

April 2022

BOLT

Monthly Current Affairs



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Banking & Finance

1. RBI turns 87, marches on to its 88th year

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has turned 87 on April 1, 2022.

The Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934 (II of 1934) establishes the legal framework for the Bank's operations, which began on April 1, 1935.

The Central Office of the Reserve Bank was initially established in Kolkata but was permanently moved to Mumbai in 1937.

2. RBI extends deadline for implementation of cassette swap in ATMs by a year

The Reserve Bank of India has extended the timeline for implementation of cassette swap in all ATMs by banks by one year till March 31, 2023. The extension of the deadline for implementation of cassette swap in ATMs comes following representations RBI received from various banks and the Indian Banks' Association expressing difficulties in meeting the timeline. This is second extension of the timeline that the central bank has given to banks.

3. HDFC Bank adjudged Best Performing Bank in SHG Linkage by NRLM, Ministry of Rural Development, Govt of India

HDFC Bank has been adjudged Best Performing Bank in SHG Linkage by National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM), Ministry of Rural Development, Govt of India.

At a function organised at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi, the award was presented by Shri Giriraj Singh, Hon' Minister of Rural Development to Mr. K Venkatesh, Head ' Sustainable Livelihood Initiative, HDFC Bank. Notably, HDFC Bank was the only Private Bank to be felicitated.

4. RBI imposes Rs 5,000 withdrawal cap on Shushruti Souharda Sahakara Bank

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed restrictions on Shushruti Souharda Sahakara Bank Niyamita, Bangalore.

Restrictions include granting or renewing any loans and advances or take deposits without approval from the RBI.

The restrictions will remain in force for six months.

5. April 6-8, The first bi-monthly monetary policy of 2022-23, RBI keeps rates unchanged

The Monetary Policy Committee raised the inflation forecast for the fiscal year to 5.7% percent, from 5.5 percent citing rising commodity prices. Economic growth forecast has been cut to 7.2 percent, from 7.8 percent as supply disruptions lessen output and high prices destroy demand.

The FY23 GDP projection has assumed crude oil prices at \$100 per barrel.

6. RBI starts SDF to raise effective policy rate

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has effectively raised the policy rate by 40 basis points by introducing a standing deposit facility (SDF), through which it seeks to suck out excess liquidity in the system, but without offering any collateral to banks.

7. Karbon Card launches new Payout product for startups and SMBs

Karbon Card, a corporate card provider and an emerging Neobank for the new-age startups and SMBs, announced launching a new Payout product making the salary payments easier and faster. Karbon: Founded in 2019 by Kartik Jain, Pei-fu Hsieh, Amit Jangir, and Sunil Kumar.

8. Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank launches new deposit scheme

Chairman of Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank P. Gopi Krishna launched a new deposit scheme of the bank, Vikas Siri Sampat-1111.

The scheme is of a tenor of 1,111 days with interest rate of 5.70% for general public and 6.20% for senior citizens.

It also offers the highest rate of annualised return of 6.03% for general public and 6.60% for senior citizens.

9. RBI imposes penalties on Axis Bank, IDBI Bank

Reserve Bank of India said it has imposed a penalty of Rs 93 lakh on Axis Bank for various violations, including KYC guidelines. The central bank has also slapped a fine of Rs 90 lakh on IDBI Bank. The penalties are based on deficiencies in regulatory compliance and is not intended to pronounce upon the validity of any transaction or agreement entered by customers.

10. RBI: NBFCs-UL, NBFCs-ML to have compliance function by April 1, CCO by Oct 1, 2023

Non banking finance companies in the Upper Layer and Middle Layer should put in place a board approved policy and compliance function including the appointment of a Chief Compliance Officer latest by April 1, 2023 and October 1, 2023, respectively. This follows the RBI's guidelines on Scale Based Regulations for NBFCs.

11. Kotak pauses crypto trade with CoinSwitch Kuber

The private sector bank KOTAK has discontinued - at least temporarily - handling payments for trades with CoinSwitch Kuber, a large crypto intermediary.

Kotak's stand could deal a blow to the unregulated industry. It follows digital wallet MobiKwik reportedly snapping its links with crypto-related payments since the beginning of April.

MobiKwik had emerged as the sole payment option for the bulk of crypto traders

12. HDFC Bank to raise Rs 50,000 cr via bonds; re-appoints Renu Karnad as director

HDFC Bank said it will raise up to Rs 50,000 crore in the next one year by issuing bonds aimed at financing infrastructure and affordable housing loan requirements of the customers.

It also informed that the board has approved to re-appoint Renu Karnad as non-executive director on the board of the bank for a period of five years with effect from September 3, 2022.

13. Kotak Mahindra Bank launches Kotak FYN

Kotak Mahindra Bank (KMBL) has launched the Kotak FYN, its new enterprise portal exclusive for Business Banking and Corporate clients.

The bank's customers can use the portal to carry out all trade & services transactions.

By the last quarter of 2022, the Kotak FYN portal will include many other services, including account services, payments and collections.

14. World's First "Crypto-Backed" Payment Card Launched By Mastercard And Nexo

Crypto lender Nexo has teamed up with global payments company Mastercard to launch what it calls the world's first "crypto-backed" payment card.

It signals the latest move by crypto and incumbent financial networks to join forces as digital assets become more mainstream.

Electronic money firm DiPocket is Nexo's card issuer.

15. Chinese banks continue to dominate; ICICI latest Indian entrant among top banks in APac

The assets size of the country's top banks has improved in 2021 with State Bank of India (SBI) and HDFC Bank climbing up two notches in the latest S&P Global Market Intelligence's ranking of the Asia-Pacific's largest banks. What's more, the third-largest lender ' ICICI Bank ' has found a place in the league table with the rank of **50**.

16. India Post Payments Bank launches 'Fincluvation'

On the occasion of the 75th anniversary of Indian Independence & ongoing Azadi ka Amrit Mahotasav, India Post Payments Bank (IPPB), a 100% government owned entity under Department of Posts (DoP) announced the launch of 'Fincluvation' a joint initiative to collaborate with Fintech Startup community to co-create and innovate solutions for financial inclusion.

17. RBI Launches Business Sentiment Assessment Survey

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has launched the 98th round of the quarterly industrial outlook survey of the country's manufacturing sector for the reference period April-June 2022.

The survey assesses business sentiment for the first quarter of 2022-23 and expectations for the ensuing quarter July-September 2022-23 period. Genesis Management & Market Research Pvt Ltd has been authorised to conduct the survey.

18. RBI sets 3-year deadline for non-individual borrowers to obtain Legal Entity Identifier (LEI) codes.

The Reserve Bank of India set a three-year timetable for non-individual borrowers with aggregate exposures of Rs 5 crore or more to obtain LEI.

Those with exposure above Rs 25 crore will have to get LEI code on or before April 30, 2023; exposure between Rs.10 to 25 crore by April 30,2024 and those with Rs.5 and 10 crore exposure on or before April 30,2025.

The LEI is a 20-character alpha-numeric code.

19. RBI issues new rules, penalties for credit & debit cards effective from July 1, 2022

Banks with a net worth of Rs 100 crore and above are permitted to undertake credit card business either independently or in tie-up arrangement with other card issuing banks/NBFCs.

Urban cooperative banks (UCBs) with minimum networth of Rs 100 crore and a core banking solution in place can also issue credit cards after RBI approval.

RBI has also introduced penalties to be levied on banks & NBFCs in case of non-compliance

20. BHIM UPI goes live on NEOPAY terminals in UAE

NPCI International Payments Ltd (NIPL), the international arm of the National Payment Corporation of India said BHIM UPI is now live on NEOPAY terminals, across the UAE.

NIPL and NEOPAY, the payment subsidiary of Mashreq Bank, partnered last year, to create the acceptance infrastructure in the UAE.

CEO: NIPL: Ritesh Shukla; NEOPAY: Vibhor Mundhada

21. International Financial Services Authority issues framework for investment funds

As per IFSCA(Fund Management) Regulations, 2022, a Fund Management Entity will be registered with IFSCA and will be able to manage different types of funds and schemes subject to meeting the eligibility criteria.

Venture Capital Schemes or non-retail schemes soliciting money from accredited investors only shall qualify for a green channel etc.

22. RBI imposes Rs 1.12 crore penalty on Bank of Maharashtra

This penalty has been imposed in the exercise of powers vested in RBI under the provisions of section 47 A (1) (c) read with sections 46 (4) (i) and 51 (1) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 (the Act), it added.

RBI has also imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 25 lakh on Haryana State Co-operative Apex Bank Limited for non-compliance with its directions on Housing Finance. It has also imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 12 lakh on Rajkot Nagarik Sahakari Bank Ltd.

23. SBI Cards expands partnership with TCS to transform customer onboarding experience

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) announced the expansion of its decade-long partnership with SBI Cards and Payments Services to power the latter's next leg of digital transformation.

The future-ready, agile platform TCS had built in run up to the company's IPO in 2020, personalised customer experience and helped boost sales and retention.

24. Airtel Payments Bank offers FD facility in tie-up with IndusInd Bank

Airtel Payments Bank has launched the fixed deposit facility in partnership with IndusInd Bank, offering interest rates of 6.5 per cent and above and an option of premature withdrawal without any penalty.

With the launch of the fixed deposits (FD) facility, Airtel Payments Bank has further strengthened its digital banking portfolio.



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Economy

1. GST collections hit all-time high of Rs 1.42Lcr in March

The gross collection of goods and service tax (GST) soared to an all-time high of over Rs 1.42 lakh crore in March aided by the rationalization of rates and aggressive anti-evasion measures.

GST cess collections amounted to Rs 9,417 crore (including Rs 981 crore collected on import of goods).

2. India Ratings slashes India's FY23 GDP forecast to 7%-7.2% from 7.6%

India Ratings cut its real GDP growth forecast for FY23 to 7-7.2 percent from 7.6 percent seen earlier, on the back of higher commodity prices due to Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Ind-Ra's India GDP forecast cut comes a day after ICRA Ltd cut its FY23 growth forecast to 7.2 percent from 8 percent.

3. Deadline to ban pooling of money and mutual fund units extended to July 1 by SEBI

The deadline to ban the pooling of money and mutual fund units was extended to July 1 by SEBI. As a result, Online platforms and brokers will get some more time to comply with the new Sebi guidelines on the pooling of money and mutual fund units. Earlier, Sebi asked these entities to stop pooling money and mutual funds units from April 1.

4. ADB projects India's economy to grow by 7.5 per cent in FY23

Asian Development Bank projected a seven per cent collective growth for South Asian economies in 2022 with the subregion's largest economy India growing by 7.5 per cent in the current fiscal year before picking up to eight per cent the next year.

Last week, rating agency ICRA slashed its growth forecast for FY23 to 7.2 per cent from 8 per cent projected earlier.

5. Retail inflation rises to 6.95% in March, highest in 17 months

India's retail inflation surged to a 17-month high of 6.95 per cent in March from 6.07 per cent in the previous month due to a sharp increase in food prices as per the National Statistical Office (NSO) data.

Retail inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) has remained above the upper limit of the RBI tolerance band for the third consecutive month. CPI inflation data is released monthly by the NSO, MoSPI

6. IMF projects India's general fiscal deficit at 9.9% of GDP for FY23

India's general government fiscal deficit (states and Centre combined) has been projected at 9.9 per cent of GDP for FY23 as rising energy and food prices will put renewed pressure on the fiscal gap, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) said in its report.

7. India is the only country among top 10 steel producing nations to register growth in production in Jan-March, 2022

India has produced 31.9 million tonnes of steel from January to March, 2022 with a growth of 5.9 percent. In March alone, steel production stood at 10.9 million tonnes with 4.4 percent growth rate.

As per the data released by World Steel Association, India is the only country among top 10 steel producing nations of the world, which has registered growth.

8. Reliance Industries becomes first Indian firm to hit Rs 19 lakh crore market valuation mark

Reliance Industries Limited became the first Indian company to hit the Rs 19 lakh crore market valuation mark following a rally in its share price.

The market heavyweight stock jumped 1.85 per cent to its record high of Rs 2,827.10 on the BSE.

In March this year, the company's market valuation had gone past Rs 18 lakh crore.

9. Core Industries grow by 10.4% during FY 2021-22; steel, cement and natural gas lead the way

The cumulative growth rate of Index of Eight Core Industries (ICI) during April-March 2021-22 was 10.4% (provisional) as compared to the corresponding period of last Financial Year. The combined Index of Eight Core Industries stood at 157.3 in March 2022, which increased by 4.3 per cent (provisional) as compared to the Index of March 2021.

National

1. Nehru Museum to be renamed as PM Museum to commemorate the work done by all the former PMs of India

The Central government decided to change the name of Nehru Museum in New Delhi.

The new name given to it is PM Museum. This has been done to recollect and save the memories of the 14 former Prime Ministers of India.

Inauguration will be done on 14 April, Ambedkar Jayanti by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

2. Minister of State, Culture & External Affairs, Smt. Meenakshi Lekhi inaugurates 'Temple 360' website

Minister of State for Culture & External Affairs, launched the website 'Temple 360' in an event organized by the Ministry of Culture at IGNC Ampitheatre, Indira Gandhi National Centre of Arts, New Delhi under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. Temple 360 is a website where one can visit a temple of their choice, anytime and from anywhere in India.

3. NCW Launches Anti-Human Trafficking Cell

The National Commission for Women launched an Anti-Human Trafficking Cell to improve effectiveness in tackling cases of human trafficking, raising awareness among women and girls, capacity building and training Anti Trafficking Units, and increasing the responsiveness of law enforcement agencies.

4. Army Dedicates First Floating Hamlet On Srinagar's Dal Lake To Citizens

The Army dedicated the soft launch of Kashmir's first floating hamlet on the famous Dal Lake in Srinagar to the people of Jammu and Kashmir. The soft launch of Kachri Mohalla as a sample tourist floating village was done by General Officer Commanding, Chinar Corps, Lieutenant General D P Pandey, and Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir, Pandurang K Pole.

5. RPF conducts month long Pan India Drive against touts under Operation Upalabdh

With the restoration of long-distance train services and the likelihood of the festival and summer rush, a sharp rise in demand for reserved train accommodation was expected in March 2022. Taking note of the input, Railway Protection Force geared up its efforts and launched a pan India drive against activities of touts under Operation Upalabdh throughout the country.

6. Hon'ble Vice President Sri M. Venkaiah Naidu inaugurates the 3-day Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav at NTR Stadium

Chief Guest and Hon'ble Vice-President of India, Sri M. Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated the biggest and most colourful cultural extravaganza in the recent past, Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav (RSM) 2022, the three-day National Cultural Festival of India, organised by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, at the NTR stadium, Hyderabad.

7. CIC Uday Mahurkar's office sets new record, disposes of 5,056 RTI appeals

The Central Information Commissioner (CIC) Uday Mahurkar took to Twitter to share a new milestone where he stated that his court had disposed of 5056 Right to Information (RTI) appeals in 2021-22, which is the highest in a year since the enactment of the RTI Act in 2005.

Uday Mahurkar was appointed as the CIC in October 2020.

8. UP Overtakes West Bengal as Leading Producer of Vegetables, AP Maintains Dominance in Fruits

After two years, Uttar Pradesh has reclaimed its status as the leading producer of vegetables, relegating West Bengal to second place, although the difference between the two is now more than a million tonnes.

Andhra Pradesh, on the other hand, continues to be the leading fruit producer.

9. Ayush Ministry to celebrate Yoga Mahotsav at Red Fort on World Health Day

Ayush Ministry will celebrate Yoga Mahotsav on World Health Day at Red Fort in New Delhi.

Union Ministers will demonstrate Common Yoga Protocol on 75th day of the countdown of the International Day of Yoga.

During the event, Members of the Parliament, Ambassadors of various countries, prominent Sports Celebrities and Yoga Gurus will participate.

10. Tata Power commissions solar plant, India's largest single-axis tracker system

Tata Power arm Tata Power Renewables has commissioned a 300 MW solar plant in Dholera, Gujarat with the country's largest single-axis solar tracker system.

The project will generate 774 MUs annually. Along with this, it will reduce approximately 704340 MT/year of carbon emission. The installation entails 873012 numbers of Monocrystalline PV Modules.

11. New scheme to set up 'Hobby Hubs' in Delhi government schools in works

A project to set up 'Hobby Hubs' in government schools in Delhi with after-school dance, music, arts and crafts activities during this new academic session is in the works.

For the 2022-2023 academic session, this project will only be implemented in single shift government schools.

12. Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying launches 'One Health' pilot project in Uttarakhand

The Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying (DAHD), Government of India has initiated the launch of a pilot project in the state of Uttarakhand to implement the One Health Framework by One Health Support Unit.

The key objective of the Unit is to develop a national One Health roadmap based on the learnings of the pilot project implementation.

13. UGC to establish Bhima Bhoi chairs at Delhi University and Guru Ghasidas University in Chhattisgarh

The University Grants Commission will establish Bhima Bhoi chairs at the University of Delhi and Guru Ghasidas University in Bilaspur in Chhattisgarh.

The decision follows Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan's suggestion to UGC to conduct extensive research on the life and philosophy of the saint-poet Bhima Bhoi of Odisha.

14. India's first case of XE variant of coronavirus disease reported from Mumbai

India's first case of the XE variant of the coronavirus disease (Covid-19) was reported in Mumbai.

Results of the 11th genome sequencing declared by the city civic body Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC,) found one sample positive for XE variant and another for Kappa variant.

15. Cabinet nod to distribute fortified rice under central schemes

In a move aimed at reducing malnutrition in the country, the Union cabinet approved a scheme to distribute fortified rice under various government programmes. This will provide nutrition to every poor person of the country to overcome malnutrition and lack of essential nutrients in women, children and lactating mothers.

16. South-Central Railway launches 'One station One Product' initiative at 6 major stations

The South-Central Railway (SCR) has launched the 'One station One Product' initiative at 6 major stations in all its six divisions. The stalls have also been opened at Kacheguda beside Vijayawada, Guntur and Aurangabad Stations. The Government had announced the new initiative in the General Budget 2022-23 and is already under trial at Tirupati. South-Central Railway Headquarters: Secunderabad.

17. AAI Airports providing platform to Self-Help Groups for promotion of local artisans and products through 'AVSAR' Scheme

In the line with the vision of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to encourage the talent of women, artisans and craftsmen and provide them with the right opportunities, Airport Authority of India (AAI) has taken an initiative to allocate space to Self Help Groups (SHGs) at its airports for selling/showcasing the self-made products of their region.

18. Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports releases contribution of USD 72,124 to UNESCO Fund for Elimination of Doping in Sport

As per the resolution of 7COP held in Paris, 29-31 September 2019, the State Parties had agreed to 1% of the contribution of the regular budget of the respective nation to UNESCO towards the Fund for the Elimination of Doping in Sport.

First time in 2021, the Government of India, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports made a contribution of USD 28172 towards the UNESCO Fund.

19. Union Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia flagged off Dornier, the First Made-in-India Commercial Flight.

Alliance Air's made-in-India Dornier 228 aircraft was deployed for its first commercial flight on Dibrugarh (Assam)-Pasighat (Arunachal Pradesh) route.

The Centre-run Alliance Air had in February signed an agreement with the government-owned Hindustan Aeronautics Limited to lease two 17-seater Dornier 228 aircraft. The airline received its first

Dornier 228 on April 7. It was India's first commercial airline to fly Indian-made aircraft for civil operations.

