approved the upgradation of the National Rail and Transportation Institute (NRTI) to Gati Shakti University in Gujarat which would serve as a hub for education, training, skilling, and research in the transportation sector.

The University is named after the government's flagship ₹100 trillion PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan for multimodal connectivity. It aims to build a holistic infrastructure in the country. It received its first-ever outlay of ₹20,000 crore in the budget of FY22-23.

**91. Which country has planned to launch a new space-based solar observatory?**

- (a) India      (b) US      (c) Russia      (d) China

**91. Ans: (d)**

**Sol:** China will launch its first comprehensive solar probe, the Advanced Space-based Solar Observatory, in October, opening a new chapter in the country's exploration of the sun, according to the National Astronomical Observatory of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

The satellite is equipped with three payloads, namely the All-Solar Vector Magnetic Imager, the Lyman Alpha Solar Telescope and the Solar Hard X-ray Imager. It is the culmination of over five years of work by Chinese scientists and engineers and is set to operate for more than four years.

Its goal is to study solar flares and coronal mass ejections, two of the most violent phenomena on the sun, as well as examining the star's magnetic field. These undertakings will yield valuable insights on severe space weather critical for the safe operation of instruments in orbit and electronic infrastructure on the ground.

**92. Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (RoSCTL) Scheme is associated with which Union Ministry?**

- (a) Ministry of Finance      (b) Ministry of MSME  
 (c) Ministry of External Affairs      (d) Ministry of Commerce and Industry

92. Ans: (d)

**Sol:** The Ministry of Commerce and Industry authorised the continuation of the Scheme for **Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (RoSCTL)** with the same rates as announced by the Ministry of Textiles for exports of apparel and made-ups until March 31, 2024. This aims to increase exports and generate employment in the textile industry.

93. 'Jerusalem Declaration' which has been seen in the news, is a strategic agreement between Israel and which country?

- (a) UAE                      (b) Australia                      (c) UK                      (d) USA

93. Ans: (d)

**Sol:** A joint declaration on US-Israeli strategic cooperation has been signed by President Joe Biden and Israeli Prime Minister Yair Lapid. The statement has been claimed as historic in the strategic US-Israel partnership and the commitment of the United States to Israel's security. The Jerusalem Declaration also refers to the Israeli-Palestinian relations.

94. Which city has been named 1st cultural and tourism capital of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) for 2022-23?

- (a) Varanasi    (b) Haridwar    (c) Mathura    (d) Ayodhya

94. Ans: (a)

**Sol:** The holy city of Varanasi showcasing India's culture and traditions over the ages will be declared the first "Cultural and Tourism Capital" of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation. Varanasi will become the "Cultural and Tourism Capital" of the SCO for 2022-23 under a new rotating initiative by the eight-member organisation to promote people-to-people contacts and tourism among the member states.

Each year a city of the cultural heritage of a member country that will take over the rotating Presidency of the organisation will get the title to highlight its prominence. The Beijing-headquartered Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) is an eight-member economic and security alliance comprising China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, India and Pakistan.

95. Which of the following Statement(s) is/are Correct regarding P17A stealth frigate 'Dunagiri'?

1. Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has launched the fourth P17A stealth frigate 'Dunagiri' into the Hooghly River in Mumbai.
2. The Project 17A frigate is built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders Limited.

- (a) 1 only                      (b) 2 only                      (c) Both 1 and 2                      (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**95. Ans: (b)**

**Sol:** Statement 1 is Not correct. Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has launched the fourth P17A stealth frigate ‘Dunagiri’ into the Hooghly River in Kolkata.

Statement 1 is correct. The Project 17A frigate is built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders Limited. The P-17A class is a follow-on of the P-17 Shivalik Class with improved stealth features & advanced weapons.

Security challenges in the Indian Ocean region and Indo-Pacific are constantly increasing. In order to achieve the Prime Minister’s Vision of ‘SAGAR’, i.e., Security and Growth for All in the Region’ and to protect, preserve and promote India’s national maritime interests, the Indian Navy, Indian Coast Guard and other organizations have to increase the infrastructure and assets so that the country stays ahead of the curve in dealing with these challenges.

