

CURRENT AFFAIRS

SEPTEMBER

- TOPIC WISE CURRENT AFFAIRS
- 150 QUESTION FOR PRACTICE
- DETAILED ANALYSIS OF IMPORTANT EVENTS

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PREFACE

This is our special edition of Current Affairs Magazine for various Central & State level Competitive Examinations, covering content from the month of SEPTEMBER 2024.

The Magazine is divided into three sections:

Section 1: Topic Wise Current Affairs in Short

The first section is dedicated to Topic Wise Current Affairs with a short description to provide information about all major happenings this month.

Section 2: Practice Questions with Answers

The Second Section contains 150 Multiple Choice Questions based on daily current affairs.

Section 3: Detailed Analysis of important Event

The Third Section covers some major happenings in this month along with analysis. The content has been covered from various online & offline sources including reputed newspapers like The Hindu, Indian Express etc. All the news topics have been explained keeping in mind their underlying issues. Every issue has been covered comprehensively. Some of the information provided may not be directly relevant for the examination. As the content is very wide, we have only covered a limited set of issues. You can utilize it smartly along with Daily Study of News Papers as well as other sources.



INDEX

1. Important Days	Page 04
2. Agreements	Page 12
3. Appointments	Page 16
4. Awards	Page 20
5. Banking	Page 24
6. Books and Author	Page 27
7. Defence	Page 29
8. Economy	Page 33
9. International	Page 37
10. Miscellaneous	Page 42
11. National	Page 45
12. Obituaries	Page 49
13. Ranks & Reports	Page 53
14. Schemes & Committee	Page 57
15. Science & Technology	Page 61
16. Sports	Page 64
17. State	Page 72
18. Summits & Conferences	Page 76

Section 1

Topic Wise Current Affairs

Section 2

Question with Answers

• QUESTIONS - Page 82

• ANSWERS - Page 94

Section 3

Detailed Analysis of Events

1. Economics	Page 110
2. Environment & Diversity	Page 113
3. Governance	Page 118
4. History	Page 119
5. Polity	Page 122
6. Science, Tech, Art & Culture	Page 124
7. Security Issues	Page 129

SECTION 1

Topic Wise Current Affairs in Short



1: Important Days



National Nutrition Week : 01 To 07 September :-

National Nutrition Week (NNW) has been held in India from September 1 to September 7 annually from 1982 to raise public awareness about the relevance of nutrition to one's health and overall well-being. Schools may help students recognize the various food groups, appreciate their value, and learn how to make healthy choices by incorporating hands-on activities throughout the week. By participating in creative tasks, students will internalize these essential lessons in a fun and memorable way.



World Coconut Day : 02 September :-

World Coconut Day is observed annually on September 2. The Asian and Pacific Coconut Community (APCC), located in Jakarta, Indonesia, was created on September 2, 1969, to promote the growth, production, sale, and export of coconuts in Asian countries. In 2009, the APCC initiated the annual celebration of World Coconut Day on September 2. India, Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, Kenya and Vietnam are some of the countries that are members of APCC. This year the theme is

"Coconut for a circular economy, Building partnership for maximum value".



Skyscraper Day : 03 September :-

Every year on September 3rd, we commemorate Skyscraper Day. On the occasion of Louis H. Sullivan's birth anniversary, often known as the 'Father of Skyscrapers', the day commemorates and respects the high-rise architectural marvels. According to GuinnessWorldRecords.com, the world's first skyscraper was built in Chicago in 1885. It has ten stories and a peak height of 138 feet. It was known as the 'Home Insurance Building'. This day is celebrated every year to appreciate the engineering marvels that have been around for more than 130 years. On this day, the work and efforts of architects who have built the skyscrapers are also being appreciated.



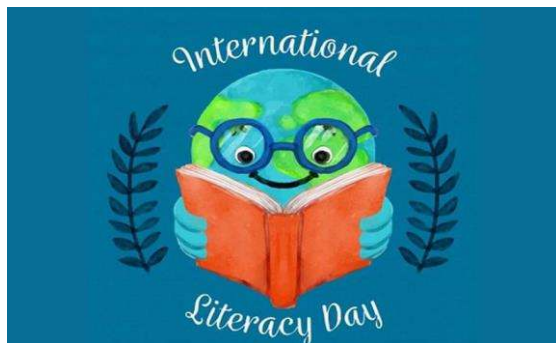
International Day of Charity : 05 September :-

September 5th is designated as International Day of Charity, which promotes acts of compassion around the world and highlights the importance of humanitarian

activities. The United Nations established the International Day of Charity in 2012 to celebrate organizations' global humanitarian activities, with September 5th designated as Mother Teresa's death anniversary. The International Day of Charity seeks to promote global solidarity, support for charitable causes, and an increase in social responsibility on a global scale.

**Teachers' Day (India) : 05 September :-**

Teachers' Day is observed on September 5 in India to honour the contributions of educators such as teachers, researchers, and professors. This day honors Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, India's first Vice-President and second President, who was born on September 5, 1888. While he denied specific recognition for himself, Dr. Radhakrishnan urged that students observe the day as Teachers' Day to recognize teachers' outstanding contributions to society. Since 1962, September 5 has been observed as Teachers' Day to pay tribute to his and all teachers' exceptional contributions to education.

**International Literacy Day : 08 September :-**

International Literacy Day, commemorated annually on September 8, is a notable event that emphasizes the importance of literacy in personal development and

societal progress. The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) established this global day to highlight the importance of reading in terms of dignity and human rights. On September 8, 1967, the world commemorated this important day for the first time, ushering in a significant global remembrance. The theme for International Literacy Day 2024 is "Promoting multilingual education: Literacy for mutual understanding and peace".

**World Physical Therapy Day : 08 September :-**

On September 8, World Physical Therapy Day, physical therapists and physiotherapists are recognized and celebrated for their substantial contributions to promoting health and well-being. The World Confederation for Physical Therapy established World Physical Therapy Day, often known as World PT Day, in 1996, more than two decades ago. The reason that September 8 has been chosen as the anniversary is because it was on that day, back in 1951, when the World Confederation was first established.

**Himalaya Diwas : 09 September :-**

Every year on September 9, Himalaya Day is observed to promote the preservation of the Himalayan ecology and

region. The Himalayas serve a vital role in preserving environment and protecting the country from extreme weather. In 2014, Harish Rawat, the then-chief minister of Uttarakhand, formally designated September 9th as Himalaya Day. Anil Joshi of the Himalayan Environmental Studies and Conservation Organization, together with other Indian environmentalists, devised the idea. The initiative aimed to observe 9th September as Himalaya Diwas in all the Himalayan states of India from Jammu and Kashmir to Arunachal Pradesh. The reason is that these states have a common Himalayan social ecology.



World Suicide Prevention Day : 10 September:-

The International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP) hosts World Suicide Prevention Day on September 10th. The primary goal of the day is to increase global awareness of the preventable nature of suicide. Suicide accounts for one out of every 100 fatalities worldwide. The day offers a chance to raise awareness of suicide and to support tried-and-true methods. The International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP) and the World Health Organization first celebrated World Suicide Prevention Day on September 10, 2003. The theme for 2024 is 'Changing the Narrative on Suicide'.



National Forest Martyrs Day (India) : 11 September

Every year on September 11th, India celebrates National Forest Martyrs Day. It serves as a solemn homage to

those brave individuals who gave the ultimate sacrifice while heroically defending forests and animals, both of which are critically important to the overall health of our world. In 2013, the Ministry of Environment designated September 11 as National Forest Martyrs Day, commemorating the anniversary of the Khejarli Massacre (1730). The massacre took place in the Kingdom of Marwar when Maharaja Abhai Singh Rathore wanted to cut down trees near the Bishnoi village of Khejarli.



Patriot Day (US) : 11 September :-

Patriot Day, also known as the National Day of Service and Remembrance, is held on September 11 each year. The day is commemorated in memory of the victims and heroes of Al-Qaeda's 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City and the Pentagon in Virginia. It was established in 2002, one year after Vito Fossella filed a bill in the United States House on October 25, 2001. Also, Patriot Day (Sep 11) should not be confused with Patriot's Day (April), also known as Patriots Day. This one observed on the third Monday of April commemorates the battles of Lexington and Concord in 1775.



International Chocolate Day : 13 September :-

International Chocolate Day is observed on September 13 every year. The National Confectioners Association of the United States established this day. It celebrates the birth of Milton S. Hershey. He was an American chocolatier, entrepreneur, and philanthropist. Chocolate originated in Mesoamerica (now Mexico) around 450 B.C. The Nahuatl word "chocolatl," which means "hot water," and the Aztec word "xocoatl," which means "bitter water," are the roots of the English term "chocolate." Chocolate is a versatile cross-cultural delicacy enjoyed beyond the boundaries of class, age, gender, etc.

**Hindi Diwas : 14 September :-**

Hindi Diwas commemorates the anniversary of Hindi's adoption as one of India's official languages on September 14, 1949. The day highlights the importance of Hindi in promoting national unity and linguistic variety. Hindi Diwas is a prominent cultural and linguistic event in India. It emphasizes the nation's linguistic heritage and encourages the use of Hindi in everyday communication. The day is celebrated throughout the country with various events in schools, colleges, and government institutions, including essay contests, poetry readings, and debates.

**World First Aid Day 2024 : 14 September :-**

Every year on the second Saturday in September, World First Aid Day is observed, and this year's date is September 14. The goal of this day is to educate people on the need of first aid in dealing with medical emergencies, as well as to encourage them to step forward when a crisis arises. Therefore, on this day, several organisations, such as International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) organise campaigns to spread awareness about basic first aid skills. The theme for World First Aid Day 2024 is "First Aid and Sports."

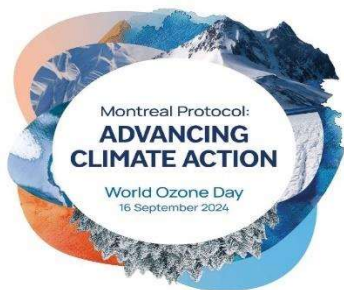
**International Day of Democracy : 15 September :-**

September 15 is recognized as International Day of Democracy, which was established in 2007 by a resolution voted by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA). The International Day of Democracy is based on the Universal Declaration on Democracy, which was adopted on September 15, 1997 by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), an international organization of national parliaments. In subsequent years, Qatar spearheaded attempts to establish an International Day of Democracy. This year theme for the International Day of democracy is focused on the importance of Artificial Intelligence (AI) as a tool for good governance.



National Engineer's Day (India) : 15 September :-

Every year on September 15, India celebrates National Engineers' Day to commemorate the birth anniversary of Sir Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya, a well-known Indian engineer and statesman. He was influential in the construction of dams, irrigation networks, and other infrastructure. On National Engineers' Day, we honour his legacy and the enormous contributions engineers have made to India's progress and modernisation. In 2024, the theme 'Solutions for a Sustainable World' urges the need for responsible engineering solutions.

**World Ozone Day : 16 September :-**

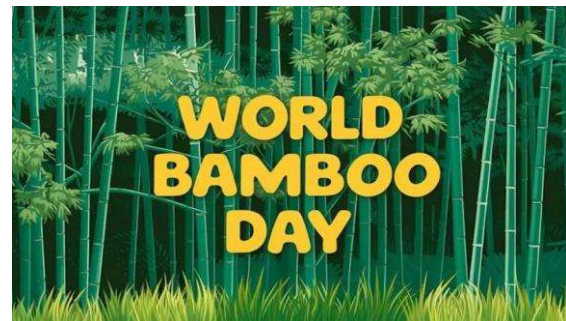
World Ozone Day, observed annually on September 16, is a unique day dedicated to raise awareness about the ozone layer's depletion and the effect on environmental health. In the 1980s, scientists discovered that human-made substances such as chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and halons were depleting the ozone layer. This revelation sparked concerns about the potential consequences of ozone depletion, resulting in international action. In response to this depletion, the Montreal Protocol was adopted on September 16, 1987, to prevent the production of ozone-depleting substances. The theme for World Ozone Day 2024 is "Montreal Protocol: Advancing Climate Actions."

**Malaysia Day : 16 September :-**

Malaysia Day is observed on September 16th annually to commemorate the establishment of the Malaysian Federation on that date in 1963. The Federation of Malaya, the State of Singapore, Sabah, and Sarawak merged to form the federation. Malaysia Day is a public holiday in Malaysia that celebrates the country's unity and diversity. The day is typically marked with parades, cultural performances, and other festivities. In 2024, Malaysia Day will be the 61st anniversary of the formation of the Malaysian Federation.

**World Patient Safety Day : 17 September :-**

Since patient safety is so important to healthcare, the World Health Organization (WHO) created World Patient Safety Day to increase public awareness of the issue and encourage global efforts to improve healthcare safety. Every year on September 17, we observe World Patient Safety Day. In honor of the anniversary of the World Health Assembly's adoption of the resolution on patient safety, September 17, 2019 was designated as World Patient Safety Day. This year's theme is "Improving Diagnosis for Patient Safety".

**World Bamboo Day : 18 September :-**

Every year, on September 18, World Bamboo Day is marked to promote awareness of bamboo around the world. During the eighth World Bamboo Congress in

Bangkok in 2009, the World Bamboo Organisation (WBO) declared September 18 as World Bamboo Day. This decision was approved unanimously by representatives from approximately 100 countries. The purpose of World Bamboo Day is to increase awareness among the public about the economic advantages of bamboo and the significance of its cultivation in emerging industries. The theme for World Bamboo Day 2024 is "Next Generation Bamboo: Solution, Innovation, and Design".



International Day of Peace : 21 September :-

International Day of Peace is an annual global event held on September 21 to encourage peace around the world. It was founded by the United Nations General Assembly in 1981, and two decades later, in 2001, the General Assembly decided overwhelmingly to designate this day as a day of nonviolence and ceasefire. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the United Nations General Assembly's adoption of the Declaration and Programme of Action for a Culture of Peace. The theme for this year's celebration is 'Cultivating a Culture of Peace'.



World Alzheimer's Day : 21 September :-

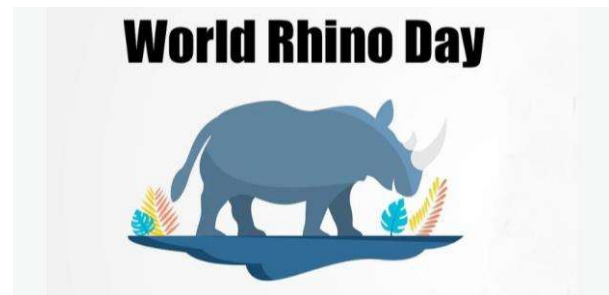
World Alzheimer's Day is commemorated every year on September 21st to increase awareness about Alzheimer's disease and dementia, foster understanding,

and battle the stigma associated with these disorders. Alzheimer's Disease International (ADI) established World Alzheimer's Day in 1994 to commemorate the organisation's tenth anniversary. ADI is a global federation of Alzheimer's associations dedicated to raising awareness of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. The theme for World Alzheimer's Day 2024 is "Time to act on dementia, Time to act on Alzheimer's."



International Red Panda Day 2024 : 21 September :-

International Red Panda Day is commemorated annually on the third Saturday of September. Red Pandas are in decline because there are fewer opportunities for them to live and thrive in their natural habitats. This year, the day will be observed on September 21. The Red Panda Network founded International Red Panda Day in 2010 to raise awareness of the dramatic decline in the population of this mysterious mammal found in Asia's dense jungles. According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the red panda has been marked as an endangered species.



World Rhino Day : 22 September :-

World Rhino Day is observed annually on September 22. South African conservation organizations established

World Rhino Day in 2010 to raise awareness about the critically endangered rhinoceros species. Lisa Jane Campbell expressed her hope to see at least five different species of rhinos living around the world in a letter she sent to Rhishja (another rhino enthusiast) in 2011. Since then, World Rhino Day has been observed annually to raise awareness of the critical need for rhino conservation as a result of the widespread poaching of rhinos for their precious horns.



Day for the Welfare of Cancer Patients : 22 September :-

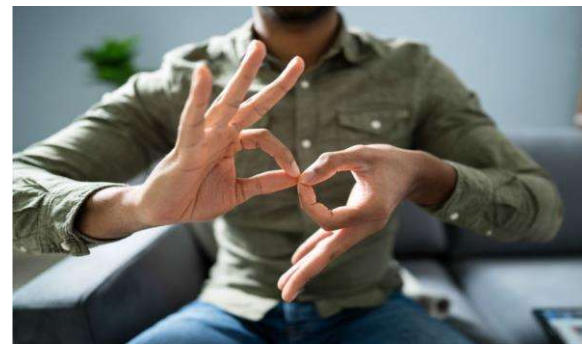
The Welfare of Cancer Patients Day, also known as World Rose Day, is commemorated annually on September 22. The rose represents caring, love, and strength. The day is devoted to people suffering from cancer all across the world. The day celebrates Melinda Rose, a 12-year-old Canadian cancer sufferer who died in 1996. This day signifies raising awareness regarding the fight against the disease and encourages the sufferers to stay positive. This is an occasion to give cancer patients the hope to recover soon.



World Rivers Day 2024 : 22 September :-

World Rivers Day is observed every fourth Sunday in September, and this year's date is September 22. Mark

Angelo, a globally recognized river conservationist, approached the United Nations in 2005 as part of its Water for Life campaign, a decade-long attempt to raise awareness about vulnerable water resources around the world. The first World Rivers Day was held in 2005, following the United Nations' announcement of the Water for Life Decade. The theme for World Rivers Day 2024 is "Waterways of Life".



International Day of Sign Languages : 23 September :-

International Day of Sign Languages is a yearly celebration that celebrates the linguistic and cultural variety of deaf people worldwide. On September 23, the world celebrates the Day. September 23 was chosen to commemorate the day in 1951 when the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) was founded. The International Day of Sign Languages was first marked in 2018, as part of the International Week of the Deaf. According to the World Federation of the Deaf, there are over 70 million deaf people in the world. More than 80% of them live in underdeveloped countries. The theme for International Day of Sign Languages 2024 is 'Sign up for Sign Language Rights'.



World Pharmacists Day : 25 September :-

World Pharmacists Day is observed on September 25 each year in order to highlight pharmacists' contributions

to global health improvement. Pharmacists play an important role in healthcare by assuring safe and effective pharmaceutical usage, offering patient counseling, and providing support to healthcare systems in a variety of ways. The International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) launched World Pharmacists Day in 2009 to highlight and celebrate pharmacists' contributions to world health. This year's theme is "Pharmacists: Meeting global health needs".

**Antyodaya Diwas : 25 September :-**

Every year on September 25, India commemorates Antyodaya Diwas, the birth anniversary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya. It is a day to remember and celebrate his life and legacy, as he was a key player in Indian political history. He was a founding member of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh (BJS) and an Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) theorist. Upadhyaya is also known for his efforts to uplift the poor and less fortunate, and so his birth anniversary is celebrated on Antyodaya, which means 'rising of the last'.

**World Contraception Day : 26 September :-**

World Contraception Day is marked on September 26 each year. A contraceptive is a type of birth control used to avoid undesired pregnancies. It was originally commemorated on September 26, 2007 by 10 international family planning organizations to raise

awareness about contraception and to assist couples in making educated decisions about beginning a family so that each pregnancy is desired. World Contraception Day is celebrated worldwide through online and offline campaigns which completely focus on reaching the masses. As per the United Nations Population Fund theme for World Contraception Day 2024 is "A choice for all. Freedom to plan, power to choose."

**World Environmental Health Day : 26 September :-**

World Environmental Health Day is observed annually on September 26 to promote information about the importance of environmental health and to advocate for policies that protect and improve the environment for the benefit of all living organisms. World Environmental Health Day was founded by the International Federation of Environmental Health (IFEH) in 2011. It was created to highlight the crucial role of environmental health in promoting overall well-being and to encourage individuals and communities to take action to protect and preserve the environment. The theme of World Environment Health Day 2024 is "Environmental Health: Creating Resilient Communities through Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation"

**World Tourism Day : 27 September :-**

Every year on September 27th, World Tourism Day commemorates the importance of tourism and its global social, cultural, and economic effect. World Tourism Day, established by the United Nations in 1980, serves as a reminder of the importance of tourism in promoting cultural understanding and peace. It calls on governments, corporations, and communities to emphasize sustainable practices that boost local economies while protecting natural and cultural heritage. "Tourism and Peace" has been selected as the theme for World Tourism Day in 2024.



World Rabies Day : 28 September :-

Rabies is a fatal viral disease which impacts the central nervous system of mammals, which includes humans. It is primarily transmitted via the bite or scratch of an infected animal, as the virus can be found in the saliva. World Rabies Day is marked yearly on September 28th to raise awareness about the prevention of rabies and promote global efforts to eradicate the illness. The

theme for World Rabies Day 2024, "Breaking Rabies Boundaries," was selected to emphasise the need for advancement and moving beyond the current limitations in rabies prevention and control efforts.



International Day For Universal Access To Information : 28 September :-

The International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI) highlights the importance of information access in promoting sustainable development, transparency, and accountable governance. On November 17, 2015, the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) recognized September 28 to be International Day for Universal Access to Information. Only when citizens have the knowledge and know-how they govern, they can hold their governments accountable for their decisions and actions. The 2024 theme is "Mainstreaming Access to Information and Participation in the Public Sector."

2: Agreements



Visa Partners With Skill India To Up Skill 20,000 Youth For India's Tourism Industry :-

Visa, a digital payments giant and The Tourism & Hospitality Skill Council (THSC), which is part of the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, have signed a three-year partnership worth up to USD 1 million to train at least 20,000 Indian youths in tourism-related skills, the government announced. The partnership, which builds upon Visa's ongoing collaboration with the Ministry of Tourism, aims to train youth across 10 states, including Assam, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, and West Bengal, to elevate the tourism service experience for tourists.



India And Singapore Sign Agreement On Semiconductor Partnership :-

India and Singapore have inked four Memorandums of Understanding (MoU) in digital technologies, semiconductors, health collaboration, and skill development, which would increase bilateral cooperation between the two nations. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is visiting Singapore, arrived at Parliament House on September 5 and was greeted ceremonially. He met Singapore counterpart Lawrence Wong, and the two delegations held bilateral meetings, following which the MoUs were signed.



Centre, Tripura sign peace pact with Tripura insurgent groups :-

According to Union Home Minister Amit Shah, more than 300 armed cadres from two insurgent groups in Tripura have given up violence to join the mainstream and would "contribute not only to building a developed Tripura but also to building a developed India". Mr. Shah witnessed the signing of a Memorandum of Settlement between the Government of India, the Government of Tripura, the National Liberation Front of Tripura (NLFT), and the All

Tripura Tiger Force (ATTF). Per the agreement, the NLFT and the ATTF have agreed to abjure the path of violence.



India And UAE Strengthen Audit Cooperation :-

The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the UAE Accountability Authority following a bilateral meeting with the latter's President. During the signing ceremony, CAG Girish Chandra Murmu stated that this MoU demonstrates our institutions' similar values and goals and strengthens India-UAE ties. He said that the agreement would create opportunities for greater collaboration and learning between the Supreme Audit Institutions.



India And UAE Sign Landmark Civil Nuclear Energy Agreement :-

India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on civil nuclear cooperation, marking a first. The agreement among the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) and the ENEC (Emirates Nuclear Energy Company)-led Barakah Nuclear Power Plant Operations and Maintenance was signed during the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi's visit to India. This MoU is the result of nuclear

cooperation-related discussion between India and the UAE spanning a few years.



Malayalam Film Industry To Make Wage Agreement Mandatory From October 1 :-

The Kerala Film Producers Association has declared that the service wage agreement will be enforced compulsory on October 1. The Association of Malayalam Movie Artistes (AMMA) and the Film Employees Federation of Kerala (FEFKA) have each received a letter from the association. A copy of this letter is shared on social media. The letter from the producers' group required that the performers and technicians sign a service wage agreement. According to the agreement, all those who work in the industry must acquire remuneration contracts in place if the payment exceeds Rs 1 lakh.



Adani Ports sign MoU with Rorix Holdings for trade, logistics purposes :-

Rorix Holdings (Rorix), an Abu Dhabi-based global trade facilitation and finance company, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone during the UAE-India Business Forum. This strategic alliance aims to harness both organizations' capabilities by integrating innovative technology into their logistics and trading systems, resulting in synergies that will alter the commodities market ecosystem. Dr Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi,

Executive Chairman of Rorix Holdings, stated: "Our partnership with Adani Ports will create an innovative and efficient commodities market ecosystem".



FSSAI And Brazil's MAPA Sign MoU To Enhance Food Safety Cooperation :-

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) and Brazil's Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAPA) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on food safety. Agriculture and Livestock Minister Carlos Henrique Baqueta Fávaro and FSSAI CEO G. Kamala Vardhana Rao signed the Memorandum of Understanding on the sidelines of the Global Food Regulators Summit in New Delhi. The MoU aimed at improving food safety through joint projects and technical collaboration. CEO of FSSAI added that the MoU demonstrates India's dedication to food safety and signifies a major advancement in its ongoing efforts to enhance international collaboration in food safety.



India And Bhutan Deepen Cooperation On Food Safety And Regulatory Standards :-

The Union Cabinet has authorized the signing of many significant deals among India and Bhutan. One of the agreements accepted is a collaboration between the Bhutan Food and Drug Authority (BFDA) and the Food

Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) on food safety issues. This agreement will streamline trade between the two neighboring countries by facilitating the issuance of Health Certificates by BFDA, ensuring compliance with FSSAI requirements when exporting products to India.



India To Get First National Security Semiconductor Fabrication Plant As Part Of Collaboration With US

In a groundbreaking collaboration with the United States, India will receive its first national security semiconductor production factory, which will develop chips for use in both countries' military hardware, as well as crucial telecommunication networks and electronics. The massive India-US collaborative initiative was unveiled during talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Joe Biden in Wilmington. The two leaders hailed the first-ever India-US semiconductor fabrication partnership as a "watershed arrangement".



Labour Ministry Partners With Amazon To Ignite Job Opportunities For Youth :-

Amazon India has secured an agreement with the Labour and Employment Ministry to publish job openings at Amazon and its staffing firms on the National Career Service (NCS) portal. The MoU is initially established for two years. Career seekers who register on the NCS site will be able to browse and apply for a wide range of career opportunities across Amazon's corporate offices and operations network that match their skills and goals. Access to NCS's extensive database will enable Amazon and its staffing agencies to source candidate profiles more effectively and hire them for roles across the country.



Tech Mahindra And University Of Auckland Partner For AI And Quantum Research :-

Tech Mahindra and the University of Auckland (UoA) will collaborate on research and innovation in artificial intelligence, machine learning, and quantum computing. According to Tech Mahindra, the relationship would strengthen interaction between industry and academics, with the goal of enhancing the employability of UoA graduates. The collaboration will introduce Generative AI and its benefits to indigenous communities and offer internships at Tech Mahindra, providing potential candidates with the opportunity to learn AI, ML, and other emerging technologies.

3: Appointments



L'Oreal Paris Announces Alia Bhatt as New Global Brand Ambassador

L'Oreal Paris Announces Alia Bhatt as New Global Brand Ambassador :-

L'Oréal Paris, the world's leading beauty brand, has proudly announced Alia Bhatt as its new global brand ambassador. Joining an illustrious group of spokespersons that includes Viola Davis, Jane Fonda, Eva Longoria, Kendall Jenner, Elle Fanning, and Camila Cabello, Bhatt will be the face of the brand's campaigns starting in September 2024.



India's Table Tennis Icon Sharath Kamal Named ITTF Foundation Ambassador :-

On day 11 of Ultimate Table Tennis (UTT) season five, Ace paddler Sharath Kamal was selected as the first Indian ambassador of the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) foundation at the Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium. Sharath, who was voted to the ITTF's Athlete's Commission in November 2022, received the honor in the presence of Her Highness Zeina Shaban, Princess of Jordan and two-time Olympian, and Vita Dani, Chairperson of the UTT. Shaban and Dani are both board members of the ITTF Foundation.



Rahul Dravid appointed Rajasthan Royals head coach :-

A few months after leading India to victory in the ICC T20 World Cup 2024, batting veteran Rahul Dravid has been named the head coach of IPL team Rajasthan Royals. Dravid's term as India's head coach ended after the World Cup, and he has now joined RR, a team he previously played for for five seasons. Dravid believes this is the right time for him to take on another challenge following his World Cup victory. "After the World Cup, I feel it's the ideal time for me to take on another challenge, and the Royals is the perfect place to do that," he said.



Randhir Singh Elected As First Indian President Of Olympic Council Of Asia :-

At the 44th OCA general assembly in New Delhi, sports administrator and five-time Olympian Randhir Singh made history as the first Indian to hold the position of President of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA). The 77-year-old, who has been the OCA's acting president since 2021, was standing in for Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-

Sabab of Kuwait, who was banned from the sports administration for 15 years in May of this year due to ethical transgressions. A trap shooter who represented India at five Olympics from 1968 to 1984, he won gold in the event at the 1978 Bangkok Asian Games.



Tuhin Kanta Pandey Appointed As New Finance Secretary :-

Almost a month after the Cabinet's highest appointment panel named T.V. Somanathan as Cabinet Secretary, the Center named Orissa cadre 1987 batch IAS officer Tuhin Kanta Pandey as the next Finance Secretary. As the Secretary in charge of two important departments, the Departments of Public Enterprises (DPE) and Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM), Mr. Pandey is currently employed by the Finance Ministry. This appointment comes at the back of other major changes effected in the Finance Ministry's top brass over the past month.



Amit Shah Re-Elected As Chairperson Of Parliamentary Committee On Official Language :-

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has been unanimously reinstated as Chairperson of the Parliamentary Committee on Official Language, according to a statement from the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA). The committee met in New Delhi to make the decision. Following the creation of the new administration, the

committee met here to reconstitute the Parliamentary Committee on Official Language. The Home Minister expressed his gratitude to all the members of the Parliamentary Committee on Official Language for unanimously re-electing him as the Chairperson.



New Chief Of Army Staff Sworn In For Nepal's Military Leadership :-

President Ranchandra Paudel delivered the oath of office to Ashok Raj Sigdel, the newly appointed Chief of Army Staff (CoAS). At a special ceremony held at the President's Office, Sheetal Niwas, the newly appointed CoAS took the oath of office and secrecy as the 45th CoAS of the Nepali Army in front of the President, the Supreme Commander of the Nepali Army. Vice-President Ram Sahay Prasad Yadav, Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli, Chief Justice Bishowambhar Prasad Shrestha, Speaker Devraj Ghimire, National Assembly Chairperson Narayan Prasad Dahal were present on the occasion.



RBI approves re-appointment of V Vaidyanathan as IDFC First Bank MD :-

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved V Vaidyanathan's re-appointment as MD and CEO of IDFC First Bank for three years, from December 19, 2024 to December 18, 2027. Vaidyanathan formerly worked for Citibank and ICICI Bank before starting Capital First in 2012. In 2018, he merged Capital First with IDFC Bank,

becoming the MD and CEO of the amalgamated firm, which was renamed IDFC FIRST Bank. The bank provides customized financial solutions to corporate, individuals, small and micro enterprises (SMEs), entrepreneurs, financial institutions and the government.



World Boxing Champion Nikhat Zareen Joins Telangana Police As DSP :-

Nikhat Zareen, a world boxing champion and Olympic athlete, has joined Telangana Police as Deputy Superintendent of Police (Special Police). Zareen's new job comes after her recent participation in the Paris Olympics. In the women's 50 kg category, she fell to China's Wu Yu in the pre-quarterfinals. Zareen, who competed as an unseeded boxer, admitted that it was the most difficult loss she had ever experienced. Despite the setback, Zareen remains determined. She promised her supporters, "I promise this isn't the end. I'll return home to recover and clear my mind. This dream is still alive and I will continue to chase it with renewed passion".



CM Shinde loyalist Bharat Gogawale appointed as MSRTC chairman :-

Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde has directed the transport department to change laws, clearing the way for Bharat Gogawale, a disgruntled Mahad MLA, to be appointed chairman of the Maharashtra State Road

Transport Corporation (MSRTC). This is the fourth time Shinde's party has appointed unhappy MLAs, and it comes only days before the Assembly elections are set to be announced. Gogawale, who had been a frontrunner for a cabinet position, had publicly expressed expectations of a ministerial role and even claimed the post of guardian minister for Raigad.



IPS Officer Anurag Garg Appointed As New NCB Director General :-

Anurag Garg, a 1993 batch IPS officer, is the new director general of the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB). Garg formerly served as Additional Director General of the Border Security Force (BSF) in its New Delhi headquarters, according to NCB India. Following the resignation of incumbent S N Pradhan in August, CRPF DG Anish Dayal Singh served in an additional position as NCB chief. The Narcotics Control Bureau is an Indian central law enforcement and intelligence agency under the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.



Rajasthan Royals appoint Vikram Rathour as batting coach :-

Vikram Rathour, a former India coach, will once again work with Rahul Dravid after being hired as the latest member of the coaching team by Indian Premier League franchise Rajasthan Royals. Rathour became the Royals'

batting coach. Dravid signed on with the franchise earlier this month. Both collaborated with the Indian squad that reached the ODI World Cup final last year and won the 2024 T20 World Cup. Before his India role, Rathour was a national selector and also coached Himachal Pradesh in domestic cricket.



Kalikesh Singh Deo Elected National Rifle Association Of India President :-

Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo was appointed president of the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) after defeating his opponent VK Dhall 36-21 in elections held at the Constitution Club of India. Kalikesh, a former Odisha MP, was in charge of the NRAI's day-to-day operations after the position became empty last year due to Raninder Singh's resignation under the government's National Sports Code (NSC). Last year, the Sports Ministry had issued a directive that heads of national sports federations (NSFs) cannot hold office for more than 12 years as per the NSC.



KVS Manian Assumes Office As Federal Bank CEO :-

Federal Bank, a private sector lender, has appointed KVS Manian as its new managing director and CEO. Manian would fill the gap left by the retirement of the incumbent, Shyam Srinivasan, who effectively headed the bank since September 2010. Significantly, the Federal Bank statement, which was not credited to anyone,

made no mention of Srinivasan's retirement on September 23 or his contributions to the bank during the previous 14 years. Manian, who was with Kotak Mahindra Bank for over two and half decades, has a proven track record in the banking industry.



CAG Of India Assumes Chairmanship Of ASOSAI For 2024-2027 :-

The Asian Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions (ASOSAI) will be chaired by India's Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) from 2024-2027. Speaking on the event, CAG of India Girish Chandra Murmu stated that the 16th Assembly of ASOSAI has extended to involve 48 Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs). The Assembly, which includes around 200 participants from 42 countries, including the leaders of 22 SAIs, represents an important milestone in regional public auditing cooperation, with an emphasis on improving transparency, accountability, and good governance.



Udhayanidhi Stalin Sworn in as Deputy Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu :-

Udhayanidhi Stalin, son of Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M. K. Stalin, has been sworn in as the new Deputy Chief Minister of the state, marking a significant reshuffle in the cabinet. Udhayanidhi, who is also a former actor and film producer, has gradually transitioned into a

prominent political role, following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather, the late M. Karunanidhi. His appointment is expected to strengthen the DMK's political strategy ahead of upcoming elections, ensuring continuity in the party's leadership.



IPS Officer Nalin Prabhat Appointed as DGP of Jammu & Kashmir :-

Senior IPS officer Nalin Prabhat has been appointed as the new Director General of Police (DGP) of Jammu & Kashmir, effective October 1, 2024. Prabhat, who has served as the Special Director-General of J&K Police, takes over during a sensitive time as the region continues to grapple with security challenges. His appointment is seen as crucial to maintaining stability and enhancing counter-terrorism operations in the region. The Ministry of Home Affairs has emphasized Prabhat's extensive experience in handling complex security situations.