20. After Hyderabad, Mumbai Recognised As A 'Tree City Of The World'

Mumbai has been recognised as the "2021 Tree City of the World" by the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations jointly with Arbor Day Foundation, Department of Public Relations. Mumbai city is now part of an important global network leading the way in urban and community forestry.

Previously, Hyderabad was the only city in India to receive this honour.

The city of Mumbai is also known as 'Dream City'.

21. Domestic patent filings surpass international ones after 11 years

The number of domestic patent filing has surpassed the number of international patent filing during January-March 2022 for the first time in 11 years, the commerce and industry ministry said in a statement.

This means that of the total 19,796 patent applications filed, 10,706 (54 per cent) were filed by Indian applicants as compared to 9,090 by non-Indian applicants.

22. PM Sh. Narendra Modi inaugurates Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya, which will showcase the contributions of all the former Prime Ministers since independence.

The logo of the Sangrahalaya represents the hands of the people of India holding the Dharma Chakra symbolizing the nation and democracy.

There are a total of 43 galleries in the Sangrahalaya.

23. Nation pays homage to Dr BR Ambedkar on his 131st birth anniversary

The nation pays homage to the Chief Architect of Indian Constitution Dr BR Ambedkar on his 131st birth anniversary.

Several functions have been organised throughout the country to mark the occasion. Floral tributes will be paid at Babasaheb's Statue in the Parliament House Complex.

24. Government launches country's biggest ever Quiz Contest "Sabka Vikas Mahaquiz"

MyGov under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology is organising the Sabka Vikas Mahaquiz Series, which is part of an outreach effort to build awareness in citizens. The quiz aims to sensitise the participants about the various schemes and initiatives and how to avail the benefits. The quiz series will deepen government engagement at grassroot level. Sabka Vikas Mahaquiz launched on 14th April as a tribute to Dr BR Ambedkar

25. Pan-India electronic trading portal, e-NAM, completes 6 years

National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) is a flagship programme integrates physical wholesale mandis and markets of different States and Union Territories to facilitate online trading of agricultural commodities. Launched in 2016, e-NAM is completely funded by the Central Government and is being implemented by the Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium.

26. TCS-led consortium bags Rs 550-crore order to deploy 4G gears in BSNL

A TCS-led consortium has bagged Rs 550 crore order from BSNL for deploying indigenously designed 4G network. The TCS consortium will initially deploy 6,000 mobile towers for BSNL 4G services. Telecom Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw had informed Parliament that indigenous 4G telecom network will soon be rolled out across India with the BSNL planning to install about 1.12 lakh tower

27. Govt launches e-Sanjeevani Tele-consultation facility at one lakh health and wellness centers

e-Sanjeevani Tele-consultation facility at one lakh centers has been launched on the occasion of 4th anniversary of Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness. Health Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya said, now the common citizens will also be able to take advice from the big doctors of the country. More than 1,17,000 Health & Wellness Centre have been operationalized in the country

28. 40th edition of Hunar Haat begins in Mumbai

40th edition of Hunar Haat begins in Mumbai. The 12-day event organized by the Union Ministry of Minority Affairs is aimed at providing exposure and employment opportunities to artisans, craftsmen and traditional culinary experts from across the country. The event is being held in Bandra Kurla Complex in sururban area of Mumbai. Union Minister for Minority Affairs - Muktar Abbas Naqvi

29. PM Modi unveils a 108-feet statue of Lord Hanuman at Morbi in Gujarat

On the occasion of Hanuman Jayanti, Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled a 108-feet statue of Lord Hanuman in Morbi, Gujarat via video conferencing. As part of Hanuman ji Chaar Dhaam Project, this statue is the second of the four statues being set up in the four directions across the country.

It has been set up in the west, at the Ashram of Bapu Keshvananandji Capital: Gandhinagar Governor: Acharya Devvrat CM: Bhupendrabhai Patel

30. Draft Policy Guidelines on Right of Way (RoW) for Establishment of Telecommunications Infrastructure

Department of Telecommunications has released draft policy guidelines to bring consistency in Right of Way-related procedures across states & spur the deployment of telecom infrastructure ahead of a pan-India roll out of fifth-generation or 5G technology.

Telecom dept. has prescribed the methodology for calculation of RoW area, establishment of poles for the small cells etc. Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (1997) is the regulator of telecommunication

31. NITI Aayog plans to launch National Data and Analytics Platform in May to provide govt data in user-friendly format

NITI Aayog is planning to launch a National Data and Analytics Platform (NDAP) in May to provide government data in a user-friendly format, to promote data-driven decision making and research. Conceived in 2020, the platform aims to standardise data across govt. sources & provide flexible analytics that make it easy for users to analyse information using multiple datasets. NITI Aayog: CEO: Amitabh Kant Chairperson: PM Modi

32. Ministry of Panchayati Raj organises National Conference on Localisation of SDGs on Clean and Green Village and Water Sufficient

Ministry of Panchayati Raj is organising National Conference on Localisation of SDGs on Healthy Village and Socially Secured Village to mark the Iconic Week celebrations in the light of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. It has conceptualised series of thematic Conferences to commemorate this momentous occasion in the right spirit, taking a 'whole-of-society' & 'whole-of-government'

33. Parliament passes bill to include Darlong as sub-tribe of Kuki in ST list of Tripura

Parliament passed a bill for the inclusion of the Darlong community as a sub-tribe of Kuki in the list of Scheduled Tribes of Tripura.

Rajya Sabha passed the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill-2022 with a voice vote. Kuki is one of the main tribal communities in Northeast India and the Darlong community in Tripura will become its 18th sub-tribe. Tripura Capital: Agartala Chief minister: Biplab Kumar Deb

34. BRO to build world's highest tunnel at 16,580 feet to connect Himachal to Ladakh through Shinku La Pass

The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) will construct the world's highest tunnel at Shinku La Pass, which will connect Himachal Pradesh to Zaskar Valley in Ladakh.

The tunnel will be constructed at a height of 16,580 feet.

The construction of the tunnel will start by July this year. It will be completed by 2025.

35. Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah attends 13th NIA Day celebrations of National Investigation Agency (NIA)

NIA has set 'Gold Standard' with more than 90 percent conviction rate and NIA has a very important role to play in fulfilling the Prime Minister's goal of a terror-free India and Zero Tolerance Against Terrorism.

'NIA Headquarters: New Delhi

'Founder: Radha Vinod Raju

'Chief: Yogesh Chander Modi.

36. PM participates in the celebrations of 400th Parkash Purab of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji at Red Fort

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi participated in the celebrations of the 400th Parkash Purab of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji at Red Fort in New Delhi today. The Prime Minister offered prayers to Shri Guru Teg Bahadur ji. The Prime Minister sat in prayer when 400 Ragis offered shabad/kirtan.

37. Boris Johnson opens new JCB factory built near Vadodara for Rs 990 cr

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson opened JCB's new export-focused factory in Halol near Vadodara. Set up at an investment of 100 million (over Rs 990 crore) in Gujarat, the factory will fabricate parts for global production lines. Built on a 47-acre site, the new facility will be capable of processing 85,000 tonnes of steel annually.

JCB: Chairman: Lord Bamford; India CEO and MD: Deepak Shetty.

38. NITI Aayog releases draft battery swapping policy, prioritizes major cities

Government think tank Niti Aayog released a draft battery swapping policy under which all metropolitan cities with a population above 40 lakh will be prioritised for development of battery swapping network under the first phase.

State capitals, UT headquarters and cities with population above 5 lakh will be covered in second phase. According to the policy, vehicles with swappable batteries will be sold without a battery

39. PM Modi visits J-K to participate in Panchayati Raj Day event, inaugurate Amrit Sarovar initiative

The Prime Minister will visit Palli Panchayat in Samba district. He will inaugurate Amrit Sarovar initiative which is aimed at developing and rejuvenating 75 water bodies in each district of the country.

The Prime Minister will lay the foundation stone of three road packages of Delhi-Amritsar-Katra Expressway and Ratle and Kwar Hydroelectric projects

He will also inaugurate 8.45 km long Banihal Qazigund Road Tunnel.

40. Ministry of Civil Aviation organized 'Yog Prabha' at Safdarjung Airport

The Ministry of Civil Aviation organized a mega event- Yog Prabha at Safdarjung Airport in New Delhi.

The event was inaugurated by Union Minister of Civil Aviation Jyotiraditya Scindia and the Minister of State for Civil Aviation Dr. VK Singh.

Over 900 officials participated in this mega event.

41. India Creates Guinness Record for Simultaneous Waving of More than 78,000 National Flags

India has entered the Guinness Book of World Records for waving the maximum number of national flags simultaneously, the Ministry of Culture. It said 78,220 tricolors were waved at the Veer Kunwar Singh Vijayotsav programme organised at Duler Ground in Jagdishpur in the presence of Home Minister Amit Shah.

42. Housing and Urban Development Corporation Ltd. (HUDCO) Celebrates its 52nd Formation Day

The Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs & Petroleum and Natural Gas, Hardeep S. Puri said that HUDCO's mission to provide technical and financial support for housing and urban infrastructure, especially for the poor and the vulnerable sections of the society, is the noble objective and is an aligned core development requirement of the country. Headquarters: New Delhi; Founded: 25 April 1970

43. Asia's biggest international food and hospitality fair - AAHAR 2022 begins in New Delhi

Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) in association with the India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO) is organizing Asia's biggest international food and hospitality fair AAHAR-2022 at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi.

APEDA was established by the Government of India under the APEDA Act passed by the Parliament in December, 1985.

44. Cabinet Clears Additional Funding Of Rs 820 Crore For India Post Payments Bank

The Union Cabinet has approved an additional funding of Rs 820 crore for India Post Payments Bank that will be utilised for expansion of its services to all post offices in the country.

The Cabinet has given its in-principle approval for future fund infusion worth Rs 500 crore into IPPB for meeting regulatory requirements and technological upgradation.

45. Cabinet approves upgradation of 2G mobile sites to 4G at security sites in LWE areas

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved a Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) project for upgrading 2G mobile services to 4G at security sites in Left-Wing Extremism (LWE) hit areas.

The project envisages upgrading 2,343 LWE Phase-I sites from 2G to 4G mobile services at an estimated cost of Rs.1,884.59 crore (excluding taxes and levies).

46. Bijli Utsav' organized by REC in three states as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

Rural Electrification Corporation Limited, a public infrastructure finance company under the Ministry of Power organized a 'Bijli Utsav' in Manipur, Odisha and Chattisgarh. The date of the event was specifically chosen as 28th April 2022 since it marks 4 years anniversary of successfully providing access to electricity infrastructure to all villages under the DDUGJY.



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International

1. China launches the world's largest electric cruise ship

The largest electric cruise ship in the world, the 'Yangtze River Three Gorges 1' has started its maiden voyage in Yichang in Hubei province. The ship is 100 metres long, 16.3 metres wide and has room for 1,300 passengers. The electric cruise ship was developed by China Yangtze Power, a subsidiary of China Three Gorges Corp, and the Hubei Three Gorges Tourism Group. The ship was built at a cost of 150 million yuan (\$23.5 million).

2. UNDP announces \$2.2 million in climate action grants for innovators across 19 countries, including India.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and partners of the Adaptation Innovation Marketplace (AIM) have announced \$2.2 million in climate action grants for 22 local innovators across 19 countries, including India.

The initiative empowers local actors and contributes to the principles for locally led adaptation action, which have been endorsed by UNDP and partners.

3. TCS gets deal from UK Financial Ombudsman Service to drive digital transformation

The Ombudsman has partnered with TCS to enhance and futureproof its digital services capabilities, to help achieve its goal of preventing complaints and unfairness, and for better serving and supporting its customers. TCS is the largest IT service provider by revenue in the UK with roughly 18,000 employees and is a significant contributor to the UK economy.

4. Tropical Storm Megi: Landslides and floods kill 167 in Philippines

Megi was the first cyclone this year to hit the Philippines, an archipelago of more than 7,600 islands that sees an average of 20 tropical storms a year.

The death toll from the landslides and flooding spawned by tropical storm Megi has risen to 167, with 110 still missing.

Megi dumped rains in the central and southern Philippine regions before and after it hit land.

5. Patrick Achi reappointed as Prime Minister of Cote d'Ivoire

Cote d'Ivoire's President Alassane Ouattara has reappointed Prime Minister Patrick Achi, who resigned at the same time as his government a week earlier.

Achi, 66, was appointed prime minister in March 2021. He was the third prime minister in the West African state in the last three years after Amadou Gon Coulibaly and Hamed Bakayoko. Cte d'Ivoire: Capital: Yamoussoukro; Currency: West African CFA franc

6. Timor-Leste presidential election: Jos Ramos-Horta wins in landslide

The Nobel prize winner Jos Ramos-Horta has scored a landslide victory in Timor-Leste's presidential election.

The victory gives Ramos-Horta his second term in office. He served as president of south-east Asia's youngest country from 2007 to 2012.

7. Robert Golob Becomes The Prime Minister of Slovenia

In Slovenia, political newcomer liberal Robert Golob has defeated three-time prime minister, populist conservative Janez Jana, in a country split by bitter political divisions over the rule of law. After counting of over 97 percent of the ballots, state election authorities yesterday said that the Freedom Movement won nearly 34 percent of the votes, compared to around 24.

8. India, Russia, China on United States' intellectual property protection 'priority watch list'

The USA has put India & 6 other countries including China & Russia on its annual 'Priority Watch List' for intellectual property protection & enforcement. Other countries on the watch list include: Argentina, Chile, Indonesia, and Venezuela. These countries will be the subject of particularly intense bilateral engagement during the coming year said the Office USTR. USTR:- United States Trade Representative.

9. TRANSSHIPMENT OF MEDICAL AID TO SRI LANKA ' MISSION SAGAR IX

With the overarching aim of providing critical medical aid to Sri Lanka during the ongoing crisis, INS Gharial as part of Mission SAGAR IX arrived at Colombo on 29 Apr 22 and delivered over 760 kgs of 107 types of critical lifesaving medicines.

10. EU emerges top purchaser of fossil fuels from Russia since Ukraine invasion: CREA report

The European Union (EU) was the top purchaser of fossil fuels from Russia, since the country invaded Ukraine in February 24 this year, with imports worth '44 billion that accounted for 71 per cent of

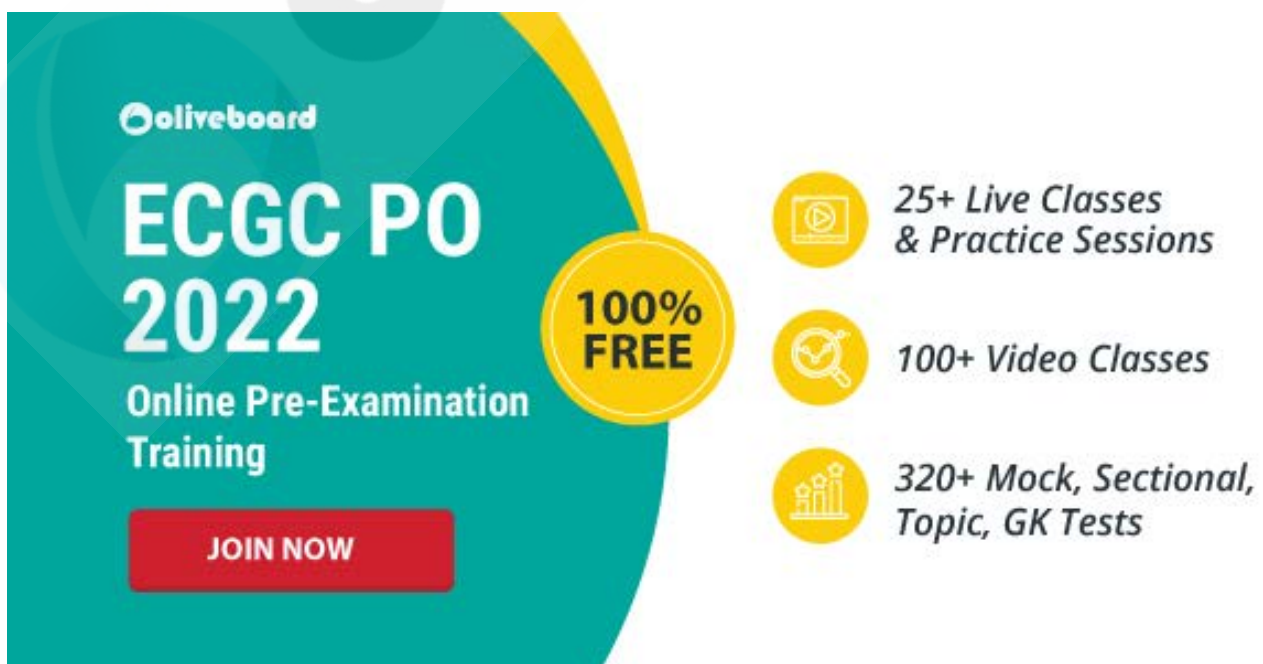
Russia's exports of the commodity worth '63 billion in the period, according to data published by the Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air (CREA).

11. Russia withdraws from UN tourism body ahead of vote on its suspension

Russia is withdrawing from the United Nation's tourism body, the UN World Tourism Organization ahead of a vote to suspend Moscow's membership over its military operation of Ukraine.

The UNWTO announced in March that it wanted to suspend Russia over its invasion of Ukraine.

The decision must be approved by two-thirds of its 159 member states





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Sports

1. Meghalaya all set to host 83rd National Table Tennis Championship 2022

Meghalaya is all set to host the 83rd National Table Tennis Championship 2022 scheduled to begin from April 18th till 25th, 2022 at SAI Indoor Training Centre, NEHU in Shillong.

This is the second time the biggest table tennis event is being hosted in the Northeast.

2. FIFA launches 'Al Rihla', the official match ball of 2022 World Cup Qatar

International Football Association FIFA has introduced the official match ball for upcoming Qatar World Cup 2022 starting from 21st November.

The name of 2022 world cup match ball is 'Al Rihla'.

Adidas is the manufacturer of this year's world cup ball as the brand is associated with FIFA as a core partner.

3. Governor of Karnataka and Union Sports Minister launched logo, mascot jersey & anthem of Khelo India University Games 2021

Governor of Karnataka and Union Sports Minister launched the logo, mascot jersey & anthem of Khelo India University Games 2021 in Bengaluru. The event, postponed due to the ongoing Covid crisis last year, will be the second edition of KIUG after Odisha hosted the Khelo India University Games in 2020. A Khelo India App for live updates on the Games was also launched by Karnataka.

4. India wins bid to host Asian Junior and Cadet Fencing Championships next year

India will host the Asian Junior U-20 Men & Women and Cadet U-17 Boys & Girls Fencing Championships in Ahmedabad next year, Fencing Association of India (FAI).

The championships, which will witness the participation of approximately 1200 fencers from 20 to 25 countries, will take place in March or April, 2023.

5. Iga Swiatek Crushes Naomi Osaka to Win Miami Open, Completes Sunshine Double

Iga Swiatek's dream season continued as the incoming world number one scooped her third successive WTA 1000 title to beat Naomi Osaka in the Miami Open final.

The Polish 20-year-old became only the fourth - and youngest - player to win the 'Sunshine Double' of Indian Wells and Miami in the same year.

6. Carlos Alcaraz, 18, becomes youngest Miami Open champion, third-youngest winner of any ATP Masters 1000 event

Carlos Alcaraz became the youngest champion in Miami Open history ' Novak Djokovic was 19 when he won the tournament, then the NASDAQ-100 Open, for the first time ' and picked up \$1,231,245 for the victory, nearly doubling his career earnings with one check.