**96. Which of the following statement(s) is/are NOT correct regarding “Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana (PMVVY)”:**

1. It is an initiative under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
2. The scheme aims to provide social security to elderly persons aged 60 and above

(a) 1 only      (b) 2 only      (c) Both 1 and 2      (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**96. Ans: (a)**

**Sol:** It is an initiative under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment This statement is incorrect. The Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana (PMVVY) is a pension scheme announced under the Ministry of Finance. The scheme aims to provide social security to elderly persons aged 60 and above. The scheme aims to provide social security to elderly people aged 60 and above against a future fall in their interest income due to uncertain market conditions. The scheme enables old age income security for senior citizens through provision of assured pension/return linked to the subscription amount based on government guarantee to Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC).

The scheme also allows for premature exit for the treatment of any critical/ terminal illness of self or spouse. On such premature exit, 98% of the Purchase Price shall be refunded. On death of the pensioner during the policy term of 10 years, the Purchase Price shall be paid to the beneficiary.

**97. 'Jagriti', which was seen in the news, is a mascot related to which field?**

(a) Income Tax    (b) Crypto currency    (c) Consumer Awareness    (d) Climate Change

**97. Ans: (c)**

**Sol:** The Department of Consumer Affairs has launched “Jagriti”, a mascot for empowering consumers and generating awareness of their rights. Jagriti mascot will be shown along with tagline ‘Jago Grahak Jago’ in all its media campaigns. It will be used to generate consumer awareness about various themes of the Department like provisions of Consumer Protection Act, Hallmarking, and National Consumer Helpline 1915 among others.

**98. Which Union Ministry website has been ranked first in the National e-Governance Service Delivery Assessment?**

- (a) Ministry of Defence (b) Ministry of Finance  
 (c) Ministry of Home Affairs (d) Ministry of Culture

**98. Ans: (c)**

**Sol:** The website of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has been ranked first in the National e-Governance Service Delivery Assessment. The Digital Police portal was ranked second in the service delivery assessment of websites of central government ministries, conducted by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) in association with its knowledge partners NASSCOM and KPMG in 2021.

**99. Which of the following Statement(s) is/are Correct regarding ‘Dinesh Shahra Lifetime Award’?**

1. The Foundation has instituted a first-of-its-kind ‘Dinesh Shahra Lifetime Award’ for Excellence in Music.
2. The initiative is supported by the Indian Arts & Cultural Society.
3. The Announcement of this novel recognition was made by Mr Dinesh Shahra, Trustee –DSF during a cultural event titled “Mausiqui” in Mumbai recently.

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only  
 (c) 1, 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

**99. Ans: (d)**

**Sol:** All options are Correct. Dinesh Shahra Foundation (DSF) has taken a major stride in its efforts to promote soulful Indian music among the masses. The Foundation has instituted a first-of-its-kind ‘Dinesh Shahra Lifetime Award’ for Excellence in Music. The initiative is supported by the Indian Arts & Cultural Society. The Announcement of this novel recognition was made by Mr Dinesh Shahra, Trustee –DSF during a cultural event titled “Mausiqui” in Mumbai recently. Hence the correct answer is Option (d).

**100. Which of the following Statement(s) is/are NOT correct regarding Bharat Rang Mahotsav 2022?**

1. National School of Drama has organised the Bharat Rang Mahotsav 2022.
2. It is being held as a part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, under name “25<sup>th</sup> Bharat Rang Mahotsav 2023.
3. National School of Drama (NSD) is a theatre training institute, based in New Delhi.

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only  
 (c) 2, 3 only (d) 1, 3 only

**100. Ans: (b)**

**Sol:** Statement 1 is correct. National School of Drama has organised the Bharat Rang Mahotsav 2022.

Statement 2 is Not correct. It is being held as a part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, under name “22<sup>nd</sup> Bharat Rang Mahotsav 2022.

Statement 3 is correct. National School of Drama (NSD) is a theatre training institute, based in New Delhi. It was established in 1959 as an autonomous organization under Ministry of Culture. Hence the correct answer is Option (b).