4: Awards



FICCI Honours Ayushmann Khurrana And Neeraj Chopra As Youth Icons Of India :-

Ayushmann Khuranna, a Bollywood actor, was honored with the FICCI Youth Icon Award 2024 in the Entertainment section. The actor acknowledged gratitude by posting photos of his accomplishment. The FICCI Young Leaders Awards 2024 are renowned for recognizing and rewarding the future generation of changemakers. Neeraj Chopra received the FICCI Young Leader Youth Icon Award 2024 in the sports category, in addition to himself. Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) is a non government association in New Delhi.



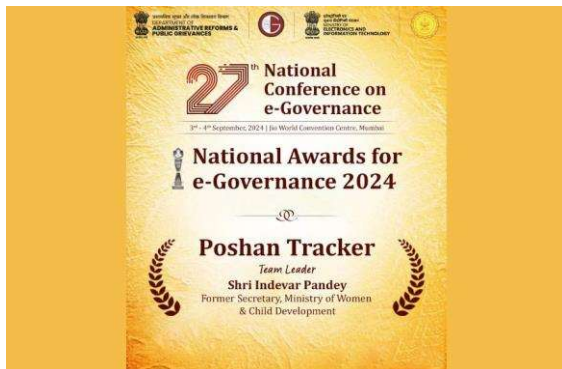
Kerala Tourism Clinches PATA Gold Award 2024 For Innovative 'Holiday Heist' Campaign :-

Kerala Tourism received the coveted Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) Gold Award 2024 for its online contest 'Holiday Heist' in the Digital Marketing Campaign category at a ceremony in Bangkok. Tourism Director Sikha Surendran accepted the prize during a PATA Travel Mart 2024 ceremony in Bangkok's Queen Sirikit National Convention Centre (QSNCC). The campaign has witnessed over 80,000 bids, 5.2 lakh conversations, 45 million impressions, and 13 million video views.



Legendary Animator Hayao Miyazaki Receives Prestigious Ramon Magsaysay Award :-

Hayao Miyazaki, a Japanese animator, has received the renowned Ramon Magsaysay Award for 2024, frequently referred to as Asia's Nobel Prize, in recognition of his enormous contributions to environmental protection and peace advocacy through animation. Studio Ghibli, the famed animation studio that Miyazaki co-founded, made the announcement. This year's winners include three people and one group, all of whom have made extraordinary contributions to society. The official award ceremony is scheduled to take place in Manila this November, according to The Japan Times.



Women And Child Development Ministry Wins 2024 E-Governance Gold For Poshan Tracker :-

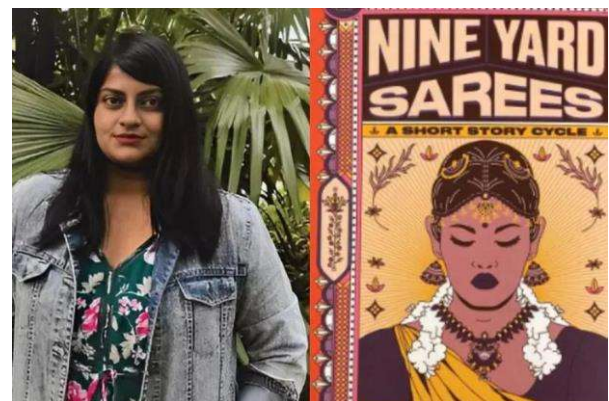
The Ministry of Women and Child Development received the National Award for e-Governance 2024 (Gold) for its Poshan Tracker program. Mission Poshan 2.0 has made great success in tracking the growth of millions of young lives through its Monthly Growth Monitoring program - Poshan Tracker, which is also this year's theme, Rashtriya Poshan Maah 2024, according to a news statement from the Ministry of Women and Child Development. The

Poshan Tracker program uses real-time monitoring to identify and address growth issues among children.



National Florence Nightingale Awards 2024 :-

The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu, awarded the National Florence Nightingale Awards for the year 2024 to nursing workers at Rashtrapati Bhavan. The National Florence Nightingale Awards were established by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, to recognize and celebrate outstanding nursing staff. A total of 15 awards are given in the category of Registered Auxiliary Nurses & Midwife, Registered Nurses and Midwife and Registered Lady Visitor.



Indian Origin Lecturer Win The Prize For Literature In Singapore :-

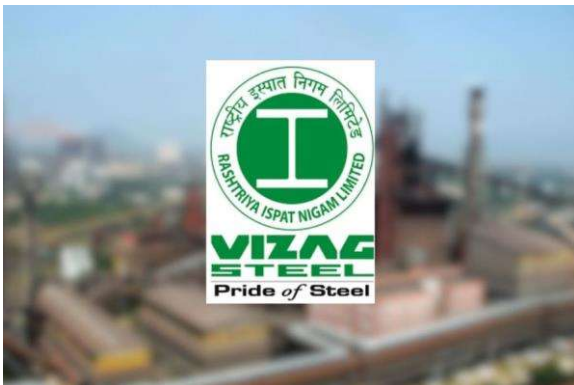
For her short tale "Nine Yard Sarees," an Indian-origin lecturer at Nanyang Technological University has received the Singapore Literature Prize for English literature. The 32-year-old Prasanthi Ram's debut book was released in late 2023. A Tamil Brahmin family that has generations ago moved to Singapore, Sydney, New

York, and Connecticut is the subject of the cycle of short stories. The prize for best English creative non-fiction went to Indian-origin artist Shubigi Rao, whose 'Pulp III: An Intimate Inventory Of The Banished Book' (2022) was the third instalment of her decade-long project on banished books.



Indian Overseas Bank bags Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar for 2nd consecutive time :-

The public sector Indian Overseas Bank has won the Rajbhasha Kirti Pratham Puraskar top prize in the Official Language Implementation category for 2023-24 from the Ministry of Home Affairs for the second year running. The award demonstrates the city-based bank's dedication to increasing the use of Hindi and improving the execution of official language policies throughout its operations. Union Home Minister Amit Shah presented the award to the bank's Managing Director and CEO Ajay Kumar Srivastava in New Delhi at a function.



RINL Wins CII-GBC National Energy Leader Award for Sixth Consecutive Year :-

Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL), the corporate entity of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant, has once again set a high standard for energy efficiency and conservation by

receiving the esteemed National Energy Leader Award from the Confederation of Indian Industry - Green Business Centre (CII-GBC). The prestigious awards were received by Sri K Sudhakar, GM (Energy Management Department-EMD-I/c) and his team on behalf of RINL from Sri Milind Deora, Secretary, Bureau of Energy Efficiency, Ministry of Power, Govt. of India at a function held at Hyderabad.



Aishwarya Rai Wins Best Actress At SIIMA 2024 :-

Aishwarya Rai received Best Actress in a Leading Role (Critics) at SIIMA 2024 in Dubai. The actress got the award for her role in Mani Ratnam's Ponniyin Selvan: II (2023). Rai played Nandini in the film. Filmmaker Kabir Khan presented Aishwarya with the SIIMA 2024 award. After collecting the prize, the actress expressed her heartfelt gratitude to the entire Ponniyin Selvan team. Aishwarya Rai's co-star Chiyaan Vikram also received massive cheer, securing the Best Actor (Tamil) award at the ceremony.



Dhruvi Patel Wins Miss India Worldwide 2024 :-

Dhruvi Patel, a computer information system student from the United States, has been named the winner of Miss India Worldwide 2024, the longest-running Indian

pageant outside of India. Lisa Abdoelhak of Suriname was named first runner-up, with Malvika Sharma of the Netherlands coming in second place in the same race. SuAnn Mouttet of Trinidad and Tobago won the Mrs category, with Sneha Nambiar taking first place and Pawandip Kaur of the United Kingdom finishing second. In the Teen category, Sierra Suret from Guadeloupe was crowned Miss Teen India Worldwide.



Johnny Depp to be honoured with Lifetime Achievement Award at Rome Film Festival :-

The Rome Film Festival has revealed that Johnny Depp is going to be awarded with a Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2024 edition. According to Deadline, Depp's most recent directorial endeavor, "Modi - Three Days on the Wing of Madness," will also be screened at the festival. "Modi" portrays a "seventy-two-hour whirlwind in the life of bohemian artist Amedeo Modigliani" and explores the artist's tumultuous experiences amid the war-torn backdrop of Paris in 1916. The film also features French actress Antonia Desplat and Riccardo Scamarcio.



Jordan Becomes First Country To Receive WHO Verification For Eliminating Leprosy :-

Jordan has achieved a historic milestone by being the first nation to eradicate leprosy, as confirmed by the

World Health Organization (WHO). Jordan's path to this incredible accomplishment started many years ago with focused public health initiatives, early detection programs, and readily available, cost-free treatments for all residents. In an effort to lessen the stigma associated with the disease, the Jordanian Ministry of Health has diligently worked to detect cases, provide multi-drug therapy (MDT), and inform people about the realities of leprosy. This work has been done in collaboration with the WHO and other international organizations.



Odisha Swimmer Pratyasa Ray To Get Ekalabya Puraskar :-

Pratyasa Ray, a budding swimming star, has been selected for the coveted Ekalabya Puraskar in 2024, according to an official. Ray won six medals—four golds, one silver, and one bronze—at the Khelo India University Games in Guwahati in February of this year. Ray was unanimously selected for the coveted award by the Ekalabya Puraskar committee, which included jury members from several sectors, at a meeting. Ray will be awarded a cash prize of ₹7 lakh— an increase from the previous ₹5 lakh, along with a citation at a ceremony to be held at a later date.



The 2024 SASTRA Ramanujan Prize: Honoring Mathematical Excellence

Alexander Dunn Wins 2024 SASTRA Ramanujan Prize :-

Mathematician Alexander Dunn from the Georgia Institute of Technology has been named the winner of the 2024 SASTRA Ramanujan Prize. This prestigious award, established in honor of the legendary Indian

mathematician Srinivasa Ramanujan, recognizes young mathematicians for exceptional contributions in areas related to Ramanujan’s work. Dunn’s research has garnered international recognition, and this award highlights his remarkable contributions to number theory and related fields.

5: Banking**Tata AIA launches Dollar-denominated life insurance for NRIs :-**

Venky Iyer, Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer, Tata AIA, said, “The setting up of IFSC GIFT City is a remarkable step by the Government of India towards widening the scope of Indian financial services. It provides a great opportunity for insurers to provide foreign currency-denominated products. We are delighted to introduce life insurance solutions for our NRI consumers, enabling them to secure their families and fulfil their aspirations.”

**POP Launches India’s First Multi-Brand Co-Branded Card With RuPay & Yes Bank :-**

POP, a financial enabler for direct-to-consumer companies founded by former Flipkart workers, has

launched India's first multi-brand co-branded credit card, created in partnership with RuPay and Yes Bank. This rollout, which coincides with POP surpassing one million UPI transactions, aims to use the capacity of the RuPay network to make UPI credit more accessible to its user base. POP aims to create a relevant value proposition with these marquee brands while leveraging the growing UPI and RuPay networks. Cardholders can earn rewards on every transaction through POPcoins.

**Star Health introduces braille insurance policy for visually impaired :-**

According to a corporate release, Star Health and Allied Insurance has created a Braille-based insurance policy. This effort intends to empower visually challenged individuals in India by allowing them to freely access health insurance information, according to the business. The newly established "Special Care Gold" policy provides personalized health coverage to people with impairments. The policy is designed to address the specific requirements of individuals with disabilities of 40 per cent or more, including physical, sensory, or cognitive impairments.



Axis Bank announces new fixed deposit interest rates of up to 7.75% :-

Axis Bank has updated its fixed deposit (FD) interest rates. According to the lender, the new rates, which go into effect on September 10, provide competitive returns for both general consumers and senior people across a range of deposit quantities and tenures. For deposits of less than Rs 5 crore, the bank offers interest rates ranging from 3% to 7.25 percent for regular clients, depending on the period. Senior citizens will enjoy preferential rates, with interest offerings ranging from 3.5 per cent to 7.75 per cent for deposits under Rs 5 crore.



Indian Bank raises Rs 5,000 crore via long-term infrastructure bonds :-

The government-owned Indian Bank has issued long-term infrastructure bonds to raise Rs 5,000 crore. With a base offering of Rs 2,000 crore and a greenshoe option to retain oversubscription up to Rs 3,000 crore, the bank got 88 bids totaling Rs 13,680 crore against the total issue size of Rs 5,000 crore. Bids for Rs 5,000 crore at a coupon rate of 7.24% annually were accepted by the bank. The bank said that the private placement of long-

term infrastructure bonds received an overwhelming response at 2.74 times the total issue size.



UPI Users Can Now Send 5 Lakh For Some Transactions :-

The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has enhanced transaction limits for tax payments via Unified Payments Interface (UPI), allowing people to transmit Rs 5 lakh in a single transaction beginning September 15. On August 8, 2024, the RBI announced an increase in the limit for tax payments through UPI from Rs 1 lakh to Rs 5 lakh per transaction. Consumers can now make UPI payments of up to Rs 5 lakh per transaction for the following categories: a) tax payments, b) hospital and educational services, and c) IPOs and government securities.



RBI plans to revamp currency management infra to cater to future cash needs:-

The Reserve Bank is to completely overhaul its currency management architecture over the next 4-5 years, with the goal of ensuring appropriate storage and handling capacity to meet the developing economy's future cash needs. According to an RBI document, greenfield

currency management centres, warehouse automation, security and surveillance systems, an inventory management system, and a centralised command centre are being considered to modernise the existing infrastructure.



Bank of Baroda introduces GenAI-powered solutions for conversational banking :-

Bank of Baroda (BoB) has launched 'Aditi', a GenAI-powered virtual relationship manager, to improve its digital customer care experience. The public sector bank stated that these human-like interfaces, presented in the form of digital avatars, provide conversational banking across a range of services. In addition, BoB has built a GenAI-enabled knowledge management platform for its staff called 'GyanSahay.AI'. Additionally, the GenAI enabled knowledge management platform is an endeavour to empower the bank's large customer facing workforce with the right information on products, policies and processes so that there is improved service delivery.



Union Bank of India will open four women-centric branches in the country :-

Union Bank of India MD and CEO A. Manimekhalai stated that the bank intends to open four women-centric branches around the country to support women entrepreneurs by meeting their needs. Ms. Manimekhalai, speaking at a women entrepreneurs meeting organized by the bank's Mangaluru zonal office for entrepreneurs from Kerala, Dakshina Kannada, and Udupi districts, stated that Union Bank was organizing similar events in other cities across the country. The bank has initiated empowerment of women through various women-centric products.



IDFC FIRST Bank launches Ashva Credit Card :-

IDFC FIRST Bank, a pioneer in innovative financial solutions, has introduced the Ashva Credit Card, its latest product for the modern, discerning customer. The Ashva Credit Card, sponsored by Visa, celebrates the spirit and aspirations of the New India. Crafted from the finest metal, the Ashva Credit Card combines the beauty of Indian heritage with the refinement of a metal form factor. Packed with luxury travel benefits like low forex charges and complimentary access to airport lounges, it becomes an indispensable companion for affluent young explorers.

6: Books and Author



Comprehensive book on environmental law launched :-

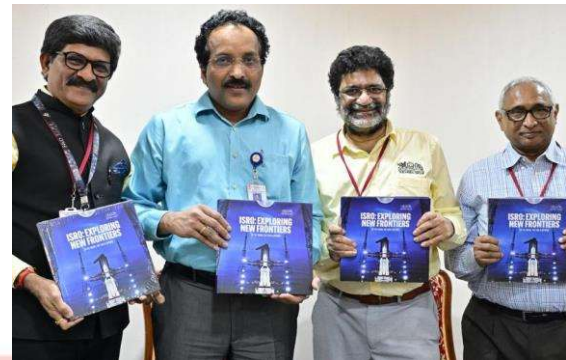
In Chennai, a comprehensive book on environmental law was issued, including themes ranging from international conventions to air and water pollution, as well as forest and wildlife legislation. Justice P. Jyothimani, a former Madras High Court judge and judicial member of the National Green Tribunal, and advocate Naveen Kumar Murthi co-authored the book, titled 'Comprehensive Commentary on Environmental Protection and Pollution Control Laws'. It was launched by Supreme Court Justices M.M. Sundresh and K.V. Viswanathan and Acting Chief Justice R. Subramanian of the Madras High Court.



A Book Titled, “From Oil to Lithium: Navigating the Future of Energy” By Kuldeep Gupta :-

Mr. Kuldeep Gupta, a respected energy specialist, has released the book "From Oil to Lithium: Navigating the Future of Energy". This captivating story follows Karan, a man whose career in the oil and gas industry forces him

to confront the critical environmental and ethical quandaries created by fossil fuels, ultimately encouraging a shift toward renewable energy. Mr. Kuldeep Gupta is a distinguished leader in the energy sector, recognized with the Future Energy Leader award for the Middle East by Economic Times Energy World.



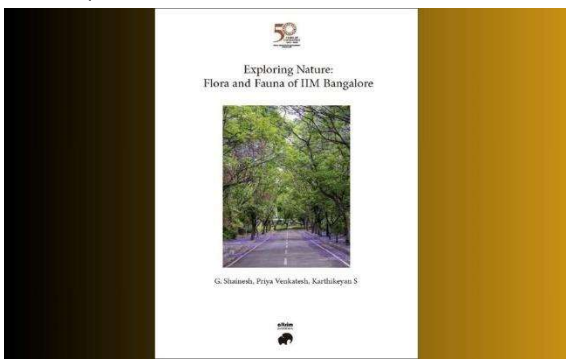
ISRO chief S. Somanath releases coffee-table book on ISRO brought out by The Hindu :-

On Thursday (September 5, 2024), S. Somanath, Chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation, unveiled a coffee-table book titled “ISRO: Exploring New Frontiers - To The Moon, The Sun & Beyond” published by The Hindu Group of Publications. T.S. Subramanian, former Associate Editor of Frontline, compiled the book, which details India's successes as a spacefaring nation from its inception in the 1960s to more current programs such as the Mars Orbiter Mission, Chandrayaan-1, 2, and 3, and the Aditya L-1 missions.



V K Paul launches coffee table book highlighting 50 entrepreneurs under Atal Innovation Mission :-

V K Paul, an NITI Aayog member, has published a coffee table book highlighting 50 pioneer entrepreneurs from the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) ecosystem throughout India who contribute to change via their contributions to life sciences and biotechnology. Within this sector, the journal divides innovation into subcategories such as diagnostics, therapeutics, bioengineering, and drug discovery. The book is intended to highlight the stories of these innovations and underscore the vast applications and impact of their innovations.



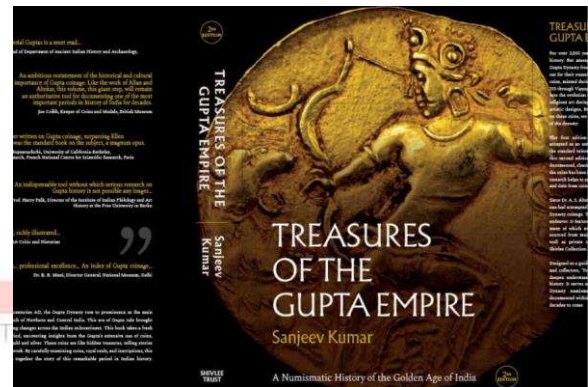
IIM Bangalore to launch a book showcasing its flora and fauna :-

On September 14, a book about the Indian Institute of Management Bangalore's (IIMB) flora and fauna will be released. The book "Exploring Nature: Flora and Fauna of IIM Bangalore" will be released at the Bangalore International Centre (BIC) Library. “Published by Altrim Publishers, the book is co-authored by Prof. G. Shainesh from IIMB’s Marketing faculty, Priya Venkatesh, Founder of The Naturalist School, and Karthikeyan S., Chief Naturalist at Jungle Lodges and Resorts,” IIMB said in a press release.



Book Launch of “Ranadhurandhar Shahajiraje Bhosale” by Union Minister Nitin Gadkari :-

Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj is widely recognized as the founder of Maratha rule (Swarajya). However, nothing has been published about his father, Shahajiraje, who inspired him to create Swarajya. Amar Yuvraj Dangat, a historian living in Pune, has attempted to fill in the gaps. He spent ten years researching and analyzing Shahajiraje's life before writing his book, 'Randhurandhar Shahajiraje Bhosale'. The book was released by Union Minister Nitin Gadkari at his home in Nagpur. Historian-written Amar Yuvraj Dangat and Sagarraj Bodgire were present.



Treasures of the Gupta Empire: Book Launch :-

The Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) held the much-anticipated unveiling of the second edition of 'Treasures of the Gupta Empire,' a thorough examination of one of India's most historic dynasties. Mr. Sanjeev Kumar, an esteemed historian, wrote the book, which was formally launched on September 12th, 2024, at the Samvet Auditorium, IGNCA in New Delhi. As a special highlight, attendees had the unique opportunity to witness a rare collection of original Gupta coins, providing a tangible connection to the empire’s wealth and artistic sophistication.



'Konkani Vananthlin Firngi Pana' book released :-

Rudolph Joyer Noronha published a Konkani book titled "Konkani Vananthlin Firngi Pana," which translates to "Portuguese leaves in a Konkani forest," in Kinnigoli in Mangalore, Karnataka. The book was released in Kinnigoli Church by Joachim Fernandes, a Sanskrit and Pali language expert and parish priest. According to this remark, the book has a list of about 400 Portuguese-derived Konkani words in a dialect that is spoken by Kanara Catholics. It assesses their meaning and significance while trying to understand the historical facts and situations leading to such linguistic exchange.



Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath Unveiled A Book Titled 'History of Nath Panth' :-

The book "History of Nath Panth," written by Padmaja Singh, an assistant professor of ancient history at Deen Dayal Upadhyay (DDU) Gorakhpur University, was unveiled by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. In association with Hindustani Academy, Prayagraj, a two-day

international conference on "The Contribution of Nath Panth in Building a Harmonious Society" was held in conjunction with the book launch. Padmaja Singh's extensive research compiles historical sources from across India, offering a fact-based interpretation of traditional narratives.



Eight books to be released in Hubballi to mark 26th death anniversary of publisher :-

Eight Kannada novels in various literary formats will be launched to commemorate the 26th death anniversary of M. Ananthmurthy, one of the founders of Sahitya Bhandara, Hubballi, while also honouring a publishing house. Addressing reporters in Hubballi, M.A. Subramanya, Editor and Publisher of Sahitya Prakashana, stated that the event will be co-organized by Dr. D.S. Karki Sahitya Vedike and the Karnatak Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) at the KCCI Auditorium in Hubballi on September 17 at 5.30 p.m.

7: Defence



Indian Army Launches Project NAMAN: SPARSH-Enabled Service Centres Nationwide :-

The Indian Army inaugurated the first phase of Project NAMAN in the presence of General Upendra Dwivedi, Chief of Army Staff, and Sunita Dwivedi, President of the Army Wives Welfare Association (AWWA). Project NAMAN is a project designed to deliver dedicated support and services to defence pensioners, veterans, and their families. It revolves around the implementation of the SPARSH (System for Pension Administration Raksha), a digital pension system that streamlines pension-related methods for defence pensioners,

tackling the urgent need for accessible facilitation points for veterans and next of kin (NOK) throughout the nation.



Air Marshal Tejinder Singh Takes Over As Deputy Chief Of The Air Staff :-

Air Marshal Tejinder Singh assumed the position of Deputy Chief of the Air Staff of the Indian Air Force in New Delhi. Air Marshal Tejinder graduated from the National Defence Academy and was commissioned into the IAF's fighter stream on June 13, 1987. He is a Category 'A' Qualified Flying Instructor with over 4500 hours of flying experience and a graduate of Defence Service Staff College and National Defence College. He has commanded a Fighter Squadron, a Radar Station, a premier Fighter Base and was Air Officer Commanding in Jammu and Kashmir.



Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit Takes Over As AOC-In-C, Central Air Command :-

Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit acquired the position of Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Central Air Command. Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit was commissioned into the Indian Air Force's (IAF) fighter stream on December 6, 1986. The Air Officer is an Experimental Test Pilot and Qualified Flying Instructor with over 3300 hours of flight time on various IAF aircraft. He is an alumnus of the

prestigious National Defence Academy, Defence Services Staff College (Bangladesh) and National Defence College.



First Joint Commander's Conference Of Indian Armed Forces :-

The inaugural Joint Commanders' Conference (JCC) took place in Lucknow on September 4-5, 2024, with the theme 'Sashakt and Surakshit Bharat: Transforming Armed Forces'. Reviewing the current security situation and the Armed Forces' defense preparedness, Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan highlighted the significance of jointness and future plans for improving integration across various domains, which is critical for adapting to the contours of future warfare and conducting effect-based operations.



Indian Coast Guard Participates In 20th HACGAM :-

The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) attended the 20th Heads of Asian Coast Guard Agencies Meeting (HACGAM) from September 3 to 4, 2024, in Incheon, South Korea. Maritime law enforcement, safety and security at sea, marine environment preservation, illegal drug, weapon, and people trafficking, and future collaboration were all discussed during the discussion. On the sidelines of the HACGAM, the 12th annual bilateral meeting between ICG and the Korea Coast Guard was also held on

September 04, 2024, under the provisions of the MoU signed between the two agencies in March 2006.



Successful Launch Of Agni-4 Ballistic Missile :-

On September 6, India successfully launched an Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile (IRBM) named Agni-4 from the Integrated Test Range in Chandipur, Odisha. The launch was successful in validating all operational and technical criteria. The Strategic Forces Command oversaw the operations. In April this year, India had successfully tested the new-generation nuclear-capable Agni-Prime ballistic missile, with a strike range from 1,000 to 2,000 km, from the Abdul Kalam Island off the coast of Odisha.



5th India-Maldives Defence Cooperation Dialogue Held In New Delhi :-

On Friday (September 6, 2024), India and the Maldives had a new round of "productive" defense conversation, focusing on the situation in the Indian Ocean and measures to speed up the implementation of ongoing defense projects. The defense conversation in Delhi occurred over a month after External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar undertook a three-day visit to the Maldives, the first high-level travel from New Delhi since the island nation's pro-China President Mohamed Muizzu entered office. The ties between India and the Maldives came under severe strain since Mr. Muizzu, known for his pro-

China leanings, took charge of the top office last November.



Indian-French Navies carry out bilateral exercise 'Varuna' 2024 in Mediterranean Sea :-

The Indian and French militaries held the 22nd iteration of the bilateral naval exercise 'Varuna' 2024 in the Mediterranean Sea. 'VARUNA', which began in 2001, is the foundation of the India-France relationship and has evolved tremendously over time. Indian Navy was represented by the ship borne Helicopter; LRMR Aircraft P8I and Navy's frontline stealth frigate, INS 'Tabar' whereas, French side was represented by FS Provence, Submarine Suffren, Aircraft F20; Atlantique2, fighters MB339 and Helicopters NH90; Dauphin. A series of advanced naval operations were conducted during the present edition of bilateral exercise.



Indian Air Force to celebrate 92nd Raising Day in Chennai :-

In accordance with the practice of conducting Air Force Day celebrations across the country, this year's parade and air display is going to take on October 8 in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. This year commemorates the 92nd Raising Day of the Indian Air Force (IAF), and it will be the third time the celebrations are conducted outside of Delhi. Previous celebrations took place in Chandigarh and Prayagraj in 2022 and 2023, respectively. The Raising Day

commemorates the establishment of the Air Force on October 8, 1932.



Indian Navy's Scorpene submarine to get strategically critical Air Independent Propulsion by 2026: DRDO chairperson :-

Dr Samir V Kamat, Chairperson of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), stated that the Indian Navy's scorpene submarine will be equipped with the indigenously produced and strategically vital Air Independent Propulsion (AIP) system, which significantly improves the submerged endurance of a diesel-electric submarine, by 2026. Kamat was delivering the convocation address at the 13th convocation of the Defence Institute of Advanced Technology (DIAT), the premier research and academic establishment of the Ministry of Defence in Pune's Girinagar area.



Indian Army & IAF Sign MoU With Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya To Boost Logistics Skills :-

The Indian Army and Air Force have inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya to improve personnel skills and capabilities in logistics operations. On this occasion, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh stated that it is a historic collaboration to create a world-class and future-proof logistics system and attain self-reliance in the defence sector. Speaking on the occasion, Railways Minister,

Ashwini Vaishnaw has said that Vishwavidyalaya will serve as a vital partner in empowering the Armed Forces with cutting-edge logistics education, research and innovation.



India-USA Joint Military Exercise YUDH ABHYAS-2024 :-

The 20th edition of the India-USA Joint Military Exercise, Yudh Abhyas 2024, began on September 9 at the Foreign Training Node in the Mahajan Field Firing Ranges, Rajasthan. This year's exercise will be held from September 9 to 22. Exercise Yudh Abhyas has been organized yearly since 2004, with India and the United States alternate hosting. The 600-person Indian Army contingent includes a battalion from the Rajput Regiment, as well as numerous other arms and services. The US contingent, with a similar number of troops, is represented by the 1-24 Battalion of the 11th Airborne Division, based in Alaska.



DRDO & Indian Navy Successfully Test Vertical Launch Short-Range SAM Off Odisha Coast :-

The Vertical Launch Short Range Surface-to-Surface Air Missile (VL-SRSAM) has been successfully tested by India from a test facility off the coast of Odisha. The short-range surface-to-air missile, which was constructed in India, was tested off the coast of Odisha from the launchpad of the Integrated Test Range located in

Chandipur, Balasore district. The Indian Navy and the Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) conducted the test together. The VL-SRSAM, a ship-borne weapon system, is designed to neutralise various aerial threats at close ranges, including sea-skimming targets.



DRDO Successfully Completes First Phase Trials Of Light Tank 'Zorawar' :-

The Indian Light Tank Zorawar, a highly adaptable platform that can be deployed in high-altitude environments, has successfully completed the first phase of its developmental field fire trials, according to the Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO). In the desert terrain during the field trials, the Light Tank performed exceptionally well, effectively achieving all of the targeted goals. In the initial phase, the tank's firing performance was rigorously evaluated and it achieved the required accuracy on designated targets, the Defence Ministry stated.

8: Economy



Singapore Airlines Receives Approval For Vistara-Air India Merger :-

Singapore Airlines announced that it has secured Indian government approval for foreign direct investment as part of the projected merger of Vistara and Air India, which will establish one of the world's largest airline groups. With the clearance in place, the merger, which will see Singapore Airlines acquire a 25.1% interest in Air India, is likely to be finalized by the end of the year. The proposed merger was announced in November 2022. Air India is owned by Tata Group and Vistara is a 51:49 joint venture between Tatas and Singapore Airlines.



Finance Ministry To Sell 6.78% Stake In GIC Re For Rs 4,700 Crore :-

The Union Ministry of Finance will sell a 6.78 percent share in public-sector reinsurance company General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC) Re for around Rs 4,700 crore. For the first time since the reinsurance company's launching in 2017, non-retail investors were able to purchase stakes through the offer-for-sale (OFS) route beginning on September 4. The floor price for the OFS is expected to be set at approximately Rs 395 per share, which represents an estimated 6 per cent discount compared to the current market price (CMP).



India Aims To Boost Alcoholic Beverage Exports To Rs 8,000 Cr :-

With worldwide demand for Indian spirits increasing at a healthy rate, the government intends to promote both alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages in overseas markets, with a target of USD one billion (about Rs 8,000 crore) in exports over the next several years. According to the commerce ministry's APEDA (Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority), India is now ranked 40th in the world for alcoholic beverage exports. As per estimates, the country has huge unrealised export potential.



Launch Of "Rangeen Machhli" App: A Milestone For India's Ornamental Fisheries Sector :-

To meet the expanding demands of the ornamental fisheries industry, the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) assisted the ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (ICAR-CIFA) in developing the Rangeen Machhli smartphone app, according to a PIB press release. The new software provides a complete guide for both novice and professional ornamental anglers. The app has multilingual information on popular ornamental fish species in eight Indian languages, making it accessible to a broader audience.



Retail Inflation Increases To 3.65% In August :-

Retail inflation increased slightly in August, driven by food and higher-priced vegetables, but stayed under the Reserve Bank of India's target of 4%, while factory output increased despite a high base effect boosted by manufacturing development, according to official data provided. Consumer Price Index (CPI)-based retail inflation reached 3.65% in August. It was at 3.6% in July and 6.83% in August 2023. Industrial output grew 4.8% year on year in July, marginally up from 4.7% in June, with manufacturing, the largest component of the index of industrial production (IIP).



To Resolve Exporters Issue Piyush Goyal Unveils Portal :-

Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce and Industry, has launched two digital initiatives to help exporters, increase transparency, and make exports easier to do. The Jansunwai Portal provides exporters with relevant information, clarifications, and concerns, as well as the status of complaints and a video-conferencing option to speak directly to officials from the several departments responsible for exports. Goyal launched the second portal called the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) portal of the Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India (ECGC).



DPIIT To Launch BHASKAR: A Revolutionary Platform For India’s Startup Ecosystem :-

The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, plans to launch the 'Bharat Startup Knowledge Access Registry' (BHASKAR) project as part of the Startup India programme. It is a platform intended to centralise, streamline, and improve communication among key stakeholders in the entrepreneurial ecosystem, such as startups, investors, mentors, service providers, and government agencies. India presently has approximately 1,46,000 DPIIT-recognised startups.



Banks And Financial Institutions To Invest Rs 32.5 Trillion In Renewable Energy By 2030 :-

Leading renewable energy (RE) project developers, manufacturing businesses, banks, and financial institutions have pledged over \$386 billion, or around Rs 32.45 trillion, to the development of RE projects by 2030. This commitment was made during the opening ceremony of the 4th RE-Invest Summit, which was co-hosted by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). Public sector and private project developers have committed to building close to 570 gigawatt (Gw) of renewable energy capacity.



Haryana Overtakes Punjab In GDP :-

According to a working paper of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM), Punjab's proportion of India's GDP and relative per capita income has dropped since 1991, while nearby Haryana, which previously lagged behind, has now surpassed it on both economic indices. According to the article 'Relative Economic Performance of Indian States: 1960-61 to 2023-24', produced by EAC-PM member Sanjeev Sanyal, Haryana's proportion of GDP now exceeds that of Punjab, and its relative per capita income has reached 176.8% in 2023-24, compared to 106.7% for Punjab. Punjab and Haryana, which were once part of the same state, have experienced diverging economic trajectories.



SEBI Imposes Rs 1 Crore Fine On Jai Anmol Ambani In Reliance Home Finance Case :-

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) fined Jai Anmol Ambani, son of Anil Ambani, ₹1 crore for suspected irregularities at Reliance Home Finance. According to the markets regulator, Jai Anmol failed to undertake appropriate due diligence into the entire GPCL (general purpose working capital) lending and the subsequent lending by these GPCL firms to other Reliance ADAG group companies, including Reliance

Capital. SEBI said that Jai Anmol gave approval for unsecured loan of ₹20 crores to Visa Capital Partners and ₹20 crore to Accura Production Pvt Ltd.



Dassault Aviation Expands Footprint In India With New Military MRO Subsidiary :-

Dassault Aviation, a French aerospace manufacturer, has opted to establish a subsidiary company, Dassault Aviation MRO India (DAMROI), focused to military maintenance, repair, and overhaul (MRO) activities in Noida, Uttar Pradesh. According to a business news statement issued on September 25, the subsidiary firm will be established under the "Atmanirbhar Bharat" strategy, which aims to boost India's self-reliance and promote indigenous value-added services. The company stated that it is committed to meeting the needs of the Indian Air Force and would offer tailor-made products and services to support its Mirage 2000 fleet and the fighter aircraft supplied by Dassault Aviation in India.



UPI Now Mandatory For Bids Up To ₹5 Lakh In Public Debt Issues:-

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has issued new guidelines to make it easier to apply for public debt securities offerings. Beginning November 1, individual investors applying through brokers for amounts up to ₹5 lakh would need to use the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) for fund blocking. The move is part of SEBI's efforts to make the procedure more efficient and consistent with the existing approach for public equity share and convertible offerings. Investors are also required to provide their UPI ID, linked to their bank account, in the bid-cum-application form submitted to intermediaries.