Carlos Alcaraz Garfia is a Spanish professional tennis player.

7. Australia win ICC Women's Cricket World Cup 2022

Australia won their seventh ICC Women's Cricket World Cup with a 71-run victory over England in Christchurch.

Nat Sciver remained unbeaten on 148. Earlier, Alyssa Healy smashed a whirlwind 170 to power Australia to a mammoth 356 for five against England in the Women's World Cup final.

8. Hero 75th NFC for Santosh Trophy to be held in Malappuram from April 16

The 75th National Football Championship for Santosh Trophy will kick off on April 16 with a match between traditional powerhouses West Bengal and Punjab at the Kottappadi Stadium in Malappuram, Kerala.

All the matches in the tournament are set to be held at two venues in Malappuram -- Manjeri Payyanaad Stadium and Kottappadi Stadium. The final will be held on May 2 at the Manjeri Payyanaad.

9. World Doubles Squash Championships: India win maiden Women's Doubles and Mixed Doubles titles in Glasgow

In the World Doubles Squash Championships, India's Dipika Pallikal teaming up with Saurav Ghosal and Joshna Chinappa, has won mixed doubles and women's doubles titles at Glasgow.

10. Ravichandran Ashwin Becomes First Player to Get Retired Out in IPL History

The IPL 2022 match between Rajasthan Royals and Lucknow Super Giants at the Wankhede Stadium saw R. Ashwin become the 1st batter in IPL history to be Retired Out.

Ashwin was batting on 28 when he walked off, allowing Riyan Parag to join Shimron Hetmyer in the middle.

Retired out is a tactical move. Once retired out, a batter cannot come back, unlike retired hurt.

11. Babar Azam, Rachael Haynes crowned ICC Players of the Month for March 2022

The International Cricket Council (ICC) announced that Pakistan's superstar skipper Babar Azam, and Australia's run-machine Rachael Haynes have been named the ICC Men's and Women's Players of the Month for March 2022.

He becomes the first player to win the ICC Men's Player of the Month award on two occasions, after being crowned back in April 2021.

12. First Khelo India National Ranking Women Archery tournament to be held in Jamshedpur

The Sports Authority of India has approved Rs 75 lakh to host the Khelo India National Ranking Women Archery Tournament over six phases at Tata Archery Academy.

Jamshedpur in Jharkhand is set to host the first phase of the tournament on April 12 and April 13.

13. Netherlands lift fourth FIH Junior Women's Hockey World Cup title, beating Germany 3-1

The Netherlands lifted their fourth FIH Junior Women's Hockey World Cup title after beating Germany 3-1 in the final at Potchefstroom, South Africa.

Netherlands defeated the Indian women's hockey team 0-3 in the FIH Junior World Cup semifinals.

14. Australia's Victoria state to host 2026 Commonwealth Games

Victoria will host the 2026 Commonwealth Games with the Australian state's regional centres organising the majority of events in a break from the traditional single host city model.

The Games will be staged in March 2026 across multiple cities and regional hubs including Melbourne, Geelong, Bendigo, Ballarat and Gippsland, each with its own athletes' village.

15. India to host Street Child Cricket World Cup in 2023

India will host the Street Child Cricket World Cup in 2023. Organised by Street Child United and Save the Children India, the Street Child Cricket World Cup 2023 will welcome 22 teams from 16 countries to India next year.

In 2019, this championship was held in London where eight teams competed, and Team India South lifted the cup after beating hosts England.

2023 ICC Men's Cricket World Cup to be hosted by India

16. Danish Open swimming: Sajan Prakash wins gold, Vedaant Madhavan bags silver

Top Indian swimmer Sajan Prakash won the men's 200m butterfly gold and Vedaant Madhavan bagged silver medal in the men's 1500m freestyle event at the Danish Open swimming meet in Copenhagen, Denmark. 16-yr-old, Vedaant Madhavan, who is the son of actor R Madhavan clocked 15.57.86 to finish second in the 10-swimmer final. He had won a bronze medal at the Latvia Open in 2021 Denmark
Currency: Danish krone

17. Cricketer Joe Root steps down from England's Test captaincy

England's Joe Root today announced his decision to step down from Test captaincy after five years in charge. Root had come under pressure after England slumped to a 4-0 defeat in the last Ashes series and lost 1-0 in West Indies. ICC - Chairman: Greg Barclay Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates

18. First Khelo India National Ranking Women Archery tournament to held in Jamshedpur

1st Khelo India National Ranking Archery Tournament under the aegis of Archery Association of India & Jharkhand Archery Association concluded at JRD Tata Sports Complex.

2-day event witnessed the participation of 287 women archers from 20 states & units who competed across 3 categories. Highest prize money of Rs. 5 lakhs was awarded to Ankita Bhakat winner of Senior Recurve Sports Authority of India had approved Rs 75 lakh to host the tournament

19. Senior Asian Wrestling Championship begins in Mongolia

The senior Asian Wrestling Championship will begin in Mongolia.

30 Indian wrestlers, including Olympic medallists Ravi Dahiya and Bajrang Punia, will participate in the event.

A total of 20 wrestlers from the men's team across the Freestyle and Greco-Roman categories and 10 from the women's team are participating in the event.

20. Haryana crowned champions of Senior Hockey Nationals

Haryana was crowned the champions of the 12th Senior Men's National Hockey Championship, beating Tamil Nadu 3-1 in the shootout after the final ended 1-1 in the regulation time.

Haryana won the trophy for the first time since 2011.

21. Indian Grandmaster Dommaraju Gukesh wins title at La Roda International tourney

Young Indian Grandmaster D Gukesh emerged victorious in the 48th La Roda International Open Chess tournament in Spain, scoring eight points from nine rounds.

The 15-year old GM from Chennai, who remained unbeaten through the nine rounds, defeated Israel's Victor Mikhalevski in the final round.

R Praggnanandhaa took the third spot.

22. Rohit Sharma, Jasprit Bumrah among Wisden's five 'Cricketers of the Year'

India captain Rohit Sharma and pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah have been named among five players in Wisden's 'Cricketers of the Year' in the 2022 edition of the Almanack.

Besides the duo, the list also features New Zealand batter Devon Conway, England pacer Ollie Robinson and Proteas women star Dane van Niekerk.

23. 2022 Asian Wrestling Championships in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia; Ravi Dahiya became the first-ever Indian to win hat-trick.

Ravi Kumar Dahiya (57kg) won his third successive gold medal in the Asian Wrestling Championships. He also became the first-ever Indian freestyle wrestler to win a hat-trick of Asian Championship gold medals.

Bajrang Punia (65kg) settled for silver. Gourav Baliyan(79kg) also bagged silver while Naveen(70kg) and Satywart Kadian(97kg) took home bronze.

24. Formula 1: Red Bull's Max Verstappen wins Emilia-Romagna Grand Prix

Formula One champion Max Verstappen dominated in a Red Bull rout of Ferrari at the Emilia-Romagna Grand Prix.

Verstappen won from the pole, logged the fastest lap and picked up his second win of the season while leading teammate Sergio Perez to the first one-two Red Bull finish since Malaysia in 2016.

25. Indian Grandmaster D Gukesh wins Menorca Open chess tourney

15-year-old D. Gukesh won his second title in eight days by beating a strong field in Group A of the Menorca Open chess tournament in Menorca, Spain.

The country's youngest Grandmaster, winner of the La Roda Open, scored a title-clinching victory over his senior compatriot B. Adhiban in 53 moves to finish with six points from seven rounds.

26. Archery World Cup: Tarundeep Rai, Ridhi Phor clinch recurve mixed team gold in final

India bagged its second gold medal at the Archery World Cup Stage 1 as the recurve mixed team of Tarundeep Rai and Ridhi Phor came from behind to pip Great Britain in the shoot-off.

India thus concluded its campaign in the first event of the calendar year with two gold medals, the first coming through the compound men's team of Abhishek Verma, Rajat Chauhan and Aman Saini.

27. Andrey Rublev beats Novak Djokovic to win Serbia Open title

Andrey Rublev defeated Novak Djokovic 6-2, 6-7 (4), 6-0 to win the Serbia Open for his third title of the season.

The second-seeded Russian player dug deep to stop Djokovic from mounting another comeback as he prevented the top-ranked Serb from claiming his first title of 2022.

28. Vice President Inaugurates Khelo India University Games-2021 In Bengaluru

Vice President of India, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu called for awarding some extra marks to sportspersons in college admissions and promotions in various departments. 'Incentives like this will go a long way in encouraging the sports in the country,'

Addressing the gathering at the inaugural of the Khelo India University Games-2021 in Bengaluru.

Rohit Sharma becomes 2nd Indian after Virat Kohli to score 10,000 runs in T20

Rohit Sharma has become only the second Indian after Virat Kohli to score 10 thousand runs in the T20 cricket. India and Mumbai Indians skipper achieved this milestone during the IPL 2022 match of Mumbai Indians against Punjab Kings in Pune.

Rohit Sharma became the seventh batter overall to reach the 10 thousand runs in T20s.

Agreements & MoUs

1. IFSCA inks MoU with IRDAI

International Financial Services Centers Authority and Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India have signed an MoU. This MoU focuses on the strengthening inter-regulatory exchange of information, technical cooperation, and supervisory collaboration and opens avenues towards developing innovative insurance solutions for the evolving global trends.

2. JICA signs loan of '680 cr. for biodiversity project

Japan International Cooperation Agency has signed a loan agreement to provide a Japanese Official Development Assistance loan, amounting to approximately '680 crores for the Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Conservation and Greening Project for Climate Change Response. The loan is said to help improve the ecosystem, which will in turn help in the State's socio-economic development.

3. Amazon India, SUN Mobility to expand deployment of EVs with battery swapping tech

Amazon India and SUN Mobility announced that they are working together to expand the deployment of EVs integrated with battery swapping technology for its transportation and logistics services. These EVs will contribute to Amazon India's commitment to adding 10,000 electric vehicles to its India delivery fleet by 2025, announced in 2020.

4. ADB, HSBC tie-up to set up \$100M partial guarantee programme for MFIs in India

Asian Development Bank (ADB) and HSBC India have joined hands to establish a \$100 million partial guarantee program to support more than 400,000 micro-borrowers and mostly women-run microenterprises. Under the deal, to give impetus to this partnership aggregated financing of an equivalent of \$30 million is being initially disbursed to three MFIs in India by April 2022. It is ADB's first partnership with HSBC.

5. India & Australia inked an economic cooperation and trade agreement (ECTA)

India & Australia inked an economic cooperation and trade agreement, under which Canberra will provide duty-free access in its market for over 95 % tariff lines, including textiles, leather, furniture, jewelry, machinery, and select medical devices. This is the first trade agreement that India has signed with a developed economy after more than a decade.

Australia is the 17th largest trading partner of India.

6. SBI signs MoU with Border Security Force to offer special benefits through CAPSP Scheme

State Bank of India (SBI) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Border Security Force to offer special benefits to the serving and retired BSF personnel and family pensioners through the Central Armed Police Salary Package (CAPSP) Scheme.

The MoU will support child education and the marriage of girl children of deceased BSF personnel.

7. NTPC inks pact with Gujarat Gas Limited (GGL) to blend Green Hydrogen in Piped Natural Gas

NTPC has signed an agreement with Gujarat Gas (GGL) for blending green hydrogen in Piped Natural Gas (PNG) network of the State government utility at the power producer's Kawas facility.

Green hydrogen will be produced by using electricity from the existing 1 megawatt (MW) floating solar project of NTPC Kawas.

8. Nepal, India sign four agreements as Deuba, Modi hail age-old ties

Nepal and India has signed four agreements and came up with the blueprint on cooperation on the power and energy sector.

The agreements were signed followed by the delegation level talks between Nepal and India led by Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba and his Indian counterpart Narendra Modi at Hyderabad House in New Delhi.

9. IFSCA inks MoU with GVFL Limited for strengthening the FinTech ecosystem in GIFT IFSC

The International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) and GVFL Limited signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) at IFSCA's office at Gift City for co-operation and collaboration to support and facilitate FinTech ecosystem in GIFT IFSC.

GVFL Limited is pioneer of Venture Capital in India. Promoted by World Bank and Government of Gujarat in 1990.

10. World Bank, AIIB to give Rs 7,500 cr loan for Gujarat govt's Mission School of Excellence project

The World Bank and Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) will provide a loan of Rs 7,500 cr for the Gujarat government's Mission School of Excellence project that aims to improve the quality of education in the state.

Under the Mission School of Excellence project, the state government will spend Rs 10,000 cr in the next five years.

11. IOC, L&T, ReNew power form joint venture to develop green hydrogen sector

To enable decarbonization push, Indian Oil Corporation Ltd, Larsen & Toubro (L&T), ReNew Power announced signing of a binding term sheet for the formation of a Joint Venture (JV) company to develop the nascent green hydrogen sector in India. The JV will focus on developing Green Hydrogen projects in a time-bound manner to supply Green Hydrogen at an industrial scale.

12. NRSC inks technical collaboration pact with UIDAI to develop Bhuvan-Aadhar portal

Aadhaar-issuing body UIDAI and National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), ISRO have signed a pact for technical collaboration. NRSC would be developing 'Bhuvan-Aadhar' portal providing information and locations of the Aadhaar centres across India.

The portal also provides a facility to search the relevant Aadhaar centres by location, based on residents' requirements.

13. Infosys, Rolls-Royce launch Aerospace Engineering and digital innovation centre

IT company Infosys and industrial technology firm Rolls-Royce launched a joint aerospace engineering research centre in Bengaluru.

In December 2020, the two companies had announced a collaboration for sourcing engineering and R&D services for Rolls-Royce's civil aerospace business, whereby Rolls-Royce transitioned a significant part of its engineering centre capabilities.

14. IAF ties up with IIT Madras to develop solutions to maintain weapon systems

The Indian Air Force (IAF) and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for technology development and finding indigenous solutions towards the sustenance of various weapon systems.

The joint partnership between IAF and IIT Madras aims to accelerate IAF's indigenisation efforts for achieving 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'.

15. Cabinet approves pact between Sebi, Canada's Manitoba Securities Commission

The Union Cabinet has approved signing of a pact between the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) and Canada's Manitoba Securities Commission.

The bilateral Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) seeks to have a formal basis for cross-border co-operation in the area of securities regulations.

16. Cabinet approves signing of MoC between India and Japan in Decentralized Domestic Wastewater Management

Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, gave its ex-post facto approval for a Memorandum of Cooperation signed between the Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (DoWR, RD&GR), Ministry of Jal Shakti and The Ministry of the Environment of Japan in the areas of Decentralized Domestic Waste Water Management.

17. Axis Bank inks USD 150 mn partial guarantee pact with ADB to support supply chain financing

Axis Bank has collaborated with Asian Development Bank for a partial guarantee programme with initial outlay of USD 150 million aimed at supporting supply chain financing for impact sectors. Special focus will be towards ESG aother priority sectors, re-affirming both institutions' commitments to positive developmental and environmental impact in the country.

18. India to export wheat to Egypt following disruption of supply from Russia and Ukraine

Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal has announced that India will export wheat to Egypt this year. Egypt is one of the world's biggest importers of wheat. Agricultural and Processed Food Products Exports Development Authority (APEDA) Chairman M. Angamuthu said, they are aiming to export three million tonnes of wheat to Egypt this year. Capital: Cairo Currency: Egyptian pound

19. THDC India signs pact with Rajasthan govt to produce 10,000 MW of renewable energy

THDC India Limited has signed an MoU with the Rajasthan government to produce 10,000 MW of renewable energy.

The project will be completed in five years at a cost of Rs 40,000 crore.

The memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed by THDC CMD Rajiv Vishnoi and Rajasthan Renewable Corporation Ltd Chairman and Additional Secretary (Power) Subodh Agrawal.

Governor: Kalraj Mishra Chief minister: Ashok Gehlot

20. HCL Technologies Launches a Dedicated Microsoft Business Unit

HCL Technologies (HCL), announced the launch of a dedicated HCL Microsoft Business Unit focused on Microsoft technologies. This will extend Microsoft's offerings of Business Applications, Microsoft Dynamics 365, Microsoft Azure, IoT, and AI/Machine Learning, as well as help employees accomplish more in the modern workplace with Microsoft 365 and Windows 10.

21. India, Finland announce decision to establish Indo-Finnish Virtual Network Centre on Quantum Computing

India and Finland have announced establishment of an Indo-Finnish Virtual Network Centre on Quantum Computing and signed a formal MoU to that effect here.

Bilateral STI collaboration between the two countries is an attempt to stimulate innovative R&D projects that address a specific need or challenge, demonstrate high industrial relevance and commercial potential.

22. Paytm becomes official digital payments partner for Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya

Paytm owner One97 Communications has become an official digital payments partner for the prime ministers' museum in the national capital.

'Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya' (prime ministers' museum), which is a tribute to every prime minister in the country since independence.

23. IFSCA executes MoU with National Insurance Academy (NIA)

The International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA), with an objective of capacity building and providing skilled talent pool in the insurance sector in International Financial Services Centres (IFSCs), has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the National Insurance Academy (NIA).

24. NITI Aayog and UNICEF India Sign Statement of Intent on SDGs Focusing on Children

NITI Aayog & UNICEF India signed a Statement of Intent on the Sustainable Development Goals with a focus on children. Reiterating a mutual commitment towards realizing the rights of children in India, the SoI seeks to formalize a framework of cooperation to launch the first report on the 'State of India's Children: Status and Trends in Multidimensional Child Development'.

25. Dhanlaxmi Bank signs MoU with CBDT and CBIC for tax collection

Dhanlaxmi Bank has signed a memorandum of understanding with Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) and Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) for collection of taxes.

The bank has been authorised by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) based on the recommendation from the Controller General of Accounts for collection of various taxes.

26. Tripura collaborates with NIXI-CSC to set up world class data centre

The Tripura government has inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with NIXI-CSC Data Services Centre to establish an international standard Data Centre here, an official. National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI) and CSE e-governance services Ltd, have floated a joint venture - NIXI-CSC Data Services Centre to set up the proposed data centre.

27. Apple announces new partnership to protect mangroves in Raigad district

Apple announced a new partnership with the Applied Environmental Research Foundation(AERF) and Conservation International to protect the mangrove ecosystem and the livelihoods that depend on it in the Raigad district of Maharashtra.

Apple awarded a grant to AERF in 2021 to work with the local community to protect a 2,400-hectare mangrove forest in the region.

28. OneWeb inks pact with ISRO commercial arm, New Space India, for satellite launches

Bharti group-backed OneWeb and New Space India Limited, the commercial arm of the Indian Space Research Organisation, have entered into an agreement that will help ensure OneWeb completes its satellite launch programme.

The first launch with New Space India is expected in 2022 from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) SHAR, Sriharikota.

29. Posoco ties up with IIT Delhi for research

Northern Regional Load Despatch Centre of Power System Operation Corp. Ltd(Posoco) signed an MoU with Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi (IIT D), to encourage research on issues related to India's power sector and strengthen interaction between the academia and industry.

State-owned Posoco is responsible for secure, integrated operations of the national electricity grid.

30. Indian Navy's NIETT signs MoU with IIM Kozhikode to exchange best practices

The Indian Navy's Naval Institute of Educational and Training Technology (NIETT) based at Naval Base Kochi signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode (IIM-K).

The MoU is intended to build collaboration and exchange of best practices in the field of Instructional Leadership, Educational Psychology and Management.

31. SIDBI signs MoU with WBSIDCL to develop ecosystem for MSMEs in Bengal

Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), the leading financial institution for MSME sector, has entered into an MoU with West Bengal Small Industries Development Corporation Limited (WBSIDCL) to develop the ecosystem for micro and small enterprises in the state.

32. Netflix, I&B Ministry partner to develop short videos highlighting role of women changemakers

Netflix India, in collaboration with the Information & Broadcasting Ministry, has released a series of short video series under a initiative called 'Azadi Ki Amrit Kahaniya', highlighting the role of women achievers.

As part of a broader partnership, the global OTT platform will also conduct workshops and masterclasses for skill development of Indian film-makers.

33. NHLML signs MoU with Himachal Pradesh for ropeway projects

State-owned National Highways Logistics Management Limited (NHLML) and the Himachal Pradesh government have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for seven ropeway projects in the state under the Parvatmala Yojna at a total cost of Rs. 3,232 crore.

The project will cover a total length of 57.1 km.

34. Prasar Bharati signs MoU with Public Broadcaster of Argentina

India and Argentina are strategic partners that share cordial relations and developmental partnerships in the areas of political, economic, scientific and technological cooperation.

In a landmark tie-up, Prasar Bharati has signed an MoU with the Public Broadcaster of Argentina Radio y Television Argentina (RTA) for collaboration in the field of broadcasting. Capital: Buenos Aires; Currency: Peso.

35. Kerala signs MoU with Netherlands for Cosmos Malabaricus project

Kerala and Netherlands have signed an MoU for the Cosmos Malabaricus project to help illustrate the history of the southern state in the 18th century, said the state government. The agreement also aims to establish paint academics at Kollam and Malappuram.

The MoU has been signed in the presence of Pinarayi Vijayan, chief minister, Kerala & Marten van den Berg, Netherland.

Schemes

1. Haryana Cabinet nod to horticulture crop insurance scheme

The Haryana Cabinet has approved the implementation of the Mukhyamantri Bagwani Bima Yojana (MBBY), an assurance-based scheme to compensate crop losses due to adverse weather & natural calamities for farmers growing horticulture crops.

Mukhyamantri Bagwani Bima Yojana (MBBY) ' an assurance-based scheme to compensate crop losses due to adverse weather and natural calamities.

2. Stand-Up India Scheme completes 6 years, loans over '30,160 Cr sanctioned to over 1,33,995 accounts

Stand Up India scheme was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 5th April 2016.

The scheme was launched to encourage entrepreneurship at the grassroots level especially for promoting economic empowerment and employment generation among SC, ST and women entrepreneurs. In 2019-20, the Stand Up India scheme was extended till 2025.

3. Lakshya Zero Dumpsite

Under the Swachh Bharat Mission - Urban 2.0, a project costing '403.77 crores has been formulated for remediating legacy wastes from landfills in Gujarat.

4. Union Cabinet approves distribution of fortified rice across schemes

In order to address the issue of malnutrition among the poor, the Centre has announced that it will supply fortified rice through government schemes such as PDS and PM-POSHAN in three phases by 2024, a move that will cost the central exchequer Rs 2,700 crore per year.

This decision was taken at the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs meeting, chaired by PM Narendra Modi.

5. Cabinet approves extension of Atal Innovation Mission till March 2023

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the continuation of Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), till March 2023.

The mission has been set up under the NITI Aayog, in accordance with the finance minister's declaration in the 2015 Budget speech.

The AIM has focused on both infrastructure creation and institution building.

6. Centre's 'Svanidhi se Samridhhi' programme expanded to cover 126 more cities

The Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) launched the 'Svanidhi se Samridhhi' programme in 126 additional cities across 14 states and Union territories.

'Svanidhi se Samridhhi', an additional programme of PM Svanidhi, was launched on January 4, 2021 in 125 cities under the first phase covering around 35 lakh street vendors and their families. 28 lakh street vendors and their families will be covered after the expansion.

7. Govt approves continuation of revamped Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan till March 2026

Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the continuation of the revamped Centrally-sponsored scheme of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan from the first of April to the 31st of March 2026. It will be extended to all States and Union Territories of the country. This has been done to develop governance capabilities of Panchayats Cabinet approved Rs 5,911 crore for Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan

8. Alliance Air starts direct flight service between Mumbai and Keshod in Gujarat under UDAN Regional Connectivity Scheme

Union Minister for Civil Aviation Jyotiraditya Scindia recently flagged off the first flight from Keshod Gujarat to Mumbai and vice-versa under UDAN Regional Connectivity Scheme. Alliance Air has commenced the first flight from Keshod to Mumbai and vice-versa. Mr. Scindia has also inaugurated upgraded facilities at Keshod Airport. Gujarat Chief Minister - Bhupendra Patel

9. Union Agriculture Ministry to launch 'Kisan Bhagidari, Prathmikta Hamari' campaign

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare is organizing the 'Kisan Bhagidari, Prathmikta Hamari' campaign.

The campaign which will continue till 30th of this month is being organised under 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' in association with various other Ministries and Departments.

10. Atal Pension Yojana total enrolments cross 4 crore

Government's social security scheme Atal Pension Yojana (APY) has crossed total enrollments of 4.01 crore as on March 2022 out of which more than 99 lakh APY accounts were opened during the last financial year itself.

State Bank of India, Indian Bank, Bank of India, Bank of Baroda and Central Bank of India achieved annual target in the Public-sector Bank category.

11. J&K: Samba becomes first district in India to cover 100% households under ABPMJAY-SEHAT scheme

In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, the Samba district of Jammu division has become the first district in India to cover 100% households under Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (ABPMJAY)- SEHAT scheme. The district achieved this milestone after the conclusion of special registration drive organized by State Health Agency (SHA). SEHAT stands for Social, Endeavour for Health and Telemedicine.



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Appointments & Resignations

1. Dr. S Raju has taken over as the Director General of Geological Survey of India

Dr. S Raju has taken over as the Director-General of the Geological Survey of India (GSI) in Kolkata. He succeeds Shri R. S. Garkhal who superannuated on 31st March 2022. Prior to assuming the present post Dr. Raju was holding the post of Additional Director General and National Head, Mission-III & IV at GSI HQ.

2. Aamir Khan appointed as PharmEasy's brand ambassador

Digital healthcare platform PharmEasy has roped in filmstar Aamir Khan as its brand ambassador. Owned by API Holdings Limited, Pharmeasy hit the deadlines last year when its parent company bought out the promoter of diagnostic chain Thyrocare in a '4,546 crore deal.

3. Vikas Kumar to take charge as new chief of Delhi Metro

Vikas Kumar is the new Managing Director of Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) from April 1, 2022. Kumar took over the post from Dr. Mangu Singh, who was the DMRC MD since January 1, 2012. An officer of the 1988 batch of Indian Railway Traffic Service (IRTS), Kumar worked with the Indian Railways in various capacities before joining DMRC.

4. Vice Chief Lt Gen Manoj Pande All Set to Become Army Chief

Army Vice Lieutenant General Manoj Pande is all set to become Chief of the Army Staff with incumbent Army Chief General M.M. Naravane, seen as the frontrunner for the Chief of Defence Staff's post, is due to retire by the end of this month.

Lt Gen Pande will take over the reign as he is the senior most in the force after General Naravane.

5. Vinay Kwatra is new Foreign Secretary, Harsh Shringla coordinator for 2023 G-20

Indian Ambassador to Nepal Vinay Mohan Kwatra takes over as the new Foreign Secretary of India while present incumbent Harsh Shringla is expected to take over as Coordinator of the G-20 summit, scheduled to take place in New Delhi in November 2023.

Vinay Kwatra was former ambassador to France and has worked in Prime Minister's Office of Sh. Narendra Modi as Joint Secretary. Chokila Iyer- India's 1st woman Foreign Secretary.

6. Hungary PM Viktor Orban wins fourth term in office

In Hungary, nationalist Prime Minister Viktor Orban scored a fourth consecutive win in General election. Preliminary results showed Orban's Fidesz party leading with 53.1% of votes versus 35% for Marki-Zay's opposition alliance.

Fidesz was also winning 88 of 106 single-member constituencies. Hungary Capital: Budapest; Currency: Hungarian forint

7. Arunabha Ghosh Appointed by UN Chief in High-Level Group on Net-Zero Emissions Commitments

On March 31, the High-Level Expert Group on Non-State Entities' Net-Zero Emissions Commitments was established. Arunabha Ghosh, CEO of the Delhi-based Council for Energy, Environment, and Water, has been named to a high-level group convened by United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres to strengthen action to combat global warming. Ghosh is one of three Asians on the expert panel and the only South Asian.

8. ITU's Standing Council Standing Committee appoints India's Aprajita Sharrma as Vice-Chairperson

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) has appointed Aprajita Sharrma, an Indian Post & Telecommunication Accounts and Financial Services (IP&TAFS) officer of the 1995 batch as the vice-chairperson of the ITU's Council Standing Committee on Administration and Management.

ITU - Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland; Formed:- 17 May 1865

9. RBI approves re-appointment of Murali M. Natrajan as Managing Director & CEO of DCB Bank

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) approved the re-appointment of Murali M Natrajan as the Managing Director and CEO of the DCB bank for a further period of two years from April 29, 2022 to April 28, 2024.

Last year, DCB Bank had acquired a minority equity stake of approximately 9 percent in Bengaluru-based nonbanking financial company Techfino Capital Private Limited (TCPL).

10. Serbian president Aleksandar Vuc wins new term by landslide

Serbia's populist pro-Kremlin president, Aleksandar Vuc, won a landslide victory in general election, but will need to form a coalition government as he strives to balance ambitions to join the EU with the country's traditional ties to Russia.

Vuc, a former minister for information in Slobodan Milosevic's Yugoslav government, won 58.5% of the vote. Serbia's Capital: Belgrade; Currency: Serbian dinar.

11. Eminent scholar-academician Manoj Soni new UPSC chairman

Currently a Member of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), Dr Manoj Soni has been appointed the chairman of the country's premier government recruiting agency.

He has been associated with the Swaminarayan sect's Anoopam Mission, at Mogri in Anand district, since a young age and received diksha (initiation) as a nishkarma karmayogi (selfless worker) on Jan 10, 2020.

12. MobiKwik elevates Anshuman Misra as Chief Product and Technology Officer

Fintech company MobiKwik has promoted Anshuman Misra as its Chief Product and Technology Officer (CPTO) with immediate effect. In his new role, Misra will work with the product, design, engineering, infrastructure and security functions at MobiKwik. Bipin Preet Singh, co-founder and CEO of MobiKwik.

13. Shehbaz Sharif elected as new Prime Minister of Pakistan

Shehbaz Sharif, the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) president, was elected unopposed as the new Prime Minister of Pakistan by Parliament on after rival candidate Shah Mahmood Qureshi announced that his Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party will boycott the voting and staged a walkout. He is 23rd Prime Minister of Pakistan.

14. BCCI secretary Jay Shah appointed as Member Board Representative of ICC Cricket Committee

BCCI secretary Jay Shah has been appointed to the ICC Cricket Committee as the Member Board Representative while Mahela Jayawardene was reappointed as Past Player representative.

The ICC Board confirmed that South Africa will host the inaugural ICC U-19 Women's T20 World Cup, which will be held in January next year.

15. Harsh V Shringla is G20 chief coordinator

Foreign secretary Harsh V Shringla, who will retire at the end of this month, was appointed as India's chief G20 coordinator, as the country assumes G20 presidency later this year after the Summit in Indonesia and prepares to host the 2023 event amid an emerging geo-political order.

His tenure will begin from May 1 and will hold post till December 2023.

16. Iqbal Singh Lalpura Nominated As Chairman of National Commission for Minorities

The central government has re-appointed retired Punjab-cadre IPS officer Iqbal Singh Lalpura as the chairperson of the National Commission for Minorities.

Lalpura, who was first appointed as chairman in September last year, had to resign from the post in December to contest as the BJP candidate from Ropar assembly constituency, which he lost.

17. Vikram Dev Dutt appointed as Air India Asset Holding CMD

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet, approved Vikram Dev Dutt's appointment as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Air India Asset Holding (AIAHL), with effect from 27th January 2022, in the rank and pay of Additional Secretary to the Government of India.

Prior to this, Dutt was in-charge of Air India as a CMD till the airline was handed over to the Tata Group

18. Karnataka appoints Robin Uthappa as brand ambassador for Brain Health Initiative

The Health Department has appointed cricketer Robin Uthappa as the ambassador for brain health and mental health to create awareness on these issues.

The brain health initiative in Karnataka is being undertaken in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, NITI Aayog and Nimhans.

19. India gets elected to four UN ECOSOC bodies

India has been elected to four key bodies of the UN Economic and Social Council, including the Commission on Science and Technology for Development.

The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) is one of the six principal organs of the UN System established by the UN Charter in 1945. It consists of 54 members of the United Nations elected by the General Assembly.

20. Lt Gen Manoj Pande appointed as Army Chief, first engineer to be COAS

Lt Gen Manoj Pande has been appointed as India's Army Chief. He is the first engineer to be promoted to the top post.

Pande replaces General Manoj Mukund Naravane, who had taken charge of the office on 31 December 2021 and is set to retire in April 2022.

Lt Gen Pande was commissioned in the Bombay Sappers in December 1982. Pande took charge as the Vice Chief of the Indian Army, succeeding Lt Gen C P Mohanty.

21. Lieutenant General Manoj Kumar Katiyar appointed as next Director General of Military Operations

Lieutenant General Manoj Kumar Katiyar has been appointed as the next Director General of Military Operations. He would take charge of the new office on May 1st.

An alumnus of the National Defence Academy, Lieutenant General Katiyar was commissioned in the 23rd Battalion of the Rajput Regiment in June 1986.

22. LV Vaidyanathan appointed CEO of P&G India

Procter & Gamble India appointed LV Vaidyanathan, who leads the company's business in Indonesia, as the new chief executive officer. He takes over from Madhusudan Gopalan who will move into a new role at the parent company.

Vaidyanathan takes over as the CEO from July 1, 2022.

P&G has two listed entities in India'Procter & Gamble Hygiene & Health Care and Gillette India.

23. Indian-American Shanti Sethi appointed Kamala Harris's defence advisor

Trailblazing Indian-American US Navy veteran Shanti Sethi has joined Vice President Kamala Harris's office as her executive secretary and defence adviser.

Shanti Sethi, the first Indian-American commander of a major US Navy combat ship, recently joined Vice President Harris's office.

24. Leading Physicist Ajay Kumar Sood Appointed As Principal Scientific Advisor To Government Of India

Ajay Kumar Sood, a member of Science, Technology and Innovation Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, has been appointed to the post for a period of three years to succeed renowned biologist K VijayRaghavan.

Sood was till recently a honorary professor in the Department of Physics at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, India. Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam was the first Principal Scientific Advisor from 1999-2001.

25. Suman Bery appointed NITI Aayog vice-chairman, to succeed Rajiv Kumar

The Ministry of Personnel statement in a statement said that the appointments committee of the cabinet had accepted Kumar's resignation and appointed Suman Bery as the full-time member of the NITI Aayog and later as the vice chairperson from May 1.

Bery has served as a member of the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council (PMEAC) and the National Statistical Commission.

26. Justice Vineet Saran appointed chairman of Ravi-Beas Water Tribunal

Justice Vineet Saran, judge of the Supreme Court, has been appointed as the Ravi-Beas Water Tribunal chairman, a post that had been vacant since Justice Ashok Bhushan had joined the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal as its chairperson in November 2021.

Justice Ponugoti Naveen Rao, judge of the Telangana High Court, was appointed as a member of the Tribunal.

27. Panchayati Raj Ministry, UNDP sign pact on Sustainable Development Goals

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) signed a joint statement of understanding on localisation of Sustainable Development Goals.

The agreement was signed by Sunil Kumar, Secretary, Panchayati Raj, and UNDP resident representative Shoko Noda.

28. Emmanuel Macron gets reelected as French President, defeats far-right rival Marine Le Pen

French President Emmanuel Macron was re-elected as he defeated his far-right rival Marine Le Pen.

Macron, 44, has become the third French president who has managed to secure a second term.

His margin of victory, however, was tighter than when he first beat Le Pen in 2017.

29. N Chandrasekaran takes charge as Tata Digital Chairman

Tata Sons executive chairman N Chandrasekaran has formally taken charge as chairman of Tata Digital. At present, Tata's digital strategy is being spearheaded by its CEO Pratik Pal along with Mukesh Bansal, founder of Cultfit.

Tata Digital is said to be the brainchild of Chandrasekaran and has been closely involved with its development.

30. TCS' Krishnan Ramanujam appointed as Nasscom Chairperson for 2022-23

The National Association of Software and Services Companies (Nasscom) announced that Krishnan Ramanujam, President, Enterprise Growth Group at Tata Consultancy Services, has been appointed as its Chairperson for 2022-23. Ramanujam succeeds Rekha M. Menon, Chairperson and Senior Managing Director of Accenture in India, in this role.

Nasscom President - Debjani Ghosh. Anant Maheshwari, President, Microsoft India, was appointed Vice-chairperson.

31. Aditya Birla Capital appoints Vishakha Mulye as CEO

Vishakha Mulye has been appointed as the next Chief Executive Officer of Aditya Birla Capital. The company said in its stock filing that the board of directors approved the appointment based on the recommendations of the Nomination, Remuneration & Compensation Committee.

She will be the first female to join the board of Aditya Birla Management Corporation.

32. Wipro appoints Satya Easwaran as Country Head of India

Wipro has appointed Satya Easwaran as the Country Head for India. Satya will be in charge of strengthening Wipro's business in India across key industry sectors through strategic consulting, transformation and modernization engagements.

Easwaran has global work experience driving end-to-end business transformation programs for leading enterprises in different sectors.

33. Vijay Sampla appointed NCSC chairperson for second time

BJP leader and former Union minister Vijay Sampla has been appointed as the chairperson of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC) for a second time.

Sampla had resigned as the NCSC chairman ahead of the Punjab elections and had contested the polls.

34. Shivalik Small Finance Bank appoints ex-RBL bank retail chief Anshul Swami as MD-CEO

Shivalik Small Finance Bank has appointed Anshul Swami as the bank's managing director and chief executive officer effective from April 26.

Swami replaces Suveer Kumar Gupta who co-founded the bank and led its transition from an urban co-operative bank to a small finance one. Gupta will now act as an adviser to the Board of Directors. Shivalik Small Finance Bank, Headquarters: Noida, Uttar Pradesh.

35. CARE Ratings' Director and CEO, Ajay Mahajan, resigns

Ajay Mahajan, managing director and chief executive officer of CARE Ratings resigned from his post citing personal reasons.

He was appointed to run the credit rating company two years ago after its former chairman SB Mainak and predecessor MD & CEO Rajesh Mokashi had come under regulatory scrutiny for their alleged influence in rating exercise.

36. Lt Gen BS Raju appointed new Vice Chief of Indian Army; to assume charge on May 1

The government appointed Lieutenant General Baggavalli Somashekar Raju as the new Vice Chief of Army Staff (VCOAS).

Lt Gen Raju replaces Lieutenant General Manoj Pande, who has been appointed as the next Chief of Army Staff. Lt Gen Pande will also take over as the 29th Army Chief on May 1. Lieutenant General P.P. Kumaramangalam was the first VCOAS.