OECD Revises India's FY25 Growth Forecast to 6.7%

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has revised India's GDP growth forecast for FY25 upward to 6.7%, reflecting a slight increase from the previous estimate of 6.6%. This optimistic outlook is bolstered by India's strong economic recovery, fueled by domestic consumption and robust investment inflows. Inflation, however, is expected to rise to 4.5%, up from the previous estimate of 4.3%. The Indian economy is projected to grow at 6.8% in FY26, showcasing its resilience in a challenging global environment.

9: International



NSA Ajit Doval Signs Founding Documents For Colombo Security Conclave :-

Ajit Doval, the National Security Adviser to the Prime Minister of India, signed the Colombo Security Conclave's Founding Documents. The signing ceremony signified a significant step forward in regional security cooperation between India, the Maldives, Mauritius, and Sri Lanka. Following discussions at the 6th NSA-level meeting held in December 2023 in Mauritius, the Charter and Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) of the Conclave were signed in Colombo, which will pave the way for establishing the CSC Secretariat.



UNITED NATIONS

UN Allocates \$100 Million For Humanitarian Crises In 10 Countries :-

The United Nations has disbursed \$100 million for humanitarian situations in ten countries in Africa, the Middle East, Asia, and the Caribbean. Acting UN humanitarian chief Joyce Msuya stated that a lack of funds in these nations prevents aid groups from providing life-saving assistance, which is heartbreaking. More than one-third of the new funding from the Central

Emergency Response Fund known as CERF will go to Yemen, where a civil war is now in its 10th year, and Ethiopia, where government forces are fighting several rebel groups in its regions as well as ethnic-related insurgencies.



UAE Launches Two-Month Visa Amnesty Program

The United Arab Emirates has launched a sweeping two-month visa amnesty program, offering a crucial opportunity for individuals residing illegally in the country to regularize their status or depart without penalties. The program, which takes effect today, was announced by the Federal Authority for Identity, Citizenship, Customs & Port Security (ICP) and will run until October 30, 2024. Under this program, individuals with expired visas of all types, including tourist and residency visas, can either adjust their status to continue living and working legally in the UAE or leave the country without incurring fines or facing entry bans.



Super Typhoon Yagi Hits Southeast Asia :-

Super Typhoon Yagi, Asia's strongest storm this year, made landfall in China's Hainan on September 6, bringing powerful gales and torrential rain that caused extensive

power outages, paralyzing the tourist island province known as "China's Hawaii". With maximum sustained winds of 234 km/h (145 mph) near its center, Yagi is now the world's second-most powerful tropical storm in 2024, after only Category 5 Atlantic hurricane Beryl, and the most severe in the Pacific basin this year. After more than doubling in strength since killing 16 people in the northern Philippines earlier, Yagi slammed into the city of Wenchang in Hainan on 06 September.



Michel Barnier named as new French prime minister :-

Two months after an inconclusive snap election in early July, French President Emmanuel Macron appointed the EU's former Brexit negotiator Michel Barnier as the new Prime Minister. Macron has evaluated numerous potential prime ministers in recent weeks, but none have garnered enough backing to ensure a stable administration. Barnier, 73, headed the European Union's negotiations with the United Kingdom over its exit from the bloc from 2016 to 2021. Prior to that, the conservative politician held roles in various French governments and was also EU Commissioner.



Algerian President Tebboune Wins Second Term With 95% Vote :-

Algerian officials pronounced President Abdelmadjid Tebboune the clear winner of the election, while a

competing candidate claimed anomalies in the count, and fewer than half of eligible voters cast ballots. Official early results showed Tebboune receiving 95% of the vote, sufficient to avoid a second round run-off, with Abdelaali Hassani Cherif receiving 3% and Youcef Aouchiche receiving 2%. The turnout was 48%. Tebboune, backed by the military, was facing only nominal opposition from Hassani Cherif, a moderate Islamist, and Aouchiche, a moderate secularist.



Yogasana Secures Spot As Demonstration Sport In 2026 Asian Games:-

Yogasana, India's traditional sport, has been scheduled as a showcase event at the 2026 Asian Games in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan. Yogasana's inclusion as a demonstration sport on the Asian Games calendar was overwhelmingly approved during the 44th General Assembly of the Olympic Council of Asia, where India's Randhir Singh was elected unopposed as OCA president for a four-year term from 2024 to 2028. "Yoga will be a demonstration sport in Nagoya as the calendar for 2026 Asian Games has already been made and approved," Randhir said.



Mexico's Senate Passes Controversial Judicial Reform Bill :-

A disputed judicial reform has been adopted by Mexico's Senate, under which judges will now be selected by

popular vote. This reform of the judiciary has sparked strikes and protests around the country. On September 10, protesters broke into the building where the vote was scheduled, forcing the Senate debate to be paused. Protesters flooded the upper level of the chamber, chanting "traitors" and "the judiciary will not fall" in opposition to the reform. This bill's passage is a victory for President López Obrador, whose term ends on September 30, 2024.



India Participates In BRICS Literature Forum 2024 In Russia :-

The BRICS Literature Forum 2024 began on September 11 in Kazan, Russia, and brought together notable writers, poets, philosophers, artists, and scholars from the BRICS countries. The mayor of Kazan, Ilsur Metshin, opened the forum with the topic "World Literature in the New Reality: Dialogue of Traditions, National Values, and Cultures." The Sahitya Akademi's President, Madhav Kaushik, and Secretary, Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, represented India in the event. During the plenary session, Madhav Kaushik emphasized the importance of literature in fostering unity and cooperation across societies in the modern world.



India sends US\$ 1 million Humanitarian Relief to Vietnam as Operation Sadbhav :-

India undertook Operation Sadbhav to give humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR) to Laos, Myanmar, and Vietnam following catastrophic flooding caused by Typhoon Yagi. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) announced that India has provided \$1 million in flood relief aid to Vietnam and \$1,000,000 to Laos. Following this, the Indian Navy and Indian Air Force (IAF) sprang into action, deploying ships and aircraft to transport the aid. The IAF has deployed its C-17 Globemaster aircraft for the HADR operations to airlift aid to Vietnam and Laos.



India's Triumph At World Skills 2024 :-

India earned 16 medals and Medallions of Excellence at the World Skills 2024 competition in Lyon, France. The awards include four Bronzes in Patisserie and Confectionery, Industry 4.0, Hotel Reception, and Renewable Energy. In addition, the Indian delegation received 12 Medallions of Excellence, demonstrating their remarkable talents and consistent performance across many trades. Entrepreneurship Minister, Jayant Chaudhury said that their dedication and hard work have made the nation proud and the government will continue to support and nurture talent, enabling more young Indians to excel on global platforms.



Jordan's King Appoints New Prime Minister :-

Jordan's King Abdullah has appointed top palace aide Jafar Hassan as prime minister following the resignation of the government on September 15, according to the royal court, just days after the Islamist opposition made some gains in the US-allied kingdom's parliamentary election. Hassan, the current head of King Abdullah's office and a former planning minister, succeeds Bisher Khasawneh, a seasoned diplomat and former palace adviser who was appointed nearly four years ago, according to a royal court announcement. Khasawneh will stay on in a caretaker capacity until the formation of a new cabinet, the statement said.

**Anura Kumara Dissanayake Wins Sri Lanka Election In Political Paradigm Shift :-**

Anura Kumara Dissanayake, a left-leaning politician, has won Sri Lanka's presidential election after a record second round of counting. In the first round, no candidate received more than 50% of the total votes, with Dissanayake receiving 42.31% and opposition leader Sajith Premadasa getting 32.76%. However, Dissanayake, who promised voters good administration and strict anti-corruption measures, became victorious after the second count, which included voters' second and third choice candidates. The election on 21 September was the first to be held since mass protests unseated the country's leader, Gotabaya Rajapaksa, in 2022 after Sri Lanka suffered its worst economic crisis.

**Union Minister Piyush Goyal Inaugurates Invest India's New Office In Singapore :-**

Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal has officially opened Invest India's new headquarters in Singapore. The office will serve as a specialized point of contact for regional enterprises interested in investing in India, encouraging cross-sector collaboration. Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the establishment of this office during his visit to Singapore in September of this year. The Singapore Office is Invest India's first overseas office. Speaking at the event, Mr Goyal emphasized that this office marks a new chapter in our efforts to strengthen economic cooperation with Singapore and the broader ASEAN region.

**India's Triumph In Reclaiming 297 Antiquities From The US :-**

The illegal trafficking of cultural property is a long-standing problem that has impacted many cultures and countries across history. India has been particularly plagued by this issue, with a considerable amount of artifacts being smuggled out of the nation. During Prime Minister Narendra Modi's continuing visit to the United States, 297 antiquities were given over to India. This takes the total number of antiquities recovered by India since

2014 to 640. The total number of antiquities returned from the USA alone will be 578.



Sri Lanka President Dissanayake Picks Harini Amarasuriya As PM :-

President Anura Kumara Dissanayake has nominated MP and former professor Harini Amarasuriya as Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, leading a four-member Cabinet until the November 14 legislative elections. After Sri Lankans elected Mr. Dissanayake to the country's highest office in the September 21 presidential election, he resigned as a Member of Parliament, and a National People's Power [NPP] member replaced him. The NPP Alliance has 3 MPs in the 225-member legislature, which is expected to be dissolved soon in preparation for the conduct of the general elections.



IMF Approves \$7 Billion Loan For Pakistan :-

The International Monetary Fund's (IMF) executive board has approved a new \$7 billion credit to Pakistan, a country facing financial difficulties. The statement came more than two months after the two parties had initially struck an agreement. Authorities indicated that the loan, which will be granted to Islamabad over a 37-month period, is meant to provide a much-needed boost to Pakistan's struggling economy. In a statement, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif praised the agreement, which his team had been working on with the IMF since June.



James Cameron Joins Stability AI Board :-

Filmmaker James Cameron has joined the board of directors of StabilityAI, an artificial intelligence (AI) company, 40 years after creating a film on its perils. Cameron created and directed the 1984 film The Terminator, in which a rogue AI named Skynet threatens humanity's existence. His responsibilities will revolve around how the technology can be employed in special effects, generally known as computer-generated imagery (CGI). Amongst his long list of hit movies, Cameron is known for creating special effects-heavy Avatar, the highest-grossing film of all time.



NATO to Establish Northern Land Command in Eastern Finland (2025) :-

NATO is set to establish a new Northern Land Command in Finland, near the Russian border, by 2025. This command will oversee land force operations in northern Europe during potential military conflicts, especially in light of ongoing regional tensions. Finland, which joined NATO in 2023 following Russia's 2022 invasion of Ukraine, will see an increased military presence on its territory. Finnish Defence Minister Antti Hakkanen emphasized the strategic importance of this move in bolstering regional security and deterring potential threats from Russia.

10: Miscellaneous



India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) Celebrated 7th Foundation Day :-

India Post Payments Bank (IPPB), a vital actor in fostering financial inclusion across the country, celebrated its seventh Foundation Day (IPPB Day) on September 1. Since Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's nationwide rollout in 2018, the IPPB has been in the vanguard of transforming India's financial environment by providing underserved and unbanked families with accessible, cheap, and trusted digital banking services right at their doorstep. The IPPB has made significant strides in bridging the financial inclusion gap, leveraging India Post's extensive network of over 161,000 post offices and 1,90,000 postal employees during last seven years.



IIT Delhi's Abu Dhabi Campus Opens With Inaugural Batch Of 52 Students :-

The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi's Abu Dhabi campus was officially inaugurated today by Sheikh Khaled bin Mohamed, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi. Mr Khaled welcomed the inaugural cohort of undergraduate students, who will pursue BTech degrees in Computer Science and Engineering and Energy Engineering. This

first batch consists of 52 students selected through the JEE Advanced exam and the newly established Combined Admission Entrance Test (CAET) for international candidates. The undergraduate group is diverse, comprising Indian, Emirati, and international students.



Moeen Ali Announces Retirement From International Cricket :-

Moeen Ali, an England all-rounder, has declared his retirement from international cricket after being overlooked for the country's white-ball series against Australia this month. The 37-year-old stated in an interview that it is time for him to stand down and allow the next generation a chance. Moeen Ali made his England cricket debut in 2014 and has since played 68 Tests, 138 ODIs, and 92 T20Is. During his 10-year career, he scored 6,678 runs, including 8 centuries, 28 half-centuries, and took 366 wickets for the England.



Port Blair Renamed As Sri Vijaya Puram By GOI :-

Union Home Minister Amit Shah declared that the Centre has chosen to rename Port Blair, the capital of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Sri Vijaya Puram, as a symbol of the liberation struggle's victory. Earlier, in January 2023, Prime Minister Narendra Modi named 21 huge

unidentified islands in Andaman and Nicobar after Param Vir Chakra recipients. Port Blair (Sri Vijaya Puram) is located on the east coast of South Andaman Island and serves as the gateway to over 500 pristine islands. It is also a commercial hub and houses government establishments of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.



Union Minister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia Launches 'Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav' Website :-

Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, Hon'ble Union Minister for Communications and Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), unveiled the official website for the much-anticipated Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav, taking a crucial step toward honoring Northeast India's rich cultural and economic history. The festival, to be held from December 6th to 8th, 2024, in New Delhi, draws inspiration from the eight Northeastern states—Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, and Tripura—collectively known as the "Ashtalakshmi," representing eight forms of prosperity.



Navika Sagar Parikrama II :-

Two female officers from the Indian Navy will go on a global maritime adventure, the Navy stated. The Navy has stated that Lieutenant Commanders Roopa A and Dilna K would shortly embark on the "extraordinary

expedition" as part of the second Navika Sagar Parikrama onboard INSV Tarini. Both officers have been preparing for the assignment for the last three years. The officers were part of a six-member crew that participated in a trans-oceanic expedition from Goa to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, via Cape Town, South Africa, and back.



First Pakistani Woman Nominated As International Cricket Umpire :-

Saleema Imtiaz became the first Pakistani woman to be named to the International Cricket Council's international panel of development umpires, according to the Pakistan Cricket Board. Imtiaz's appointment to the panel means she can now officiate in women's bilateral international matches and ICC women's competitions. Imtiaz joined the PCB's women's umpires panel in 2008 and has worked in several Asian Cricket Council competitions over the last three years. Imtiaz's first on-field appointment in a bilateral series will see her officiate the three-match T20 series between Pakistan women and South Africa women which begins at Multan.



J&K Launches 'Vote Ka Tyohar' Theme Song :-

To encourage voter participation in the 2018 Assembly Elections in Jammu and Kashmir, the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) J&K launched the theme song 'Vote Ka Tyohar'. The song, issued by CEO P. K Pole, aims to motivate voters across the UT to vote in the three

phases of the Assembly Elections, which began on September 18, 2024, in seven districts spanning both the Jammu and Kashmir divisions. The theme song was produced by Rangyug, a renowned performing arts organization committed to promoting social change and self-realization.



Rashtrapati Nilayam To Host Bhartiya Kala Mahotsav In Late September :-

Rashtrapati Nilayam, in partnership with the Ministry of Development for the North-East Region and the Ministry of Culture, will hold the first Bharatiya Kala Mahotsav from September 29 to October 6, 2024. The President will kick off the Mahotsav on September 28, 2024. The eight-day celebration will highlight the rich and diverse cultural history of our North Eastern states. Visitors will get acquainted with the art, culture, crafts, and culinary diversity of the North-Eastern states of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, and Tripura.



Manu Bhaker Appointed Brand Ambassador For Ministry Of Ports, Shipping And Waterways :-

India's Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways (MoPSW) has named Manu Bhaker, a double Olympic medalist, as a brand ambassador. Bhaker, a shooting ace who won medals at the recent Summer Olympics in

Paris, is the daughter of a marine engineer. Speaking after the signing, Sarbananda Sonowal, Union Minister, MoPSW, said: "It is a moment of great pride for every Indian; and for every member of India's maritime sector. Manu Bhaker, the daughter of a proud marine sailor, is now going to champion the marine sector of India as she has been officially signed as the Brand Ambassador of the Ministry."



Delhi Government Increases Minimum Wages For Workers :-

The Delhi government has agreed to raise the minimum pay for unskilled, semi-skilled, and skilled workers to Rs 18,066, Rs 19, 929, and Rs 21,917 per month, respectively. CM Atishi shared data on minimum wages in BJP-ruled states, stating that the minimum wage for unskilled workers in Delhi is more than Rs 18,000, while the minimum wage in Rajasthan is only Rs 8,063, Rs 10,000 in Madhya Pradesh, Rs 8,300 in Uttar Pradesh, Rs 10,000 in Haryana, and Rs 10,900 in Chhattisgarh. The minimum wage in the Delhi government is the highest in comparison to the whole country.



BCCI Inaugurates Centre of Excellence in Bengaluru

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) inaugurated a new Centre of Excellence on the outskirts of Bengaluru, marking a major step forward in expanding India's cricketing infrastructure. This state-of-the-art

facility, also known as the New National Cricket Academy, is part of BCCI Secretary Jay Shah's vision to nurture future talent in Indian cricket. The center will provide advanced training and rehabilitation facilities, aiming to develop the next generation of cricketers and further cement India's dominance in world cricket.



India's Forex Reserves Hit Record High of \$692.3 Billion :-

India's foreign exchange reserves have reached an all-time high of \$692.3 billion, according to the latest data released by the Reserve Bank of India. The reserves saw an increase of \$2.84 billion in the past week alone, contributing to a total rise of \$19.3 billion over the past five weeks. This surge in forex reserves reflects strong capital inflows, including foreign direct investments and portfolio investments, positioning India as one of the largest holders of forex reserves globally. These reserves are critical in maintaining financial stability and ensuring the country's resilience in times of economic uncertainty.

11: National



Prime Minister Modi Flagged Off Three Vande Bharat Trains :-

Prime Minister Narendra Modi kicked off three new Vande Bharat trains on August 31, connecting Meerut and Lucknow, Madurai and Bengaluru, and Chennai and Nagercoil. This effort intends to improve rail connectivity and accelerate growth in southern states, which is critical for meeting the Viksit Bharat target by 2047, according to a government statement. The new Meerut City-Lucknow Vande Bharat train will save passengers about one hour over the present fastest train between the two cities. Addressing the flag-off ceremony via video conference, Modi emphasised the importance of southern states in India's development.



Indian Air Force Launches First Comic Book Series Celebrating Its Heroes :-

Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari, Chief of the Air Staff of the Indian Air Force, unveiled the debut comic book in the series called "Heroes of the Indian Air Force". Anubhav Khanduri, General Manager of the National Film conception Corporation of India, and his staff contributed significantly to the book's conception and design. The officials said that it was the vision of the Chief of the Air Staff that heroic narratives of the Air Force's role in the war and the annals of national history be depicted through the medium of comic books.



Union Cabinet approves 309-km rail line between Mumbai, Indore :-

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs on Monday approved a 309 km new line project providing the shortest rail connectivity between the two major commercial hubs of Mumbai and Indore, Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said. The total cost of the project has been pegged at ₹ 18,036 crore and it will be completed by 2028-29, the minister said. The project will generate direct employment for about 102 lakh man-days, or what Mr Vaishnaw described as "human days", during the construction.



India's Pioneering Fashion Forecasting Initiative VisioNxt Launched By Textile Ministry :-

Shri Giriraj Singh, Union Minister of Textiles, launched the 'VisioNxt Fashion Forecasting Initiative' of the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), which includes a bilingual web portal and the India-specific Fashion Trend Book 'Paridhi 24x25'. Shri Giriraj Singh stated that after 2014, India began to prioritize domestic design and manufacture, and VisioNxt is the consequence of this transition. In this era of fast fashion, VisioNxt initiative will foster healthy global competition

and elevate Indian culture and design to new heights on the global stage, Shri Singh said.



India to bid for 2030 Youth Olympics: Sports Minister Mandaviya :-

Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya has stated that India will bid for the 2030 Youth Olympics. The country's ultimate objective, however, is to host the 2036 Olympic Games. Mandaviya made the comment at the 44th General Assembly of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA). The 2030 Youth Olympics, which will be the event's fifth edition, has received bids from various countries. India will compete against Peru, Colombia, Mexico, Thailand, Mongolia, Russia, Ukraine, Bosnia, and Herzegovina for the hosting rights.



Supreme Court grants bail to Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal :-

The Supreme Court granted Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal regular bail in the excise policy case. The Supreme Court overturned the Delhi High Court's August judgment. Justices Surya Kant and Ujjal Bhuyan agreed to give regular bail to Kejriwal. However, Justice Bhuyan questioned the time and manner in which Arvind Kejriwal was arrested by the CBI. He claimed that the

CBI's arrest was likely intended to thwart Arvind Kejriwal's bail application in the ED case. He said non-cooperation cannot mean self-incrimination. "And therefore, Kejriwal's arrest by the CBI on this ground was impermissible," he added.



65 Years Of Doordarshan :-

Doordarshan, India's public service broadcaster, is proudly celebrating its 65th anniversary this year. Since its foundation on September 15, 1959, Doordarshan has been a cornerstone of Indian media, promoting unity, culture, and education while serving as the nation's voice. Doordarshan has risen from humble beginnings with an experimental broadcast in Delhi to one of the world's greatest broadcasting enterprises. Over the decades, it has witnessed monumental transformations in technology and audience engagement while steadfastly maintaining its commitment to public service broadcasting.



8th India Water Week 2024 Organized By Ministry Of Jal Shakti :-

President of India Smt. Droupadi Murmu launched the 8th India Water Week 2024 on September 17, 2024, in New Delhi, in the solemn company of Union Minister of Jal Shakti Shri C. R. Paatil and Minister of State Shri Raj Bhushan Choudhary. The Ministry of Jal Shakti is organising the international festival, which will take

place at the Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi from September 17 to 20, 2024. The 8th India Water Week 2024, besides the above sessions includes a cultural programme and study tour, which will provide ample opportunities for networking, knowledge exchange, and showcasing innovations.



Atishi to become Arvind Kejriwal's successor, to take oath as Delhi CM :-

Arvind Kejriwal, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) supremo and Delhi Chief Minister, has recommended senior party leader and minister Atishi as his replacement. After Kejriwal submitting the proposal to Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena, he will forward it to President Droupadi Murmu for approval. Atishi will take oath as Delhi Chief Minister if President Murmu grants her approval. Atishi, who currently holds the portfolio of education, finance, law, tourism and several other departments, will be the third woman to hold the post of the Delhi chief minister after Sushma Swaraj and Sheila Dixit.



PM Modi Launches Namu Bharat Rapid Rail And New Vande Bharat Trains :-

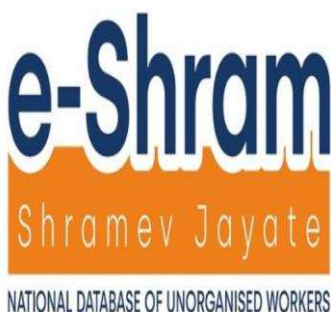
PM Narendra Modi launched Indian Railways' first Vande Metro train service. The Vande Metro was formally christened Namu Bharat Rapid Rail by the Ministry of

Railways prior to its inaugural run. The new train from Indian Railways is a new option for short-distance premium travel for the general public and unreserved passengers on non-suburban parts. The first Vande Metro all-air-conditioned train service of Indian Railways would run from Ahmedabad to Bhuj in Gujarat. However, unlike Vande Bharat which is a semi-high speed 160 kmph train set, the Vande Metro trains will have a maximum speed limit of 130 kmph.



'One nation, one election' cleared by Union Cabinet :-

The Union Cabinet accepted the government's 'one nation, one election' campaign, which recommends simultaneous Lok Sabha and Assembly elections, as well as municipal body and panchayat elections within the next 100 days, after accepting the recommendation of a panel chaired by ex-President Ram Nath Kovind. The ruling Bharatiya Janata Party's agenda for the 2019 and 2024 general elections included the 'one nation, one election' plan, however it has been heavily criticised by the opposition, who have raised worries about constitutional changes and practical obstacles.



Centre Asks Platform Aggregators To Register Workers On E-Shram Portal :-

The government has urged platform aggregators to register their gig workers on the e-Shram portal, which will enable them to get different social security benefits. According to the Ministry of Labour and Employment, this registration is critical to ensuring workers' access to social welfare systems, and aggregators will aid in the development of an accurate beneficiary registry. The e-Shram portal serves as a nationwide database of unorganised workers, designed to provide them with access to social security and welfare schemes.



Modi 3.0 Government Sanctions Rs 12,554 Crore For Disaster Relief :-

According to sources, the Centre has already allocated Rs 12,554 crore to several states this year for relief and rehabilitation of persons affected by various natural calamities. So far, the National Disaster Mitigation Fund, National Disaster Response Fund, State Disaster Mitigation Fund, and State Disaster Response Fund have sanctioned approximately Rs 12,554 crore to multiple states for urban flood management, fire services, glacial lake outburst flood risk mitigation, and other disaster mitigation, according to a senior official of the Union Home Ministry who listed the highlights of the Modi 3.0 government's first 100 days.



A poem on 'National War Memorial' and a chapter on 'Veer Abdul Hameed' included in curriculum of Class VI :-

To instill patriotism and youth participation in nation-building, NCERT has added a poem on the National War Memorial and a chapter on India-Pakistan war hero Abdul Hameed in its curriculum. The additions to the class 6 curriculum of NCERT books began this academic year. The goal of the effort is shared by the defence and education ministries. Established in 2019, the National War Memorial aims to inculcate a sense of high moral value, sacrifice, national spirit and belongingness in each citizen and pay a befitting tribute to the soldiers who laid down their lives defending the nation.

**Laapataa Ladies is India's official entry to Oscars 2025 :-**

The Film Federation of India has announced that Kiran Rao's Laapataa Ladies will be India's official entry to the Oscars in 2025. The Hindi film, a lighthearted parody on patriarchy, was picked from a list of 29 contenders,

including Bollywood smash Animal, Malayalam National Award winner Aattam, and Cannes winner All We Imagine As Light. The 13-member select committee, led by Assamese director Jahnu Barua, unanimously selected Laapataa Ladies, produced by Aamir Khan and Rao, for consideration in the best international picture category at the Academy Awards.

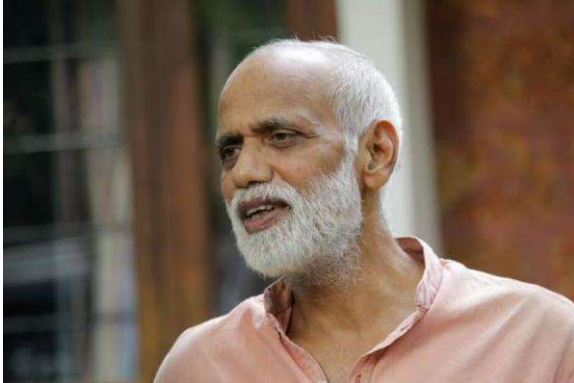
**PM Modi Returns To Delhi After Successful Three-Day US Visit :-**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has returned to Delhi following his three-day visit to the United States. During his journey, he attended significant global events and met with world leaders. During his visit to the United States, PM Modi visited the Quad Leaders' Summit in Wilmington, Delaware, the hometown of US President Joe Biden. He also spoke at the United Nations' 'Summit of the Future' and attended a number of bilateral engagements. He shared that the trip covered a wide range of programs and addressed multiple topics aimed at improving global well-being.

12: Obituaries**Former India Cricketer Kirti Azad's Wife Passes Away Due to Critical Illness :-**

Kirti Azad, a member of India's 1983 World Cup winning squad, tragically lost his wife, Poonam, on September 2. Azad, who is also the TMC MP for Bardhaman-Durgapur, gained backing from West Bengal Chief Minister and TMC leader Mamata Banerjee. "Saddened to know that Poonam Jha Azad, wife of our MP & World Cup-winner cricketer Kirti Azad, has breathed her last. I have known Poonam for a long time," Banerjee said in a post on X. "I also knew that she was critically ill for the last few years. Kirti and other family members tried their best and were

always beside her in her last fight. My sincere condolences to Kirti and other family members. May her soul rest in peace," she added.



Writer and social activist K.J. Baby passes away :-

Writer and social activist K.J. Baby, better known as Kanavu Baby, was found dead near his home in Nadavayal, Wayanad district. He was seventy years old. Mr. Baby was born on February 27, 1954, in Mavilai, Kannur, and moved to Wayanad in 1973 when he was 19. Mr. Baby's literary works include "Nadugaddika, Mavelimantam, and Bespurkana. The novel Mavelimantam received the Kerala Sahitya Akademi Award in 1994. His final novel, Goodbye Malabar, was released on November 16, 2019. He received the Bharat Bhavan award for Nadugaddika.



Tamil Film Producer Mohan Natarajan Passes Away :-

Mohan Natarajan, an acclaimed Tamil cinema producer and actor, died in Chennai. According to family reports, he was suffering from age-related ailments. Mohan had produced several films, including Vijay's 'Kannukkul Nilavu', Vikram's 'Deiva Thirumagal', Ajith Kumar's 'Aalwar', and Suriya's 'Vel', to name a few. He was a

senior producer in the Tamil cinema industry. In addition to producing, he has played villains in several Tamil films. Mohan made his debut as a producer in 1986 with 'Pookalai Parikadheergal' in 1986. He bankrolled films under his production banner, Sri Rajakaliamman Enterprises.



Tennis Legend Luis Ayala Passes Away At 91 :-

Chilean tennis legend Luis Ayala, who reached two French Open finals, has died, according to the country's tennis federation. He was 91. The federation did not mention the cause of death. Ayala, born in Santiago, was a Chilean sporting hero who won 46 singles titles during his career. "Today the Chilean tennis is losing a giant, but his legacy will live on every court where this beautiful sport is played," the federation said in a statement. Among his greatest achievements, he was a finalist at Roland Garros in 1958 and 1960, when he "became one of the greatest players in clay of his time," added the federation.



Eminent film critic & author Aruna Vasudev passes away at age of 88 :-

Aruna Vasudev, widely considered as the "mother of Asian cinema," passed away due to age-related health

concerns, according to her close friend Neerja Sarin. Vasudev, 88, has been undergoing treatment at a multi-specialty hospital for three weeks. Vasudev's amazing path led her to become a pioneering figure in international film. Throughout her life, she played numerous roles -- film critic, author, editor, painter, documentary filmmaker, and trustee -- passionately advocating for Asian cinema.



Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi Actor Vikas Sethi Passes Away At 48 :-

Actor Vikas Sethi, who rose to prominence in the 2000s with popular shows as Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi, Kahiin To Hoga, and Kasautii Zindagi Kay, died on Sunday, September 8, at the age of 48. According to reports, he died after suffering a heart arrest. His most popular television appearances were in Kahiin To Hoga, where he played Swayam Shergill, and Kasautii Zindagi Kay, where he portrayed Prem Basu. Back in 2021, Vikas underwent a surgery on his leg and uploaded a video on his Instagram. He said that despite the doctor advising a bed rest of one and a half months, Vikas is determined to come back stronger and earlier than expected.



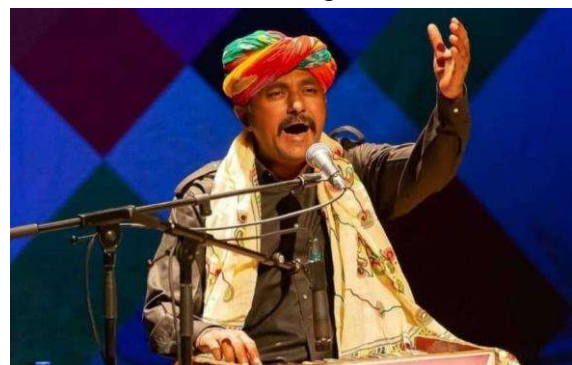
James Earl Jones, voice of Darth Vader, dies aged 93 :-

James Earl Jones, the actor whose rich voice gave the voice for "Star Wars" villain Darth Vader, died at the age of 93, his reps announced. Jones, who also played King Mufasa in Disney's animated film "The Lion King," had a lengthy and diverse career. Over six decades, he collaborated with some of the finest artists in cinema and theater, including Stanley Kubrick on his 1964 Cold War satire "Dr Strangelove." He also had roles in the Arnold Schwarzenegger film "Conan The Barbarian" and the 1989 Kevin Costner movie "Field of Dreams."



AIRBEA President Ajit Subedar Passes Away At 73

Ajit Subedar, president of the All India Reserve Bank Employees Association (AIRBEA), died at Kokilaben Hospital after a heart arrest. He was 73 years old when he was admitted to the hospital for acute bronchitis, but later developed heart difficulties. Subedar, a seasoned RBI employee leader, had successfully led multiple sessions with management to negotiate better pay and working conditions for thousands of employees. As the leader of the association's largest unit, Subedar was elected as its president at the 2013 Kolkata conference. Since then, he was steering the course of AIRBEA.



Rajasthani folk band Barmer Boys's lead singer Mangey Khan passes away at 49 :-

Mangey Khan, the revered lead vocalist of the famed Rajasthani folk band Barmer Boys, died at the age of 49. Khan, affectionately known as Manga, was acclaimed for his powerful voice and important contribution to Rajasthani folk music. His dramatic performances of "Challa Challa" and "Pir Jalani" inspired the establishment of the Barmer Boys, who launched their debut at the Amarrass Desert Music Festival in 2011. Over the years, the Barmer Boys became global ambassadors of Rajasthani contemporary folk music, performing at prestigious events worldwide, including Coke Studio, NH7, Winnipeg Folk Festival, and WOMAD.

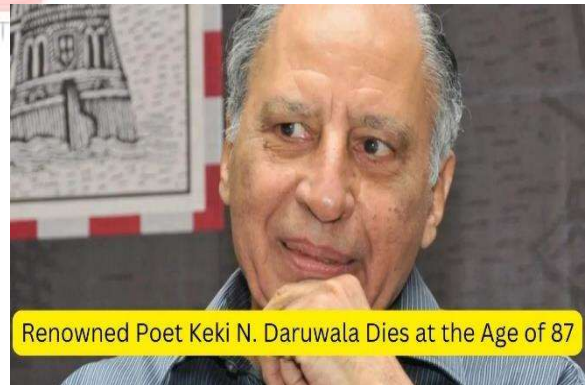
**Sitaram Yechury, CPI(M) general secretary, passes away at 72 :-**

Sitaram Yechury, a veteran CPM leader, died at the age of 72 after a prolonged illness. Sitaram Yechury, born on August 12, 1952, in Chennai, was a well-known figure in Indian politics. He has been the General Secretary of the CPI(M) from 2015. Yechury lived his early years in Hyderabad and Delhi, where his political career began during his student days. His political activism during the Emergency (1975-77) further solidified his reputation as

a staunch advocate for civil liberties and left-wing ideologies.

**Mohammad Shafi Pandit, First Muslim IAS Officer From Kashmir Valley, Passed Away :-**

The first Muslim IAS official from Jammu and Kashmir, Mohammad Shafi Pandit, died on September 19. He was eighty. Pandit was being treated at a hospital in Delhi after being diagnosed with cancer roughly a month earlier. Pandit made history in 1969 as the first Muslim from Jammu and Kashmir to pass the civil service tests.

**Renowned Poet Keki N. Daruwala Passes Away at 87 :-**

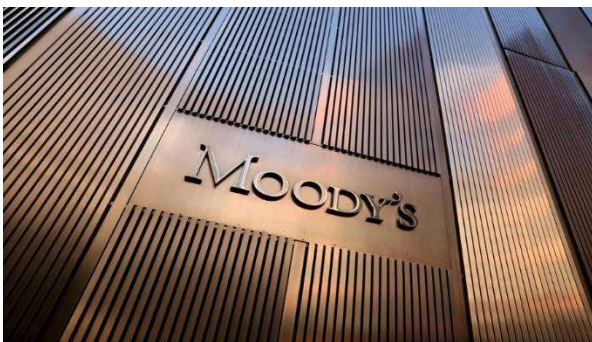
Celebrated Indian poet and former IPS officer Keki N. Daruwala passed away at the age of 87 in New Delhi. Daruwala, a Sahitya Akademi Award-winning poet, was known for his profound literary works that blended socio-political themes with personal reflections. Born in Lahore in 1937, he went on to become one of India's most respected poets, inspiring generations of writers. His passing marks the end of an era in Indian literature, but his works will continue to resonate with readers across the world.