Awards

1. 60+ winners from class 6-12 awarded at First Ever IndiaSkills Junior Championship

JuniorSkills 2021, the country's first championship for school students, ended on a high note in the capital as Mr. Atul Kumar Tiwari, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE), Government of India, felicitated more than 60 winners with cash prizes, certificates, and medals. JuniorSkills 2021 is an initiative of the National Skill Development Corporation.

2. Grammys 2022: Falguni Shah wins first trophy, Ricky Kej repeats 2015 triumph

Two Indian musicians were among the winners at the 64th Annual Grammy Awards, given out to musicians in Las Vegas. Composer Ricky Kej won his second Grammy Award as he and Stewart Copeland won the award for Best New Age Album. Indian-American singer-songwriter Falu won her maiden trophy for Best Children's Music Album on the night.

3. Aarefa Johari awarded Chameli Devi Jain Award for Outstanding Woman Mediaperson 2021

Mumbai-based journalist Aarefa Johari was picked as the winner of the Chameli Devi Jain Award for an Outstanding Woman Mediaperson 2021. Instituted in 1982, the annual Chameli Devi Jain Award is a prestigious recognition for women mediapersons in India who have reported on themes such as social development, politics, equity, gender justice, health, and war & conflict, etc.

4. Ramdarash Mishra selected for Saraswati Samman 2021

Noted poet and litterateur Prof Ramdarash Mishra will be awarded the prestigious Saraswati Samman, 2021, for his collection of poems 'Mein to Yahan Hun', the KK Birla Foundation announced.

Instituted in 1991, It carries a citation, a plaque, and a cash prize of '15 lakhs.

The recipient is chosen by a selection committee, whose current head is Dr Subhash C Kashyap.

5. Veteran Bengali Author Amar Mitra Wins Prestigious O. Henry Award

Famous Bengali author Amar Mitra has won this year's O.Henry prize for a short story he wrote in 1977. He bagged the award for his short story titled 'Gaonburo'- a Bengali short fiction, which was translated into English (The Old Man Of Kusumpur) earlier. The translated work was published in an American magazine in 2020.

6. 'Tomb of Sand' by Geetanjali Shree is FIRST Hindi fiction to be shortlisted for International Bookers Prize

Author Geetanjali Shree's novel 'Tomb of Sand' became the first Hindi language work of fiction to be shortlisted for the International Booker Prize.

Shree's book, translated into English by Daisy Rockwell and described by the judges as a "loud and irresistible novel", will compete with five other titles from around the world.

7. Photo at Kamloops Indian Residential School wins 2022 World Press Photo of the Year

A photo taken next to the former Kamloops Indian Residential School has been chosen as the 2022 World Press Photo of the Year.

And, for the first time in the contest's 67-year history, the World Press Photo of the Year is a photograph without any people in it.

8. PM Narendra Modi to be honoured with first-ever Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be honoured with the first-ever Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award, instituted in the memory of the veteran singer who passed away in February this year.

Master Deenanath Mangeshkar Smruti Pratishthan informed that the award ceremony will be held on 24th of April at Mumbai's Shanmukhanand Hall.

9. Falguni Nayar wins EY Entrepreneur of the Year Award 2021

Nykaa founder & CEO, Falguni Nayar, was named 'EY Entrepreneur of the Year 2021' at a function in Mumbai. She will now represent India at the EY World Entrepreneur of the Year Award in June this year. Her start-up, Nykaa, is one of the profitable start-ups in the country with a strong omni-channel presence.

10. Divyanka Tripathi honoured with the Champion of Change Award 2021 in Madhya Pradesh

Actress Divyanka Tripathi was honoured with Champion Of Change Award for her phenomenal work as an artist.

The actress was awarded by the government of Madhya Pradesh.

Divyanka received the award from State Governor Shri Mangubhai Patel and Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan.

11. VP presents International Gandhi Award for Leprosy

Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu conferred the International Gandhi Award for Leprosy, 2021 to Dr. Bhushan Kumar of Chandigarh and Sahyog Kushtha Yagna Trust, Gujarat at a function in New Delhi. The annual award was instituted by Gandhi Memorial Leprosy Foundation. Dr. Bhushan Kumar and Sahyog Kushtha Yagna Trust have been working diligently to raise awareness about leprosy

12. AIMA honours Shoojit Sircar with Director Of The Year award for Sardar Udham

At an award ceremony held in Delhi, Nitin Gadkari, Minister for Road Transport and Highways, presented the 2021 AIMA Managing India Awards (AIMA) in multiple categories in Delhi. In the films category, Shoojit Sircar was honoured with the Director Of The Year award for Sardar Udham.

13. Vanmali Awards for Writers Announced in 8 categories

The prestigious Rashtriya Vanmali Katha Samman awards will be given in 8 categories this year, including NRI literature & science writing, its organisers announced in Bhopal. The 1st Vanmali Kathasheersh Samman will be given to professor Dhananjay Verma, while the Vanmali Rashtriya Katha Samman will be given to Delhi-based writer Geetanjali Shri. Vanmali Yuva Katha Samman - Chandan Pandey Vanmali Sahityik Patrika - magazine Kathadesh

14. Prabhat Patnaik selected for Malcolm Adiseshiah Award 2022

Renowned Indian economist and political commentator Prabhat Patnaik has been selected for the 2022 Malcolm Adiseshiah Award.

The award is annually given by the Malcolm and Elizabeth Adiseshiah Trust to an outstanding social scientist selected from nominations received by a specially constituted national jury.

15. UDAN Scheme Selected For PM Award For Excellence In Public Administration

Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) flagship Regional Connectivity Scheme UDAN (UdeDeshkaAamNagriK) has been selected for Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Public Administration 2020 under the category 'Innovation (General) ' Central'.

The award consists of a trophy, scroll and an incentive of Rs 10 lakhs.

16. Union Steel Ministry to host National Metallurgist Award 2021 to recognise outstanding contribution of metallurgists/Engineers

The Union Steel Ministry will host National Metallurgist Award 2021 in New Delhi to recognise the outstanding contribution of metallurgists and engineers in the field of iron and steel.

The programme will be chaired by the Steel Minister Ram Chandra Prasad Singh.

17. Ukrainian Prez Zelenskyy gets John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award for protecting democracy

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy is among five people named as recipients of the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award for acting to protect democracy.

The John F. Kennedy Library Foundation said that he was chosen because of the way he has 'marshaled the spirit, patriotism and untiring sacrifice of the Ukrainian people in a life-or-death fight for their country.

18. Babita Singh named as the new Global Peace Ambassador 2022

Serial entrepreneur Babita Singh has been conferred as a Global Peace Ambassador for promoting Peace through Education, Sports, Art, Culture & Diplomacy at the India International Conclave 2022 held in collaboration with Asia Africa Consortium (AAC) that took place in Shangrila, New Delhi.

19. UN Names David Attenborough 'Champion Of The Earth'

The celebrated wildlife filmmaker and zoologist David Attenborough has been honored with the UN Environment Programme's most illustrious title, the Champions of the Earth Lifetime Achievement Award, granted in recognition of his 'outsized impact on the global environmental movement.'

UNEP: Executive Director: Inger Andersen; HQ: Nairobi, Kenya

20. Bangladesh educational charity founder Kishore Das selected for Commonwealth Points of Light Award

The founder of educational charity 'Bidyanando' Kishore Kumar Das from Bangladesh has been chosen for the Commonwealth Points of Light Award for his exceptional work in improving access to education for children from marginalised backgrounds, said the British High Commission.

21. Meghalaya e-proposal system wins prestigious UN award

The state planning department's key initiative of e-proposal system, part of Meghalaya Enterprise Architecture (MeghEA), has won a coveted UN Award ' World Summit on the Information Society Forum (WSIS) Prizes, 2022.

The e-proposal system now automates sanctions and administrative approvals of all the departments and directorates in Meghalaya.

22. Max Verstappen Wins 2022 Laureus World Sportsman of the Year

Formula 1 world champion Max Verstappen has been named the Laureus World Sportsman of the Year 2022 at a digital ceremony hosted from Seville, Spain.

Jamaican Olympic sprint queen Elaine Thompson-Herah, has received the Laureus World Sportswoman of the Year award.

23. Atal Tunnel receives 'Best Infrastructure Project' award

The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) engineering marvel, Atal Tunnel, built in Rohtang in Himachal Pradesh, received the Indian Building Congress' (IBC) 'Best Infrastructure Project' award in New Delhi.

More than thirty state-of-the-art infrastructure projects were nominated for the award.

24. Snow leopard conservationist Charudutt Mishra wins Whitley Gold Award for efforts to involve local communities

Charudutt Mishra, a snow leopard conservationist, was awarded the Whitley Gold Award at the Royal Geographical Society in London, for his efforts to involve local communities in conserving the enigmatic big cat of Inner Asia.

This is Mishra's second WFN Prize. He had won the award previously in 2005.



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Ranks & Reports

1. India's GDP to Grow 7.4% in 2022-23: FICCI Economic Outlook Survey

The country's gross domestic product (GDP) is expected to grow 7.4 per cent in the current financial year 2022-23, according to the FICCI Economic Outlook Survey. It forecasts the growth for agriculture and allied activities at 3.3 per cent, while for industry and services sectors at 5.9 per cent and 8.5 per cent, respectively, during the fiscal year.

2. Six programmes from India's Institutes of Eminence in top 100 in world: QS Ranking

Six programmes at India's Institutes of Eminence (IoEs) have managed to break into the top 100 in the world in the latest 'QS Rankings by Subject'.

In total, 35 Indian programmes achieved top 100 positions -- 10 more than the 2021 edition of the tables.

The rankings are compiled by global higher education analysts QS Quacquarelli Symonds.

3. Forbes Billionaires 2022: Ambani 10th Richest, Adani 11th; Musk Tops List

With a net worth of \$90.7 billion, Mukesh Ambani, the chairperson and managing director of Reliance Industries, is the richest person in India and the 10th richest person in the world, as per the Forbes' 36th annual ranking of the world's richest people.

Infrastructure tycoon Gautam Adani is the second-richest person in India and 11th overall (Worth \$90 billion).

4. Chhattisgarh tops states with lowest unemployment rate in country

Chhattisgarh has been ranked first among states with the lowest unemployment rate in the country.

According to the latest data released by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), Chhattisgarh has registered an unemployment rate of 0.6 per cent this March, which is the lowest so far.

As per the data, Haryana has the highest unemployment rate.

5. India's trade deficit rises 88% in FY22: Govt data

India's trade deficit rose 87.5 per cent to \$192.41 billion in 2021-22 as against \$102.63 billion in the previous year.

While total exports during last fiscal year increased to a record high of \$417.81 billion, imports too soared to \$610.22 billion, leaving a trade gap of \$192.41 billion.

6. Indian Railways: CAG Flags Slow Progress In Reducing Travel Time Of Passenger And Freight Trains

In its latest report tabled in Parliament, the CAG has pointed out that there was no significant improvement on the mobility outcomes. Despite investing Rs 2.5 lakh crore on track infrastructure during 2008-19, Indian Railways has failed to speed up passenger and freight trains. Comptroller and Auditor General of India: Girish Chandra Murmu

7. Two out of three employees in India prioritise health over work: Microsoft's Work Trend Index

Two out of every three employees in India are more likely to prioritise health and well-being over work now than before the pandemic, revealed the recent edition of Microsoft's Work Trend Index.

8. Gujarat tops NITI Aayog's State Energy and Climate Index Round 1

Gujarat has topped NITI Aayog State Energy and Climate Index-(SECI) Round 1 among larger states. This index aims to rank states and union territories on six parameters 'discoms performance, access affordability and reliability of energy, clean energy initiatives, energy efficiency, environmental sustainability and new initiatives. Gujarat was followed by Kerala and Punjab.

9. Poverty in India declined 12.3 percentage points between 2011-2019: World Bank

Extreme poverty in India is 12.3 percentage points lower in 2019 than in 2011 as poverty headcount rate has declined from 22.5% in 2011 to 10.2% in 2019 with comparatively sharper decline in rural areas, a working paper of the World Bank policy research said.

Rural and urban poverty dropped by 14.7 and 7.9 percentage points during 2011-2019.

10. Financing for Sustainable Development Report 2022

The crippling cost of debt financing for many developing countries has hamstrung their recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, forced cutbacks in development spending, and constrained their ability to respond to further shocks, according to a new report launched by the United Nations.

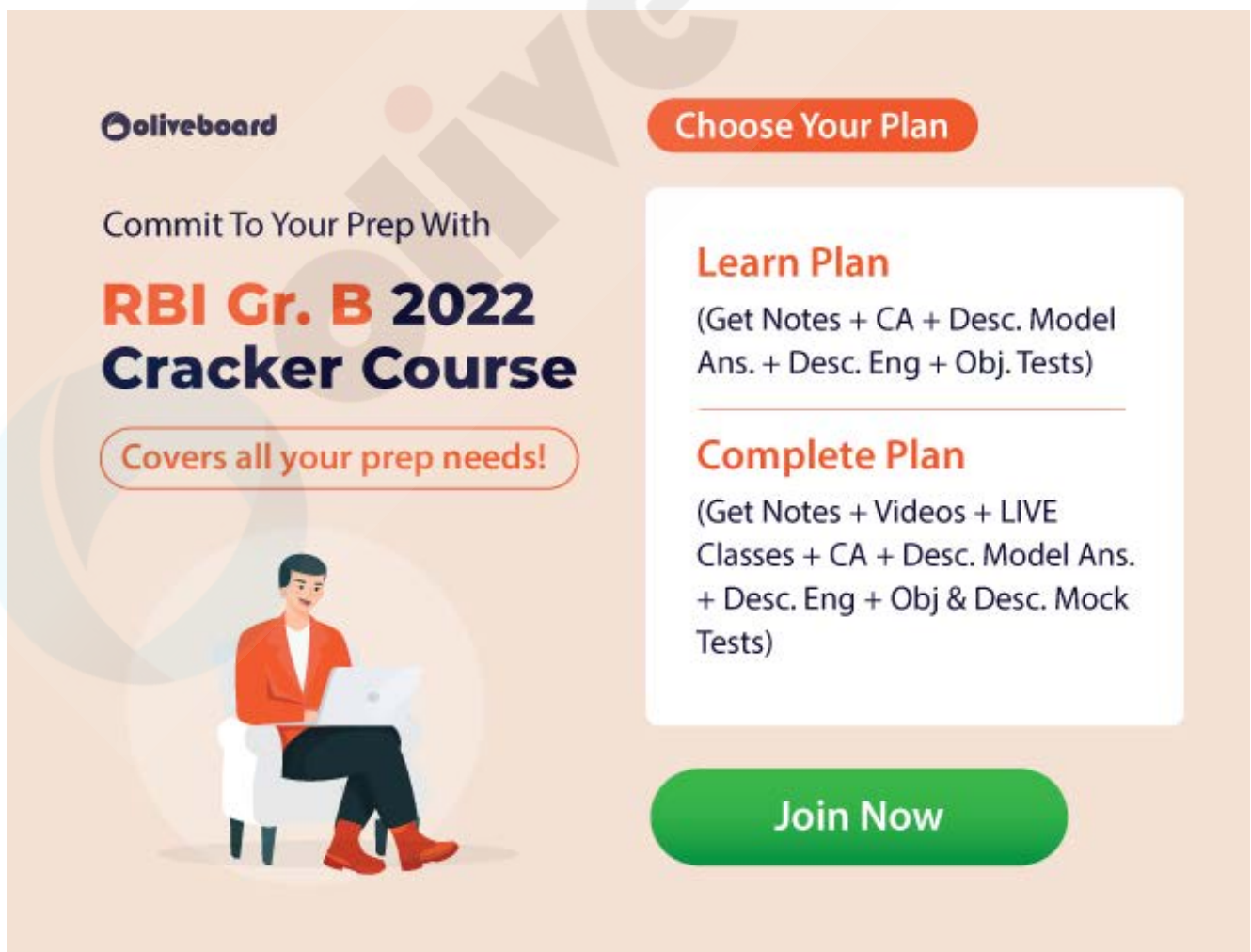
The pandemic shock plunged 77 million more people into extreme poverty in 2021.

11. IMF slashes India's GDP growth forecast to 8.2% for FY23

The International Monetary Fund, in its latest World Economic Outlook report has slashed its forecast for India's FY23 GDP growth to 8.2 per cent from earlier 9 per cent, reflecting in part weaker domestic demand'as higher oil prices are expected to weigh on private consumption and investment'and a drag from lower net exports.

12. At 48 billion, India accounts for largest number of real-time transactions in the world

At 48 billion, India accounted for the largest number of worldwide real-time transactions in 2021, almost three times that of nearest challenger China (18 billion), and 6.5 times greater than the US, Canada, UK, France and Germany combined, according to a report by ACI Worldwide.



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Important Days

1. International Day of Mine Awareness 2022: April 4

International Day for Mine Awareness is observed annually on April 4 to increase attention among people regarding assistance for mine action work, raise awareness about landmines and the threats to the safety of humans and work towards their eradication. The mine action community worldwide, headed by the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS). 2022 theme:- 'Safe Ground, Safe Steps, Safe Home'.

2. National Maritime Day 2022: April 5

National Maritime Day will be celebrated for the 59th time in India. The first anniversary was held in 1964 to raise awareness about international trade and the economy.

The theme of National Maritime Day 2022 is 'Sustainable Shipping beyond Covid-19'.

3. International Day of Sport for Development and Peace 2022: April 6

The International Day of Sport for Development and Peace (IDSDP) is observed on April 6 and highlights the importance of sport in keeping the fabric of society intact. The day that takes place annually recognises the positive impact that sports activities have on the peace and harmony of various communities co-existing on this globe. 2022Theme:Securing a Sustainable and Peaceful Future for All: The Contribution of Sport.'

4. World Health Day 2022: April 7

April 7 is celebrated and observed as World Health Day.

The day is celebrated annually by the member states of the United Nations.

The day aims to raise awareness about the health-related issues that concern people across the world. It also aims to garner the attention of the people towards specific health topics of concern for people across the globe. This year's theme is - "Our Planet, Our Health."

5. International Day of Human Space Flight 2022: April 12

The United Nations General Assembly established April 12 to be the International Day of Human Space Flight in a resolution passed on April 7, 2011.

On April 12, 1961, Russian cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin orbited Earth aboard the Vostok 1 spacecraft.

Cosmonautics Day is observed by the Soviet space programme to commemorate the first manned spaceflight.

6. WORLD ART DAY 2022: April 15

World Art Day is observed across the globe on 15 April to promote the development and appreciation of art. The day was established by the International Association of Art (IAA), a UNESCO partner, to raise international awareness about fine arts.The date was chosen to commemorate the birthday of Leonardo da Vinci.

7. World Heritage Day 2022: April 18

Each year World Heritage Day is commemorated on April 18 to spread awareness about preserving the history, diversity, and vulnerability of world heritage sites and monuments. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) has designated total of 1155 monuments in 167 countries as UNESCO world heritage sites. This year theme 'Heritage and Climate" .

8. World Liver Day 2022: April 19

We celebrate World Liver Day on April 19 across the world every year. The purpose of this day is to raise awareness about liver-related disorders and diseases.

Liver ailments amount to the 10th most common reason for death in India, as reported by the World Health Organisation (WHO).

9. PM confers award for excellence in public administration on Civil Services Day | 21st April

PM Sh. Modi conferred the Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration on the occasion of Civil Services Day at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.