13: Ranks & Reports



Dhulikhel Becomes Nepal’s First ‘Healthy City’ And Second Healthiest City In Asia: WHO :-

The WHO has named Dhulikhel Municipality in Kavrepalanchok district as Nepal's first 'healthy city' and Asia's second healthiest city. Since 2014, Dhulikhel Municipality has developed a variety of programs to acquire this rank. The World Health Organization has been monitoring Dhulikhel Municipality, which launched a program to become a healthy city, since 2021 in order for it to become Nepal's healthiest city. Dhulikhel scored 65.48 points on various indicators for healthy cities, joining the WHO Healthy City Network.



Moody’s Ups India’s 2024, 2025 Growth Forecast :-

Moody's has increased India's economic growth projection to 7.2% for 2024 and 6.6% for 2025, up from 6.8% and 6.4% before, noting robust broad-based growth. The Indian economy, boosted by high domestic demand, increased investment, and robust services activity, reported excellent economic growth in the previous fiscal year (FY24) and is on course to outperform expectations in the current one (FY25). India’s GDP expanded 8.2% in FY24, at a faster pace than

the 7% reported in FY23, according to estimates released by the National Statistical Office.



Telangana, Tamil Nadu Lead In GSDP Growth Among Largest States :-

Telangana, Tamil Nadu, and Rajasthan had the biggest growth in real gross state domestic product (GSDP) in FY24 among the ten largest states ranked by GSDP. This is demonstrated by a study of data from recent estimates released by MoSPI. In FY24, Telangana, the ninth largest state, experienced 9.2% economic growth, resulting in a real GSDP of ₹7.9 lakh crore. This is faster than national GDP growth of 8.2 per cent. Tamil Nadu, which is the third largest State, grew its economy 8.2 per cent to reach ₹15.7 lakh crore in size. Rajasthan, at seventh spot, grew 8 per cent.



India Becomes World’s Top Plastic Polluter, Study Finds :-

According to a new University of Leeds study published in Nature Journal, India is the largest producer to plastic pollution. A whopping 57 million tons of plastic pollution are manufactured each year, infiltrating every region on

the planet--from the deepest depths and mountaintops to the human brain. India topped the list with 9.3 million tons of plastic garbage, more than doubling the amount produced by populous countries such as China, Nigeria, and Indonesia. Previously, China generated higher levels of plastic waste but improved, producing 2.8 million tonnes of waste, a substantial improvement from its earlier records.



Surat takes top spot in air quality rankings :-

Surat has been named the best big city in India for air quality improvements, followed by Jabalpur and Agra. The Union Environment Ministry awarded the "National Clean Air City" Awards at the event Swachh Vayu Survekshan 2024, which took place at a national workshop in Jaipur to commemorate the "International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies". While Surat, Jabalpur, and Agra ranked first through third among cities with populations of more over ten lakh, Firozabad (UP), Amravati (Maharashtra), and Jhansi (UP) were named best among cities with populations ranging from three lakh to ten lakh.



Consumer Price Index For Industrial Workers Rises To 142.7 For July 2024 :-

The All-India Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (CPI-IW) for July 2024 grew by 1.3 points to

142.7, according to data issued by the Ministry of Labour and Employment. In July 2024, year-on-year inflation fell to 2.15 percent, down from 7.54 percent the previous year. Fuel and Light and Clothing and Footwear remained flat in comparison to June of this year, while Pan, Supari, Tobacco & Intoxicants increased to 162 from 161.6 in June and Food and Beverages increased to 150.4 from 148.7 in June.



Cristiano Ronaldo Creates History, Becomes First To Breach One Billion Barrier On Social Media :-

Cristiano Ronaldo has set numerous records both on and off the field throughout his career. The Portugal star has once again made history by becoming the first person to reach one billion followers across all social media platforms. Ronaldo is the most followed person on Instagram and has lately launched his YouTube channel, 'UR. Cristiano.' The channel gained 50 million subscribers in just one week, and it only took him 90 minutes to get one million subscribers. The social media record comes just after Ronaldo created another record, becoming the first-ever football player to score 900 career goals.



India Jumps To Tier 1 In Global CyberSecurity Index 2024 :-

India has risen to Tier 1 in the International Telecommunication Union's (ITU) Global Cybersecurity

Index (GCI) 2024, in terms of role-modeling as part of the country's cybersecurity pledges and ensuing impacts. The 'GCI 2024' uses a new five-tier analysis, which allows for a greater emphasis on each country's progress toward cybersecurity commitments. The report placed 46 countries in Tier 1, the highest of the five tiers, reserved for "role modelling" countries that demonstrate a strong commitment in all five cybersecurity pillars.



Angkor Wat Named Most Photogenic UNESCO World Heritage Site In Asia :-

Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Manet stated that Times Travel rated Angkor Wat the most photogenic UNESCO World Heritage site in Asia. According to Xinhua, the Prime Minister made the announcement in a text message broadcast on his official Telegram channel, along with a Times Travel list of Asia's ten most photogenic UNESCO World Heritage Sites. The list showed that Angkor Wat was ranked top. Otherworld heritage sites on the list included India's Taj Mahal, China's Great Wall, Myanmar's Bagan, Indonesia's Borobudur, Vietnam's Halong Bay.



India's Exports Shrink 9.3% In August, Trade Deficit At 10-Month High :-

India's trade deficit increased to a 10-month high of \$29.7 billion in August, as imports reached a record high of \$64.4 billion due to a doubling of gold inflows, while exports fell for the second month in a row to \$34.7 billion due to lower oil prices and weaker global demand. Merchandise exports fell 9.3% to \$34.7 billion in August. Other factors that affected merchandise exports included a huge slowdown in China, falling petroleum prices, recession in advanced economies and transportation- and logistics-related challenges.



WPI Inflation Drops To 4-Month Low Of 1.31% In August :-

According to data issued by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, India's wholesale pricing index (WPI)-based inflation fell to a four-month low of 1.31 percent on an annual basis in August, down from 2.04 percent in July, mainly to price reductions in manufactured goods and food items. Food price inflation in August was 3.11 percent, compared to 3.45 percent in July, according to the report. The prices of other major sub-indices like manufactured products also witnessed a deceleration. Meanwhile, the prices of fuel and power contracted during the month.



India Is Set To Become The Third-Largest Economy By 2030-31 :-

India is on course to become the world's third-largest economy by fiscal 2030-31, thanks to a strong predicted annual growth rate of 6.7 percent, according to credit rating agency S&P Global's India Forward Emerging Perspectives report. Along with its estimates, the credit rating agency proposed several actions to boost economic growth. In order to maintain the growth momentum, the report added that the continued reforms are crucial to improving business transactions and logistics, boosting private sector investment, and reducing reliance on public capital.

Atrocities on Dalits, tribal people

The chart shows the States accounting for 97.7% of total cases of atrocities against members of Scheduled Castes during the year 2022.



U.P., Rajasthan, M.P. Top In Cases Of Atrocities On Dalits: Report:-

According to a new government data, 13 states recorded over 97.7% of all cases of atrocities against Scheduled Castes in 2022, with Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Madhya Pradesh having the largest number of such crimes. According to the most recent government data under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, most instances of atrocities against Scheduled Tribes (STs) were concentrated in 13 states, with 98.91% of all incidents reported in 2022. Of the 9,735 cases registered under the law for STs, Madhya Pradesh reported the highest number at 2,979 (30.61%), the report said.



ADB Retains India’s Economic Growth Forecast At 7% For FY24, 7.2% For FY25 :-

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) predicts that India's economy would increase by 7% in FY2024 and 7.2% in FY2025. The ADB maintained that India's economic growth will continue strong. "India's economy has shown remarkable resilience in the face of global geopolitical challenges and is poised for steady growth," said ADB Country Director for India Mio Oka. "Agricultural improvements will enhance rural spending, which will complement the effects of robust performance of the industry and services sectors," says ADB.



India Overtakes Japan As Asia’s Third Most Powerful Nation :-

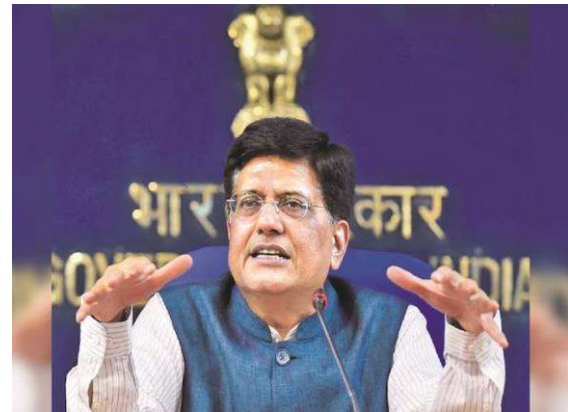
According to the Lowy Institute's newest Asia Power Index, India has officially surpassed Japan as Asia's third most powerful country. This shift in ranks reflects India's expanding impact across the continent, cementing its status as a key global player with aspirations to become a superpower. India's rise in the Asia Power Index can be ascribed to a number of key causes, all of which contribute to the country's expanding regional and global clout. Japan’s slow population growth, limited

military expansion, and relatively stagnant economic performance have caused it to lose ground to rising giants like China and India.



Moody's Upgrades India's Economic Growth Forecast To 7.1% For CY 2024 :-

Moody's, a global rating agency, has raised its GDP growth prediction for India for 2024, raising it from 6.8% to 7.1 percent. This shift demonstrates a strong economic outlook despite global uncertainty. The increased revision reflects confidence in India's economic resiliency and development prospects. India's inflation rate remained below 4% in July and August. This decline suggests improvements in economic stability and price management. Moody's forecasts inflation to be 4.5% in 2025 and further decrease to 4.1% in 2026.



India Rises To 39th Rank In Global Innovation Index 2024 :-

According to a report published by the World Intellectual Property Organization in Geneva, India has risen to 39th place among 133 economies in the Global Innovation Index (GII) for 2024. This is a significant improvement above its ranking of 81st in 2015. Union Minister Piyush Goyal attributed this success to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's strong leadership and the country's dedication to creating an environment conducive to innovation. Goyal highlighted India's position as the top-ranked nation among the 10 economies in Central and Southern Asia, underscoring its regional dominance in innovation.

14: Schemes & Committees



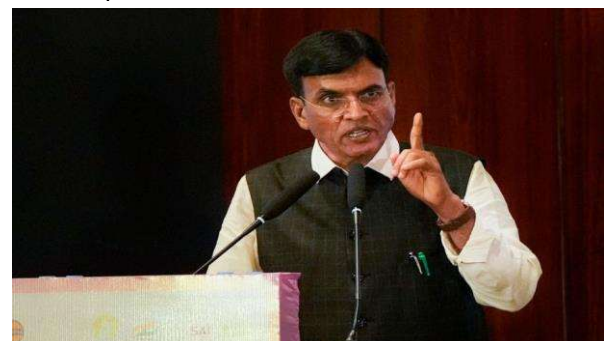
Towards a new dawn

**Ministry of Women and Child Development
Government of India**

Union Ministry of Women and Child Development Launches SHe-Box Portal To Enhance Workplace Safety For Women :-

The Union Ministry of Women and Child Development has created the SHe-Box portal to combat workplace sexual harassment, allowing women from both the public and private sectors to file complaints. The platform ensures that complaints are handled quickly,

confidentially, and effectively, with the goal of making the workplace safer and more courteous. By using the SHe-Box platform, women may help to create a safer and more respected workplace environment. The system ensures that complaints are addressed in a timely manner, promoting accountability and justice for victims of workplace sexual harassment.



Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya Launches RESET Programme For Retired Sportspersons :-

Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya announced the 'Retired Sportsperson Empowerment Training' (RESET) initiative in an effort to make athletes self-sufficient after retirement, with the goal of equipping them with "necessary skills and knowledge". Dr. Mandaviya said, "RESET Programme is aimed at empowering retired sportspersons who have played for the country and brought immense laurels to the nation. The programme will support retired athletes on their career development journey by empowering them with the necessary knowledge and skills and making them more employable."

**Union Agriculture Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan Launches AgriSURE Fund :-**

In a significant development for India's agricultural sector, Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare and Rural Development, Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, launched the AgriSURE Scheme in New Delhi. The AgriSURE Fund, formally known as the Agri Fund for Start-ups & Rural Enterprises, is a ₹750 crore blended capital fund aimed at fostering innovation and growth in the agricultural and rural start-up ecosystem. With contributions from the Government of India, NABARD, and private investors, this initiative is expected to revolutionize the agricultural landscape by supporting high-risk, technology-driven ventures.

**President Murmu approves constitution of 23rd Law Commission for three-year term :-**

President Droupadi Murmu has approved the constitution of the 23rd Law Commission of India, with its term set from September 1, 2024, to August 31, 2027. According to a notification issued on Monday, the commission will include a full-time chairperson, four members, and additional ex-officio and part-time members. The commission's mandate is to review and recommend legal reforms to enhance the Indian legal system. The 22nd Law Commission's term ends on Saturday. The commission has been functioning without a chairperson for several months, delaying crucial reports, including those on the Uniform Civil Code and simultaneous elections.

**Ajay Ratra Joins Indian Cricket Selection Committee :-**

Former India wicketkeeper-batsman Ajay Ratra has been selected to the BCCI men's selection committee, which is led by Ajit Agarkar. Ratra, who has played six Tests and 12 ODIs for India, replaces Salil Ankola on the committee. Ratra's international career lasted roughly eight months in 2002, during which time he scored 253 runs across

formats and dismissed 27 players. He represented Haryana in domestic cricket and brings with himself an experience of 99 First Class matches, 89 List A games and 17 T20s. He scored over 5000 runs and has over 350 dismissals to his name.



Tamil Nadu Unveils Cyber Security Policy 2.0 :-

The Tamil Nadu government has announced the Cyber Security Policy 2.0, which outlines methods for guaranteeing the government's asset security through guidelines and Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for audit, compliance, and monitoring of cyber threats and assaults. The document released by the Information Technology and Digital Services Department addresses e-sign/digital signature certificates, e-mail security, password policy, social media policy, backup and recovery, and information security audits, among other things. The Cyber Security Policy 2.0 issued on August 23 this year is expected to supersede the Tamil Nadu Cyber Security Policy 2020 issued in September 2020.



Rashtriya Poshan Maah reports 1.37 crore activities so far: Ministry :-

The Ministry of Women and Child Development has reported that 1.37 crore activities have taken place in 752 districts across 35 states and union territories as part

of the ongoing 7th Rashtriya Poshan Maah. The effort, which was launch on August 31, 2024, aims to address anemia, growth tracking, supplemental feeding, and environmental sustainability through a variety of activities. The campaign also emphasized environmental sustainability through the 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' initiative, in which plantation is encouraged across all the operational 13.95 lakh Anganwadi centres.



For Hydro Electric Projects Budgetary Support Scheme Approved By Cabinet :-

The Union Cabinet authorized the Ministry of Power's proposal to amend the budgetary support offered for hydroelectric projects, according to the press information department. The budgetary support will now include construction expenses for enabling infrastructure, which will enable faster development of hydroelectric projects and improve infrastructure in remote project locations. The total outlay of the scheme is set at Rs 12,461 crore and will be applicable to pumped storage energy projects as well. The scheme is set to be implemented from fiscal 2025 to fiscal 2032.



Govt To Launch PAIR Programme To Boost Research In Higher Education Institutions :-

The government is going to unveil the Partnerships for Accelerated Innovation and Research (PAIR) programme, which aims to improve research capabilities in higher education institutions (HEIs) by connecting top-tier research institutions with those with limited research capability, resulting in a collaborative mentorship environment. The decision was taken during the inaugural Governing Board meeting of the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF), Prof Abhay Karandikar, Secretary of the Department of Science and Technology, said.



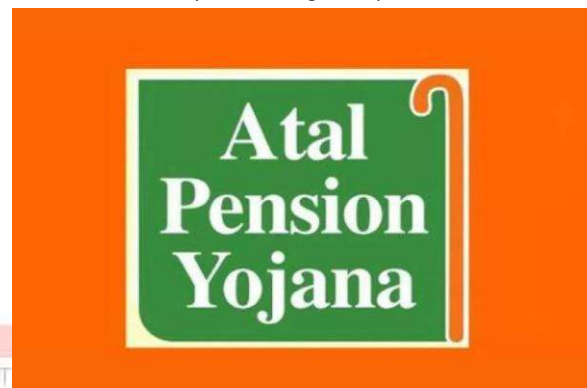
Cabinet Approves ₹2,000-Crore 'Mission Mausam'

Mission Mausam is a large-scale program launched by the Indian government to strengthen the country's weather forecasting and climate scientific capabilities. The program, with a budget of ₹2,000 crore for the first two years, intends to improve the India Meteorological Department's (IMD) ability to predict weather more accurately at numerous geographical and temporal scales. The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved this mission, marking it as a significant step forward in India's efforts to tackle extreme weather events and climate change.



Nirmala Sitharaman introduces NPS Vatsalya:-

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman introduced the Centre's NPS (National Pension System) Vatsalya Scheme on September 18 at a Delhi event. The NPS Vatsalya Scheme is regarded as a watershed moment in the pension system. According to sources, this new system has been launched to ensure the financial future of children. The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority will oversee this system. This scheme will allow parents and guardians to secure their child's future by investing in a pension account.



Atal Pension Yojana (APY) Subscribers At 69 Million

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said that around 7 million people are enrolled to the Atal Pension Yojana (APY), whose corpus has grown to Rs 35,149 crore. APY is a low-cost pension program that provides an assured minimum pension of Rs 1,000-5,000 per month from the age of 60 (depending on subscribers' payments). If the subscriber dies, the spouse will get the same pension for the remainder of his or her life. In the event of death of both the subscriber and the spouse, the entire corpus is given to the nominee.



Mana Village Selected For Landmark Tribal Development Scheme :-

Mana village, situated in the Joshimath block of Chamoli district, was selected for the Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan, a Central Government project focused at improving the socioeconomic situations of tribal groups. Chamoli is home to the Bhotiya tribes, the majority of whom have lived in the Mana and Niti valleys

of Upper Chamoli for millennia, according to the Chamoli district administration's official website. The goal of this programme is to provide better infrastructure, health services, education, and livelihood opportunities for tribal communities across the country.

15: Science & Technology



NASA Engineers Design Underwater Robots To Combat Climate Change :-

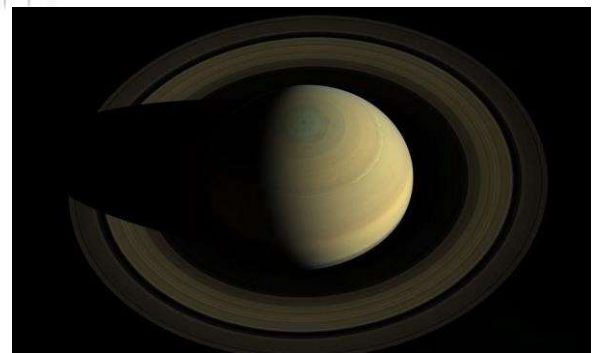
NASA engineers are constructing underwater robot probes to measure the swift melting of Antarctic ice shelves due to climate change. The program aims to offer accurate data that will enhance forecasts of future sea-level rise, which are critical for global climate models. A prototype created by NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory was tested in the Arctic from a US Navy lab camp. The submersibles aim to explore hard-to-reach grounding zones where ice and ocean meet, using special software to guide their path.



New Jumping Spider Species Discovered in Tamil Nadu :-

Carrhotus piperus, a new species of jumping spider, has been discovered in the lower Palani Hills in Tamil Nadu.

This discovery shows the region's tremendous biodiversity and raises the total number of Carrhotus species in India to ten, with 37 globally. John Caleb T.D. of the Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences in Chennai and M. Sampathkumar of the ICAR-National Bureau of Agricultural Insect Resources in Bengaluru detailed the species' taxonomy and illustrations. The detailed taxonomic description of Carrhotus piperus has been published in the Journal of Insect Biodiversity and Systematics.



Saturn's Rings to Disappear Temporarily in March 2025 :-

Saturn's beautiful rings, which stretch over 2.82 lakh kilometers in breadth, will disappear for a brief period in 2025, NASA reported. This event, which is expected to take place in March, is caused by Saturn's rings aligning with the Earth's line of sight. Saturn, tilted at 26.73 degrees, completes one orbit around the Sun in approximately 29.4 Earth-years. Saturn's rings alter orientation in relation to Earth as it moves throughout its orbit. Scientists explain that every 13 to 15 years, the rings align edge-on from our perspective, making them appear almost invisible. This rare phenomenon last occurred in 2009.



World Trade Centre To Anchor Ambitious AI City Near Hyderabad :-

The Telangana government has inked an MoU with the World Trade Centres' Association to create a World Trade Center in the projected AI City near Hyderabad. The WTC at AI City will have 1 million square feet of built-up area to accommodate companies at the forefront of AI and new technologies. "This is poised to be one of the largest capacity building initiatives in the field of Global AI domain," a release from the IT and Industries Minister D. Sridhar Babu's office said. Setting up of the WTC AI City is also a pointer to Telangana's growing global influence.



ISRO tracks giant asteroid that will come 'very close' to Earth in 2029 :-

ISRO is tracking a big asteroid that is anticipated to pass very near to Earth in 2029. Asteroid 99942 Apophis, called the 'God of Chaos,' is due to come extremely close to Earth on April 13, 2029, at a distance of only 20,000 miles (32,000 km) - closer than many geostationary satellites, which are parked in a geo orbit 36,000 kilometers over the Earth's surface. Apophis is the Greek name of Apep, an enemy of the Ancient Egyptian Sun God Ra. At 32,000 km above Earth, no other asteroid of this size has ever come so close to our planet.



Adani Airports Launches 'Aviio' For Real-Time Airport Data :-

Adani Airports Holdings Limited (AAHL) has introduced aviio, an app that will assist passengers and other stakeholders at seven airports managed by the business in India, including Mangaluru International Airport. It delivers real-time data to all airport stakeholders. Passengers should expect improved access to airport information, such as updates on security checks, wait times, gate changes, and baggage on belts, among other things. Apart from AAHL employees, the aviio app is for all partners in the ecosystem, including airlines, ground handlers and retail.



Iran Launches Second Satellite This Year :-

Iran launched a research satellite into orbit using a Revolutionary Guards-built rocket, according to official television. The launch comes as the US and European countries accuse Iran of delivering ballistic missiles to Russia, which will most certainly be utilized in its battle with Ukraine in the coming weeks. Iran has disputed it. The Chamran-1 satellite, launched into space by the Qaem-100 satellite carrier, has been placed in a 550-kilometer (340-mile) orbit and its first signals have been received, according to the media. The Revolutionary Guards' Aerospace Force designed and built the solid fuel carrier.



LIC Appoints Infosys For NextGen Digital Platform

The state-owned Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) has struck an agreement with IT giant Infosys to create a next-generation digital platform that would serve as the foundation for new high-value business applications such as customer and sales super apps, portals, and digital branches. The deal's financial specifics have not been published. LIC has previously gotten IT support from industry leaders such as Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) and Tech Mahindra. The new digital platform will be an integrated end-to-end insurance solution.



Cabinet Clears Chandrayaan-4 And Venus Orbiter Mission For Space Exploration :-

The Union Cabinet has green-lit four important space endeavours for launches by the Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) in the near future – the first of which is the fourth iteration of India’s lunar mission Chandrayaan-4; the second, the development of Venus Orbiter Mission (VOM); the third, the building of first unit of India’s indigenous space station, dubbed Bharatiya Anatriksh Station (BAS), by extending the scope of Gaganyaan programme; and finally, the development of Next Generation Launch Vehicle (NGLV).



Cabinet Gives Nod To Bio-RIDE Scheme To Support R&D In Biotechnology :-

The Union Cabinet has authorized the Biotechnology Research Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development (Bio-RIDE) initiative, which will fund cutting-edge biotechnology research and development efforts. "Bio-RIDE integrates two current programs — Biotechnology Research and Development (R&D) and Industrial and Entrepreneurship Development (I&ED) — with a fresh element, 'Bio-manufacturing and Bio-foundry'," a government release said. The proposed outlay for the implementation of the unified scheme Bio-RIDE is ₹9,197 crore during the 15th Finance Commission period from 2021-22 to 2025-26.



ISRO, IN-SPACE, And NSIL Achieve Milestone :-

ISRO, the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACE), and space PSU NewSpace India Limited (Nsil) have signed 75 Transfer of Technology (ToT) agreements with Non-Governmental Entities (NGEs) since the introduction of space reforms. The Centre approved the space changes in mid-2020. The latest batch of five ToTs was signed on September 20, bringing the total to 75. The agreements were inked with private companies including Anabond Ltd., Salvo

Industries Pvt Ltd., Micropack Pvt Ltd., and Astra Microwave Products Ltd.



India's DRDO, IIT Delhi Develop ABHED LightWeight Bullet Proof Jackets :-

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), in collaboration with experts from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi, has created lightweight bulletproof jackets called ABHED (Advanced Ballistics for High Energy Defeat), which provide 360-degree protection. The armor plates for the jackets have passed all relevant R&D trials in accordance with the protocols. The jackets meet the highest threat levels, and are lighter than the maximum weight limits stipulated in respective General Staff Qualitative Requirement of the Indian Army, the Ministry of Defence said.

16: Sports



Manish Narwal Secures Silver In Men's 10m Air Pistol SH1 Event At Paris Paralympics 2024 :-

Indian shooter Manish Narwal won silver in the men's 10m air pistol (SH1) competition at the Chateauroux International Shooting Range. The 22-year-old finished the final with 234.9 points, giving India its fourth medal. He was leading for quite some time before slipping due to a string of low scores, handing over his momentum to veteran South Korean marksman Jo Jeongdu. In SH1 class, athletes can hold their guns without difficulty and shoot from a standing or sitting position in a wheelchair or chair.



Avani Lekhara Breaks Paralympic Record :-

Avani Lekhara became the first Indian to defend a Paralympic title by winning the women's 10m air rifle standing SH1 at the Paris Paralympics. Lekhara broke her own Paralympic record, finishing with a score of 249.7; she had previously finished with 249.6 at the Tokyo Paralympics. Avani had a difficult lead-up to the Paralympics, having to have gallbladder surgery and coping with a number of other health difficulties that prompted her to take a one-and-a-half-month rehabilitation period. She lost quite a bit of weight following the surgery.



Mona Agrawal Won Her First Paralympic Bronze Medal :-

Mona Agarwal's incredible journey resulted with a bronze medal at the Paris Paralympics, completing a historic double for India with gold winner Avani Lekhara in the women's 10m air rifle (SH1) event. Mona, 37, has shown tenacity and dedication throughout her life, overcoming tremendous obstacles. Born in Sikar, Rajasthan, she was afflicted with polio at an early age, rendering her unable to walk. In 2023, Mona participated in the WSPS World Cup in Osijek, Croatia, where she won a bronze medal in her first international shooting competition. Her determination to qualify for the Paris 2024 Paralympics saw her competing in the 2022 Asian Para Games and the 2023 WSPS Championships in Lima.



Preethi Pal Becomes First Indian Woman To Win Two Paralympic Medals In Athletics :-

Preethi Pal of India made history by being the first Indian female track and field athlete to win two medals at the Paralympics, winning bronze in the 200m T35 category with a personal best time of 30.01 seconds in Paris. Preethi, 23, became only the second Indian woman to win two medals (both bronze) in a single Paralympics, following shooter Avani Lekhara, who won gold and bronze in Tokyo three years ago. The bronze won by the

23-year-old Preethi was also India's second para-athletics medal in the Paris Paralympics.



Paris 2024 Paralympics: Nishad Kumar wins silver medal in high jump :-

Nishad Kumar of India won the silver medal in the Men's High Jump T47 event at the 2024 Paris Paralympics. Nishad, who finished second in Tokyo three years ago, made his season-best try of 2.04m. Nishad, the reigning Para Asian Games champion, and Roderick improved on each other's marks early in the final. Nishad's first inability to clear the height occurred at 2.08 metres. Townsend, leading with 2.06m, cleared the 2.08m mark on his second attempt. "Last Tuesday, I cleared 2.10m in practice, and today I stopped at 2.04. So I am disappointed," Nishad said.



NorthEast United FC Claims Historic Durand Cup Title:-

In a thrilling Durand Cup 2024 final against Mohun Bagan, NorthEast United fought extreme odds to emerge victorious. The victory isn't just for the players, the coach and the support staff who worked hard for years, enabling the team to lift its first major trophy, but also for its owner, John Abraham. The actor bought NorthEast United for the first time in 2013, putting his own money

to become the sole owner. While most of the other franchises were bought by corporates, John let his passion do the talking, and it took 11 years for him to reap the desired rewards.



Sumit Antil bags India's third gold as it rains medals for India :-

India's javelin sensation Sumit Antil made it back-to-back gold medals at the Paralympics with a stunning performance on Monday, September 2 in Paris. Sumit, who came into the contest as a hot favourite, delivered on his promise and clinched the gold with a record-breaking performance. The Indian went on to break his own Paralympics record twice during the course of his 6 throws and looked to be in perfect form from the get-go.



Ferrari's Charles Leclerc takes thrilling surprise win at Italian Grand Prix :-

Ferrari's Charles Leclerc held on to take a thrilling Grand Prix win at his team's home race in Monza, Italy, somehow shepherding his increasingly battered and tired tires to the checkered flag ahead of a marauding Oscar Piastri. Piastri had led for much of the race after overtaking his McLaren teammate and polesitter Lando Norris on the first chicane but opted for a two-stop strategy, wary of his tires degrading too much. Norris pitted too, and that left the two Ferrari cars of Leclerc

and Carlos Sainz out in front with a healthy lead as the remaining laps ticked down.



Anuya Prasad Wins Gold At World Deaf Shooting Championship :-

The 16-member Indian Deaf Shooting squad had a promising beginning to the 2nd World Deaf Shooting Championship 2024 in Hanover, Germany. According to a press release from the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI), Anuya Prasad won gold in the women's 10m Air Pistol, and India had a double podium finish in the men's 10m Air Pistol with Abhinav Deshwal winning silver and Shubham Vashist winning bronze. The duo also teamed up with Chetan Sakpal to win team silver in the event. The Championship goes on till September 7, 2024, and Indian shooters will compete in the Air Rifle and Air Pistol disciplines.



Harvinder Singh scripts history, becomes first Indian archer to win Paralympic gold :-

Harvinder Singh, a bronze medalist at the Tokyo Games, became the first Indian Paralympian archer to win gold when he defeated Lukasz Ciszek of Poland 6-0 in the Men's Individual Recurve Open final at the Paris Paralympics. The 33-year-old Indian, who lost to Kevin Mather of the United States in the Tokyo Paralympics

semifinals before winning bronze three years ago, defeated Cizek 6-0 (28-24, 28-27, 29-25). Harvinder, who is pursuing a Ph.D. in Economics, won five consecutive bouts in one day. He made his debut at the 2017 Para Archery World Championship, finishing seventh.



India's Sachin Sarjerao Khilari Secured Silver Medal In The Men's Shot Put F46 Event :-

Sachin Sarjerao Khilari, world champion in the men's shot put F46 category, earned a silver medal with an Asian record distance of 16.32 meters, extending his country's extraordinary medal-winning streak at the Paralympic Games. Khilari delivered an excellent performance, setting a new Asian record with a throw of 16.30m. Despite his spectacular accomplishment and personal best, it was insufficient to capture the gold medal, as Greg Stewart of Canada won first place with a throw of 16.38 meters. Luka Bakovic from Croatia earned the bronze with a throw of 16.27m.



Kapil Parmar Secures India's First Paralympic Judo Medal :-

Kapil Parmar won India's first Paralympic medal in judo, taking bronze in the men's 60kg (J1) category after defeating Brazil's Elielton de Oliveira in the play-off. Parmar delivered an outstanding performance,

dominating his opponent from start to end and winning the bronze medal match 10-0. In the semifinals, he was defeated 0-10 by S Banitaba Khorram Abadi of Iran. Parmar, who won the silver medal at the 2022 Asian Games in the same category, had earlier beaten Venezuela's Marco Dennis Blanco 10-0 in the quarterfinals.



Indian Para Athlete Hokato Hotozhe Sema Secures Bronze At Paris 2024 Paralympics :-

Hokato Hotozhe Sema, an Indian para-athlete, won a bronze medal for his country at the current Paris Paralympics in the men's shot put F57 final. Hokato's best throw in the medal match was 14.65 m, which is now his personal best. Iran's Yashin Khosravi won the gold medal with a throw of 15.96 metres, while Thiago Paulino dos Santos of Brazil took silver with a throw of 15.06 metres. However, another Indian, Soman Rana, managed the best throw of 14.07 and finished outside the podium spots at fifth.



Praveen Kumar Clinches Gold with Record-Breaking Jump at Paris Paralympics 2024 :-

India's Praveen Kumar claimed the gold medal in the men's high jump T64 contest at the 2024 Paris Paralympics, jumping 2.08 meters for his second Paralympic medal. Praveen had earlier won silver at the

2021 Tokyo Paralympics with a personal best of 2.07 meters, continuing his remarkable performance on the international scene. The 21-year-old athlete from Noida, Uttar Pradesh, became only the second Indian, after Mariyappan Thangavelu, to win gold in Paralympic high jump competitions.



Jannik Sinner Beats Taylor Fritz To Win 2024 US Open :-

Jannik Sinner won his second Grand Slam of the year, crushing the dreams of American supporters who had been waiting for a native champion for more than two decades. In the US Open final, the Italian star defeated Taylor Fritz in straight sets, 6-3, 6-4, 7-5. The world number one, who won the Australian Open earlier this year, created history by becoming the first Italian man to win the US Open. The victory marked Sinner's 55th match win and sixth title of the season, further solidifying his position at the top of the rankings.



Syria Triumphs In 4th Intercontinental Cup Football Championship :-

The Indian football team's chances of winning the Intercontinental Cup for the third time were crushed when it lost to Syria 0-3 in the tournament's final league match. Syria's Mahmoud Al Aswad and Daleho Mohsen Irandust scored in the seventh and 77th minutes, breaking the home crowd's hearts at the GMC Balayogi

Athletics Stadium. While Pablo Sabbag's goal in injury time was merely a reminder of Syria's domination. The result meant that Manolo Marquez began his stint as India head coach, after succeeding Igor Stimac, on a disappointing note.



Deepali Thapa Makes History As First Schoolgirl Champion :-

Deepali Thapa, a young boxer, became the first ever schoolgirl champion as India claimed seven female championships at the Asian Championships in Al Ain, UAE. Thapa, competing in the 33kg division, defeated Kazakhstan's Anelya Ordabek in the semi-finals before dominating Ukraine's Liudmyla Vasylychenko in the final, demonstrating superior technique and control to win the championship. India's excellent performance continued with Bhoomi's victory in the 35kg weight class over Kazakhstan's Assel Jalimbekova. Nischal Sharma added to India's tally in the 37kg category with a strategic win over Ukraine's Maria Matsiura.



Oscar Piastri Claims Maiden Victory At Azerbaijan Grand Prix :-

Oscar Piastri of McLaren won his first Formula One race at the Azerbaijan Grand Prix, marking an important milestone in his career. The 23-year-old McLaren driver won his second race of the season in Baku, passing

Charles Leclerc and holding off the Ferrari driver until an incident on the penultimate lap resulted in a virtual safety car finish. Piastri's first win at the Hungarian Grand Prix in July was overshadowed by a team orders argument in which Lando Norris grudgingly relinquished the lead to allow his Melbourne-born teammate to cross first.



Neeraj Chopra Finished 2nd By 0.01m In Diamond League Final :-

Neeraj Chopra of India finished second in the Diamond League Final, trailing only Paris Olympics bronze medalist Anderson Peters in the men's javelin category. Neeraj's best attempt at the King Baudouin Stadium in Brussels was 87.86 meters, trailing only Peters by one centimetre. Peters earned the prestigious Diamond Trophy, announcing his return to form for the 2024 season. Julian Weber of Germany finished third, with a best effort of 85.97 meters. Olympic champion Arshad Nadeem and last year's Diamond Trophy winner Jakub Vadlejch did not compete in the Brussels Diamond League Final.



17 Year Old Anmol Kharb Wins First Single Title In Belgium :-

Anmol Kharb, 17, of India, won her maiden international title in women's singles in the Belgian International badminton event in Belgium, defeating Denmark's Amalie Schulz in a hard-fought final. Kharb, who

advanced to the main draw via the qualifying round, defeated her seventh-seeded opponent 24-22 12-21 21-10 in the summit match, which lasted 59 minutes. The tournament is an international challenge event. She had earlier beaten another Danish player Irina Amalie Andersen in the semifinals.



Indian Men's Hockey Team Won Asian Champions Trophy 2024:-

The Indian men's hockey team successfully defended their Asian Champions Trophy title, defeating host China 1-0 in the final at the Moqi Hockey Training Base in Hulunbuir, China. Jugraj Singh's key strike in the 51st minute won the victory, giving India the most successful team in tournament history, with a record-breaking five trophies. India retained the trophy for the second consecutive edition after its triumph in 2023. India had previously achieved back-to-back titles in 2016 and 2018.



ICC Introduces Equal Prize Money For Men's And Women's Cricket World Cups :-

The ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2024 will be the first time that women get equal prize money to men. This historic decision was reached during the ICC Annual Conference in July 2023. The ICC Board has chosen to meet its award equality target seven years before the schedule, aiming for 2030. Cricket becomes the first

major team sport to give equal prize money for both genders at World Cup games. The tournament, set to be held in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), will award the winners \$2.34 million, a 134 percent increase from the \$1 million won by Australia in 2023.



Jasprit Bumrah Joins Elite Club With 400 International Wickets :-

Jasprit Bumrah joined an exclusive cricket club. The Indian speed master took his 400th wicket in his international career, which includes Test, ODI, and T20I cricket. He matched the number of wickets taken by former England bowler Andrew Flintoff. Bumrah completed the feat in 196 matches, but Flintoff did so in 227. However, the list of bowlers who have taken 400 or more wickets in their international careers is quite large. There are 60 cricketers with this achievement. The list is helmed by Sri Lankan legend, Muthiah Muralidaran. He claimed 1,347 wickets in 495 matches.



Glasgow To Host 2026 Commonwealth Games :-

The Scottish government has approved a contract that would see Glasgow host the Commonwealth Games in 2026. A smaller version of the event, with fewer sports and athletes, is coming back to the city 12 years since it last held the Games. The Australian state of Victoria was originally slated to host the multi-sport tournament, however it withdrew owing to rising expenses. The

compulsory sports of Athletics and Swimming will be held at Scotstoun Stadium and Tollcross International Swimming Centre but the additional venues, as well as the dates for the event, have not yet been confirmed.



India's Historic Triumph At The 2024 Chess Olympiad :-

India's chess teams earned a double gold medal in the 2024 Chess Olympiad in Budapest. The Indian open team, led by the outstanding performers of Gukesh D, Praggnanandhaa R, and Arjun Erigaisi, crushed the event, scoring 21 out of 22 match points. The women's team, which included seasoned players like Harika Dronavalli as well as rising talents like Divya Deshmukh, won gold with a vital victory over Azerbaijan in the final round, scoring 19 match points. This double triumph is not merely a statistical achievement but a culmination of years of strategic investment in chess development in India.



India-A Clinches Duleep Trophy 2024 :-

Tanush Kotian and Prasidh Krishna combined to take six wickets, overshadowing Sai Sudharsan's brilliant 111, as India A defeated India C by 132 runs to win the Duleep Trophy in Anantapur. Beginning the final round three points behind India C, which had nine points, the 'A' squad demonstrated exceptional commitment from the start and dominated the four-day competition. With this

victory, India A climbed to the top of the points table with a total of 12 points from three matches, earning the championship.



Lando Norris Triumphs In Thrilling Singapore Grand Prix 2024 :-

McLaren's Lando Norris won the Singapore Grand Prix, edging off Max Verstappen after many close brushes with the barriers. Oscar Piastri ended in third place. Mercedes' George Russell and Ferrari's Charles Leclerc completed the top five, finishing fourth and fifth, respectively. With this victory, Norris narrowed the distance in the F1 title standings to Verstappen, who leads with 331 points from seven triumphs, and Norris, who has 279 points from three wins. The seven-time world champion Lewis Hamilton settled for sixth place while, Carlos Sainz Jr finished seventh for Ferrari after crashing in qualifying.



Indian Wrestling Champion Sangram Singh Makes Historic MMA Debut :-

Sangram Singh, an international wrestler, made his name in the world of Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) by winning his first fight in the Gama International Fighting Championship in Tbilisi. Singh defeated Pakistani fighter Ali Raza Nasir, who is seventeen years his junior, in just one minute and thirty seconds. Among the eleven competing nations, this astounding achievement is the

fastest win ever recorded by an Indian fighter in the 93 kg division. Singh gained a clear victory by showcasing his grappling skills and strategic acumen.



Jeevan-Vijay Pair Wins Hangzhou Open 2024 :-

India's Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan and Vijay Sundar Prashanth won the doubles title at the 2024 Hangzhou Open, defeating Germany's Constantin Frantzen and Hendrik Jebens in an exciting final. The victory is the duo's first on the ATP Tour since joining forces at the start of the 2024 season. They won 4-6, 7(7)-6(5), 10-7 at the Hangzhou Olympics Sports Centre as unseeded competitors in the ATP 250 event. It took them an hour and 49 minutes to beat the German duo. For Jeevan, aged 35, this is his second ATP title, with his last win dating back to the 2017 Chennai Open alongside Rohan Bopanna. For 37-year-old Vijay, this marks his first title on the ATP circuit.



All-Rounder Shakib Al Hasan From Bangladesh Set To Retire From Tests And T20Is :-

Shakib Al Hasan, Bangladesh's great all-rounder, has stated his desire to retire from Test cricket after next month's home series against South Africa in Mirpur, subject to security clearance. Shakib also announced his immediate resignation from Twenty20 Internationals. Shakib Al Hasan has been the backbone of Bangladesh cricket for 17 years, scoring over 4,500 runs and

collecting more than 230 wickets. His leadership, skill, and consistency have earned him global recognition as one of the finest all-rounders of his generation.



Gulveer Singh Breaks National Record in 5000m at World Athletics Event :-

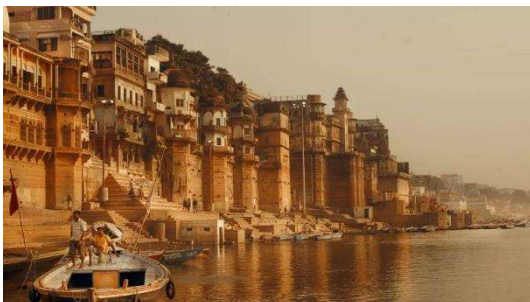
Indian athlete Gulveer Singh set a new national record in the men's 5000m race with a time of 13:11.82, securing the gold medal at the World Athletics Continental Tour's Yogibo Athletics Challenge Cup in Niigata, Japan. This victory marks a significant milestone in Indian athletics, as Gulveer continues to improve on his previous national record from earlier this year. His achievement reflects India's growing presence in middle-distance running on the global stage.

17: State



Bengal Assembly passes Aparajita anti-rape bill :-

The 'Aparajita Woman and Child Bill (West Bengal Criminal Laws and Amendment) 2024' was unanimously enacted by the West Bengal Assembly, establishing a historical precedence in India's legal system for dealing with sexual violence. With this measure, West Bengal becomes the first state to change central legislation governing rape, gang-rape, and sexual offenses against children. Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee called the bill 'historic' and a 'model' for other states. She stated that it serves as a tribute to the 31-year-old trainee doctor who was tragically raped and murdered at RG Kar Medical Centre and Hospital last month.



UP Govt To Build Vedic-3D Museum In Varanasi :-

The Uttar Pradesh government will create a Vedic-3D museum in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's parliamentary constituency Varanasi at the main building of Sampurnanand Sanskrit University. The museum will focus on Indian astrology, astronomy, and Vedic literature. The museum will showcase the evolution of Vedic literature, highlighting the 16 Sanskars, 64 arts, and 18 Vidya Sthans as well as contributions of Indian sages and serve as a platform to revive the tradition of 'Shastrartha'(spiritual discourse).



Rajasthan Approves 33% Quota For Women In Police Force :-

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government in Rajasthan has authorized 33% reservation for women in the police service by amending the State Police Subordinate Service Rules, 1989. The State Cabinet reached the decision at its meeting, fulfilling the BJP's vow in its manifesto for the 2023 Assembly election to

enhance women's representation. Chief Minister Bhanu Lal Sharma chaired the Cabinet meeting. Deputy Chief Minister Prem Chand Bairwa and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Jogaram Patel said after the meeting that the police would be able to work with more sensitivity in the matters related to women.



Odisha Unveils India’s First Silicon Carbide Facility:-

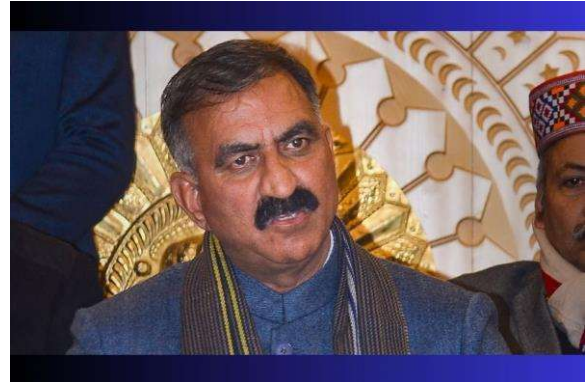
The ground-breaking ceremony for India's first Silicon Carbide manufacturing facility took place at EMC Park in Bhubaneswar's Info Valley. RIR Power Electronics Ltd, an Indian semiconductor power electronics technology pioneer, will build up the unit. According to the Chief Minister's Office, the opening of this cutting-edge facility, with an overall investment of around Rs 620 crores over three years, is a significant step forward for Odisha's entry into the power electronics industry. It further asserted that this facility will create over 500 new jobs across various levels.



MP Tops The List Of Having AYUSH Doctors In Primary Health Centres In India :-

According to state government officials, Madhya Pradesh boasts the highest number of AYUSH facilities in the country, with 328 primary health centres throughout the state's urban regions. According to the report 'Health Dynamics of India - Infrastructure and Human

Resources', which was recently released by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, Madhya Pradesh ranks second in the number of district hospitals with 52, led by Uttar Pradesh with 125 and on third place Delhi with 40. MP is also third in terms of tribal pockets, where there are AYUSH doctors available at 228 primary and community health centres.



Himachal First State To Legalise Seizing Property Of Those Selling Spurious Liquor, Says CM Sukhu :-

Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu announced that Himachal Pradesh has become the first state to enact a provision for seizing the property of persons involved in the illicit and counterfeit liquor trade. He stated that the state administration is taking harsh steps against people involved in the illegal and fake liquor sector. "Recently, amendments were made to the Himachal Pradesh Excise Act, 2011, tightening the noose against individuals involved in unlawful activities," he said. These new provisions would go a long way in controlling the illegal liquor trade, he added.



Jagdeep Dhankhar inaugurates ‘Samvidhan Mandir’ at Industrial Training Institutes in Maharashtra :-

Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar virtually launched Samvidhan Mandir at 433 Industrial Training (ITI) Institutes throughout Maharashtra from the institution's premises. He presided over a programme in Mumbai organized by the Maharashtra Skill, Employment, Entrepreneurship, and Innovation Department, which is led by minister Mangal Prabhat Lodha. ITIs are post-secondary schools set up to provide training in various trades. Maharashtra Governor C P Radhakrishnan and Union Minister of State for Social Justice Ramdas Athawale attended the event.



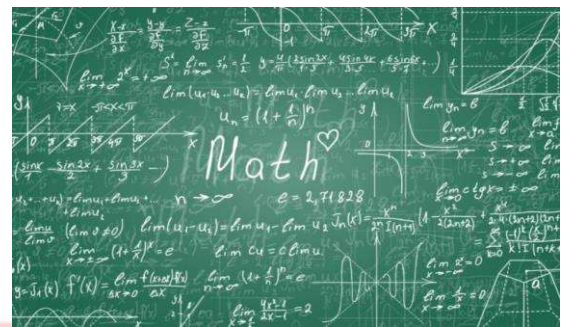
UP And Tripura CM Inaugurate Sidheshwari Temple :-

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and his Tripura counterpart, Manik Saha, dedicated the Siddheswari temple in West Tripura district. Shanti Kali Ashram manages 24 shrines throughout the northeastern state, including the newly completed temple in Barkathal. Tipra Motha supremo Pradyot Kishore Manikya Debbarma, a member of the royal family, was the guest of honor, according to a temple official. Maharaja Chitta Ranjan Debbarma, who is the head of Shanti Kali Ashram and has been working to protect Hindu culture, tradition and religion was awarded Padma Shri last year.



PM Modi Launches Odisha's Flagship Scheme Subhadra :-

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched 'Subhadra', the Odisha government's flagship program. The project intends to help more than one crore women in the state. According to the scheme's provisions, every qualified women beneficiaries aged 21 to 60 will get Rs. 50,000 over five years. The beneficiary would get a total of Rs 10,000 per year, which will be deposited immediately into a bank account connected to both Aadhaar and Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT). The amount will be disbursed in two equal portions throughout the year.



Maharashtra state board to adopt NCERT for maths & science :-

According to Sandhya Nair, the Maharashtra government plans to implement National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) textbooks for mathematics and science in state board schools beginning with the next academic year. The texts will be phased in, beginning with classes 1, 3, 5, 8, and 11 in 2025-26. The History and Geography curriculum will stay unchanged, with a few additions from the NCERT-prescribed course. The transition from the current Balbharati course work to NCERT textbooks is planned to coincide with the introduction of the National Education Policy in school education next year.



Uttarakhand Enacts Landmark Property Damage Recovery Act :-

Uttarakhand Governor Lt Gen (Retd) Gurmit Singh has signed legislation allowing for complete restitution of damages caused to public property during riots or protests, as well as imposing a punishment of up to Rs 8 lakh on rioters. The Uttarakhand Public and Private Property Damage Recovery Bill was passed by the state parliament last month and forwarded to the governor for approval. Welcoming the governor's assent, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said the law's strict provisions would serve as a strong deterrent for potential offenders who damaged public property during strikes, protest demonstrations or riots.



19th Divya Kala Mela Unveiled In Visakhapatnam :-
Inaugurated by Hon. Governor of Andhra Pradesh, Shri S. Abdul Nazeer the 19th edition of Divya Kala Mela is being held in Visakhapatnam. The Mela will take place on Marine Ground at Andhra University from September 19 to 29, from 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Cultural performances by Divyang artists will be presented, as will food vendors serving regional delicacies. The fair included bright products from 100 Divyang craftsmen in 20 states/UTs, such as handicrafts, handlooms, needlework, and packaged cuisines. It aims to support the **“Vocal for Local”** initiative and promote financial independence among Divyang entrepreneurs.



Jaipur To Host 25th Edition Of IIFA Awards :-

The organisers of the 25th International Indian Film Academy Awards have announced that it will take place in Jaipur from March 7 to March 9, 2025. The announcement comes ahead of the 2024 edition of the awards, which will take place for the third year in a row on Yas Island in Abu Dhabi beginning September 27. An MoU was inked between the Rajasthan Tourism Department and the IIFA for the IIFA Awards' silver jubilee celebrations, which will take place in the state capital next year. An agreement signing ceremony was organised at the city's iconic Albert Hall in the presence of Deputy Chief Minister Diya Kumari.



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh Inaugurates Sainik School In Jaipur, Rajasthan :-

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh dedicated the Sainik School in Jaipur. Diya Kumari, Rajasthan's Deputy Chief Minister, also attended the event. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh addressed an event following the inauguration, highlighting the Union government's plan to open 100 new Sainik schools under the Public Private Partnership (PPP) model. He emphasized the importance of the private sector to the country's progress. "Private sector contribution is growing and 50% of India's workforce is in the private sector. Private sector contribution in manufacturing and services. Private sector is in the driver seat," Singh added.



Pune Airport To Be Named After Jagadguru Sant Tukaram Maharaj :-

The state government has authorized a plan to rename Pune's Lohegaon airport to Jagadguru Sant Tukaram Maharaj Pune International Airport. The state will now transmit its suggestion to the Centre, which may consider it before the assembly election, according to officials. Murlidhar Mohol, the Pune MP and minister of state for civil aviation, proposed renaming the airport in August after Sant Tukaram. Mohol thanked the ruling Mahayuti alliance government of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), chief minister Eknath Shinde's Shiv Sena and deputy CM Ajit Pawar-led Nationalist Congress Party.



Tripura govt launches CM-SATH scheme to help meritorious students in higher education :-

Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha has announced a new scheme, CM-SATH, to help outstanding students pursue higher education. The Chief Minister launched the plan and emphasized the state government's commitment to

ensuring that financial restrictions do not impede the development of true talent and access to great education. The CM-SATH project has been designed to provide financial support of Rs 60,000 (Rs 5,000 monthly) to 200 students -- 100 at Madhyamik level and 100 at Higher Secondary level, on the basis of merit for two and three years respectively, for higher learning.



Telangana Launches 'Telangana Darshini' Program for Students :-

The Telangana state government has launched the 'Telangana Darshini' program, aimed at providing government school students with the opportunity to visit historical and tourist sites at no cost. This initiative seeks to enrich students' educational experiences through experiential learning, encouraging them to engage with their heritage and history beyond the classroom. The program, which focuses on hands-on learning, will give students a chance to gain a deeper understanding of subjects, thereby enhancing their overall educational development.

18: Summits & Conferences



INDUS-X Summit 2024 :-

The US-India Strategic Partnership Forum has revealed the third India-US Defense Acceleration Ecosystem

(INDUS-X) Summit, which will take place on September 9-10, 2024, in conjunction with Stanford University's Gordian Knot Center for National Security Innovation and the Hoover Institution. The summit's topic, "Harnessing Investment Opportunities to Enhance Cross-Border Defense Innovation Ecosystems," will highlight the essential role of private finance in promoting the defense innovation sector. The meeting will bring together top defense policymakers from Washington and New Delhi to strengthen relationships in defense innovation.



PM Modi’s Address At Economic Times World Leaders Forum :-

Shri Narendra Modi, the Prime Minister, addressed the Economic Times World Leaders Forum in New Delhi. Addressing the audience, the Prime Minister expressed optimism that fantastic conversations would take place at the Economic Times World Leaders Forum for the country's bright future, emphasizing that these discussions are taking place at a time when the world trusts India. The Prime Minister remarked that India is writing a new success story today and the impact of reforms can be witnessed through the performance of the economy.



India And UNESCO To Co-Organize 2024 Chief Science Advisers Roundtable In Paris :-

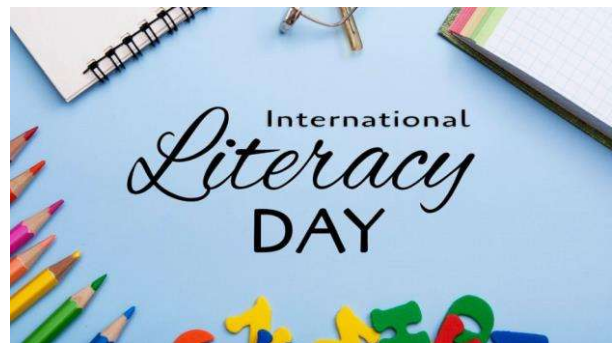
The 2024 edition of the Chief Science Advisers' Roundtable -CSAR is slated to take place on September 6 at the headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Paris, France. This roundtable is co-organized by the Office of Principal Scientific Adviser to the Indian Government and UNESCO's Natural Sciences Sector under the theme 'Fostering open science, bridging knowledge asymmetry, and building science advice capacity globally'. CSAR was

conceptualised and launched as a Sherpa-track initiative during Indian G20 Presidency last year.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s Historic Visit To Brunei :-

On September 3, Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid a visit to Brunei's renowned Omar Ali Saifuddien Mosque as part of his two-day visit. His visit to Brunei aims to strengthen bilateral ties between the two countries. PM Modi's visit to the mosque, which is regarded as one of the region's most iconic landmarks, occurred just after the Indian High Commission's new Chancery was inaugurated. The new Chancery of the Indian High Commission in Brunei was launched by Prime Minister Modi to a rousing welcome by members of the Indian community.



Conference On ‘Spectrum Of Literacy’ Precedes International Literacy Day 2024 :-

As a build-up to International Literacy Day 2024, the Ministry of Education, Government of India, has arranged an International Conference named "Spectrum of Literacy" on September 7, 2024. The session was held virtually from CIET, NCERT in New Delhi. It brought together international and national academics, educators, policymakers, and literacy advocates to investigate the various and changing facets of literacy in

today's world. The international conference was chaired by the Secretary of Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSEL), Shri Sanjay Kumar.



Quad Summit 2024: US To Host Meeting Instead Of India :-

According to sources, the United States and India have "swapped" organizing the Quad Summit in order for U.S. President Joseph Biden to meet with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Prime Minister Anthony Albanese of Australia, and Prime Minister Fumio Kishida of Japan in his home state of Delaware. This confirms that the summit will take place in the United States later this month instead of India. India would host the Quad Summit in 2025, they said, which indicated the new U.S. President, Donald Trump or Kamala Harris would visit India next year.



Microsoft hosts cybersecurity summit after global IT outage :-

Microsoft organized a conference at its Redmond, Washington headquarters to focus on boosting cybersecurity systems following a massive global IT outage caused by a botched CrowdStrike software update in July. The conference was Microsoft's first

significant step toward correcting the vulnerabilities discovered during the outage, which disrupted operations across industries and impacted an estimated 8.5 million Windows devices. The global outage on 19 July, caused by CrowdStrike's botched software upgrade, caused major disruptions in industries ranging from airlines and healthcare to banking.



India Hosted 2nd Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference On Civil Aviation :-

The 2nd Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Civil Aviation (APMC) was inaugurated by Union Minister for Civil Aviation, Shri Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. Held from 11th to 12th September 2024, the event is co-hosted by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India. The first Ministerial Conference of the Asia Pacific region was organized in 2018 in Beijing, China. During the first conference, India volunteered to host the second Conference in 2020 however due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the conference was postponed.



India to be the Exclusive Partner for European Hydrogen Week in November 2024 :-

The second day of the International Conference on Green Hydrogen (ICGH-2024), held at Bharat Mandapam

in New Delhi, saw the announcement of India's unique cooperation with the European Hydrogen Week, which would be held in November 2024. The day underlined India's determination to address the EU's green laws in order to promote exports. In addition, a Letter of Intent (LoI) was signed between Chane Terminal from Netherlands and ACME Cleantech from India for Ammonia import terminals.



2nd International Conference On Green Hydrogen

2nd International Conference On Green Hydrogen was held at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi from 11-13 September 2024. Conference was inaugurated by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. The Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy and the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India jointly hosted the 2nd International Conference on Green Hydrogen. The associate partners included the Union Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, the Department of Science and Technology, and the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.



India Hosted The Formal Meetings Of The COP9'S Fund Approval Committee :-

On September 17-18, 2024, India held the second formal meeting of the COP9 Bureau and the third formal

meeting of the Fund Approval Committee under the UNESCO International Convention against Doping in Sport in New Delhi. As Vice-Chairperson of the COP9 Bureau, India has taken the initiative in organizing these high-level conferences, which have brought together key decision-makers and dignitaries from around the world. Senior officials from the UNESCO International Convention against Doping in Sport were also present, contributing to the discussions in a hybrid format.



President Droupadi Murmu Inaugurates 16th ASOSAI Assembly :-

President Droupadi Murmu has stated that Audit must keep up with technological advancement in order to successfully conduct its supervisory tasks. The President opened the 16th Assembly of the Asian Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (ASOSAI) in New Delhi on September 25th, stating that the responsibility of public sector audits has risen above conventional auditing to involve evaluating the effectiveness of public welfare schemes and projects, guaranteeing that they serve all citizens equitably. She stated that in an increasingly technology-driven world, more and more public services are being delivered using technology.



Goa Maritime Symposium 2024 :-

The Indian Navy arranged the fifth edition of the Goa Maritime Symposium (GMS) 2024 on September 23-24, 2024, at the Naval War College in Goa. This year's Goa Maritime Symposium took place in the Naval War College's newly inaugurated, cutting-edge Chola facility. This year's GMS edition theme was 'Common Maritime Security Challenges in the IOR – Progressing Lines of Effort to Mitigate Dynamic Threats such as IUU Fishing and Other Illegal Maritime Activities'. Goa Maritime Symposium 24 brought together regional stakeholders to discuss strategies for addressing non-traditional threats in the maritime domain in the IOR.



The 41st Indian Coast Guard Commanders' Conference :-

Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh launched the 41st session of the Indian Coast Guard Commanders' Conference on September 24 in New Delhi. The three-day meeting provides an important forum for substantive debates on strategic, operational, and administrative issues in the

context of changing geopolitical landscapes and the difficulties of maritime security. Addressing the commanders, Raksha Mantri described the Indian Coast Guard as India's foremost guard, ensuring the security of the country's vast coastline through constant monitoring of the Exclusive Economic Zone.



Jaishankar Attends Joint Ministerial Meeting Of L.69 And C-10 Groupings Of Nations :-

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar joined the first-ever Joint Ministerial Meeting of the L.69 and C-10 groups of nations on the fringes of the United Nations General Assembly's 79th session. During the meeting, Jaishankar emphasized the need to restructure United Nations Security Council membership in both permanent and non-permanent categories. The L.69 Annual Ministerial Meeting meeting was chaired by Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Prime Minister, Ralph E Gonsalves, in his capacity as Spokesperson of the L.69, according to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) press release.

SECTION 2

Practice Questions with Answers



PRACTICE QUESTIONS

1) Where did the 'First Policy Makers Forum' was held to foster meaningful discussions on the recognition of the Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP)?

- A) Bengaluru
- B) Chennai
- C) Hyderabad
- D) New Delhi

2) The 'Mukhyamantri Bal Paushtik Aahar Yojana' was launched by which of the following state government?

- A) Gujarat
- B) Himachal Pradesh
- C) Rajasthan
- D) Uttar Pradesh

3) _____ were India's flagbearers for opening ceremony of Paris Paralympics 2024.

- A) Yogesh Kathuniya and Nishad Kumar
- B) Sumit Antil and Bhagyashri Jadhav
- C) Manish Narwal and Avani Lekhara
- D) Krishna Nagar and Ajeet Singh

4) Union Minister of Power Manohar Lal Khattar has launched three online platforms PROMPT, DRIPS, and JAL VIDYUT DPR developed by _____.

- A) Central Electricity Authority
- B) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- C) Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- D) National Thermal Power Corporation

5) In August 2024, Teesta 5 power station of National Hydroelectric Power Corp. (NHPC) damaged due to landslide. The power station is located in which of the following state?

- A) Sikkim
- B) Odisha
- C) Bihar
- D) Assam

6) _____ was appointed as the Chef de Mission (CDM) of the Indian contingent for the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games.

- A) Satya Prakash Sangwan
- B) Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore
- C) PT Usha

D) Abhinav Bindra

7) The International Cricket Council (ICC) has agreed to move the upcoming Women's T20 World Cup out from Bangladesh to which of the following country?

- A) Australia
- B) India
- C) Pakistan
- D) UAE

8) _____ has entered into a strategic partnership with the Indian Navy, a pivotal move towards achieving self-reliance in defense manufacturing.

- A) BEML Limited
- B) Reliance Power
- C) Tata Steel
- D) Tech Mahindra

9) _____ received an 'A+' rating for the 2nd consecutive year in the Global Finance Central Banker Report Cards 2024.

- A) Urjit Patel
- B) Shaktikanta Das
- C) Raghuram Rajan
- D) Nirmala Sitharaman

10) Along with which of the following country India has signed an agreement for the export of green ammonia?

- A) Australia
- B) Japan
- C) Sri Lanka
- D) USA

11) To transform Fair Price Shops into 'Jan Poshan Kendras' which company has collaborated with the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and SIDBI?

- A) Udaan
- B) JioMart
- C) Flipkart
- D) Amazon

12) _____ joined BRICS partners to launch a Centre for Industrial Competences in

cooperation with the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO).

- A) Australia
- B) Mauritius
- C) Saudi Arabia
- D) United Arab Emirates

13) _____ has introduced a new feature 'UPI Circle' on its Unified Payments Interface (UPI) platform that allows users to share their UPI accounts with others.

- A) National Payments Corporation of India
- B) BharatPe
- C) Paytm
- D) PhonePe

14) The 2023 National Geoscience Award (NGA) for Lifetime Achievement was conferred upon _____.

- A) Soumya Swaminathan
- B) Dhiraj Mohan Banerjee
- C) Brijesh Nambiar
- D) Ashutosh Pandey

15) Which of the following country won a silver medal at the Maruhaba Cup, a team event, at the Asian Surfing Championships 2024 at Thulusdhoo, Maldives?

- A) China
- B) France
- C) India
- D) Japan

16) The overall tele-density in India increased from 84.51% at the end of March 2023 to 85.69% at the end of March 2024 showed a report released by _____.

- A) Centre for Development of Telematics
- B) Tata Communications Limited
- C) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India
- D) Telecommunications Industry Association

17) In April – June FY25, inflows into the NRI schemes stood at _____, compared to \$2.21 billion during the same period a year ago, showed RBI data.

- A) USD 6 billion
- B) USD 4 billion
- C) USD 3 billion

D) USD 2 billion

18) Aditya Birla Finance and _____ have partnered to launch a co-branded credit card powered by and available on Visa and RuPay payment networks.

- A) Punjab National Bank
- B) Federal Bank
- C) Axis Bank
- D) AU Small Finance Bank

19) Who among the following was elected as the new President of Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB)?

- A) Faruque Ahmed
- B) Habibul Bashar
- C) Nazmul Hassan Papon
- D) None of the above

20) _____ has introduced a special home loan scheme 'Griha Rakshak' for Indian defence forces.

- A) Shriram Housing Finance Limited
- B) LIC Housing Finance Limited
- C) Hero Housing Finance Limited
- D) Aadhar Housing Finance Limited

21) The International Day of Charity is observed on September 5 to commemorate the death anniversary of which famous personality?

- A) Mahatma Gandhi
- B) Nelson Mandela
- C) Mother Teresa
- D) Florence Nightingale

22) Teachers' Day in India is observed on September 5 to honor the birth anniversary of which Indian leader?

- A) Mahatma Gandhi
- B) Dr. B. R. Ambedkar
- C) Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan
- D) Jawaharlal Nehru

23) Who received the prestigious Ramon Magsaysay Award for 2024, often referred to as Asia's Nobel Prize?

- A) Hayao Miyazaki
- B) Akira Kurosawa
- C) Isao Takahata
- D) Yasujiro Ozu

24) The Union Ministry of Finance is selling what percentage of its stake in GIC Re for Rs 4,700 crore?

- A) 10.5%
- B) 5.2%
- C) 6.78%
- D) 8.5%

25) Which Tamil film producer, known for producing Vijay's 'Kannukkul Nilavu' and Vikram's 'Deiva Thirumagal', passed away recently?

- A) Mohan Natarajan
- B) A. R. Murugadoss
- C) K. Balachander
- D) Shankar

26) Which of the following ministry has launched BoCW Management Information System Portal?

- A) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- B) Ministry of Labour & Employment
- C) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
- D) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

27) In which of the following city Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurated the GST Bhawan, an Official complex of CGST?

- A) Patna
- B) Shimla
- C) Udaipur
- D) Varanasi

28) The Centre has appointed who among the following as the director general of the National Security Guard (NSG)?

- A) B. Srinivasan
- B) Hemant Kumar Sharma
- C) Rajeev Kumar
- D) Rajveer Singh

29) _____ signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Sri Lanka's LTL Holdings Limited to supply liquefied natural gas (LNG).

- A) Reliance Industries Limited
- B) Petronet LNG Limited
- C) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited
- D) Indian Oil Corporation Limited

30) India's technology industry body NASSCOM announced the appointment of _____ as its president designate.

- A) Ajith Kumar KK
- B) Challa Sreenivasulu Setty
- C) Rajesh Nambiar
- D) Rizwan Koita

31) Along with India which of the following country has collaborated to launch 'smart laboratory' for rejuvenation of Varuna river in Varanasi?

- A) Azerbaijan
- B) Denmark
- C) Israel
- D) Japan

32) To enhance access to quality and affordable tertiary health care and medical education in Maharashtra, India has signed USD 500 million loan package with _____.

- A) Asian Development Bank
- B) Burgan Bank
- C) Deutsche Bank AG
- D) Societe Generale

33) A comprehensive term policy named 'Sampoorna Raksha Promise' was launched by which of the following insurance company?

- A) Universal Sompo General Insurance
- B) Life Insurance Corporation of India
- C) Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance
- D) Tata AIA Life Insurance

34) Which of the following private sector insurer has entered into a bancassurance partnership with HSBC India, aiming to expand its insurance product outreach?

- A) Tata AIG General Insurance
- B) ICICI General Insurance
- C) Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance
- D) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance

35) In a groundbreaking development which of the following state has officially recorded the presence of mithun (Bos frontalis) for the first time?

- A) Sikkim
- B) Nagaland
- C) Manipur

D) Assam

36) Department of Posts (DoP) has partnered with _____ to launch standardized geo-coded addressing system in India.

- A) Geological Survey of India
- B) National Geographic Information System
- C) National Remote Sensing Centre
- D) National Sample Survey Office

37) For comprehensive safety audits and zero accidents Ministry of Coal launched _____ Portal.

- A) Mine Safety Assessment System
- B) Indian Coal Safety Portal
- C) National Coal Mines Safety Report Portal
- D) Coal Mine Safety Tracker

38) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has signed an MoU with which of the following company to upskill thousands of employable youths across India?

- A) Flipkart
- B) International Labour Organization
- C) Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd.
- D) World Bank

39) Along with Central Bank of India _____ have formed a strategic agreement to expand their co-lending business.

- A) Shriram Finance Limited
- B) Sammaan Capital Limited
- C) Piramal Capital and Housing Finance Limited
- D) Aadhar Housing Finance Limited

40) Tata Power Solar Systems Ltd has partnered with _____ to offer financing options for solar units to residential and corporate customers.

- A) Axis Bank
- B) HDFC Bank
- C) ICICI Bank
- D) State Bank of India

41) David Malan of which of the following country has announced his retirement from international cricket?

- A) South Africa
- B) New Zealand
- C) England
- D) Australia

42) _____ is planning to launch the Unified Lending Interface (ULI).

- A) TransUnion CIBIL Limited
- B) Securities and Exchange Board of India
- C) Reserve Bank of India
- D) RuPay

43) _____ agreed to finance up to Rs 45,000 crore for various Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA) projects.

- A) Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited
- B) REC Limited
- C) Power Finance Corporation Limited
- D) Srei Infrastructure Finance Limited

44) _____ has partnerd with US-based Petron Sciencetech to explore a joint venture for setting up a 500 Kilo Tonne per Annum (KTA) bio-ethylene plant in India?

- A) Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited
- B) GAIL India Limited
- C) Indian Oil Corporation Limited
- D) Power Grid Corporation of India Limited

45) Which of the following bank was awarded the Best Performance on Risk Management award at the ICC Emerging Asia Banking Conclave & Awards (2024)?