The central govt. observe April 21 as Civil Services Day as an "occasion for the civil servants to rededicate themselves to the cause of citizens and renew their commitments to public service and excellence in works.

10. World Creativity and Innovation Day | April 21

The UN designated 21 April to be celebrated the World Creativity and Innovation Day in order to raise the awareness about the crucial role of creativity and innovation in different aspects of human development.

The World Creativity and Innovation Week is also observed from April 15-21.

The theme this year is 'Collaboration'.

11. World Earth Day ' April 22, 2022

Through a resolution that was adopted in 2009, the General Assembly selected 22 April as International Mother Earth Day. In 1969 at a UNESCO Conference in San Francisco, peace activist John McConnell proposed a day to honour the Earth and the concept of peace.

This year's World Earth Day 2022 theme is 'Invest In Our Planet'.

12. World Book and Copyright Day | April 23

In 2022, the Mexican city of Guadalajara is taking up the mantle of World Book Capital, with a year-long programme that focuses on the role of books and reading in triggering social change, combating violence, and building a culture of peace.

The theme for 2022 is 'Read, so you never feel low'.

13. English Language Day 2022

English Language Day is observed annually on April 23, the aim is to celebrate multilingualism and cultural diversity by exploring the language. English Language Day marks both the birthday and date of the death of famed writer William Shakespeare.

The day was established by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 2010. This day makes up one of six UN language days.

14. National Panchayati Raj Day | April 24

The Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992 that came into force with effect from 24th April, 1993 has vested constitutional status on Panchayati Raj institutions.

The commemoration is being anchored by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj.

The National Panchayati Raj Day (NPRD) is being celebrated on 24 April since 2010. Giriraj Singh: Minister of Rural Development, & Panchayati Raj.

15. International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace, 24 April

The International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace is celebrated annually on 24 April.

The Day acknowledges the use of multilateral decision-making and diplomacy in achieving peaceful resolutions to conflicts among nations.

It was established on 12 December 2018 through resolution A/RES/73/127 and was first observed on 24 April 2019.

16. 24 to 30 April is World Immunization Week

World Immunization Week is observed by the World Health Organization (WHO) in the last week of April (24 to 30 April).

The week highlights the role of vaccines to protect people and communities from diseases.

This year the theme for World Immunization Week is 'Long Life for All'.

17. World Malaria Day 2022: April 25

World Malaria Day is observed on 25 April every year.

It is mainly observed to focus on the importance of controlling malaria and creating awareness against the disease.

The World Health Assembly first marked World Malaria Day in May 2007.

The organisation works towards promoting malaria education and awareness among people.

18. World Intellectual Property Day 2022: April 26

World Intellectual Property Day is observed annually on April 26 to raise awareness about the importance of intellectual property (IP) rights in fostering innovation and creativity. World Intellectual Property 2022 highlights the enormous potential of young people to develop something new & provide better solutions to help the world transition to a more sustainable future. 2022 theme:- 'IP and Youth: Innovating for a Better Future'.

19. International Girls in ICT Day 2022: April 28

Every year, to encourage equal participation in ICT technologies, International Girls in ICT Day is celebrated on April 28.

As per International Telecommunication Union's data, since 2011, more than 3,62,000 girls and young women have celebrated more than 11,000 celebrations in 171 countries worldwide during the International Girls in ICT Day. This year's theme is access and safety.

20. World Day For Safety And Health at Work 2022: April 28

Each year on April 28, the World Day for Safety and Health at Work is observed across the globe. The day is observed to encourage talks and practices on promoting the prevention of occupational accidents and diseases.

The theme for World Day for Safety and Health at Work 2022 is "Participation And Social Dialogue In Creating A Positive Safety And Health Culture."

21. 5 thousand LPG panchayats on the occasion of Ujjwala Diwas on May 1

Oil marketing companies will organise more than five thousand LPG Panchayats on the occasion of 'Ujjwala Diwas' on the 1st of May. All efforts will be made to maximise customer enrolment apart from experience sharing, aimed at safe and sustained usage of LPG.



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Summit & Conferences

1. Indo-Israel bilateral workshop on Quantum Technologies concludes

A two-day Indo-Israel Bilateral workshop on Quantum Technologies (I2QT-2022), organised by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and DRDO-Industry-Academia Centre of Excellence (DIA-CoE), IIT Delhi has concluded in New Delhi. The workshop was attended by Indian and Israeli delegations consisting of academic experts, R&D professionals and Industry partners.

2. First ever NTCA meeting outside National Capital held at Arunachal Pradesh

The 20th Meeting of National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) was held in Pakke tiger reserve in Arunachal Pradesh under the chairmanship of Union Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change Shri Bhupender Yadav.

3. Two Day National Workshop to Speed Up Development of National Tribal Freedom Fighters' Museum Organised At Bhopal

A two-day national workshop (7th and 8th April 2022) was organised at Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh by the Development Support Agency of Gujarat (DSAG), Tribal Development Department of Gujarat and Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India.

4. Vice President Naidu calls for holistic development of Panchayats to achieve Sustainable Development Goals

Inaugurating National Stakeholders Conference on 'Localization of Sustainable Development Goals' organized by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu urged the Union Government and various States to facilitate the devolution of the 3Fs from Zilla Parishads to Panchayats.

5. President RamNath Kovind inaugurates National Conference on Mediation and Information Technology at Kevadia, Gujarat

President of India Sh. Kovind addressed the inaugural ceremony of the National Conference on Mediation and Information Technology organized by the High Court of Gujarat at Kevadia in Narmada district.

Speaking on this occasion, the Chief Justice of India N. V. Ramana emphasized on resolving disputes through mediation.

6. The first introductory meeting of All Women Ambassadors' Group organised in New Delhi

The Minister of State for External Affairs and Culture, Smt. Meenakshi Lekhi led the first introductory meeting of All Women Ambassadors' Group in New Delhi.

All the Female Ambassadors to India, spouses of male ambassadors and female Charge d'Affaires of all embassies attended the meeting.

7. Waterways Conclave 2022-Regional Connectivity through Waterways held in Dibrugarh, Assam

Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways along with Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) is organizing Waterways Conclave 2022 in Dibrugarh, Assam.

As many as six memorandums of understanding (MoUs) were signed on the second day of the waterways conclave held at Dibrugarh in Assam.

8. Army Commanders' Conference begins in New Delhi

Army Commanders' Conference, an apex level biannual event has begun in New Delhi and will continue till 22nd of this month.

The conference is an institutional platform for conceptual-level deliberations, culminating in making important policy decisions for the Indian Army.

9. PM Modi to inaugurate 1st ever Semicon India-2022 Conference on 29th April

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the first ever Semicon India-2022 Conference on 29th of this month in Bengaluru.

Semicon India-2022 Conference will be organised by Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology from 29th of April to 1st of May around theme of - Design and Manufacture in India, for the World: Making India a Semiconductor Nation.

10. National Cyber Exercise Underway To Train Govt Officials On Cyber Threat

The National Security Council Secretariat is organising National Cyber Security Incident Response Exercise (NCX India) for government officials and critical sector organisations to strengthen India's cyber posture.

National Security Advisor Ajit Doval inaugurated the National Cyber Security Incident Response Exercise

11. 'Smart Cities, Smart Urbanization', Conference opens in Surat, with 100 Smart Cities joining from across the country

The 3-day "Smart Cities, Smart Urbanization" conference had a grand opening in Surat today. The event is being organised by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India with Surat Smart City Corporation Development Ltd.

Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs was the chief guest at the event.

12. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated Global Ayush Investment & Innovation Summit 2022 at Gandhinagar, Gujarat

The three day Ayush global summit will witness a dialogue with entrepreneurs, industry, startups and other stakeholders to encourage them to increase investment for innovation in Ayush as the sector continues to showcase colossal room for growth.

A new category named 'Ayush Aahar' was announced which will greatly facilitate the producers of herbal nutritional supplements. India will soon introduce a special Ayush visa category.

13. Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman attends FATF Ministerial Meeting in Washington D.C.

Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman attended the FATF Ministerial Meeting in Washington D.C, conducted along-side the 2022 Spring Meetings of the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is the global money laundering and terrorist financing watchdog. Headquarters: Paris, France; Founded: 1989.

14. Mumbai to host India's first international cruise conference

Giving a boost to the shipping and tourism sector together, India would host the first-ever Incredible India International Cruise Conference 2022 in May, months ahead of the commissioning of the iconic cruise terminal in Mumbai.

The Mumbai Port Authority (MPA) would host the event in India's financial capital on May 14-15.

15. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh to inaugurate DefConnect 2.0 organised by iDEX-DIO

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will inaugurate DefConnect 2.0 organised by Innovations for Defence Excellence, Defence Innovation Organisation (iDEX-DIO) in New Delhi.

The event will attract a large number of innovators and investors from country's leading industries in the defence sector.

16. Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated 48th All India Police Science Congress(AIPSC) in Bhopal

Amit Shah inaugurated 48th AIPSC being organised by the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) held at the Central Academy of Police Training (CAPT) in Bhopal.

For the first time, the 2-day AIPSC will be attended by police forces, units, social scientists, forensic experts and stakeholders along with the officers of the department of correctional administration. Madhya Pradesh: CM: Shivraj Singh Chouhan; Governor: Mangubhai Patel;

17. Minister of Railways and MeitY, Ashwini Vaishnaw gave keynote address at 'Sankalp Se Siddhi' Summit

The multi-stakeholder summit 'Sankalp Se Siddhi' is being organized by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and India@75 Foundation jointly with the Ministry of Culture, to commemorate India's 75th year of Independence.

Spread over two days, the Summit has convened important stakeholders to deliberate on the country's achievements in different areas.

18. PM Modi to inaugurate 7th edition of Raisina Dialogue

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the seventh edition of the Raisina Dialogue in New Delhi.

President of the European Commission Ursula Von Der Leyen will be the chief guest at the Dialogue. Several former Prime Ministers of different countries and other dignitaries will also participate in the event. The 3-day Dialogue is based on the theme - Terranova, impassioned, impatient, imperilled.

19. First edition of Naval Commanders' Conference of 2022 underway in New Delhi

The first edition of the Naval Commanders' Conference of 2022 is underway in New Delhi. The conference serves as a platform for naval commanders to discuss important maritime matters at the

military-strategic level as well as interact with senior government functionaries through an institutionalised forum. Indian Navy Chief: - Admiral R. Hari Kumar

20. Union Minister Mandaviya inaugurates 7th International conference of Pharma and Medical Devices sector

Dr Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Minister for Chemicals & Fertilizers and Health & Family Welfare, inaugurated the 7th edition of the International Conference on Pharma and Medical Devices sector 2022, which is scheduled from 25th to 27th April.

The annual flagship three-day conference is being held at Dr Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi.

21. India to host accountants World Congress for the first time in 118 years

Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) is set to host 21st World Congress of Accountants (WCOA), the kumbh of accountants, for the first time in 118 years of its existence, ICAI president Debashis Mitra.

The event will be held from November 18 to 21 after outbidding France.

22. PM inaugurates the Semicon India Conference 2022

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated Semicon India Conference 2022 and shared his remarks via video conferencing at the inaugural session. Union Ministers, leaders of the Semiconductor industry, investors, academics and members of the diplomatic corps were among those present on the occasion.



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Science & Technology

1. Pixxel launches its first satellite aboard SpaceX

Indian space-tech startup Pixxel has launched its first satellite, part of its eventual 36-satellite planned constellation, aboard a SpaceX Falcon 9 rideshare mission. The satellite was incidentally the second that Pixxel built, and is a part of the first three technology demonstration satellites in its constellation. Pixxel will look to complete six launches in the first quarter of 2023.

2. Thales and Central Manufacturing Technology Institute (CMTI) sign MoU for Advanced Collaborative Research

Thales has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Central Manufacturing Technology Institute (CMTI) of India for advanced collaborative research and development in the field of Open Hardware.

Through this MoU, Thales and CMTI can pilot demonstrations with real-life use cases in the field of control systems development for machines and associated manufacturing assets. Thales Group is a French multinational company.

3. Amazon signs record-breaking launch deals for Project Kuiper internet mega constellation

Amazon has booked rides to space for the majority of its internet-satellite mega constellation.

The company announced that it has signed contracts for up to 83 launches, which will loft the bulk of Amazon's 3,236 "Project Kuiper" internet satellites. The package of deals is "the largest commercial procurement of launch vehicles in history".

4. UVIT J2022: Indian scientists discover star-forming galaxy 136-million light years away

A team of researchers from the Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bengaluru, along with some international scientists, have discovered a large, diffuse star-forming galaxy around 136 million light-years away from Earth. UVIT J2022 is a diffuse galaxy and was confused as a part of the NGC 6902A galaxy.

5. Space-X launches first all private mission to space station.

The first all private mission to International Space Station (ISS) has been launched by Space-X. The launch of the mission has been hailed by industry executives and NASA as a milestone in the commercialization of space flight.

6. Cadila Pharma launches world's first novel 3-dose vaccine against rabies

The three-dose vaccine, named as 'ThRabis', is a recombinant nano-particle based G protein vaccine which is prepared using Virus-like Particle technology. The new vaccine would prove to be a game-changer because all the existing rabies vaccines require five injections, spread over 28 days for eliminating the threat (of virus spread).

7. IIT Madras launches first affordable, Made-In-India prosthetic knee called 'Kadam'

IIT Madras researchers have launched the country's first Made-in-India polycentric prosthetic knee. Called 'Kadam', the affordable prosthetic knee can transform the lives of thousands of above-knee amputees through not just mobility with ease, but also increased community participation, access to education, livelihood opportunities and overall well-being.

8. Covaxin, Corbevax, ZyCoV-D get emergency use nod by drug regulator

The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) recommended emergency use authorisation (EUA) for Bharat Biotech's Covaxin for children between 6 and 12 years. The DCGI has also recommended EUA for Biological E's Corbevax for children in the age group of 5 to 12 years and Zydus Cadila's ZyCoV-D for those above 12 years.

9. Estonia hosts the world's largest cyber exercise, organized by the NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence (CCDCOE)

The Tallinn-based NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence, abbreviated as CCDCOE, is organising the Locked Shields 2022, the largest and most complex annual international live-fire cyber defence exercise in the world.

This year's exercise has particular importance as it takes place amid the rising threat of cyber-attacks since the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Capital: Tallinn; Currency: Euro.

10. Agra to get country's first vacuum-based sewer system

The city of Taj Mahal, Agra, has become the first city in the country to have vacuum-based sewers. These vacuums will be used in public places. If the trial in Agra becomes successful, then the vacuum sewer will be used in Kochi Municipal Corporation as well.

The work of sewer connection is estimated at Rs 100 crore.



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Defence

1. Exercise Suraksha Kavach 2- Joint Security Exercise by Indian Army and Maharashtra Police

Agnibaaz Division organized a joint exercise between Indian Army and Maharashtra Police at Lullanagar, Pune. The joint exercise was held at Lullanagar in Pune & saw participation of Counter Terrorism Task Force (CTTF) of the Indian Army, Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) of Maharashtra Police alongwith Quick Reaction Teams (QRTs), dog squads & bomb disposal teams of both agencies.

2. Offshore security exercise 'Prasthan' conducted by Western Naval Command

An offshore security exercise, 'Prasthan' was conducted in the Offshore Development Area (ODA) off Mumbai, under the aegis of Headquarters, Western Naval Command. Conducted every six months, this exercise is an important element of ensuring offshore security and aims to integrate efforts of all maritime stakeholders involved in offshore defence.

3. Philippines, US Kick Off Large-Scale Balikatan Military Exercise

The Philippines and the United States kicked off one of their largest-ever joint exercises with officials saying they hoped it would convey a message of strong bilateral military ties in the face of maritime challenges from China.

Philippine Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said the exercises called Balikatan, which means 'shoulder-to-shoulder' in Tagalog. Tagalog is an Austronesian language spoken as a first language by Philippines.

4. India-Seychelles Joint Military Exercise Lamitiye Concludes At Seychelles

The 9th edition of India - Seychelles Joint Training Exercise LAMITIYE-2022, which commenced on March 22 at Seychelles Defence Academy, Seychelles culminated with 48 hours of validation exercise. The themes chosen for the Joint Training Exercise were both relevant and contemporary for the planning and execution of operations based on scenarios in a Semi-Urban environment.

5. 20th edition of the Bilateral Naval Exercise between Indian and French Navies 'VARUNA' is being conducted in the Arabian Sea

The 20th edition of the Bilateral Naval Exercise between Indian and French Navies 'VARUNA' is being conducted in the Arabian Sea from 30 Mar ' 03 Apr 22. The Bilateral Naval Exercises between the two Navies were initiated in 1993. The exercise was christened 'VARUNA' in 2001 and has become a vital part of India ' France's strategic bilateral relationship.

6. HAL, Israel Aerospace Industries sign MoU for multi-mission tanker transport aircraft

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) entered into a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) to convert civil (passenger) aircraft to multi-mission tanker transport (MMTT) aircraft in India.

HAL will convert pre-owned civil aircraft into air-refuelling aircraft with cargo and transport capabilities under this pact.

7. DRDO successfully flight-tests Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet technology off Odisha coast

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully flight tested Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet (SFDR) booster at the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur off the coast of Odisha. The SFDR-based propulsion enables the missile to intercept aerial threats at very long range at supersonic speeds.

8. 1st batch of aircrew of Indian Navy completes training for induction of MH-60 helicopters

The first batch of the aircrew of the Indian Navy has completed its training in the US to operate the MH-60 'Romeo' multi-role helicopters. India is procuring 24 MH-60R helicopters as part of an around Rs 15,000-crore deal with the US government under the framework of foreign military sales. The choppers will be armed with Hellfire missiles and night-vision devices.

9. CCS clears procurement of 15 light combat helicopters worth '3,887 crore

The cabinet committee on security, headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, cleared the purchase of 15 light combat helicopters (LCH) for the Indian air force (IAF) and the army from Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) at a cost of '3,887 crore. LCH has indigenous content of 45% by value, which will progressively increase to more than 55% for the series production version.

10. Pinaka Mk-I (Enhanced) Rocket System and Pinaka Area Denial Munition Rocket Systems successfully flight-tested by DRDO & Army

Pinaka Mk-I (Enhanced) Rocket System (EPRS) and Pinaka Area Denial Munition (ADM) rocket systems have been successfully flight-tested by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Indian Army at Pokhran Firing Ranges.

11. Anti-Tank Guided Missile 'HELINA' Successfully Flight-Tested

India has successfully flight-tested Helina, an anti-tank guided missile (ATGM), in Pokhran. The test was part of user validation trials of the third generation 'fire and forget' class missiles developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

The flight test was conducted by teams from DRDO, the Army and the Air Force.

12. Indian Army gets combat ready vehicles from Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL)

Indian Army received the first lot of Infantry Protected Vehicles (IPMVS) from a private sector company which has produced and delivered the four-wheeled armoured combat vehicles.

These have been developed and manufactured at a facility in Pune and built on the strategic 88 Wheeled Armoured Platform (WhAP). Sukaran Singh, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, TASL.

13. IAF's Chinook Completes Longest Non-Stop Helicopter Sortie In India, Covers 1,910 Km In 7 Hours And 30 Minutes

IAF's Chinook helicopter undertook the longest non-stop helicopter sortie in India, flying from Chandigarh to Jorhat (Assam). The 1910 kms route was completed in 7 hrs 30 min.