- A) AU Small Finance Bank
- B) ESAF Small Finance Bank
- C) Jana Small Finance Bank
- D) Ujjivan Small Finance Bank Limited

46) The Jal Jeevan Mission was launched in which of the following year?

- A) 2020
- B) 2019
- C) 2016
- D) 2015

47) The ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Education and _____ signed an MoU to enhance cooperative management in fisheries.

- A) Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute
- B) Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Cooperative Management
- C) National Cooperative Development Corporation

D) National Cooperative Union of India

48) **The Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with _____ to optimize the utilization of Community Investment Funds (CIF).**

- A) Export-Import Bank of India
- B) MicroSave Consulting
- C) NITI Aayog
- D) Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation

49) _____ has entered into a co-lending partnership with Newtap Finance to provide personalised financing solutions for creditworthy individuals on payments platform CRED.

- A) Yes Bank
- B) Indian Bank
- C) HDFC Bank
- D) Axis Bank

50) _____ has partnered with Amazon Pay Later to provide instant digital credit access to Indian shoppers.

- A) Jupiter Money
- B) PayU
- C) Talkcharge
- D) TechFini

51) **Which of the following state was awarded the PATA Gold Award 2024 for its innovative 'Holiday Heist' campaign?**

- A) Andhra Pradesh
- B) Gujarat
- C) Kerala
- D) Rajasthan

52) **A conference on "Experience Sharing and Capacity Building in Disaster Management" was hosted by _____.**

- A) Department of Telecommunications
- B) Department of Revenue
- C) Department of Health and Family Welfare
- D) Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

53) **The Ministry of Textiles has approved four start-ups with a grant of approximately _____ each under its 'GREAT' scheme.**

- A) Rs 80 Lakhs

B) Rs 60 Lakhs

C) Rs 50 Lakhs

D) Rs 20 Lakhs

54) **Bharat BillPay System (BBPS) for Business was launched by which of the following Organisation recently?**

- A) India Post Payments Bank
- B) Indian Financial Technology and Allied Services
- C) National Payments Corporation of India
- D) Reserve Bank Innovation Hub

55) **The Reserve Bank of India has recognised _____ as a Self-Regulatory Organisation in FinTech Sector (SRO-FT).**

- A) National Payments Corporation of India
- B) National Fintech Regulatory Board
- C) Internet And Mobile Association of India
- D) Fintech Association for Consumer Empowerment

56) **Which of the following ministry launched the SHE-Box portal for registering and monitoring complaints of workplace sexual harassment?**

- A) Ministry of Communications
- B) Ministry of Education
- C) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- D) Ministry of Women and Child Development

57) **Which of the following was awarded coveted the ISO 14001:2015 certification?**

- A) Gas Authority of India Limited
- B) RailTel Corporation of India Ltd
- C) Infosys
- D) Securities and Exchange Board of India

58) _____ became the first Indian life insurer to start operations in Gujarat International Finance Tec City (GIFT City).

- A) Ageas Federal Life Insurance
- B) Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance Company Limited,
- C) IndiaFirst Life Insurance Company Limited
- D) Life Insurance Corporation of India

59) **Who among the following took charge as the Chairman of the Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL)?**

- A) Satyanarayan Goel
- B) V Satish Kumar
- C) Ravi Agrawal

D) Rajendra Prasad Goyal

60) Shriram Capital has appointed who among the following as its managing director and CEO?

- A) Subhasri
- B) Sameer Bansal
- C) Hitesh Kumar Sethia
- D) Atul Mehra

61) _____ has signed an agreement with the American digital payments company, Visa to upskill about 20,000 youth in tourism-related skills.

- A) India Tourism Development Corporation
- B) MakeMyTrip
- C) Tourism and Hospitality Skill Council
- D) Tripadvisor

62) The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with _____ to promote and develop cooperation in the field of public sector audit.

- A) Australia
- B) Gambia
- C) Nepal
- D) UAE

63) _____ has introduced a scheme to facilitate the trading and settlement of Sovereign Green Bonds (SGrBs) in the International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) in India.

- A) State Bank of India
- B) Securities and Exchange Board of India
- C) Reserve Bank of India
- D) National Stock Exchange of India Limited

64) _____ has introduced GIGA, a new suite of financial products and services specifically designed for gig workers and freelancers in India.

- A) Punjab National Bank
- B) Kotak Mahindra Bank
- C) HDFC Bank
- D) Axis First Bank

65) _____ has signed a landmark MoU with NHIDCL to supply and install Double-Lane Class 70 modular steel bridges.

- A) Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Limited
- B) Goa Shipyard Limited

C) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited

D) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited

66) Uttar Pradesh hosted the three-day Armed Forces Festival in which of the following city?

- A) Gorakhpur
- B) Kanpur
- C) Lucknow
- D) Varanasi

67) _____ and SAFHAL Helicopter Engines Pvt. Ltd. (SAFHAL) have signed an airframer contract to develop a new generation high power engine named Aravalli.

- A) Signaltron Systems Private Limited
- B) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- C) Defence Research and Development Organisation
- D) Adani Defence & Aerospace

68) _____ has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the United World Wrestling (UWW) to develop wrestling in India.

- A) Inspire Institute of Sport
- B) Sports Authority of India
- C) International Olympic Committee
- D) Indian Olympic Association

69) Ministry of Panchayati Raj in collaboration with which of the following institute has organised a five-day management development programme recently?

- A) NITI Aayog
- B) IIT Delhi
- C) IIM Bodh Gaya
- D) IIM Ahmedabad

70) The Union Cabinet has approved the Digital Agriculture Mission with total cost of _____.

- A) Rs 4,817 crore
- B) Rs 3,817 crore
- C) Rs 2,817 crores
- D) Rs 1,817 crore

71) Which of the following organisation has released 100 million U.S. dollars for critical underfunding of emergencies across 10 countries?

- A) Asian Development Bank
- B) Deutsche Bank AG
- C) United Nations

D) World Bank

72) Which of the following insurance company has launched US Dollar-denominated life insurance products to Non-Resident Indians (NRIs)?

- A) Tata AIA Life Insurance
- B) Star Health and Allied Insurance
- C) Life Insurance Corporation of India
- D) ICICI Lombard General Insurance

73) Who among the following won the 2024 Italian Grand Prix?

- A) Max Verstappen
- B) Lewis Hamilton
- C) Lando Norris
- D) Charles Leclerc

74) India's GDP is expected to be _____ for the first quarter of the Financial Year 2024–25 based on the National Statistical Office's (NSO) Quarterly Estimates (QE).

- A) 7.5%
- B) 7.1%
- C) 6.9%
- D) 6.7%

75) _____ was awarded with the Olympic Order in gold in recognition of his generous support for the success of the Olympic Games Paris 2024.

- A) Anne Hidalgo
- B) Emmanuel Macron
- C) Rigoberta Menchú Tum
- D) Thomas Bach

76) The Indian government has launched _____ 'AgriSure' fund to boost agritech startups, supporting innovation and investment in the agriculture sector.

- A) Rs 1000 crore
- B) Rs 750 crore
- C) Rs 500 crore
- D) Rs 250 crore

77) To advance digital infrastructure and bolster transparency, which of the following ministry has launched the Vishvasya-Blockchain Technology Stack?

- A) Ministry of Defence
- B) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

C) Ministry of New and Renewable Energy

D) Ministry of Urban Development

78) Along with Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) which of the following company has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to boost energy efficiency in India?

- A) Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited
- B) National Test House
- C) ReNew Energy Global PLC
- D) TotalEnergies

79) In September 2024 India and France conducted which of the following bilateral naval exercise in the Mediterranean Sea?

- A) JIMEX-24
- B) Exercise VARUNA
- C) Exercise SHAKTI
- D) Exercise Pitch Black

80) _____ has launched India's first multi-brand co-branded credit card with RuPay and Yes Bank.

- A) TechFini
- B) POP
- C) Covrzy Technologies Private Limited
- D) BranchX India Private Limited

81) The _____ was inaugurated by the Chief Minister of Maharashtra Eknath Shinde, on 03 September, 2024, at the Jio World Convention Centre in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

- A) ONDC Startup Mahotsav
- B) National Conference on e-Governance
- C) International Conference on Steel Slag Road
- D) Global IndiaAI Summit

82) Dharambir from Sonipat, Haryana won the _____ medal in the men's club throw F51 event breaking the asian record at the Paris 2024 Paralympics.

- A) Bronze
- B) Gold
- C) Silver
- D) None

83) Which of the state government announced that August 20 will be observed as Sootea Day to

commemorate the region's vital role in the freedom movement?

- A) Assam
- B) Haryana
- C) Karnataka
- D) Uttarakhand

84) When the International Day of Charity was observed?

- A) 09 September
- B) 06 September
- C) 05 September
- D) 04 September

85) The President of India, Droupadi Murmu, has sanctioned the formation of the _____ Law Commission for a three-year term.

- A) 23
- B) 22
- C) 21
- D) 20

86) The government has introduced _____ Blockchain Technology Stack to provide a Blockchain-as-a-Service (BaaS) through a geographically distributed infrastructure.

- A) Bhooskhalan
- B) Bima Central
- C) eSankhyiki
- D) Vishvasya

87) The navies of India and _____ has signed an implementation agreement to enhance submarine rescue support cooperation.

- A) South Africa
- B) Philippines
- C) Mongolia
- D) Japan

88) In a substantial move to strengthen India's position in the global fashion industry the government has launched _____ initiative.

- A) VisioNxt
- B) SABB
- C) PRAGATI-2024

D) Ideas4LiFE

89) Sebi has formed a new expert group of 22 members on listing obligations headed by _____.

- A) Abhaya Prasad Hota
- B) Rajeev Kher
- C) R Gandhi
- D) Sunil Mehta

90) India's first ever Nifty 500 Momentum 50 Index Fund was launched by which of the following Mutual fund company?

- A) Groww Mutual Fund
- B) HDFC Mutual Fund
- C) Mirae Asset Mutual Fund
- D) Motilal Oswal Mutual Fund

91) For strengthening service delivery and engaging communities for social change, Panchayati Raj Ministry has collaborated with which of the following organization?

- A) Food and Agriculture Organization
- B) UNICEF
- C) UNDP
- D) UNESCO

92) Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the _____ initiative in Gujarat's Surat, aimed at strengthening community involvement in water conservation.

- A) Aatmanirbharta
- B) e-FAST India
- C) Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari
- D) Jeevan Samarth

93) When the International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies was observed?

- A) 10 September
- B) 07 September
- C) 05 September
- D) 01 September

94) The inaugural International Solar Festival (ISF) 2024 was organized by which of the following organisation?

- A) International Solar Alliance
- B) JSW Neo Energy Limited
- C) National Institute of Solar Energy
- D) Tata Power Solar Systems Limited



95) To empower early-stage startups, which of the following ministry launched the 2nd Cohort of the SAMRIDH scheme?

- A) Ministry of Communication
- B) Ministry of Culture
- C) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- D) Ministry of Women and Child Development

96) Abdelmadjid Tebboune was re-elected as the president of which of the following country?

- A) Vietnam
- B) Iran
- C) Australia
- D) Algeria

97) Which of the following city has secured the top position in the 'Swachh Vayu Survekshan (SVS) 2024'?

- A) Varanasi
- B) Surat
- C) Kolkata
- D) Jaipur

98) India's para-athletes secured how many medals at the 2024 Paris Paralympics?

- A) 29
- B) 25
- C) 20
- D) 15

99) Which of the following minister featured on TIME magazine's "Most Influential People in AI 2024"?

- A) Ashwini Vaishnav
- B) Jyotiraditya Scindia
- C) Nirmala Sitharaman
- D) S. Jaishankar

100) _____ approved 33% reservation for women in the police force by deciding to amend the State Police Subordinate Service Rules, 1989.

- A) Bihar
- B) Madhya Pradesh
- C) Rajasthan
- D) Uttar Pradesh

101) When the International Literacy Day was observed?

- A) 10 September
- B) 09 September
- C) 08 September
- D) 07 September

102) Michel Barnier was announced as the Prime Minister of which of the following country?

- A) France
- B) Germany
- C) Italy
- D) Portugal

103) How much was the GST rate on cancer medications lowered at the 54th GST Council meeting?

- A) 5%
- B) 12%
- C) 18%
- D) 28%

104) Who among the following was re-elected as the Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Official Language?

- A) Amit Shah
- B) Giriraj Singh
- C) Mallikarjun Kharge
- D) Ram Nath Kovind

105) Who among the following launched the Prime Minister Matsya Kisan Samridhhi Sah-Yojna to address critical gaps in fish production?

- A) Rajiv Ranjan Singh
- B) Rajiv Pratap Rudy
- C) Giriraj Singh
- D) Amit Shah

106) The Union Health Ministry has approved the introduction of a new treatment regimen _____ for drug-resistant tuberculosis in India.

- A) BPaLM
- B) NIRMAN
- C) Pravah
- D) PREFIRE

107) Which of the following bank became first major Indian bank to join the Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials (PCAF)?

- A) Axis Bank

- B) Indian Bank
- C) State Bank of India
- D) Union Bank of India

108) Malpe and Mulki, fourth and fifth ships of the Eight Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft project were built by which of the following defence manufacturing company?

- A) Cochin Shipyard Limited
- B) Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Limited
- C) Mazagon Dock Limited
- D) SECON Engineering Projects Private Limited

109) Who among the following won the 2024 US Open men's singles final?

- A) Alexander Zverev
- B) Carlos Alcaraz
- C) Jannik Sinner
- D) Taylor Fritz

110) When the International Vulture Awareness Day 2024 was observed?

- A) 08 September
- B) 07 September
- C) 06 September
- D) 05 September

111) Which of the following bank has unveiled the third edition of its flagship initiative, the Asha Scholarship Programme?

- A) State Bank of India
- B) ICICI Bank
- C) HDFC Bank
- D) Axis Bank

112) Which of the following country has become the 101st country to join the International Solar Alliance (ISA) as a full member?

- A) Bhutan
- B) Croatia
- C) Nepal
- D) Pakistan

113) The event titled "Greening Steel: Pathway to Sustainability" was organized by which of the following ministry?

- A) Ministry of Defence
- B) Ministry of New and Renewable Energy

- C) Ministry of Science and Technology
- D) Ministry of Steel

114) The Union Cabinet, led by PM Narendra Modi, has approved which phase of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana recently?

- A) Second
- B) Third
- C) Fourth
- D) Fifth

115) 'Ahaetulla longirostris' a new species of _____ with exceptionally long snout has been discovered in Bihar.

- A) Fish
- B) Frog
- C) Snake
- D) Spider

116) To enhance the skills and capability building of their personnel, Indian Army and Indian Air Force has signed an MoU with _____.

- A) Dr. Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya
- B) Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya
- C) Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya
- D) Visva Bharati

117) Who among the following became the first Pakistani woman to be nominated to the ICC international panel of development umpires?

- A) Kainat Imtiaz
- B) Salima Imtiaz
- C) Sana Mir
- D) None of these

118) Which of the following city has emerged as the top tourist destination in Uttar Pradesh with over 11 crore visitors?

- A) Varanasi
- B) Prayagraj
- C) Ayodhya
- D) Agra

119) When the Himalaya Diwas was observed?

- A) 11 September
- B) 10 September
- C) 09 September
- D) 08 September

120) The Union Cabinet has approved the PM E-drive Scheme with an outlay of _____ for two years in a bid to boost the adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) in India.

- A) Rs 9,900 crore
- B) Rs 8,900 crore
- C) Rs 11,900 crore
- D) Rs 10,900 crore

121) The 'Health Dynamics of India (Infrastructure and Human Resources) 2022-23' report was published by which of the following?

- A) International Labour Organization
- B) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- C) National Medical Commission
- D) World Health Organization

122) Which government organization is set to launch the Partnerships for Accelerated Innovation and Research (PAIR) programme?

- A) All India Council for Technical Education
- B) Anusandhan National Research Foundation
- C) Council of Scientific and Industrial Research
- D) University Grants Commission

123) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has partnered with _____ to offer a variety of opportunities in restaurant operations and retail management.

- A) Amazon
- B) Flipkart
- C) Porter
- D) Swiggy

124) The Indian Navy recently participated in the 16th edition of Exercise Kakadu 2024 held in which of the following country?

- A) Australia
- B) Mongolia
- C) Thailand
- D) United States of America

125) When the World Ozone Day was observed?

- A) 17 September
- B) 16 September
- C) 15 September
- D) 14 September

126) A committee named _____ which was formed to oversee all statistical surveys by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has been dissolved.

- A) Standing Committee on Statistics
- B) Committee on Public Undertakings
- C) Committee on Welfare of Other Backward Classes
- D) Public Accounts Committee

127) In a bid to support Indian exporters, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal has launched which platform?

- A) eSwasthya Dham
- B) NERACE
- C) TRACE
- D) Trade Connect

128) India's first silicon carbide manufacturing facility is to be established in which of the following state?

- A) Goa
- B) Madhya Pradesh
- C) Odisha
- D) Uttar Pradesh

129) _____ is one of the eight companies selected for NASA's USD 476 million "Commercial SmallSat Data Acquisition Programme On-Ramp1 Multiple Award" contract.

- A) Agnikul Cosmos
- B) Capella Space
- C) Dhruva Space Private Limited
- D) Pixxel

130) What is the rank of India in the U.S. News & World Report's "Best Countries Ranking 2024"?

- A) 37
- B) 33
- C) 32
- D) 30

131) The second edition of the International Conference on Green Hydrogen (ICGH-2024) was held in which of the following city?

- A) Bhubaneswar
- B) New Delhi
- C) Kolkata
- D) Mumbai

132) Along with which of the following institutes the National Health Authority (NHA) has inked an MoU for development of digital public goods for Artificial Intelligence in healthcare?

- A) IIT Bombay
- B) IIT Delhi
- C) IIT Hyderabad
- D) IIT Kanpur

133) The Indian Air Force (IAF) has successfully completed which of the following exercise with the Royal Air Force of Oman (RAFO) at the RAFO airbase in Masirah?

- A) Eastern Bridge VII
- B) Pitch Black
- C) Red Flag 24-2
- D) Tarkash

134) When the Hindi Diwas (India) was observed?

- A) 12 September
- B) 13 September
- C) 14 September
- D) 15 September

135) The World Food India 2024 was held in which of the following city?

- A) Chandigarh
- B) Jaipur
- C) Mumbai
- D) New Delhi

136) The government has notified which of the following institution as a 'Public Financial Institution' under the Company law?

- A) Piramal Capital and Housing Finance Limited
- B) National Housing Bank
- C) National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development
- D) Indiabulls Housing Finance Limited

137) The India Defence Aviation Exposition (IDAX-24) was held in which of the following city?

- A) Amethi, Uttar Pradesh
- B) Chandipur, Odisha
- C) Jodhpur, Rajasthan
- D) Umroi, Meghalaya

138) The National Test House (NTH), Ghaziabad, was provisionally approved as a certification body for type certification of drones by the _____.

- A) Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India
- B) Bureau of Indian Standards
- C) National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies
- D) Quality Council of India

139) Who among the following was appointed as the brand ambassador of Shriram Finance Limited?

- A) Gautam Gambhir
- B) Rahul Dravid
- C) Shikhar Dhawan
- D) Virat Kohli

140) When the National Engineer's Day (India) was observed?

- A) 13 September
- B) 14 September
- C) 15 September
- D) 16 September

141) Port Blair, the capital city of the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, was renamed as _____.

- A) Atal Nagar
- B) Bharatpur
- C) Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Dweep
- D) Sri Vijaya Puram

142) The Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology (CSTT) launched a unique website 'shabd.education.gov.in' to provide access to technical terms in how many Indian languages?

- A) 22
- B) 20
- C) 12
- D) 08

143) The G20 Agriculture Ministerial Meeting held from 12-13 September 2024 was hosted by which of the following country?

- A) Australia
- B) Brazil
- C) Germany

D) India

144) Which of the following business emerged as the sixth Indian startup to reach unicorn status in 2024?

- A) Covrzy
- B) Jai Kisan
- C) Moneyview
- D) TechFini

145) Who among the following won the Singapore Literature Prize in English fiction for the book "Nine Yard Sarees"?

- A) Bhavi Mehta
- B) Prasanthi Ram
- C) Ruskin Bond
- D) Sanjana Thakur

146) Which of the following company has collaborated with the Ministry of MSME to promote products of artisans?

- A) Allen Solly
- B) Fabindia
- C) Manyavar
- D) Raymond

147) Which of the following company secured USD 100 million funding from ADB, AIIB for electric bus expansion in India?

- A) Ather Energy
- B) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited
- C) JBM ECOLIFE Mobility
- D) Olectra Greentech Limited

148) 'Aditi' a GenAI powered Virtual Relationship Manager was launched by which of the following bank?

- A) Axis Bank
- B) Bank of Baroda
- C) State Bank of India
- D) Yes Bank

149) Which of the following fintech company has partnered with Liquid Group to enable Indian travelers to make UPI payments in Singapore?

- A) Amazon Pay
- B) Paytm
- C) PayU
- D) PhonePe

150) When the International Equal Pay Day was observed?

- A) 17 September
- B) 18 September
- C) 19 September
- D) 20 September

ANSWERS

1) Correct Answer: D

The 'First Policy Makers' Forum' inaugurated by Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare and Chemicals and Fertilisers JP Nadda, was held in New Delhi. To elevate India's position in the global pharmaceutical sector, the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC), in collaboration with the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and the Ministry of External Affairs, hosted an international delegation of policymakers and drug regulators from 15 countries.

2) Correct Answer: B

Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu inaugurated the Mukhyamantri Bal Paushtik Aahar Yojana, aimed at delivering nutritious food to children in government-run schools. During the launch in Hamirpur, Sukhu stated that this initiative would complement the

existing midday meal scheme, targeting students from nursery to Class 8 across 15,181 schools.

3) Correct Answer: B

Tokyo Paralympics gold medalist Sumit Antil and shot-put star Bhagyashri Jadhav were the flagbearers of Indian contingent at the opening ceremony of the Paris Paralympics. The Paralympic Games is being held from 28 August to 08 September 2024.

4) Correct Answer: A

The Union Minister of Power and Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs, Shri Manohar Lal, launched three online portals DRIPS, PROMPT, and JAL VIDYUT DPR during an event held in New Delhi. This portal is a strategic initiative by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) aimed at bolstering the development of

hydropower and pumped storage projects (PSPs) in the country.

5) Correct Answer: A

The 510 MW Teesta 5 power station of National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) in Sikkim was damaged by a severe landslide in August 2024. In a statement, NHPC said that the landslide has affected the "TRT Gate hoist structure and part of the GIS Building".

6) Correct Answer: A

The Paralympic Committee of India (PCI) has appointed Satya Prakash Sangwan as the Chef de Mission (CMD) of the Indian contingent for the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games. Sangwan, is also the Vice-President of PCI. Sangwan's extensive experience and passion for para-sports have made him a respected figure in the community.

7) Correct Answer: D

Amid political unrest in Bangladesh, International Cricket Council (ICC) moved the upcoming Women's T20 World Cup out of the country. The global cricket governing body had a virtual board meeting and United Arab Emirates has been zeroed in as the new venue.

8) Correct Answer: A

Bengaluru headquartered BEML, signed a strategic Memorandum of Understanding with the Directorate of Marine Engineering, Indian Navy. The collaboration will enhance indigenous marine engineering capabilities, ensuring that both current and future naval projects are equipped with state-of-the-art, domestically produced technology.

9) Correct Answer: B

The Reserve Bank of India has announced that the RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das has received an "A+" rating in the Global Finance Central Banker Report Cards 2024 for the second consecutive year. The Global Finance magazine has been publishing the Central Banker Report Cards every year since 1994.

10) Correct Answer: B

In a significant development for India's green energy sector, the union minister of new and renewable energy Pralhad Joshi, chaired the signing ceremony of the first-ever agreement for the export of Green Ammonia from

India to Japan. This project offtake agreement marks a crucial step forward in India's aim to become a global leader in green hydrogen and ammonia production.

11) Correct Answer: A

B2B e-commerce company Udaan has partnered with the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, and the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) to transform fair price shops (FPSs) into Jan Poshan Kendras (JPK), the company announced in a press release.

12) Correct Answer: D

The UAE Ministry of Industry and Advanced Technology joined its BRICS counterparts on the launch of a Centre for Industrial Competences in cooperation with the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) to support the development of Industrial skills and capabilities.

13) Correct Answer: A

The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has introduced a new feature called 'UPI Circle' on its Unified Payments Interface (UPI) platform. This feature allows primary UPI account holders to securely delegate payment responsibilities to trusted secondary users.

14) Correct Answer: B

In August 2024, President Droupadi Murmu conferred the National Geoscience Awards (NGA) for 2023 to 21 geoscientists, including academicians and professionals from across the country. Prof Dhiraj Mohan Banerjee received the Lifetime Achievement Award for his pioneering work on phosphorites, isotope geology, and organic geochemistry.

15) Correct Answer: C

India edged out Chinese Taipei and China to bag the silver medal at the Maruhaba Cup, a team event in the Asian Surfing Championships 2024 held in the Maldives. The silver came just a day after India secured its first-ever Asian Games quotas in surfing.

16) Correct Answer: C

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India reported a significant surge in internet subscribers from 88.1 crore in March 2023 to 95.4 crore by March 2024, marking an 8.30% annual growth. Broadband users also saw a

notable rise, increasing by 9.15%, alongside higher wireless data usage, leading to an overall tele-density of 85.69% by March 2024.

17) Correct Answer: B

Overseas Indians deposited around \$4 billion in non-resident Indian (NRI) deposit schemes in April – June FY25, up 79 per cent over the amount deposited in these schemes in the same period last year, data released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) showed.

18) Correct Answer: D

Aditya Birla Finance Limited (ABFL), a wholly owned subsidiary of Aditya Birla Capital and AU Small Finance Bank Limited, India's largest small finance bank (SFB), has announced the launch of Aditya Birla Finance AU credit cards, powered by and available on Visa and RuPay payment networks.

19) Correct Answer: A

Former cricketer and chief selector Faruque Ahmed replaced Nazmul Hasan Papon as the new president of the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) after the incumbent resigned in the wake of the political unrest in the country. The BCB held an emergency meeting on 21 August during which the 58-year-old Ahmed was elected.

20) Correct Answer: B

LIC Housing Finance Limited has launched a home loan scheme called 'Griha Rakshak' for the armed forces. Under the Griha Rakshak scheme, eligible applicants with a CIBIL score of 750 and above can avail of home loans up to Rs 2 crore at a competitive interest rate of 8.4 per cent per annum.

21) Correct Answer: C

The International Day of Charity, established by the United Nations in 2012, is observed annually on September 5 to honor the life and work of Mother Teresa, who passed away on this day in 1997. Mother Teresa, a Nobel Peace Prize laureate, dedicated her life to the poor and sick, earning global recognition for her acts of compassion. This day promotes charitable efforts and humanitarian work across the world, inspiring global solidarity and social responsibility. The focus is on raising awareness about the need for charity and encouraging

individuals and organizations to take part in philanthropic activities.

22) Correct Answer: C

Teachers' Day in India is celebrated annually on September 5 in honor of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, who was born on this day in 1888. Radhakrishnan was not only India's second President but also a distinguished philosopher and educationist. When his students wanted to celebrate his birthday, he requested that the day be dedicated to all teachers. Since 1962, September 5 has been marked as a day to honor the dedication and contributions of teachers, recognizing their role in shaping society and nurturing future generations.

23) Correct Answer: A

Legendary Japanese animator Hayao Miyazaki, co-founder of Studio Ghibli, has been honored with the Ramon Magsaysay Award for 2024. This award, often referred to as Asia's equivalent of the Nobel Prize, recognizes individuals and organizations who have made significant contributions to society in various fields, including governance, literature, and arts. Miyazaki, known for creating iconic films like Spirited Away and My Neighbor Totoro, received the award for his contributions to environmental protection and peace advocacy through animation. His work often explores themes of environmentalism, pacifism, and the human connection to nature.

24) Correct Answer: C

The Union Ministry of Finance has announced plans to sell a 6.78% stake in General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC Re), a public-sector reinsurance company. This is part of the government's efforts to divest its holdings in state-owned enterprises. The sale is expected to raise around Rs 4,700 crore through the offer-for-sale (OFS) route. Non-retail investors had the opportunity to participate in this sale, and the floor price was set at Rs 395 per share, which represents a 6% discount on the current market price. This is the first major stake sale in GIC Re since its IPO in 2017.

25) Correct Answer: A

Mohan Natarajan, a prominent figure in Tamil cinema, passed away recently after suffering from age-related

ailments. He was a well-respected producer who produced several successful films under his banner, Sri Rajakaliamman Enterprises. Some of his most notable works include Kannukkul Nilavu starring Vijay, Deiva Thirumagal featuring Vikram, and Vel with Suriya. In addition to producing films, Natarajan also appeared in several movies, often portraying villainous roles. His contribution to the Tamil film industry, both as a producer and actor, made him a respected figure in Indian cinema.

26) Correct Answer: B

The Ministry of Labour and Employment launched a Building and Other Construction Workers (BoCW) Management Information System (MIS) portal to review the preparedness of states and union territories in the finalisation of draft rules under the four Labour Codes and progress of implementation of welfare schemes for BoCW.

27) Correct Answer: C

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has recently inaugurated the new GST Bhavan in Udaipur located in the Hiran Magri area of the city. The new GST Bhawan has a conference hall, meeting hall, data analytics cell, library, interrogation cell, and a guest house, officials said.

28) Correct Answer: A

The Centre has appointed 1992 batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer B Srinivasan as the new director general of National Security Guard (NSG). Srinivasan takes over as NSG director general after Nalin Prabhat's departure to being deputed as Jammu and Kashmir's Special Director General of Police.

29) Correct Answer: B

Oil and gas company Petronet LNG signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Sri Lanka's LTL Holdings Limited to supply liquefied natural gas (LNG) to LTL's dual-fuel power plants in Colombo. The LNG will be transported via ISO tank containers using a multi-modal transport system.

30) Correct Answer: C

IT industry body national association of software services companies (NASSCOM) announced the appointment of

Rajesh Nambiar as its president-designate. Nambiar, who resigned as chairman and managing director of Cognizant India, succeeds Debjani Ghosh at NASSCOM, who completes her tenure in November 2024.

31) Correct Answer: B

India and Denmark have joined hands to establish a 'smart laboratory on clean rivers' (SLCR) in Varanasi to bring excellence in small river rejuvenation and management. The alliance is a tripartite initiative between the Government of India, the Indian Institute of Technology-Banaras Hindu University (IIT-BHU), and the Govt of Denmark.

32) Correct Answer: A

India has signed a loan package of USD 500 million with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to improve access to quality and affordable tertiary health care and medical education in Maharashtra. The loan will help establish four medical colleges attached to tertiary care teaching hospitals incorporating climate- and disaster-resilient, gender-responsive, and socially inclusive features in under-served districts.

33) Correct Answer: D

Tata AIA Life Insurance introduced a term insurance plan called Sampurna Raksha Promise, which offers term insurance with immediate payouts on death claims, flexible premium payments, and benefits for terminal illness diagnoses.

34) Correct Answer: D

Bajaj Allianz General Insurance, one of the leading private general insurers in India, and HSBC India have announced a strategic partnership to offer Bajaj Allianz General Insurance's comprehensive suite of insurance products and services to HSBC's vast customer base in India.

35) Correct Answer: D

Assam has recorded the mithun (*Bos frontalis*) for the first time, generations after the semi-wild gaur-like animal began to be reared by tribals in the state's hill district of Dima Hasao. Mithun is the state animal of Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland and found also in the hills of Mizoram and Manipur.

36) Correct Answer: C

In a significant advancement of its ongoing initiative to establish a standardized, geo-coded addressing system in India, the Department of Posts (DoP) has signed a pivotal memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

37) Correct Answer: C

Amrit Lal Meena, Secretary of the Ministry of Coal launched the National Coal Mines Safety Report Portal. The portal aims for comprehensive safety audits and zero accidents. It includes an Accident Module for prompt reporting and a Safety Audit Module to strengthen processes.

38) Correct Answer: A

Flipkart's Supply Chain Operations Academy (SCOA) exchanged a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) at the Samarth event with the mission to upskill thousands of employable youths across India.

39) Correct Answer: C

Piramal Capital and Housing Finance Limited and Central Bank of India have announced a strategic partnership to expand their co-lending business. The collaboration will provide loans to middle and low-income borrowers with focus on rural and semi-urban regions.

40) Correct Answer: C

Tata Power Solar Systems Ltd (TPSSL) has signed an agreement with ICICI Bank to provide financing for solar units to residential and corporate customers. As part of the agreement, the customers can avail themselves of loans up to Rs 90 lakh with collateral-free options and tenure extending up to 5 years.

41) Correct Answer: C

Dawid Malan, England's former world No. 1 T20I batter, has announced his retirement from international cricket at the age of 37. The batter played 22 Tests, 30 ODIs and 62 T20Is for England. He was one among the only two England batters in the men's team, alongside Jos Buttler to have scored centuries across all the three formats in international cricket.

42) Correct Answer: C

The Reserve Bank is piloting an application for frictionless credit — Unified Lending Interface (ULI). It will be launched nationwide soon and will become the UPI on the credit side, Governor Shaktikanta Das said. The new technology is aimed at reducing the time taken for appraisal, especially for small borrowers in rural areas, he added.

43) Correct Answer: B

Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) Limited signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA) to finance various upcoming projects. As part of the MoU, REC will provide funds of up to Rs 45,000 crore for JNPA's infrastructure projects, including the development of the Vadhavan port.

44) Correct Answer: B

GAIL (India) said that it has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Petron Sciencetech Inc (Petron) to jointly explore setting up of a 500 Kilo Tons per Annum (KTA) bio-ethylene plant in India. In line with the MoU, GAIL and Petron will jointly undertake feasibility studies to ascertain technical viability and financial prospects of the project.

45) Correct Answer: C

The bank's commitment to excellence and innovation was recognized at the prestigious 2nd ICC Emerging Asia Banking Conclave & Awards, where it clinched four coveted awards. Jana Small Finance Bank was honoured with the titles of Best Small Finance Bank, India, Best Performance on Profitability (Runners-up), Best Performance on Asset Quality, and Best Performance on Risk Management.

46) Correct Answer: B

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Jal Jeevan Mission: Har Ghar Jal on August 15, 2019, aiming to ensure safe and sufficient drinking water access for rural households. On March 7, 2024, the Jal Jeevan Mission marked a significant landmark, having furnished tap water connections to more than 75% of households nationwide.

47) Correct Answer: B

With the objective of fostering collaboration in the field of cooperative management within the fisheries sector, the Central Institute of Fisheries Education (ICAR-CIFE) and the Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Cooperative Management (VAMNICOM) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU).

48) Correct Answer: B

The Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) has entered a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with MicroSave Consulting (MSC) to optimize the utilization of Community Investment Funds (CIF) and enhance the effectiveness and sustainability of Community-Based Organizations (CBOs).

49) Correct Answer: A

Private sector lender Yes Bank, has entered into a co-lending partnership with Newtap Finance to provide personalised financing solutions to creditworthy individuals on CRED. Dreamplug Technologies Private Limited (DTPL), which operates CRED, will serve as the Lending Service Provider (LSP) for Yes Bank and Newtap Finance in this partnership.

50) Correct Answer: B

Naspers-backed fintech firm PayU has partnered with Amazon Pay Later to provide instant digital credit access to Indian shoppers. As part of this partnership, Amazon Pay Later will be integrated into PayU's checkout infrastructure, allowing online merchants to offer an instant credit line to their customers.

51) Correct Answer: C

Kerala Tourism was presented the globally acclaimed Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) Gold Award 2024 for its online contest 'Holiday Heist' in the Digital Marketing Campaign category, at a function PATA Travel Mart 2024 in Bangkok.

52) Correct Answer: A

The Disaster Management Division of the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) in collaboration with the National Telecommunications Institute for Policy Research, Innovation, and Training (NTIPRIT) and LSA, Delhi successfully organized the conference on "Experience Sharing and Capacity Building in Disaster Management".