India had finalized a contract in September 2015 to procure 22 Apache helicopters and 15 Chinooks choppers from the US at a cost of around USD 3 billion.

14. Indian Coast Guard Commissions Latest Advanced Light Helicopter MK-III Squadron In Bhubaneswar

The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) has commissioned the latest Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH-Dhruv) MK-III squadron. The major variants of Dhruv are classified as Dhruv Mk-I, Mk-II, Mk-III & Mk-IV. These helicopters are equipped with state-of-the art equipment like Surveillance Radar, Electro Optic Pod, Medical Intensive Care Unit, High Intensity Search Light, SAR Homer.

15. Trishakti Corps conducts EX KRIPAN SHAKTI at Siliguri's Teesta field firing range

The Trishakti Corps conducted EX KRIPAN SHAKTI, an Integrated Fire Power exercise at Teesta Field Firing Ranges (TFFR) near Siliguri in West Bengal.

The exercise was aimed at orchestrating and synergizing the capabilities of the Indian Army and the Central Armed Police Forces to fight an integrated battle.

16. Russian warship Moskva sinks after 'Ukraine's Neptune missile strike'

Russia's flagship Black Sea fleet named 'Moskva', a guided-missile cruiser, sunk after what a Ukrainian official claimed was a cruise missile attack off the coast of Odesa.

The Neptune cruise missile is a Ukrainian-manufactured anti-ship missile, fired from shore to ship. This cruise missile that hit the Russian fleet was developed by Ukraine & entered service in 2020.

17. Israel Becomes The First Country To Successfully Shoot Down Drones With 'Iron Beam' Laser Interceptors

Israel's new laser missile-defense system has successfully intercepted mortars, rockets and anti-tank missiles in recent tests.

The Israeli-made laser system, known as the 'Iron Beam,' is designed to complement a series of aerial defense systems, including the costliest rocket-intercepting Iron Dome.

18. Defence Secretary inaugurates two-day National Level Pollution Response Exercise of Indian Coast Guard off Mormugao harbour, Goa

Defence Secretary Dr Ajay Kumar inaugurated, on April 19, 2022, the 8th edition of two-day National Level Pollution Response Exercise, 'NATPOLREX-VIII', being conducted by Indian Coast Guard (ICG) off Mormugao harbour, Goa. The objective of NATPOLREX-VIII is to enhance the preparedness and response capability of all the stakeholders in combating marine spills.

19. IAF successfully testfires BrahMos missile from a Su30 MkI aircraft on Eastern seaboard

IAF has tested live firing of BrahMos missile from a Su30 MkI aircraft on the Eastern seaboard. The missile achieved a direct hit on the target, which was a decommissioned Indian Navy ship.

According to IAF, the mission was undertaken in close coordination with the navy.

20. MoU signed between Indian Navy (IN) and M/s Larsen and Toubro (L&T)

The MoU aims to engage M/s L&T as a Knowledge Partner for nurturing technologies in various domains, for induction into the Indian Navy.

The MoU encompasses all the aspects related to Electrical, Weapon, Engineering, Machinery and Control, and Hull of a Naval Warship.

21. INS Vagsheer, the sixth Scorpene Submarine of Project-75, launched in Mumbai.

INS Vagsheer was launched in Mumbai by Defence Secretary Ajay Kumar.

These submarines are being constructed at Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) Mumbai, collaboration with Naval Group, France.

Scorpene submarines can undertake multifarious types of missions i.e anti-surface warfare, anti-submarine warfare, intelligence gathering, mine laying, area surveillance etc

INS Kalvari, first Scorpene class submarine was commissioned into the Indian Navy in 2017.

22. Russia has test-launched 'Satan 2' Sarmat missile

Russia's Ministry of Defence said it had completed the launch of its RS-28 Sarmat intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM), a new addition to its nuclear arsenal which Russia's President Vladimir Putin said would provide Moscow's enemies with 'food for thought'.

It has been under development since 2009.

23. IAF, Navy tie up with DRDO to acquire CHAFF to shield warships, fighter aircraft

The Indian Air Force and the Indian Navy have tied up with the DRDO to get the CHAFF technology, a critical defence technology used to protect fighter aircrafts or naval ships from enemy radar-guided missile during war.

India is now the second country after the United States to develop this ability.

Technology includes 3 variants of CHAFF rockets.

CHAFF creates a metal particle cloud near the warship and deflects the missiles from it.

24. India, Maldives unveil sea navigation chart

India and Maldives have jointly unveiled the first-ever navigation chart. It helps ships to understand the maritime topography of Maldives Exclusive Economic zones, water depths and which areas to avoid.

It was unveiled during India's Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS) Admiral R Hari Kumar's visit to Maldives.

25. Army gets 1st indigenous upgrade for AK-47s as Bengaluru-based firm delivers kits

The Bengaluru-based SSS Defence, which won a contract from an elite unit of the Army 'beating an Israeli firm' in October last year, delivered its upgrade kits to the Army.

The upgrade also comes with a new dust cover that will allow mounting of sights, a feature that the AK-47 lacked until now. The sights will help the soldier aim.

26. India 3rd largest military spender, 50% defence exports go to Myanmar, shows data from SIPRI

India's military spending in 2021 is the third highest in the world at Rs 5.87 lakh crore or \$76.6 billion 'behind the United States and China but ahead of the United Kingdom and Russia' data released by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) showed.

Until now, Israel's Fab Defense had a monopoly in the Indian market over the upgrade of AK-47s.

Books & Authors

1. Dharmendra Pradhan releases a book 'Birsa Munda ' Janjatiya Nayak'

Union Education and Skill Development Minister Shri Dharmendra Pradhan released a book 'Birsa Munda ' Janjatiya Nayak' written by Prof. Alok Chakrawal, Vice Chancellor, Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya, Bilaspur. This book is a comprehensive attempt to bring to the fore the struggle of Bhagwan Birsa Munda and the contribution of forest dwellers in the freedom movement.

2. Queen of Fire: Excerpt from Devika Rangachari's novel about Rani Lakshmibai, the rebellion simmering in Jhansi

'Queen of Fire' by award-winning children's writer and historian Devika Rangachari is a gripping novel in which she sheds light on the brave queen and fearsome warrior Rani Lakshmibai of Jhansi whose cry of revolt against the British Raj mobilized thousands of Indian soldiers to become a part of the 1057 National Uprising.

3. 'The Maverick Effect': Book by Harish Mehta sheds light on the making of NASSCOM

"The Maverick Effect", tells the untold story of how in the 1970s and 80s a 'band of dreamers' joined hands to create NASSCOM and pave the way for the IT revolution in India.

The book, touted to be an authoritative biography of the National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM), the apex body of software and IT service companies, is written by Harish Mehta. Harish Mehta, the co-founder and first elected Chairperson of NASSCOM.

4. 'Not Just A Nightwatchman: My Innings with BCCI', book by Former CAG Vinod Rai

In his recently published book 'Not Just A Nightwatchman: My Innings with BCCI', published by 'Rupa', Rai touched upon various issues that he dealt with during his 33-month tenure.

He has authored Not Just an Accountant: The Diary of the Nation's Conscience Keeper and Rethinking Good Governance: Holding to Account India's Public Institutions. Vinod Rai- first Chairman of Banks Board Bureau

5. Author Prem Rawat launches his book 'Hear Yourself' in Mumbai

Author Prem Rawat has launched his book 'Hear Yourself' for Indian subcontinent in Mumbai.

This New York Times bestseller book is already available in 58 countries & 5 languages.

his book is to help people understand their own potential. It will help them find peace in a noisy world. He also advised the audience that they have more wisdom in themselves than they perceive.

6. 'The Boy Who Wrote the Constitution' book by noted playwright and author Rajesh Talwar

The Boy Who Wrote a Constitution' is a play that seeks to inform children, and simultaneously have them meaningfully engage with the challenging boyhood and growing-up years of the person who came to write the Constitution of India, Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar. It is published by Ponytale Books.

7. Naveen Patnaik releases two books: The Magic of Mangalajodi, compilation of Sikh History of East India

Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has released two books. The first one is a coffee table book titled 'The Magic of Mangalajodi' by Avinash Khemka & the second one is a compilation of the Sikh history of eastern India, 'The Sikh History of East India' by Abinash Mohapatra.

Mangalajodi in Chilika is known for scripting a remarkable story of successful nature conservation.

Miscellaneous

1. Flipkart launches its first grocery fulfilment centre in Assam

The fulfilment centre in Assam was inaugurated at Palasbari near Guwahati. This facility in Palasbari will be spread across 1.23 lakh sq feet, and provide more than 300 job opportunities while having the ability to cater to almost the entire northeast. The fulfilment centre will be run by women.

2. Kia India launches new versions of Seltos, Sonet

Automaker Kia India has launched the refreshed versions of its two popular products, Seltos and Sonet, with prices starting at Rs 10.19 lakh and Rs 7.15 lakh (ex-showroom, pan India), respectively. The refreshed Kia Seltos has been updated with 13 new enhancements, while the Sonet has been updated with 9 additional features.

3. Integrated Election Complex with state-of-art infrastructure inaugurated by CEC Shri Sushil Chandra

Chief Election Commissioner of India, Shri Sushil Chandra along with Shri Anup Chandra Pandey inaugurated the Integrated Election Complex at Bakhtawarpur, Delhi for warehousing and management of EVMs & VVPATs of NCT of Delhi.

4. Optum ties up with IIIT-H to set up studio for start-ups

Optum Global Solutions (India), an arm of NYSE-listed UnitedHealth Group, has launched an Optum Startup Studio in India in association with the International Institute of Information Technology (IIIT-Hyderabad). The studio will identify innovative ideas and start-ups that can help accelerate developing solutions in the healthcare sector.



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Obituary

1. Veteran television producer, Gol Maal actor Manju Singh passes away

Veteran Hindi television presenter and actor Manju Singh passed away recently due to cardiac arrest. Lyricist, singer, and screenwriter Swanand Kirkire took to Twitter to mourn Singh's death and reminisce his time working with her for Doordarshan.

2. PM Modi condoles death of Pakistani humanitarian activist Bilquis Edhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi condoled the demise of Bilquis Bano Edhi, Pakistan's renowned activist and philanthropist, and conveyed his sincere condolences. Bilquis Edhi, the wife of Pakistan's renowned and revered humanitarian and philanthropist late Abdul Sattar Edhi, passed away. She was 74.

3. Legendary Odia musician Prafulla Kar passes away at 83

Lyricist, singer and music director Prafulla Kar passed away at the age of 83. Kar was awarded Padma Shri in 2015 for his contribution to the field of arts.

He was also the recipient of the Jayadeva Award in the year 2004. Born on 16 February 1939 in Puri, Kar was an eminent musician, singer, lyricist, writer and columnist.

4. Former Meghalaya CM J.D. Rymbai no more

Meghalaya's former chief minister J.D. Rymbai, passed away.

He entered active politics in 1983 and contested elections to the legislative assembly of Meghalaya on the Congress party ticket from the Jirang constituency successfully.

He replaced D.D. Lapang as the Chief Minister of Meghalaya in 2006 for a year.

5. Veteran Congress leader K Sankaranarayanan passes away aged 89

Senior Congress leader K Sankaranarayanan, who served as governor of various states during his decades-long career, passed away. He was 89.

The senior Congress leader was a four-time legislator and had held finance, excise and agriculture portfolios in various governments in Kerala.

6. Noted writer Padma Shri Binapani Mohanty dies

Odisha's renowned writer Padma Shri Binapani Mohanty passed away at her residence in Cuttack's Badambadi.

Pata Dei, Khela Ghara, Naiku Rasta, Bastraharana, Andhakarara, Kasturi Murga O Sabuja Aranya and Michhi Michhika are some of her best-known stories.

7. Former Kenyan president Kibaki dies at 90

Former Kenyan President Mwai Kibaki has died at the age of 90.

Kibaki's death was announced by President Uhuru Kenyatta, who said his passing was a sad day for the country and praised his predecessor as a great Kenyan.

Kibaki served two terms as president of the East African country, ruling from 2002 to 2013.

8. Structural Biologist Mamannamana Vijayan Passes Away

Eminent structural biologist M. Vijayan, DAE Homi Bhabha Professor at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), passed away in Bengaluru.

Prof. Vijayan, who was instrumental in the development of macromolecular crystallography in India, was 80.

9. Ravi Parthasarathy, ex-IL&FS chairman, passes away at 70

Former non-executive chairman of IL&FS (Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services) Ravi Parthasarathy died at age 70 in Mumbai after a prolonged illness.

An alumnus of IIM Ahmedabad, Parthasarathy joined IL&FS as president in 1987 when the company was founded and became the CEO in 1989. He became the chairman of the company in 2006.

10. Ex-IGCAR director A K Bhaduri passes away

Senior nuclear scientist and former director of the Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research Arun Kumar Bhaduri breathed his last at Kalpakkam near Chennai.

Bhaduri, who worked extensively on fast breeder reactors, served as the director of IGCAR, Kalpakkam, from July 2016 to August 2021.

He was awarded the Raja Ramanna Fellowship post retirement.

11. Former Indian women's hockey team captain Elvera Britto dead

Former Indian women's hockey team captain Elvera Britto died due to old age related problems. She was 81.

Elvera, the eldest of the three famous Britto sisters (others are Rita and Mae), ruled the domestic circuit from 1960 to 1967, guiding Karnataka to seven national titles.

She represented India against Australia, Sri Lanka and Japan.



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Person in news

1. Mirabai Chanu Wins BBC Indian Sportswoman Of the Year Award For 2021

Ace Indian weightlifter Mirabai Chanu was named the BBC Indian Sportswoman of the Year award for 2021 in New Delhi.

Mirabai Chanu, who is preparing for the Asian Games and Commonwealth Games currently, won the Silver medal in the 49kg category at the Tokyo Olympics.

2. Ross Taylor bids adieu to international cricket

Ross Taylor played his farewell international match for New Zealand against the Netherlands in the third match of the three-match ODI series here at Seddon Park.

With 8607 runs in 236 ODIs, 7683 runs in 112 Tests and 1909 runs in 102 T20Is Taylor had a successful international career as a cricketer.

3. 13-year-old Riya Jadon wins 11th DGC Ladies Open Amateur Golf Championship

Thirteen-year-old Riya Jadon won the DGC Ladies Open Amateur Golf Championship here on Thursday, following a close fight with older sister Lavanya Jadon.

Riya, who carded 78, 80 and 74, also won the junior girls trophy. Over a hundred women golfers took part in this year's tournament, which resumed at the Delhi Golf Club after a two-year hiatus.

4. Jo-Wilfried Tsonga announces retirement, will play final tournament at Roland Garros

Jo-Wilfried Tsonga announced that he will play his final tournament this spring at Roland Garros, concluding a career that took him up to No. 5 on the ATP rankings, the 2008 Australian Open final, and 22 titles in total.

The Frenchman is a two-time ATP Masters 1000 champion (2008 Paris, 2014 Canada).

5. Former IAS officer RK Singh appointed principal adviser to IndiGo's managing director

Former Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Civil Aviation R K Singh has been appointed as Principal Advisor to IndiGo's Managing Director Rahul Bhatia. Currently he serves on the Board of CAE Simulation Training Private Limited, which is a pilot training organization.

6. Gautam Adani, only Indian in World's top-10 billionaires' list: Bloomberg Index

Adani Group chairman Gautam Adani became the 6th richest person in the world with a total wealth of \$118 billion, according to the Bloomberg Billionaire's Index.

Adani entered the \$100 billion wealth club on April 4 and is now the only Indian in Bloomberg's top 10 global billionaires list.

He has surpassed Google's famed founders Larry Page and Sergey Brin. Reliance Industries Chairman Mukesh Ambani was at 11th spot with net worth of \$97 bn.

7. Young Indian Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa wins prestigious Reykjavik Open chess tournament

Young Indian Grandmaster, R Praggnanandhaa won the prestigious Reykjavik Open chess tournament in Reykjavik, Iceland with 7.5 points from nine rounds. The 16-year-old Praggnanandhaa defeated compatriot GM D Gukesh in the final round to emerge sole winner.

He had recently hogged the limelight after stunning world No.1 Magnus Carlsen in an online tournament.

8. West Indies All-Rounder Kieron Pollard Announces Retirement From International Cricket

Pollard played 123 ODIs after making his debut in the 2007 World Cup, scoring 2706 runs at an average of 26.01 with three centuries, and took 55 wickets along the way too. In 101 T20Is, he scored 1569 runs while striking at 135.14 with a high score of 75 not out.

Pollard has played the second-most men's international games (224) without playing a Test after David Miller.

9. Covishield Maker Serum Institute Of India's Founder Cyrus Poonawalla Is World's Richest Healthcare Billionaire

Cyrus Poonawalla, the founder of Indian Covid vaccine Covishield's maker Serum Institute of India (SII), is the world's richest billionaire in the healthcare sector this year. This is according to Hurun Global Healthcare Rich List of 2022.

The second richest healthcare billionaire globally is HCA healthcare owner Thomas Frist Jr and family.

10. FINA Suspends Olympic Champion Evgeny Rylov for Nine Months Over Vladimir Putin Rally

Swimming's world governing body FINA suspended Russian Olympic gold medallist Evgeny Rylov for nine months after he attended a rally in Moscow in support of Russia's military campaign in Ukraine.

Rylov, who won gold in 100 and 200 metres backstroke events at last year's Tokyo Olympics.

FINA, Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland

11. Mathias Boe re-hired as badminton doubles coach for Commonwealth Games and Asian Games

The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has approved financial assistance of seven lakh rupees per month to re-hire Mathias Boe as the badminton doubles coach of India.

The assistance has been approved under the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS).

Boe's hiring has been done until Asian Games 2022.

12. Ashwin Yardi, CEO Of Capgemini India Joins UNICEF YuWaah Board As Co-Chair

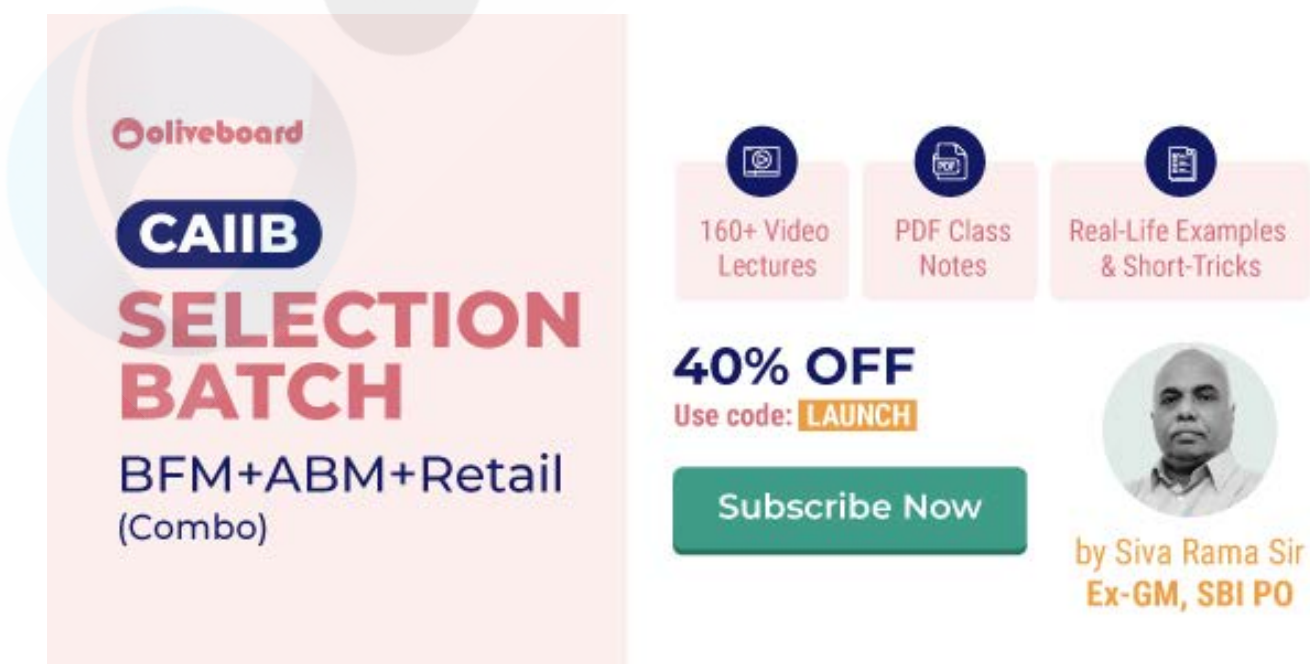
UNICEF's YuWaah' - the Indian chapter of Generation Unlimited - has announced Ashwin Yardi, the CEO of Capgemini in India, to be its co-chair.