53) Correct Answer: C

The Ministry of Textiles has approved four start-ups with a grant of approximately fifty lakh rupees each under the 'General Guidelines for Enabling of Academic Institutes in Technical Textiles' (GREAT) scheme at the eighth Empowered Programme Committee meeting.

54) Correct Answer: C

The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) unveiled two new products at the Global Fintech Fest 2024: Bharat BillPay System (BBPS) for Business and UPI Circle for delegated payments. Shaktikanta Das, the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), introduced these products at the event.

55) Correct Answer: D

The Reserve Bank of India has recognised Fintech Association for Consumer Empowerment (FACE) as a Self-Regulatory Organisation in FinTech Sector (SRO-FT). Earlier in May 2024, the RBI finalised the framework for establishing SROs within the FinTech industry, aiming to promote "healthy and sustainable development" under the central bank's oversight.

56) Correct Answer: D

In a significant move aimed at bolstering workplace safety for women, the Ministry of Women and Child Development, under the leadership of Union Minister Smt. Annpurna Devi, has launched the new SHe-Box portal in an event on 29 August 2024.

57) Correct Answer: B

RailTel Corporation of India Ltd (RailTel) was awarded the ISO 14001:2015 certification, a globally recognized standard for Environmental Management Systems (EMS). This achievement underscores RailTel's dedication to not only adhering to regulatory requirements but also prioritizing environmental protection.

58) Correct Answer: C

IndiaFirst Life has become the first Indian life insurer to commence operations in Gujarat International Finance Tec City (GIFT City). Headquartered in Mumbai, IndiaFirst Life Insurance Company Ltd, with a paid-up share capital of Rs 754 crore, is one of the country's youngest life insurance companies.

59) Correct Answer: B

V Satish Kumar took over as the chairman of the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), the nation's largest oil firm. Kumar, who is director (marketing) at IOC, was given additional charge of chairman following delays in finding a full-time chairman.

60) Correct Answer: A

Shriram Capital, the holding company of the Shriram Group, has appointed Subhasri as its new Managing Director and CEO, effective 1 September. Subhasri, who previously served as Joint Managing Director, has been a key figure in the company since joining as an Officer in the NBFC business in 1991.

61) Correct Answer: C

The Tourism and Hospitality Skill Council (THSC) an arm of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the American digital payments company, Visa to upskill at least 20,000 Indian youth in tourism-relevant skills.

62) Correct Answer: D

The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the UAE Accountability Authority during a bilateral meeting with the President of the UAE Accountability Authority. The MoU aims to foster collaboration between the two Supreme Audit Institutions.

63) Correct Answer: C

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has introduced a scheme for trading and settlement of sovereign green bonds (SGrBs) in the International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) in India. The scheme will apply to investments in SGrBs issued by the Government of India to eligible investors in the IFSC in India.

64) Correct Answer: C

HDFC Bank has introduced GIGA, a financial suite designed for gig workers and freelancers. The programme aims to address the financial needs of India's burgeoning gig economy. GIGA will cater to this diverse group's financial requirements.

65) Correct Answer: A

Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd (GRSE) announced that they have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with National Highway Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd (NHIDCL), for the fabrication, supply, and launching of Double-Lane Class 70 modular steel and Bailey bridges.

66) Correct Answer: C

The Armed Forces Festival, organised by Surya Command, unfolded on September 3 at Surya Khel Parisar in Lucknow Cantonment. The three-day event from September 3 to 5, was inaugurated by Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.

67) Correct Answer: B

State-owned Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) signed an airframer contract with SAFHAL Helicopter Engines Pvt. Ltd. (SAFHAL) to begin the joint design, development, manufacture, supply and support of a new generation high power engine 'Aravalli' for two helicopters which it is designing and developing.

68) Correct Answer: A

The Inspire Institute of Sport (IIS) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the United World Wrestling (UWW), the global governing body for wrestling, to develop the sport in India. The agreement aims to establish a collaborative framework for developing wrestling in India through various mutually beneficial programs, initiatives, projects, and activities.

69) Correct Answer: C

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj, in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Management Bodh Gaya (IIM BG), has organised a transformative 5-day residential Management Development Programme (MDP) from 2nd September to 6th September, 2024.

70) Correct Answer: C

The Union Cabinet Committee chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi approved the Digital Agriculture Mission with an outlay of Rs. 2817 Crore, including the central share of Rs. 1940 Crore. For a similar transformation of the Agriculture Sector, the government announced the building of Digital Public Infrastructure for agriculture in the Union Budget 2023-24.

71) Correct Answer: C

The United Nations released \$100 million for humanitarian emergencies in 10 countries in Africa, the Middle East, Asia and the Caribbean. Acting UN humanitarian chief Joyce Msuya said a lack of funding in these countries is preventing aid agencies from providing life-saving assistance, and that is heart-wrenching.

72) Correct Answer: A

Tata AIA Life Insurance Co. Ltd. (Tata AIA) has launched its offshore branch at Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City), India's first International Financial Services Centre (IFSC). Tata AIA has introduced its first product, the USD-denominated Life Protect Supreme, a comprehensive term insurance plan. The new offering provides policy benefits in US dollars and covers various risks including death, accidents, disability, and critical illness, with coverage extending up to 100 years of age.

73) Correct Answer: D

Ferrari's Monacan racing driver Charles Leclerc claimed the Formula One (F1) Italian Grand Prix (GP) 2024 (formally known as the F1 Pirelli Gran Premio D'Italia 2024), which took place at the Autodromo Nazionale Monza in Monza, Italy. Leclerc's triumph marks his second Italian Grand Prix title. He previously won the Italian Grand Prix title in 2019.

74) Correct Answer: D

India's economic growth slowed to a 15-month low of 6.7 per cent in April-June 2024-25, mainly due to poor performance of the agriculture and services sectors, National Statistical Office (NSO) data showed. The gross domestic product (GDP) expanded by 8.2 per cent in the April-June quarter of 2022-23.

75) Correct Answer: B

In a ceremony that underscored his exceptional contributions to the Olympic movement, President Emmanuel Macron of France was awarded the Olympic Order in gold. This prestigious distinction was bestowed upon him by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in recognition of his unwavering support for the Olympic Games Paris 2024.

76) Correct Answer: B

Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has launched a Rs 750-crore fund 'AgriSure' to provide financial support to agritech startups even as he underlined the need for increasing public as well as private investments in the farm sector.

77) Correct Answer: B

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has launched a series of blockchain-based solutions, aimed at enhancing transparency, security, and efficiency in digital service delivery. The Vishvasya-Blockchain Technology Stack is designed to offer Blockchain-as-a-Service (BaaS) with a geographically distributed setup to support a range of permissioned blockchain applications.

78) Correct Answer: B

The Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) and the National Test House (NTH) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed at strengthening India's Standards & Labeling (S&L) Program. The initiative, crucial for promoting energy efficiency nationwide, will enhance the accuracy and reliability of energy performance standards, impacting millions of consumers.

79) Correct Answer: B

Indian Navy's frontline stealth frigate, INS Tabar commanded by Captain MR Harish had recently visited Toulon, France from 29 Aug 24 to 01 Sep 24 and later upon departure participated in the 22nd edition of IN - FN Bilateral Exercise VARUNA from 02 - 04 Sep 24 in the Mediterranean Sea.

80) Correct Answer: B

Fintech startup POP, founded by former Flipkart employees, has introduced India's first multi-brand co-branded credit card, the YES BANK POP-CLUB RuPay credit card, developed in collaboration with RuPay and YES Bank.

81) Correct Answer: B

The 27th National Conference on e-Governance was inaugurated by the Chief Minister of Maharashtra Eknath Shinde, in the presence of Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra Devendra Fadnis on 03 September at the Jio World Convention Centre in Mumbai. The theme of

the 27th edition of the Conference was 'Viksit Bharat: Secure And Sustainable e- Service Delivery'.

82) Correct Answer: B

For the first time in para-athletics, India had a historic one-two finish when Dharambir and Pranav Soorma won the men's club throw F51 at the Paris Paralympics 2024. In the Stade de France, the 35-year-old Dharambir from Sonapat, Haryana won the gold medal in the event with a record 34.92 meters and broke the Asian record in the process.

83) Correct Answer: A

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma announced that August 20 will be observed and celebrated as Sootea Day to mark the region's importance in the freedom movement. From now onwards, 20 August will be observed and celebrated as Sootea Day with government's patronage where people of Sootea will also render adequate support in celebration of the day, he said.

84) Correct Answer: C

The International Day of Charity is observed annually on September 5 in honour of Mother Teresa. This day was established by the General Assembly of the United Nations to educate individuals, NGOs, and stakeholders about the significance of participating in charitable causes.

85) Correct Answer: A

President Droupadi Murmu has sanctioned the constitution of the 23rd Law Commission of India, which will serve from September 1, 2024, to August 31, 2027. According to a notification, the commission will comprise a full-time Chairperson, four members, and additional ex-officio and part-time members.

86) Correct Answer: D

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has launched a series of blockchain-based solutions, aimed at enhancing transparency, security, and efficiency in digital service delivery. The Vishvasya-Blockchain Technology Stack is designed to offer Blockchain-as-a-Service (BaaS) with a geographically distributed setup to support a range of permissioned blockchain applications.

87) Correct Answer: A

The Indian Navy and the South African Navy have signed an Implementing Agreement (IA) that ensures the safety of the South African Navy's submarine crew in times of distress or accident. Under this agreement, the Indian Navy will provide assistance by deploying its Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle (DSRV) when required, further strengthening the collaborative ties between the two navies.

88) Correct Answer: A

Union Minister of Textiles, Shri Giriraj Singh launched the 'VisioNxt Fashion Forecasting Initiative' of National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), a bilingual web portal and the India-specific Fashion Trend Book 'Paridhi 24x25'.

89) Correct Answer: C

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has set up a 22-member advisory committee to streamline the rules for listing obligations and disclosures. The expert group will be chaired by R Gandhi, former deputy governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

90) Correct Answer: D

Motilal Oswal Mutual Fund launched the Nifty 500 Momentum 50 Index Fund on September 4, 2024. This fund is an open-ended index fund designed to track the performance of the Nifty 500 Momentum 50 Total Return Index.

91) Correct Answer: B

Panchayati Raj Ministry and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) have collaborated for strengthening service delivery and engaging communities for social change. According to the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, this collaboration will help accelerate progress on localised Sustainable Development Goals.

92) Correct Answer: C

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the "Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari" initiative in Gujarat's Surat, a step aimed at strengthening community involvement in water conservation. The initiative aligns with the ongoing "Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain" campaign.

93) Correct Answer: B

The United Nations General Assembly designated 7 September as the International Day of Clean Air to raise awareness and drive action on combating air pollution. UNEP says the day “aims to build a global community of action, encouraging countries to collaborate in tackling air pollution to protect our ecosystems.”

94) Correct Answer: A

On September 5, 2024, Narendra Modi, India's Prime Minister (PM), virtually addressed the two-day inaugural International Solar Festival (ISF) 2024, organized by the International Solar Alliance (ISA) at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi, Delhi. India's solar energy capacity has expanded 32-fold during the last decade, he said.

95) Correct Answer: C

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) on 04 September launched the second cohort of SAMRIDH. Secretary, MeitY S. Krishnan, launched the programme. It is a part of the 100-day agenda of the Government of India to select and support 125 startups through potential accelerators so as to achieve the target of nurturing 300 startups.

96) Correct Answer: D

Algeria's incumbent President Abdelmadjid Tebboune, 78, has been re-elected to the position with an emphatic vote, says the country's electoral authority. “Of 5,630,000 voters recorded, 5,320,000 voted for the independent candidate Abdelmadjid Tebboune, accounting for 94.65 percent”, they told reporters.

97) Correct Answer: B

Surat has been ranked as the top major city in India for air quality improvements followed by Jabalpur and Agra. The Union Environment Ministry presented the “National Clean Air City” Awards during the Swachh Yavu Survekshan 2024 held at a national workshop celebrating the “International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies” in Jaipur.

98) Correct Answer: A

The Indian contingent concluded its historic Paris Paralympics campaign with 29 medals, including seven gold, nine silver, and 13 bronze medals, marking the country's best performance in the competition's history.

India also crossed the 50-medal mark in Paralympic Games history with this impressive performance.

99) Correct Answer: A

India's Minister of Electronics and Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnaw secured a coveted spot on TIME magazine's "Most Influential People in AI 2024". "India, the world's fifth largest economy, is trying to become a major player in the world of AI. The country's electronics and information technology minister, Aishwini Vaishnaw, leads its efforts," said the magazine.

100) Correct Answer: C

The Rajasthan Cabinet has approved 33 per cent reservation to women in the police force and five per cent additional allowance to pensioners. Deputy Chief Minister Dr Prem Chand Bairwa said an amendment to the Rajasthan Police Subordinate Services Rules, 1989, was approved in the cabinet meeting, paving the way for the one-third quota for women in police.

101) Correct Answer: C

International Literacy Day (ILD) was first declared by UNESCO in 1965, and it was celebrated for the first time on September 8, 1967. The theme for International Literacy Day 2024 is “Promoting Multilingual Education: Literacy for Mutual Understanding and Peace.”

102) Correct Answer: A

Michel Barnier is France's new prime minister. Barnier has served as the Cabinet Minister of Environment, European Affairs, Foreign Affairs and Agriculture and Fisheries under four different conservative Prime Ministers.

103) Correct Answer: A

The Council decided to reduce the GST rate on cancer drugs Trastuzumab Deruxtecan, Osimertinib and Durvalumab from 12% to 5%. The 54th GST Council meeting, held in New Delhi on Monday (September 9, 2024) announced several changes to the existing Goods and Services Tax (GST) slabs.

104) Correct Answer: A

Union Home Minister Amit Shah was unanimously re-elected as the Chairperson of the Parliamentary Committee on Official Language. The decision was taken in a meeting of the committee, which was held in New

Delhi. Amit Shah was elected for the first time as the chairperson of the committee in 2019.

105) Correct Answer: A

Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Rajiv Ranjan Singh has launched Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah-Yojna in an event in New Delhi. Mr Singh also released Standard Operating Procedure on Production and Processing Clusters in the Fisheries Sector.

106) Correct Answer: A

The Union health ministry has approved the introduction of the BPALM regimen, a novel treatment for multi-drug resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB) under its National TB Elimination Program (NTEP) as a highly effective and shorter treatment option.

107) Correct Answer: D

Union Bank of India announced its decision to become a signatory to the Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials (PCAF). This step aligns with the growing global emphasis on climate risk management and the recent draft guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on climate risk disclosures.

108) Correct Answer: A

Two anti-submarine warfare shallow watercrafts vessels (ASWCWC) of the Indian Navy were launched at Cochin Shipyard in Kerala. Once commissioned by the Indian Navy, the vessels will be called INS Malpe and INS Mulki. The ships, with a displacement about 900 tons, are designed to fit the indigenously developed sonar for underwater surveillance.

109) Correct Answer: C

World No.1 Jannik Sinner made history after becoming the first Italian to win the US Open men's singles title. On September 8, the 23-year-old defeated USA's Taylor Fritz 6-3, 6-4, 7-5 at the Arthur Ashe Stadium. Sinner took two hours and 16 minutes to beat Fritz, who played in his maiden Grand Slam final.

110) Correct Answer: B

Each year, the first Saturday in September marks International Vulture Awareness Day, a global initiative dedicated to the preservation of vultures. This year it was observed on 07 September. This day is intended to raise

awareness around the most imperiled group of birds in the world all while celebrating their importance within our ecosystems.

111) Correct Answer: A

The State Bank of India (SBI) has introduced the third edition of its flagship Asha Scholarship programme, pledging to assist 10,000 academically gifted students from disadvantaged backgrounds across the country. Applications are open until 1st October, with details on eligibility and forms available at the official website.

112) Correct Answer: C

Nepal has become the 101st country to join the International Solar Alliance-ISA as a full member. In a social media post, the Ministry of External Affairs said that Nepal handed over its Instrument of Ratification to the ISA in New Delhi.

113) Correct Answer: D

The Ministry of Steel successfully hosted the event 'Greening Steel: Pathway to Sustainability' at C.D. Deshmukh Hall, India International Centre, New Delhi. The Chief Guest, Shri H. D. Kumaraswamy, Union Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries, released the Report titled "Greening the Steel Sector in India: Roadmap and Action Plan."

114) Correct Answer: C

The Union Cabinet, under PM Narendra Modi, has approved the implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana - IV (PMGSY-IV) for FY 2024-25 to 2028-29 with a total outlay of Rs 70,125 crore. In total, around 62,500 kilometers of rural roads will be constructed during this phase, with fresh connectivity to 25,000 unconnected habitations.

115) Correct Answer: C

A new species of snake with a remarkably long snout has been discovered in India, marking an exciting addition to the country's rich biodiversity. The species, named the long-snouted vine snake (*Ahaetulla Longirostris*), was identified after two specimens were found in vastly different regions, Bihar in the eastern part of the country and Meghalaya in the northeastern region.

116) Correct Answer: B

The Indian Army and Indian Air Force has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya to enhance the skills and capability building of personnel in logistics operations. On this occasion, the Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh said that it is a monumental partnership to build a world-class and future proof logistics system and achieve self-reliance in defence sector.

117) Correct Answer: B

Saleema Imtiaz became the first Pakistani woman to be nominated to the ICC international panel of development umpires, the Pakistan Cricket Board said. Imtiaz's nomination on the panel makes her eligible to officiate in women's bilateral international matches and ICC women's events.

118) Correct Answer: C

Ayodhya has edged out Varanasi to emerge as the top tourist attraction in Uttar Pradesh, with 11 crore domestic and international tourists visiting the temple town in the first six months of this year as compared to 4.61 crore visiting Varanasi.

119) Correct Answer: C

Himalaya Diwas is celebrated every year on 9th September in the state of Uttarakhand. It is celebrated with the aim to conserve Himalayan ecosystem and region. It was officially declared as Himalaya Day in 2015 by the then Chief Minister.

120) Correct Answer: D

The Union Cabinet has approved the PM E-drive Scheme with an outlay of Rs 10,900 crore for two years in a bid to boost the adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) in India. As per the new scheme, subsidies worth Rs 3,679 crore will reportedly be offered to incentivise the adoption of battery-driven two and three-wheelers, ambulances, trucks and other emerging electric vehicles (EVs).

121) Correct Answer: B

Health Ministry released the "Health Dynamics of India (Infrastructure and Human Resources) 2022-23". Union Health Secretary Apurva Chandra has released the annual publication in New Delhi. The publication offers comprehensive data on health infrastructure and human resources as of March 31st of each year.

122) Correct Answer: B

The government will launch the Partnerships for Accelerated Innovation and Research (PAIR) programme designed to elevate research capabilities in higher education institutions (HEIs). The decision was taken during the inaugural Governing Board meeting of the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF).

123) Correct Answer: D

Swiggy has joined hands with the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) to launch Swiggy Skills, an initiative designed to offer a range of skilling and employment opportunities within its food delivery and quick commerce network.

124) Correct Answer: A

The Indian Navy's P8I aircraft, led by Commanding Officer Captain Ajay Kanwar, has visited Australia's Darwin to participate in the 16th edition of Exercise Kakadu 2024. The Indian Navy participated in the exercise alongside more than 30 nations with the theme of 'Regional Cooperation through Trusted and Proven Partnerships.'

125) Correct Answer: B

World Ozone Day is celebrated on 16th September each year to commemorate the signing of the Montreal Protocol, an international environmental treaty for phasing out of production and consumption of Ozone Depleting Substances, that came into force on this day in 1987.

126) Correct Answer: A

The Union Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation has quietly dissolved the 14-member Standing Committee on Statistics (SCoS) headed by eminent economist and former chief statistician of the country Pronab Sen, allegedly after its members questioned the delay in conducting the census.

127) Correct Answer: D

The Trade Connect e-Platform is a single window initiative that is fast, accessible and transformational as it will enable exporters to add newer markets. This was stated by Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal during the launch of the Trade Connect e-Platform in New Delhi.

128) Correct Answer: C

In a boost to the semiconductor industry, the ground-breaking ceremony for India's first silicon carbide manufacturing facility was held in the Bhubaneswar city. The facility, to be built at an investment of Rs 620 crore over three years, is set to generate over 500 jobs and signifies a vital step in Odisha's entry into the power electronics industry.

129) Correct Answer: D

NASA has selected Indian private spacecraft company Pixxel for a new contract to provide Earth-observation data and services. Pixxel, which specialises in hyperspectral imaging and Earth observation, is one of the eight companies selected for NASA's USD 476 million "Commercial SmallSat Data Acquisition Programme On-Ramp1 Multiple Award" contract.

130) Correct Answer: B

Switzerland has been ranked as the number one country in the world by US News & World Report in its 'Best Countries Ranking 2024'. India ranked at number 33 on the list this year, dropping three spots from its place on the list in 2023. Only Japan, Singapore, China and South Korea managed to crack the top 25 from Asia.

131) Correct Answer: B

The second edition of the International Conference on Green Hydrogen (ICGH-2024) was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi. The event held from 11-13 September, brought together thought leaders, policymakers, industry experts, and innovators from around the world to explore the latest advancements in Green Hydrogen technology.

132) Correct Answer: D

The National Health Authority (NHA) and IIT Kanpur have inked an MoU for development of digital public goods for Artificial Intelligence (AI) in healthcare. The platform will subsequently be operated and governed by the NHA, thereby unlocking the immense potential of AI for improving health outcomes.

133) Correct Answer: A

The Indian Air Force (IAF) has successfully completed Exercise Eastern Bridge VII with the Royal Air Force of

Oman (RAFO) at the RAFO airbase in Masirah. The IAF contingent has returned to India after participating in a comprehensive series of training missions, which featured the participation of MiG-29 and Jaguar aircraft from IAF, F-16 and Hawk from RAFO.

134) Correct Answer: C

Hindi Diwas, observed on September 14, marks the anniversary of Hindi's recognition as an official language in 1949. While the Constitution of India does not give any language the status of national language, Hindi in Devanagari script is the official language of the central government and the Union as per Article 343.

135) Correct Answer: D

World Food India 2024 - A Mega Food Event in Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi was held from 19th-22nd September 2024. Addressing the gathering at World Food India 2024, Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Pralhad Joshi welcomed the global dignitaries and highlighted India's remarkable journey in achieving food security, sustainability, and innovation.

136) Correct Answer: C

The government has notified the National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID) as a public financial institution under the Companies Act. This will help the government fortify the nation's infrastructure finance structures.

137) Correct Answer: C

The India Defence Aviation Exposition (IDAX-24) was officially inaugurated by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on September 12, 2024, at Jodhpur. This major event coincided with Exercise Tarang Shakti-24, one of the largest multinational air exercises hosted by the Indian Air Force (IAF).

138) Correct Answer: D

Quality Council of India (QCI) has given provisional approval to National Test House (NTH), Ghaziabad, as a certification body for drones. This significant milestone aligns with the Government of India's push towards fostering a robust and globally competitive drone ecosystem under the Drone Rules 2021.

139) Correct Answer: B

Shriram Finance has announced the appointment of former Indian cricket team coach and legendary cricketer, Rahul Dravid, as its new brand ambassador. Known for his unwavering discipline and trustworthiness, Dravid embodies the qualities that Shriram Finance values and aims to project.

140) Correct Answer: C

National Engineers' Day is celebrated on September 15 every year to commemorate the birth anniversary of Dr Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya, one of the greatest engineers of India. He was born on September 15, 1861, and is widely regarded as a pioneering engineer and statesman who made significant contributions to the development of India.

141) Correct Answer: D

The Centre has decided to rename Port Blair Sri Vijaya Puram, in a move aimed at shedding the colonial legacy associated with the Andaman and Nicobar. The decision to give an Indian name to the Andaman and Nicobar capital follows nearly six years after the Centre, renamed three islands of the Union Territory as it honoured the freedom fighter.

142) Correct Answer: A

The Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology (CSTT), under the aegis of the Union Education Ministry, has launched a unique website which provides technical terms in all 22 official Indian languages. The web portal 'shabd.education.gov.in' aims to be a central repository for all the terminologies prepared for Indian languages.

143) Correct Answer: B

Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Shri Ram Nath Thakur led the Indian delegation at the G20 Agriculture Ministerial Meeting. A bilateral meeting between Shri Thakur and Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan Shri Sakamoto was held on 12 September 2024, in Brazil.

144) Correct Answer: C

Fintech startup Moneyview has turned unicorn after bagging about Rs 38.6 crore (\$4.6 million) in fresh funding from Accel and Nexus Venture Partners. Moneyview joins Krutrim, Perfios, Porter, Rapido, and Ather to become the sixth Indian unicorn this year.

145) Correct Answer: B

An Indian-origin lecturer at Nanyang Technological University has won the Singapore Literature Prize for English fiction for her short story – 'Nine Yard Sarees'. Prasanthi Ram, 32, debut work was published in late 2023.

146) Correct Answer: B

Fabindia announced its strategic collaboration with the Ministry of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MoMSME) under the Central Government's PM Vishwakarma Scheme. The PM Vishwakarma Scheme, a program initiated by the Government of India, seeks to empower traditional artisans across the country by providing them with financial support, skill development, and marketing assistance.

147) Correct Answer: C

JBM Auto's arm, JBM Ecolife Mobility said it has secured strategic funding of USD 100 million from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB). The newly infused fund will be used to supply and operate electric buses across multiple states in India under the Gross Cost Contract (GCC) model, implemented in a phased manner, it said.

148) Correct Answer: B

'Aditi', a GenAI-powered virtual relationship manager by Bank of Baroda, is designed for customer service by acting as a 24x7 virtual relationship manager to answer all customer queries. Available on the bank's web portal, Aditi supports audio, video, and chat-based interactions, offering round-the-clock banking services with multilingual support.

149) Correct Answer: D

PhonePe has partnered with Liquid Group to expand its merchant acceptance network in Singapore, allowing users to pay using UPI at various tourist locations. The partnership also enables Indian travellers to receive international remittances through UPI.

150) Correct Answer: B

On 15 November 2019, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution proclaiming 18 September as International Equal Pay Day. The resolution was introduced by the Equal Pay International Coalition

(EPIC) with the support of Australia, Canada, Germany, New Zealand, Panama, South Africa and Switzerland. The

day is intended to promote further action towards the achievement of equal pay for work of equal value.



SECTION 3

Detailed Analysis of Important Events



Economics

Recommendations during 54th meeting of GST Council



Why in the News?

The 54th GST Council meeting, chaired by Union Finance Minister was held recently.

Recommendations from the 54th GST Council Meeting:

GST Rate Changes for Goods	
Namkeens and Savory Products	GST on extruded/expanded savoury products reduced from 18% to 12%; 5% GST on un-fried or uncooked snack pellets continues.
Cancer Drugs	GST on cancer drugs like Trastuzumab, Deruxtecan, Osimertinib, and Durvalumab reduced from 12% to 5%.
Metal Scrap	Reverse Charge Mechanism (RCM) introduced for metal scrap supplies by unregistered persons; 2% TDS applied on B2B metal scrap supplies by registered persons.
RMPU Air Conditioning Machines	RMPU air conditioning machines for railways classified under HSN 8415, attracting a 28% GST rate.
Car and Motorcycle Seats	GST on car seats (HSN 9401) increased from 18% to 28%, aligning with the rate for motorcycle seats.
GST Rate Changes for Services	
Life and Health Insurance	Group of Ministers (GoM) to be constituted to study GST issues related

	to life and health insurance. Report expected by October 2024.
Transport by Helicopters	GST on passenger transport by helicopters (seat share basis) set at 5%; 18% GST continues for charter helicopter services.
Flying Training Courses	DGCA-approved flying training courses conducted by Flying Training Organizations (FTOs) will be exempt from GST.
Preferential Location Charges	Preferential Location Charges (PLC) in construction services to be taxed as composite supply.
Affiliation Services	Affiliation services provided by boards like CBSE taxable; services provided to government schools by state/central boards will be exempt.
Import of Services by Branches	Import of services by foreign airlines' branch offices from related persons will be exempt from GST if made without consideration.
Compliance Measures	
B2C E-invoicing	Pilot project for B2C e-invoicing introduced to improve business efficiency and environmental sustainability.
Invoice Management System (IMS)	Invoice Management System to allow taxpayers to accept, reject, or keep invoices pending for claiming Input Tax Credit (ITC).
Waiver of Interest/Penalty	Special procedure to waive interest/penalty for tax demands from FY 2017-18, 2018-19, and 2019-20 under section 73 of CGST Act.
Clarifications via Circulars	Clarifications on place of supply for advertising services, ITC on demo vehicles, and place of supply for data hosting services to be issued.

India raises Import Tax on Edible Oils



Why in the News?

- In order to safeguard its indigenous farmers who are being negatively impacted by low oilseed prices, India has raised the basic import duty on crude and refined edible oils by 20%.
- The action may increase the cost of edible oil, decrease demand, and possibly result in a decrease in imports of sunflower, soy, and palm oils.

Edible Oil Scenario in India

- Over 70% of India's requirement for vegetable oil is imported, primarily from Argentina, Brazil, Russia, and Ukraine for soybean oil and sunflower oil, as well as from Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand for palm oil.
- More over half of India's edible oil imports are palm oil.

NITI Aayog Report on Edible Oil Self-sufficiency: Key Highlights

NITI Aayog, along with the Ministry of Agriculture and other stakeholders, released a report titled “Pathways and Strategies for Accelerating Growth in Edible Oils Towards the Goal of Atmanirbharta.”

	Details
Consumption Details	India consumes 19.7 kg/year per capita edible oil, with 16.5 million tonnes of imports in 2022-23; only 40-45% of demand met through domestic production.
Projections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic production could reach 16 MT by 2030 • 26.7 MT by 2047 under Business-As-Usual (BAU) scenario
Strategic Interventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crop Retention and Diversification • Horizontal Expansion (increase cultivation area) • Vertical Expansion (improve yield through technology)
Self-sufficiency Targets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edible oil production of 36.2 MT by 2030 • 70.2 MT by 2047
Key Recommendations	Focus on seed quality, modern processing infrastructure, and public-private partnerships for growth

Jute Production in India



Why in the News?

- Jute production is **expected to decline by 20%** this financial year, as per the **National Jute Board**.
- Jute cultivation in West Bengal and Assam was severely affected by natural calamities, including floods, damaging crops in some areas.

About National Jute Board (NJB)

- Operating under the Ministry of Textiles, the NJB was founded in 2008 under the National Jute Board Act, 2008 (effective from 2010).
- Its main goal is to encourage modernization, increased production, and both domestic and foreign marketing of jute products in order to further the growth of the jute industry.
- It promotes Jute Geotextiles for infrastructure projects and carries out a number of initiatives, including Jute-ICARE, which aims to improve jute growing techniques.
- Head Office: Kolkata, West Bengal
- The Jute Technology Mission (JTM), which is carried out by NJB, aims to increase the variety, productivity, and quality of jute products.
- JTM 2.0 is currently concentrated on increasing jute's productivity, quality, and diversity.

About the Jute Industry in India

- Jute, often known as the "golden fiber," has natural, renewable, biodegradable, and environmentally beneficial qualities, making it acceptable for use in packaging.
- According to the Indian Jute Mills Association (IJMA), the jute industry in India has been around for more than 150 years, and there are currently about 93 jute mills operating.
- In 1854, the first jute mill in India was founded in Rishira, which is close to Kolkata.

- But once India gained independence, it had difficulties because the country's jute mills were in India, but the country's jute-growing regions remained in Bangladesh.
- In East India, the jute industry is quite important, especially in West Bengal.
- About 40 lakh agricultural families are supported by it, and 2.6 lakh people work in manufacturing and 1.4 lakh in the tertiary sector.
- China and Bangladesh are the next two biggest producers of jute, after India. On the other hand, 75% of the world's jute exports come from Bangladesh, whereas only 7% come from India.

Jute Cultivation in India

- Jute cultivation is mainly concentrated in 3 Indian states: West Bengal, Assam, and Bihar which together produce 99% of the country's jute.
- Conditions Required:
 - **Temperature:** 25-35°C
 - **Rainfall:** 150-250 cm
 - **Soil Type:** Well-drained alluvial soil
- The Ganga-Brahmaputra delta's rich alluvial soil is to blame for this.
- Because of its versatility, jute is used to make a variety of items such as carpets, ropes, mats, yarn, and gunny bags.
- April and May are the planting and harvesting months for jute seeds.
- In the roughly two months of the four-month jute crop cycle, the leaves are available for purchase in vegetable markets.
- Every element of the sturdy, long grass, which reaches a height of 2.5 meters, has multiple functions.
- The fiber used to make jute items is produced by the stem's outer covering.
- The Minimum Support Price (MSP) for purchasing raw jute from farmers is set by the government.



Environment & Diversity

National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)



Why in the News?

Relocating people living in core tiger zones should be given priority, according to guidelines recently issued by the National Tiger protection Authority (NTCA), the highest authority in charge of tiger protection.

NTCA's Directive:

- The NTCA reports that there are 591 villages with 64,801 families living in the core tiger zone, which presents a serious threat to tiger conservation.
- The area of a tiger reserve known as the "core zone" is where tribal people are not allowed to live and where human activities like hunting and gathering forest products are prohibited.
- The buffer zone, which lies outside the core zone, is where some activities are permitted but controlled.

About National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA):

	Details
Constitution	Statutory body under MoEFCC, constituted under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
Chairmanship	Chaired by the Minister for Environment and Forests.
Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 experts in wildlife conservation and tribal welfare. • 3 MPs.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspector General of Forests as ex-officio Member Secretary.
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide statutory authority to Project Tiger. • Enhance Centre-State accountability in managing Tiger Reserves. • Provide parliamentary oversight. • Address livelihood concerns of local communities.
Powers and Functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve state-prepared tiger conservation plans. • Prevent unsustainable land use in Tiger Reserves. • Set standards for tourism and tiger conservation guidelines. • Conduct tiger censuses (via M-STriPES app). • Support biodiversity conservation through eco-development and people's participation.
Key Initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Tiger, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for in-situ conservation of tigers, launched on April 1, 1973.

India's first 'Teal Carbon' study



Why in the News?

In the Bharatpur district of Rajasthan's Keoladeo National Park (KNP), the first study on teal carbon in India was carried out.

Highlights of the Study

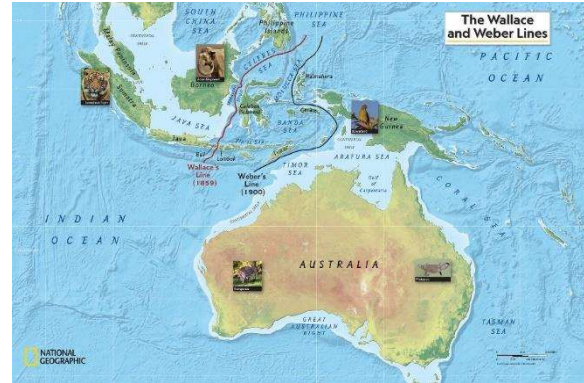
- The goal of the KNP study was to comprehend the potential of teal carbon in reducing the consequences of climate change in order to build comprehensive solutions for it.
- It emphasized how damaging methane and carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere by degraded wetlands could exacerbate climate problems.
- It recommended using biochar, a black residue made of ashes and carbon that is lightweight.
- This biochar can enhance wetland conservation and lessen methane emissions.
- For real-time measurements of greenhouse gases to advance research, specialized instruments such as the LI-COR device would be needed.

What is Teal Carbon?

	Details
Definition	Carbon stored in non-tidal freshwater wetlands, including in vegetation, microbial biomass, and organic matter.
Key Sources	Peatlands, freshwater swamps, natural freshwater marshes.
Global Storage	Approximately 500.21 petagrams of carbon (PgC).
Threats	Pollution, land-use changes, water extraction, and degradation of wetlands.
Comparison	Distinct from black and brown carbon, which are produced by incomplete combustion of organic matter.
Benefits of Teal Carbon Ecosystems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenhouse gas reduction • Increase in groundwater levels • Flood mitigation • Heat island reduction • Urban adaptation
Conservation Importance	Effective conservation of wetlands can enhance teal carbon pools, contributing to

climate regulation and environmental sustainability.

What is Wallace Line?



Why in the news?

The Wallace Line, a distinct transition zone between Asia and Australia, has long fascinated researchers due to its unique characteristics.

What is Wallace Line?

	Details
What is it?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A biogeographical line that divides the Australian and Asian ecozones. • During his travels in 1863, British adventurer Alfred Russel Wallace made the identification. • It is an imaginary line that runs north through the Makassar Strait between Kalimantan (Borneo) and Sulawesi and crosses the Lombok Strait between the Indonesian islands of Bali and Lombok to the south.
Unique Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Splits animals with different evolutionary trajectories. • Australian wildlife (kangaroos, marsupials) predominates in the east, whereas Asian animals (elephants, tigers) are located in the west.
Impact on Wildlife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mammals and birds are most affected, with very few species going over the limit.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Though certain species, like eucalyptus, remain on the Australian side, the flora is less damaged.
Impact on Marine Species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marine life continues despite the Wallace Line, which acts as a barrier for terrestrial organisms. The most biodiverse marine ecosystem on Earth is found in the Coral Triangle, which is located near Australia and stretches between the Wallace Line and the Sahul Shelf.
Formation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outcome of Australia's approximate 35 million-year-old slide away from Antarctica and subsequent collision with Asia. Australia and tropical Asia are now drier and colder due to climate change. A deep-water canal formed by this collision continues to function as a natural barrier to the passage of various species.
Pleistocene Epoch Influence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lower sea levels during the Pleistocene era made land bridges visible. The barrier between Asia and Australia was maintained because of deep waters that hindered species migration.

The Union Cabinet has approved 'Mission Mausam' with a budget of ₹2,000 crore over two years.

About Mission Mausam

- The main goal of Mission Mausam is to improve research and development in atmospheric sciences, weather monitoring, and forecasting.
- The mission will be carried out by the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), which will serve as the nodal entity.
- It aims to set a new benchmark for high-precision weather forecasting and management.
- Three institutes under the MoES will lead the implementation of Mission Mausam:
 1. India Meteorological Department (IMD)
 2. Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM)
 3. National Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF)

Critical Components of the Mission:

- Radars and satellite systems of the future with cutting-edge sensors.
- installation of high-performance supercomputers to improve computing power.
- creation of enhanced artificial intelligence (AI) earth system models and a GIS-based automated decision support system for the distribution of data in real time.

Benefits and Applications

- Mission Mausam is expected to benefit key sectors, including:
 - Agriculture, through improved weather prediction for farming activities.
 - Disaster management, with better preparedness for natural calamities.
 - Defence, aviation, and shipping, through enhanced forecasting for operational safety.
 - Energy, water resources, power, and tourism sectors.
- The mission will also enhance data-driven decision-making for urban planning, transport, offshore operations, and environmental monitoring.

Union Cabinet approves 'Mission Mausam'



Why in the News?

International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA)



Why in the News?

According to the director general of the International Big Cat Alliance, Asiatic lion populations in Gujarat are naturally separating geographically, and there is no immediate need to move them.

About Asiatic Lion

- Only in India is the Asiatic Lion, a member of the Panthera Leo Leo subspecies, identifiable by its unique skin fold in the belly.
- Previously dispersed throughout India and West Asia, the population is now restricted to Gir National Park, where it rose in 2020.
- Threats to Asiatic lions include illness outbreaks, natural disasters, poaching, and livestock attacks as payback.
- They are protected under Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, included in CITES Appendix I, and categorized as Endangered (IUCN).
- The goals of the 2018–2021 Asiatic Lion Conservation Project include community involvement and scientific management.

About International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA)

	Details
Objective	Protect and conserve 7 big cats: tiger, lion, leopard, snow leopard, puma, jaguar, and cheetah.
Initial Funding	₹150 crore from the Government of India for five years, with additional funding from global agencies.

Membership	Open to 96 range countries with natural big cat habitats.
Key Activities	Advocacy, knowledge sharing, capacity building, eco-tourism promotion, and resource mobilization.
Governance	General Assembly, elected Council, and Secretariat. Secretary General appointed by the Assembly.
Governance Framework	Based on the International Solar Alliance (ISA); finalized by the International Steering Committee.
India's Role	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India is home to 5 of the 7 big cats: tiger, lion, leopard, snow leopard, and cheetah. • India hosts about 70% of the world's tiger population and has seen steady growth in its Asiatic lion population.

NGT seeks report from Central Pollution Control Board



Why in the News?

The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has been directed by the National Green Tribunal (NGT) to provide a new report on how states and Union territories (UTs) generate and handle electronic trash.

About Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB):

	Details
Constitution	Established in September 1974 under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.

Additional Powers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Empowered under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981. Also works under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
Nodal Ministry	Functions under the <i>Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.</i>
Main Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To encourage the mitigation, prevention, and control of air and water pollution throughout India. gathers and distributes statistical and technical information about air and water pollution.
Key Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Air Monitoring Programme (NAMP) National Water Quality Monitoring Program (NWQMP) Oversees the National Air Quality Index (NAQI) to provide real-time data on air quality.
Initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) Clean Air Campaign

- On September 1, 2024, Typhoon Yagi formed in the western Philippine Sea as a tropical storm.
- Yagi is the Japanese word for goat or the constellation Capricornus.
- Once it touched down in the Philippines, the warm waters of the South China Sea caused it to intensify once more, reaching Category 3 winds by September 4.
- With peak gusts of 260 kmph, Yagi intensified even further to become a Category 5 typhoon—one of only four such storms ever recorded in the South China Sea.
- Even after being downgraded to a tropical depression, it nevertheless caused flooding and a lot of rain in Myanmar and other places.

What are Typhoons?

- A typhoon is a kind of tropical storm that mostly affects East Asia, Southeast Asia, and portions of Oceania. Typhoons form in the northwest of the Pacific Ocean.
- Strong gusts, copious amounts of rain, catastrophic flooding, storm surges, and infrastructure destruction are some of its defining characteristics.

Key Features of Typhoons:

- Typhoon formation occurs in the Northwestern Pacific Ocean, mostly in the area between 100°E and 180°E.
- Wind Speed: A typhoon needs to have sustained winds of more than 119 km/h to be considered.
- Typhoon structure is similar to that of hurricanes, with a violent eyewall encircling the center eye, or calm area, which is also where the fiercest winds and most intense rains fall.
- Season: May to October is when typhoons usually occur, with August and September being the peak months.

Global Terminology:

- Typhoon: Northwest Pacific Ocean.
- Hurricane: North Atlantic, Central and Eastern North Pacific Oceans.
- Cyclone: South Pacific and Indian Ocean.

Typhoon Yagi



India has launched **Operation Sadbhav** to provide humanitarian assistance to Southeast Asian countries affected by Typhoon Yagi, including Vietnam, Laos and Myanmar.

Typhoon Yagi: Origin and Impact

Cheetah Action Plan (CAP)



Why in the News?

The Cheetah Action Plan (CAP) which aimed to introduce African cheetahs into India’s Open Natural Ecosystems (ONEs), is completing its two years.

About Cheetah:

- The cheetah is a fast-running big cat, and there are two types of Cheetahs globally:
 - African (savannahs, arid mountains, and hilly deserts)
 - Asiatic (desert and semi-desert areas only in Iran)
- Cheetahs live in three main groups: females with cubs, male coalitions, and solitary males. They hunt during the day, preferring dawn and dusk.
- The global cheetah population was 6,500 mature individuals (IUCN, 2021).
- IUCN Status: Vulnerable (Globally) and Critically Endangered (Asiatic Cheetah)

Cheetah Reintroduction in India:

- Cheetahs in India went extinct in the early 1950s as a result of habitat loss and hunting.
 - Under Project Cheetah, Namibian cheetahs, also known as Southeast African cheetahs, were reintroduced in Kuno National Park (MP).
 - It was determined that this region was a cheetah-friendly ecosystem, similar to Kenya's Maasai Mara National Park.
- Current Issues:**
- Though there was some early excitement, Kuno is still home to all of these cheetahs in captivity.
 - Since there aren't any cheetahs living in the wild right now, worries regarding the effectiveness of reintroduction attempts are warranted.

What is Project Cheetah?

- **Aim:** Preserving endangered species and reestablishing ecological processes. The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) is in charge of it.
- As part of the plan, India's dry forests would see increased ecotourism and collaboration with other nations to protect cheetahs.
- In fifteen years, the population is expected to outgrow Kuno National Park, necessitating ongoing assistance.
- **Sunset Provision:** Within the context of Project Cheetah, the term "sunset clause" alludes to the long-term requirements (at least 30–40 years) for creating a sustainable cheetah population in India.

Governance

Shabd Portal provides technical terms in 22 Indian languages



Why in the News?

Under the Union Education Ministry, the Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology (CSTT) has created a special website called shabd.education.gov.in that offers technical words in all 22 of the recognized Indian languages.

- About Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology (CSTT)**
- The CSTT was founded by the Union Education Ministry in December 1960 with the goal of

creating scientific and technical terminology in Hindi and other Indian languages.

- In Hindi and other Indian languages, it aims to standardize, define, and progress scientific and technical terminology.
- The company provides quarterly periodicals such as Vigyan Garima Sindhu and Gyan Garima Sindhu and publishes textbooks, monographs, and glossaries.
- More than 450 glossaries and over 3 million standardized terms in Indian languages have been produced by it.
- In order to guarantee uniform terminology in official documents, it creates administrative glossaries for government agencies and institutions.

About the Shabd Portal

- With glossaries from CSTT and other organizations and agencies, the web hopes to act as a central repository for technical terms in all Indian languages.

- With 450 dictionaries that hold 3 million words, the service is a great resource for anyone looking for technical and scientific phrases in Indian languages.
- Search Features:
 - By language, subject, dictionary type, or language pairs, users can look up synonyms.
 - Additionally, specific searches can be conducted within a given glossary or throughout the whole collection.
 - Users of the platform can also offer comments on the terms that the CSTT has prepared.

Significance of the Portal

- The announcement coincides with initiatives to advance technical education in Indian languages in disciplines like engineering and medicine.
- In order to support the goal of multilingual education, the portal is a crucial step in ensuring that scientific and technical education is accessible in regional languages.

History

Ancient India Temple Music: Haveli Sangeet



Why in the News?

Haveli Sangeet is a unique form of classical music rooted in ancient temple traditions in India.

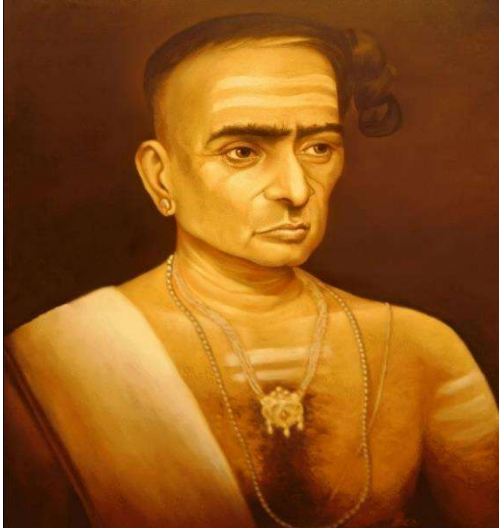
About Haveli Sangeet:

	Details
Origin	Linked to the Pushti Margiya temples of the Vaishnava Tradition; rooted in ancient temple music traditions.

Historical Background	Revived during the Bhakti movement; declined during the medieval period due to socio-political changes.
Founder	Mahaprabhu Vallabhacharya, 16th century, founder of Pushti Marg and proponent of devotional worship (Bhakti).
Key Elements	Involves Raga (melody), Bhog (offering), and Shringar (adornment) as part of sewa (service) in temples.
Musical Styles	Includes Prabandh, Dhruwad, Dhamar, Khyal, Kirtana, and Bhajan; not limited to Dhruwad style alone.
Languages Used	Songs are performed in Brij Bhasha, Sanskrit, Punjabi, and Marwari.
Significant Figures	Vallabhacharya, Shri Vitthalnathji (Shri Gusaiji), Astachaps poets (e.g., Kumbhandas, Surdas), Pandit Jasraj.

Role in Vaishnavism	Serves as a vehicle for Kirtan Bhakti, focusing on collective singing and emotional devotion to Lord Krishna.
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Who was Sakthan Thampuran (1751-1805)?



Why in the News?

Ministry of Tourism has pledged to replace the Sakthan Thampuran statue that was knocked over by a state transport bus in Thrissur.

Who was Sakthan Thampuran?

- Sakthan Thampuran, who ruled the Cochin kingdom with great authority from 1790 to 1805, was born in 1751 as Raja Rama Varma IX.
- His powerful nickname, Sakthan, which reflects his strong character and leadership, was given to him by his aunt when he was a child.
- The Sanskrit term samrat, which means emperor, is the source of the title Thampuran.
- The Cochin kingdom, which was a part of the Late Chera Empire, included what is now Kerala from Ponnani (Malappuram) to Thottappally (Alappuzha).
- He became the heir apparent in 1769 at the age of 18, and advised the monarch to keep cordial ties with the Dutch and the English, who were vying for dominance of the trade in the area.
- He was the mastermind behind the Mysore attack on Travancore, which resulted in the Powney treaty.

- With this contract, the Cochin kingdom's ties to the British East India Company were established and it was released from its allegiance to Mysore.
- He abolished the Yogiattirippads, the spiritual leaders of important temples.
- He transferred temple administration to the government, becoming known for being a strong leader who eradicated crime from his realm.

Sakthan and the Thrissur Pooram Festival

- Sakthan moved his kingdom's capital from Thrippunithura to Thrissur.
- He built the Swaraj Round and Thekkinkadu Maidanam, which served as the cornerstone of Thrissur's infrastructure.
- He oversaw the kingdom's finances and welcomed traders of all faiths as well as British diplomats to Thrissur.
- As a substitute for Arattupuzha Pooram, he established the Thrissur Pooram in 1797, bringing together the city's principal temples in observance of Lord Shiva, the deity of the Vadakkumnathan Temple.
- Every year, on Pooram Day, which occurs on the day the moon rises alongside the Pooram star during the month of Medam in the Malayalam calendar, the event is held.

Why September 12 is observed as Saragarhi Day?



Indian officers of the 36th Sikhs in ceremonial dress during the Tirah campaign.

Why in the News?

127th Anniversary of the **Battle of Saragarhi** was observed on September 12.

About the Battle of Saragarhi

- On September 12, 1897, around 8,000 Afridi and Orakzai tribal people and 21 Sikh soldiers from the 36th Sikh Regiment engaged in the Battle of Saragarhi.
- In the North West Frontier Province (now Pakistan), the soldiers guarded a communication station that connected Fort Lockhart and Fort Gulistan.
- The Sikhs, under the leadership of Havildar Ishar Singh, engaged in one of the greatest final stands in military history, fighting to the death.
- The men eventually lost the battle due to numerical superiority and were killed.
- By giving up their lives, the British were able to slow down the enemy's progress and fortify their strongholds at Gulistan and Fort Lockhart.

Implication of the Battle

- Fighting against tremendous odds, the Sikh soldiers displayed incredible bravery.
- The 21 soldiers held the enemy for seven hours, killing some 200 insurgents and injuring 600 more.
- The Indian Order of Merit was given to all 21 soldiers by the British government posthumously.
- The fight emphasized the value of self-control, bravery, and sacrifice as well as the function of Sikh battalions in the Indian Army of Britain.

The Great Stupa of Sanchi



Why in the News?

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar visited the replica of the *East Gate of Sanchi's Great Stupa in Berlin*.

About the Great Stupa of Sanchi

	Details
Establishment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioned by Emperor Ashoka in the 3rd century BCE. • UNESCO World Heritage Site.
Purpose	Built to enshrine the relics of Buddha and symbolise the Buddhist faith.
Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overseen by Ashoka's wife, Devi, from Vidisha. • Stupa is a simple hemispherical structure crowned by a chhatra (parasol), symbolizing high rank. • Development of the Sanchi complex was supported by the mercantile community of Vidisha.
Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follows a simple hemispherical dome structure. • Later, in the 1st century BCE, under the Satavahana dynasty, 4 ornamental gateways (toranas) were added in four cardinal directions.
Toranas (Gateways)	Each torana consists of 2 pillars supporting 3 architraves, adorned with bas-reliefs depicting scenes from Buddha's life, Jataka tales, and Buddhist symbols.
Artistic Features	The toranas are famous for their intricate carvings, depicting elephants, winged lions, peacocks, and shalabhanjikas (fertility symbols).
Symbolism	Upper architrave shows seven Manushi Buddhas (previous Buddhas), the middle depicts the Great Departure of Prince Siddhartha, and the lower shows Ashoka's visit to the Bodhi tree.
Restoration	Rediscovered in 1818 by British officer Henry Taylor and restored by John

	Marshall (ASI director) in the early 1900s with financial aid from the Begums of Bhopal.
Replica of East Gate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A plaster cast of the East Gate was made in the 1860s by Henry Hardy Cole for the Victoria and Albert Museum. • A replica now stands in front of the Humboldt Forum Museum in Berlin.

Port Blair renamed as Sri Vijaya Puram



Why in the News?

Union Home Minister announced that Port Blair, the capital of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, will be renamed Sri Vijaya Puram.

On December 30, 2018, three islands in the Andaman and Nicobar archipelago were renamed by the Government of India to honor Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and to commemorate India’s independence struggle:

- Ross Island renamed as Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Island
- Neil Island renamed as Shaheed Dweep
- Havelock Island renamed as Swaraj Dweep

Historical Importance of Port Blair

- Lieutenant Archibald Blair, a British naval officer serving in the early 1700s, is the name of the city.
- In 1906, the notorious Kaala Paani Cellular Jail was founded.
- Under harsh conditions, a number of well-known liberation fighters, notably Veer Savarkar, were detained here.
- Additionally, it was there that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose unveiled our "Tiranga" for the first time.

Behind the new name ‘Sri Vijaya Puram’: Chola History

- In the eleventh century, the Andaman Islands served as a vital naval base for the Chola Empire, commanded by Rajendra Chola I.
- In order to attack the Srivijaya Empire in modern-day Indonesia, he mounted a naval expedition.
- The Chola dynasty was further cemented when his victory over Srivijaya led to the capture of King Sangrama Vijayottunggavarman and the theft of priceless wealth.
- The islands are referred to as Ma-Nakkavaram (large open land) in the Thanjavur inscriptions from 1050 CE; this term eventually changed to Nicobar Islands.

Polity

The term of the 22nd Law Commission ends



Law Commission of India

Why in the News?

The term of the 22nd Law Commission has ended, with its key report on the Uniform Civil Code still in progress.

About the Law Commission of India:

	Details
Nature	Non-statutory body periodically constituted by the Government of India. It is an Executive Body.
Establishment	• First Commission During British India: Established in 1834 under the Charter Act of 1833, chaired by Lord

	Macaulay, Focused on the codification of laws like the Penal Code and Criminal Procedure Code. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Commission in Independent India: Established in 1955, chaired by M. C. Setalvad, then Attorney-General of India.
Primary Role	Advises the Ministry of Law and Justice on legal reform and reviews existing laws to suggest improvements and draft new legislation. Recommendations are advisory and NOT binding on the government.
Composition	Headed by a Chairperson (usually a retired Supreme Court Judge or Chief Justice of a High Court), 4 full-time members (including a Member-Secretary), ex-officio members (Secretaries of the Departments of Legal Affairs and Legislative Department), and Up to 5 part-time members.
Tenure	3 years, with provisions for reconstitution or extension as required by the government.
Key Functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertakes legal research. • Review existing laws for reforms. • Recommends repeal of obsolete laws. • Suggest amendments and new legislations. • Examines laws that affect the poor and marginalized.
Notable Recommendations by 22nd Law Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uniform Civil Code. • Amendments to the sedition law. • Repeal of obsolete laws. • Gender equality in personal laws. • Improvements in judicial administration.

Reports Submitted	Over 277 reports on various legal issues including the implementation of international conventions, compulsory registration of marriages, etc.
Recent Activity	The 22nd Law Commission is focusing on issues like the Uniform Civil Code and amendments to the sedition law (Section 124A), among other legislative reforms.

New Flag and Insignia of the Supreme Court of India



Why in the News?

President Droupadi Murmu unveiled the new flag and insignia of the Supreme Court of India during the National Conference of District Judiciary in New Delhi.

About New Flag and Insignia of the Supreme Court of India:

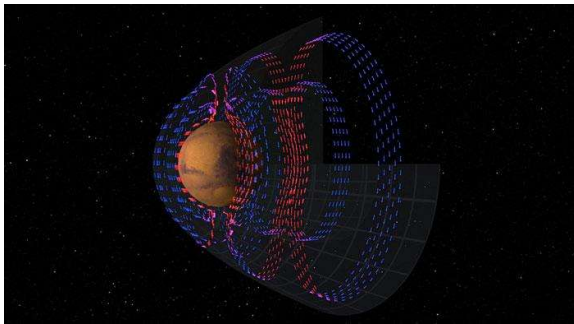
	Details
Designed by	National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), Delhi
Flag Design	Blue flag featuring three symbols: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ashoka Chakra (Symbol of India’s legal and cultural heritage) 2. Supreme Court Building (Represents the institution of justice in India) 3. Constitution of India (Highlights the role of the Supreme Court as the guardian of the Constitution)

Insignia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes the Sanskrit phrase “Yato Dharmastato Jayah” inscribed in Devanagari script. Translates to “Where there is Dharma, there is victory”, symbolizing the
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	<p>Supreme Court’s dedication to justice and righteousness.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Occurs 13 times in the epic the Mahabharata.
Flag Formats	Available in cross table flat, single table flag, pole flag, and wooden frame versions

Science, Technology, Art & Culture

Study reveals intriguing Magnetic behavior on Mars



Why in the News?

A study conducted by the Indian Institute of Geomagnetism (IIG) revealed significant variations in the strength of Mars’ crustal magnetic field between day and night.

Notable facts about Mars:

- With the exception of Mercury, Mars is the second-smallest planet in the Solar System and the fourth planet from the Sun.
- Mars, named for the Roman god of war, is sometimes referred to as the "Red Planet" because of the reddish hue caused by iron oxide on its surface.
- This planet is terrestrial, has a thin atmosphere, and has polar ice caps, valleys, impact craters, and deserts on its surface.
- Because of its identical axial tilt and rotating period, Mars and Earth have similar days and seasons.
- It is home to Valles Marineris, one of the biggest canyons in the Solar System, and Olympus

	<p>Mons, the biggest volcano and highest mountain on Earth.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recently, NASA discovered water frost covering Olympus Mons.
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Key Findings on Mars’s Magnetic

- The crustal magnetic field of Mars is almost nonexistent at night and much stronger during the day.
- This implies that the strength of the magnetic field on the Martian surface varies during the day.
- The majority of Mars' crustal magnetic field is found in the southern hemisphere, more precisely poleward of 30°S latitude.
- The unequal distribution of magnetic fields across the Martian surface is indicated by their scattering across a range spanning from 120° E to 240° E.
- In Mars' southern hemisphere, the ionosphere is largely controlled by the daily crustal magnetic field.
- Future missions' navigation and communication systems are impacted by this influence.

Data Utilization from MAVEN Satellite:

- The MAVEN (Mars Atmosphere and Volatile Evolution) Satellite, which has been orbiting Mars since 2014, provided data for the study.
- Examining how Mars's ionosphere and plasma environment are impacted by its crustal magnetic field required the use of MAVEN's data on electron density and magnetic field.

Significance of the Study

- Future robotic and manned missions must comprehend Mars' crustal magnetic field since it acts as a natural magnetic shield against space radiation.
- The study's conclusions can be used to create plans that will lessen the impact that space weather has on people and spacecraft.

Yellow Food Dye can improve Cancer Treatment



Why in the News?

Recent research reveals that FD&C Yellow 5, a common food dye, can temporarily make tissue transparent, with potential implications for cancer treatment and medical procedures.

About Yellow Food Dye

- Tartrazine, sometimes referred to as FD&C Yellow 5, is a common artificial food coloring that can be found in a variety of processed meals, drinks, and snacks.
- It is frequently used to provide items a bright yellow color and has FDA approval.

How does it work?

- Based on its interaction with light, namely the Kramers-Kronig interactions, a physics principle, the dye has the power to make tissue transparent.
- It only lets in the red-orange spectrum of light after absorbing blue light.
- As a result, the refractive index of water is changed to coincide with that of lipids and proteins in tissue.

- The appearance of transparency is produced when there is less dispersion of light through tissue due to a match in refractive indices.

Potential Medical Applications of Yellow Food Dye

- **Cancer Treatment:** FD&C Yellow 5 could improve photodynamic and photothermal therapy by rendering tissues translucent. This would enable laser light to more efficiently target malignant cells by penetrating deeper tissues.
- **Vein Visibility:** Especially in patients with difficult-to-see veins, transparent tissues may assist make veins more visible during procedures like venepuncture for blood draws or injections.
- **Non-invasive Diagnostics:** By using the dye, medical professionals may be able to see inside organs and structures without resorting to costly imaging techniques like CT scans or MRIs or invasive procedures like biopsies.

What is Helium and why is it used in Rockets?

Why in the News?

Two NASA astronauts aboard Boeing’s Starliner will remain on the **International Space Station (ISS)** for an extended period due to issues with a faulty propulsion system, including helium leaks.



About Helium

- Because helium is inert, it does not react or catch fire when it comes into contact with other things.
- For pressurization and cooling systems in rockets and spacecraft, this makes it perfect.
- Helium, which has an atomic number of two, is the second-lightest element after hydrogen. This

helps to maintain the rocket's low weight, which is essential for reaching the orbit-entering speeds and altitudes.

- Since it has a very low boiling point (-268.9°C), it can remain gaseous in extremely cold temperatures—an environment in which a lot of rocket fuel is kept.
- Helium is non-toxic, however it cannot be breathed on its own since it replaces oxygen, which is necessary for breathing.

How is Helium used for space applications?

- **Fuel Tank Pressurization:** Fuel Tank Pressurization: As fuel is burned, helium pressurizes fuel tanks to maintain a steady supply of fuel to the rocket's engines.
- **Cooling Systems:** It is also essential for cooling systems, especially in those where oxidizer and rocket fuel must be kept at very low temperatures for storage.
- **Maintaining Tank Pressure:** Helium fills the empty space left by the use of fuel and oxidizer, ensuring that the total pressure inside the tanks stays constant.

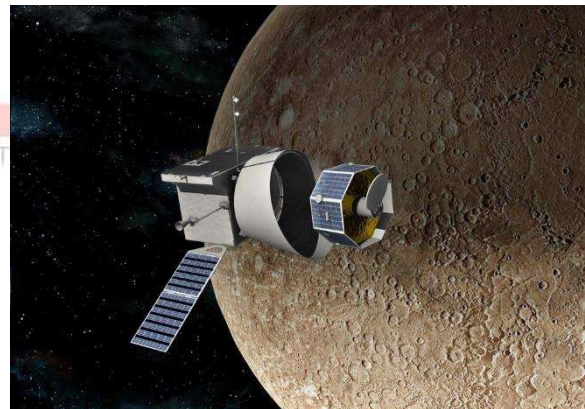
Is Helium prone to leaks?

- Due to its low molecular weight and small atomic size, helium is prone to seeping through tiny cracks or seals in fuel systems and storage tanks.
- Helium is an invaluable instrument for identifying any flaws in spaceship fuel systems because it is uncommon in the Earth's atmosphere and makes even small leaks clearly visible.
- **Examples of Leaks:**
 - Sensors on board Boeing's Starliner spacecraft discovered a tiny helium leak in one of its thrusters in May, just hours before the spacecraft attempted its first crew launch.
 - Further leaks discovered in orbit after Starliner's June launch forced NASA to bring the spaceship down to Earth without its crew.

Alternatives to Helium

- Although helium is still the industry norm, certain rocket launches have experimented with other inert gases including argon and nitrogen, which are occasionally less expensive.
- The New System of Ariane 6: Instead of using helium, the European space agency's Ariane 6 rocket uses a pressurization system that produces gas by partially converting liquid oxygen and hydrogen into gas.
- But this mechanism malfunctioned in space on Ariane 6's maiden launch, adding to the pressurization issues facing the rocket industry worldwide.

BepiColombo Mission



Why in the News?

- On 05 Sept., the ESA-Japan spacecraft “BepiColombo” made its closest approach to Mercury, capturing detailed images of its sunrise-lit surface and revealing the planet’s south pole.

Highlights of the Latest Flyby:

- BepiColombo uses flybys of Earth, Venus, and Mercury to slow down and enter orbit around Mercury. This approach gives scientists new information about Mercury’s south pole and its unusual peak ring craters, which haven’t been studied much before.

Note: Flybys are close passes of a spacecraft near a planet or celestial body

About BepiColombo Mission:

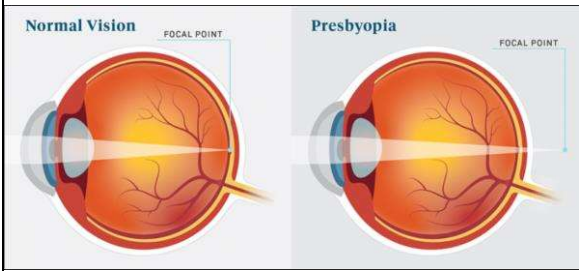
	Details
Collaboration	European Space Agency (ESA) and Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)
Launch Date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> October 20, 2018 Expected to enter Mercury’s orbit by late 2026.
Launch Vehicle	Ariane 5 Rocket
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study Mercury’s magnetic field Investigate surface composition and geology Analyze Mercury’s interaction with solar wind Study exosphere and geological history
Spacecraft Components	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESA’s Mercury Planetary Orbiter (MPO): Focus on surface and interior study JAXA’s Mercury Magnetospheric Orbiter (MIO): Focus on magnetic field and surrounding space
Planned Flybys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 (Flybys of Earth, Venus, and Mercury) Ongoing, with 4 out of 6 Mercury flybys completed
Craters Studied	Vivaldi Crater, Stoddart Crater
Significance	Second mission ever to orbit Mercury (after NASA’s Messenger, 2004)
Challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mercury’s proximity to the Sun accelerates spacecraft, requiring multiple flybys to slow down Thruster issues causing mission delay

PresVu: India’s First Eye Drop for Presbyopia

Why in the News?

The Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) has authorized Entod Pharmaceuticals' new eye drop, PresVu, which is intended to help people with presbyopia become less dependent on reading glasses. Entod Pharmaceuticals is situated in Mumbai.

What is Presbyopia?



- Presbyopia is an age-related condition that usually appears after the age of 40 and is characterized by a progressive loss of focus on surrounding objects.
- One of the most often suggested treatments for presbyopia is the use of spectacles.

How does PresVu work?

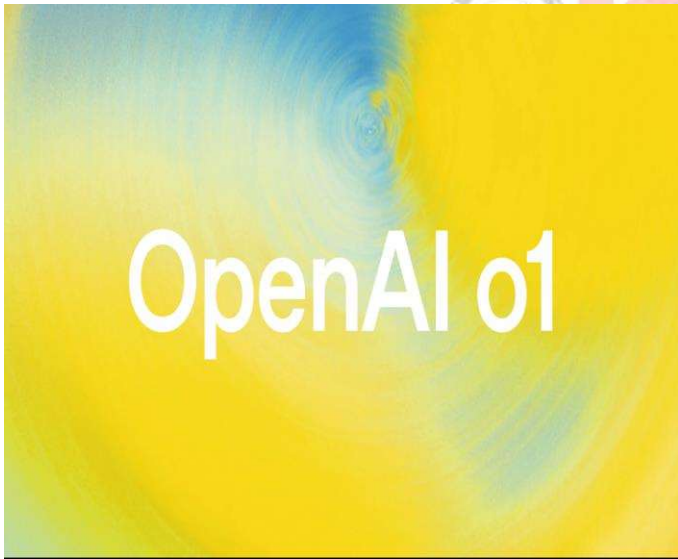
- Pilocarpine, the active component in PresVu, works by contracting the iris muscles to regulate pupil size and improve focus on items in the immediate vicinity.
- Additionally, PresVu employs cutting-edge dynamic buffer technology to adjust to the pH levels of tears, guaranteeing steady effectiveness and security for years of usage.
- However, PresVu is only available with a prescription and has short-term effects that usually last four to six hours.
- PresVu should not be utilized by people who have inflammation in their iris.
- Regular use may lead to side effects such as:
 - Itching and redness
 - Eyebrow pain

- **Muscle spasms** in the eyes

Is this a Novel Therapy?

- The primary ingredient in PresVu, pilocarpine, has been around for decades in India and is frequently used as a first-line treatment for cataracts, despite Entod's claims that it is innovative.
- Other nations, notably the US, have investigated the potential of pilocarpine to momentarily increase depth of focus. In 2021, the FDA approved an eye drop containing pilocarpine for the treatment of presbyopia.
- While PresVu contains 1.25% pilocarpine, the Indian government sets a ceiling price for the drug at 4% and 2% concentrations.

What is OpenAI o1?



Why in the News?

- OpenAI has launched OpenAI o1, the first of several sophisticated AI models as part of its "Project Strawberry" project.
- This new paradigm is intended to handle increasingly difficult arithmetic, scientific, and coding jobs.

About OpenAI o1

- This model was designed to tackle difficulties similar to those faced by people, carefully

weighing all available options before coming up with a solution.

- By examining its output for mistakes and gaining knowledge from many viewpoints, it enhances its performance.
- During testing, the next iteration of the o1 model outperformed PhD candidates in fields including biology, chemistry, and physics; it was especially strong in math and coding.
- For example, in a math competition, it resolved 83% of the questions, whereas previous iterations only resolved 13%.
- The model outperformed 89% of participants in coding.

Key Features and Offerings

- Additionally, OpenAI is releasing OpenAI o1-Mini, a low-cost version targeted at developers that has comparable reasoning skills at an 80% reduced cost over the o1-preview version.
- The o1 model is said to help in data analysis, problem-solving, software development, and sophisticated code generation and debugging.

Safety Measures

- To guarantee the security of these models, OpenAI has implemented novel training techniques that enhance their capacity to adhere to safety protocols and thwart AI jail-breaking.
- Hacking techniques known as "jailbreaking" are used to get past an AI model's moral protections and get illegal data.
- The updated version performed significantly better in safety tests, receiving an 84/100 rating as opposed to the old 22/100.
- Red teaming is being used by the corporation to find and fix any vulnerabilities, and it is working with the governments of the US and the UK on AI safety.

Security Issues

Exercise Yudh Abhyas, 2024



Why in the News?

- The 2024 edition of the India-U.S. Army bilateral exercise Yudh Abhyas was held at the Mahajan field firing ranges in Rajasthan.

About Exercise Yudh Abhyas

	Details
Type	Bilateral joint military exercise between India and the United States
Inception Year	2004
Frequency	Annual
Primary Objective	Enhance military cooperation and joint operational capabilities, particularly

	focusing on counter-terrorism and counter-insurgency operations.
Location	Held alternately in India and the USA
Earlier Edition (2023)	Held at Fort Wainwright, Alaska, focusing on cold-weather operations and high-altitude warfare
Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Counter-terrorism operations in semi-desert and desert terrains Urban warfare (FIBUA – Fighting in Built-Up Areas)
Participating Forces in 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indian Army: 600 troops from the RAJPUT Regiment US Army: 1-24 Battalion of the 11th Airborne Division, Alaska
Tactical Drills in 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint planning sessions Joint responses to terrorist actions Combined field training exercises
Significance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflects the growing military partnership between India and the US Enhances interoperability and strengthens strategic defence ties



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