Yardi will be a co-chair along with Yasumasa Kimura, the UNICEF Representative.

13. Lewandowski wins Exceptional Achievement Award at Laureus Sports awards as Italy named Team of the Year for winning Euro 2020

Robert Lewandowski was awarded the Exceptional Achievement Award at the Laureus Sports ceremony, while Italy was named Team of the Year.

The Poland international has been rewarded for his incredible form for Bayern Munich in recent years, having scored 41 times in the Bundesliga last season and 48 in all competitions.



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Insurance

1. Tata AIA Life Insurance joins hands with CSC for distribution of life insurance in rural areas

Tata AIA Life Insurance has partnered with Common Services Centers under the Ministry of Electronics and IT to engage its network of over 4 lakh village-level entrepreneurs at the last mile for distribution of life insurance plans.

2. Tata AIA partners with CSC to boost insurance penetration in rural India.

To deliver much-needed life insurance Protection cover to rural households, Tata AIA Life Insurance and Common Services Centers (CSC), under the Ministry of Electronics & IT, have partnered to engage its network of over 4 lakhs Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs) at the last mile for distribution of life insurance plan.

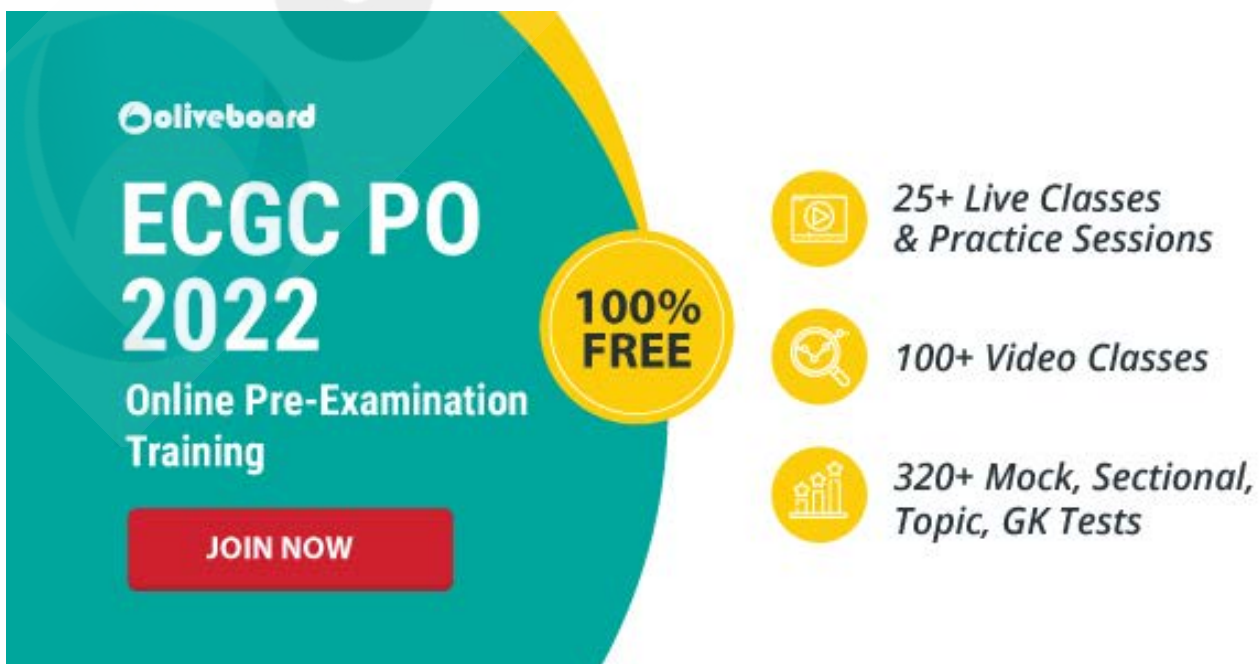
3. Govt enhances authorised share capital of three public sector general insurance companies

The government has enhanced authorised share capital of three public sector general insurance companies ' National Insurance Company Limited, Oriental Insurance Company Limited and United India Insurance Company. This will facilitate capital infusion of '5,000 crore in these companies Notification has amended merger schemes of 1973 related with these three insurance companies

4. Willis Towers Watson gains full ownership of WTW India, appoints Vivek Nath as head of India unit

Nasdaq-listed Willis Towers Watson (WTW), a global advisory, broking and solutions company, has received insurance regulator IRDAI's approval for a transaction leading to its acquisition of the remaining 51 per cent shareholding in Willis Towers Watson India Insurance Brokers Private Limited (WTW India).

Vivek Nath has been appointed as WTW's Head of India.






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India & World

1. India, Turkmenistan sign 4 MoUs for cooperation, agree to expand bilateral trade

India & Turkmenistan signed 4 agreements, including in financial intelligence & disaster management, as President Ram Nath Kovind met his Turkmen counterpart Serdar Berdimuhamedov & agreed to expand bilateral trade and energy cooperation to further strengthen the multifaceted partnership.

This is the first-ever visit of the President of India to independent Turkmenistan. Ambassador of India to Turkmenistan Dr Vidhu P Nair.

2. President Kovind arrives in Amsterdam; names new breed of yellow tulips 'Maitri'

President Ram Nath Kovind arrived in Amsterdam on the final leg of his two-nation visit - the first presidential trip to the Netherlands after 34 years.

During his visit to the Netherlands from April 4 to 7 at the invitation of King Willem Alexander and Queen Maxima, President Kovind would hold discussions with them and Prime Minister Mark Rutte.

3. Indian luxury handbag brand 'Aranyani' launched in New York

In line with the focus on the 'Make in India' and 'Local for Global' campaigns, the first luxury handbag brand from India amalgamating traditional Indian craftsmanship, contemporary format and design was launched in New York.

4. At 2+2 Dialogue India, US sign MoU to protect each other's satellites

India and the United States signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), which will clear the way for the ISRO's 'NETRA' in Bengaluru to start collaborating with the American Combined Space Operation Center (CSpOC) to protect satellites of both the nations from natural and man-made threats.

5. Cabinet approves signing of MoU between SEBI and FRC, Mongolia

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved a proposal for signing a bilateral Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and the Financial Regulatory Commission, Mongolia (FRC).

Established in 2006, the Financial Regulatory Commission (FRC), Mongolia, is a parliamentary authority.

6. Madagascar joins India-backed Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure

Madagascar became the 30th country to join the India-backed Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure that aims to help small island nations develop resilience to deal with the adverse impact of climate change. The CDRI is a global partnership that aims to promote the resilience of infrastructure systems to climate and disaster risks ensuring sustainable development PM had launched the CDRI during his address at the UN Climate Action Summit in 2019

7. India, Maldives ink seven MoUs to implement community development projects

India and Maldives on Monday signed seven Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) for projects to be built under the Indian grant assistance scheme for the High Impact Community Development Project through local bodies (HICDP).

MoUs were signed by the Foreign Minister Abdulla Shahid and Indian High Commissioner, Munu Mahawar.

8. India's participation as Guest of honour at the Paris Book Festival 2022

India was designated as the Guest of Honour Country at the Paris Book Festival 2022 organized from 21st to 24th April, 2022.

India Pavilion designed by National Institute of Design (NID), housing more than 15 digital and physical exhibitions displaying over 400 books published in various Indian languages representing the works of 65 Indian publishers, was inaugurated.

Environment

1. IREDA finances Blusmart Mobility Rs. 268 crores to purchase 3000 electric cars

In a bid to promote electric vehicles in the Delhi-NCR region, Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd the largest lender of the Renewable Energy sector in India, sanctioned a loan of Rs. 267.67 crores to BluSmart Mobility for the purchase of 3,000 all-electric cars. From the sanctioned loan of Rs. 267.67 crores, the first tranche of Rs. 35.70 has been disbursed. IREDA is a Mini Ratna (Category' I) Government of India Enterprise.

2. Environment Minister launches 'Prakriti' green initiatives for effective plastic waste management

In another step toward eliminating single-use plastic, Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav has launched 'Prakriti', a mascot to spread greater awareness about small changes that can be sustainably adopted in the lifestyle for a better environment.

India pledged to phase out Single Use Plastics (SUPs) by 2022.

3. India hosts Clean Energy Ministerial Senior Officials meeting

India is hosting the Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM) senior officials meetings.

The meeting is being organised to review the work of various work streams in Clean Energy Policies.

The Government of the India and the United Kingdom lead the plenary dialogue on the future of Energy Transition.

4. Ecuador becomes first country to give legal rights to wild animals

Ecuador has made history by becoming the first country to recognise the legal rights of individual wild animals.

The judgment was passed by the country's highest court when it heard a case for Estrellita, a woolly monkey who was taken from the wild when she was only 1 month old and was raised as a pet but died within a month after it was shifted to the zoo.

Ecuador Capital: Quito; Currency: United States Dollar

5. Scientists discover new eel species from Kerala, Bengal

A group of Indian scientists have discovered a new species of eel from among specimens collected from the Kalamukku and Digha Mohana fishing harbours in Kerala and West Bengal respectively.

The newly discovered eel belongs to the Congrid eels group and has been named Ariosoma indicum. The term Indicum means that it was found in India.

6. New shrimp species discovered off Lakshadweep

Scientists from the ICAR-National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources (NBFGR), focused on documentation of aquatic genetic resources with special attention on fish and shell fish resources, have discovered a new species of shrimp, which has been named Actinimenes koyas.



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Apps & Portals

1. CJI launched software 'FASTER' to transmit court orders swiftly

Chief Justice of India NV Ramana launched the 'Fast and Secured Transmission of Electronic Records', a digital platform to communicate interim orders, stay orders, bail orders etc of the apex court to the concerned authorities through a secured electronic communication channel. 'FASTER' system has been developed on a war-footing by the Registry in collaboration with NIC.

2. SEBI announces ideathon Manthan to promote innovation in the securities market

SEBI in association with the other market infrastructure institutions & QRTAs, has announced the launch of 'Manthan', an Ideathon for supporting new ideas and innovations in the securities market. The Ideathon was formally launched by Ms. Madhabi Puri Buch Chairperson, SEBI, at a function held in Mumbai on Wednesday, March 30, 2022.

3. Union Bank launches super-app UnionNXT, digital project SMBHAV

Union Bank of India launched its super-app named UnionNXT and digital transformation project SMBHAV with an investment outlay of around Rs 1,000 crore for the current financial year 2022-23 (FY23).

The public sector lender expects recovery from the spending in two years and aims to have 50 per cent business originating on the digital platform by 2025.

4. Tata Group officially launches super app Tata Neu

Tata Group has officially launched its much-anticipated super app Tata Neu, as it attempts to take on Amazon and Jio Platforms. The app will allow users to access a range of services from the company-owned brands including Air Asia, BigBasket, Croma, IHCL, Qmin, Starbucks, Tata 1Mg, Tata CLiQ, Tata Play, and Westside. Tata Sons chairman: N Chandrasekaran.

5. Government launches 'Broadcast Seva' portal to bring transparency

The Information and Broadcasting ministry launched the 'Broadcast Seva' portal to facilitate application and processing of licenses, permissions and registrations for broadcasters. The revamped portal is expected to bring transparency, accountability and responsiveness to the ecosystem. Anurag Thakur: Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Youth Affairs and Sports

6. G. Kishan Reddy launches the Utsav Portal at the inaugural day of Amrit Samagam Conference

Union Minister for Tourism, Culture and DONER G. Kishan Reddy inaugurated the 2 days Conference of Amrit Samagam being held from 12th ' 13th April in New Delhi.

During the inaugural day of the 2 days' Amrit Samagam Conference, Shri G. Kishan Reddy also launched the Utsav Portal to showcase all events, festivals and live darshans across India. The Utsav Portal website is a digital initiative launched by the Ministry of Tourism.

7. e-DAR portal to speed up accident compensation claims

Ministry of Roads, Transport and Highways has developed the portal named 'e-DAR' (e-Detailed Accident Report). Digitalised Detailed Accident Reports (DAR) will be uploaded on the portal for easy access. The web portal will be linked to the Integrated Road Accident Database (iRAD).

From iRAD, applications to more than 90% of the datasets would be pushed directly to e-DAR.

8. Integrated & hi-tech online portals, CROP and PQMS, to strengthen Indian Agriculture

Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar launched these two portals, one for the Computerized Registration of pesticide (CROP) and the other for the Plant Quarantine Management System (PQMS).

The new portals will benefit farmers, exporters as well as industrialists.

Acquisitions & Mergers

1. HP Acquires Conference Room Products Maker "Poly" Aiming To Become A Complete Hybrid Work Ecosystem Provider

HP has announced it is acquiring Poly, a company that specializes in video and audio equipment, for a purchase price of \$1.7 billion, with a total transaction value of \$3.3 billion, including debt. The deal is expected to close by the end of 2022.

Founded in 1990 and originally named Polycom, the company was acquired by headset maker Plantronics in 2019.

2. Axis Bank acquires Citi's India consumer business in a Rs 12,325-cr deal

US bank Citigroup has announced sale of its Indian consumer banking businesses, including credit cards, retail banking, wealth management and consumer loans, to private lender Axis Bank for Rs 12,325 crore, as part of its plans to exit retail operations in 13 markets.

Axis Bank is the fourth-largest issuer of credit cards with a total base of 8.6 million cards. Citi entered India in 1902 and started the consumer banking business in 1985.

3. HDFC twins conjoined: HDFC to be merged into HDFC Bank, create financial behemoth with \$169-billion market cap

The board of Housing Development Finance Corporation (HDFC), India's leading housing finance company with total assets under management of Rs 5.26 trillion and a market cap of Rs 4.44 trillion, has approved the firm's and its subsidiaries' merger with HDFC Bank, the country's leading private sector bank with a market cap of Rs 8.35 trillion.

HDFC Investments and HDFC Holdings are the two wholly-owned subsidiaries of HDFC.

4. Bank of Maharashtra to divest entire 4% stake in ISARC

Public sector lender Bank of Maharashtra will divest its entire stake of 4 per cent in India SME Asset Reconstruction Company for nearly Rs 4 crore.

Bank of Maharashtra (BoM) has executed a share purchase agreement dated April 6, 2022 for sale of entire equity stake of 4 per cent in India SME Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd (ISARC).

5. Elon Musk strikes deal to buy Twitter for \$44bn

The board of Twitter has agreed to a \$44bn (34.5bn) takeover offer from the billionaire Elon Musk.

Musk is the world's richest person, according to Forbes magazine, with an estimated net worth of \$273.6bn mostly due to his shareholding in electric vehicle maker Tesla which he runs. He also leads the aerospace firm SpaceX.

6. Tata group to merge Air Asia with Air India, seeks Competition Commission of India's approval

Tata-owned Air India has reached out to the anti-trust regulator Competition Commission of India (CCI) for the merger of its low-cost subsidiary AirAsia India.

AirAsia India, a low-cost Indian carrier, is run by the Tata Group. Presently, Tata Sons holds 83.67 per cent of the company.

7. Astral acquires controlling stake in Gem Paints for '194 cr; enters paints business

Plumbing pipes and building materials major Astral Limited announced acquisition of controlling stake in the operating business of Gem Paints Private Limited, marking a foray into the paints business. Astral Limited entered into a definitive agreement with Gem Paints to acquire 51 per cent equity stake in its operating paint business for a consideration of '194 crore.

8. Star9 Mobility emerges highest bidder for Govt's 51% stake in Pawan Hans

Star9 Mobility Pvt Ltd has emerged as the highest bidder for the government's 51 per cent stake in Pawan Hans Ltd (PHL) with a bid of '211.14 crore. The government had set a reserve price of '199.2 crore based on the valuation of the experts.

Agri-Business

1. APEDA develops matrix for export of 50 agri products

APEDA has developed a matrix for 50 agricultural products based on their competitive advantage, uniqueness and supply side advantage. It has also set up a market intelligence cell to ensure sustainable shipments.

2. Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying launches One Health pilot project in Uttarakhand

The key objective of the Unit is to develop a national One Health roadmap based on the learnings of the pilot project implementation. Inter-ministerial One Health committee under the chairmanship of Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India has been established to lead the implementation of the One Health Support Unit.

3. India Pulses and Grains Association appoints Bimal Kothari as Chairman

India Pulses and Grains Association (IPGA), the apex body for India's pulses trade and industry, has appointed Bimal Kothari as the new Chairman with immediate effect.

He has been the Vice-Chairman of IPGA since 2011 when the trade body was formed. Kothari takes over as the third chairman of the association after Pravin Dongre and Jitu Bheda.

4. Union Agriculture Minister inaugurates National Conference on Agriculture- Kharif Campaign ' 2022

Union Agriculture Minister, Narendra Singh Tomar inaugurated National Conference on Agriculture for Kharif Campaign 2022-23 at NASC Complex, New Delhi.

The Minister expressed satisfaction that as per 2nd Advance Estimates (2021-22), total food grains production in the country is estimated at 3160 lakh tonnes which will be an all time record.

5. APEDA signs MoU with NRDC for the implementation of the Agri Export Policy

Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) on 22 April to synergize the activities in the interest of agriculture and allied sectors.

The MoU was signed by Secretary APEDA, and NRDC CMD Commodore (Rtd) Amit Rastogi. APEDA Chairman : Dr M. Angamuthu.



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PSUs

1. BPCL collaborates with Microsoft to leverage cloud and AI to redefine customer experience

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPCL) and Microsoft announced a strategic cloud partnership aimed at accelerating the firm's digital transformation and shaping the future of innovation.

Through a seven-year collaboration, Microsoft will provide infrastructure as a service (IAAS), platform as a service (PAAS), network and security services on the cloud.

2. NMDC Wins two Awards at 80th SKOCH Summit 2022

The largest iron ore producer of India, National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC), under Ministry of Steel awarded one gold and one silver award in the 80th SKOCH Summit and SKOCH Awards recently conducted by SKOCH, New Delhi.

The theme for the SKOCH Summit was 'State of BFSI & PSUs'.

NMDC: Chairman and Managing Director: Sumit Deb; Headquarters: Hyderabad.

3. India's first pure green hydrogen plant commissioned in Jorhat

Oil India Limited (OIL) has taken the first significant step towards Green Hydrogen Economy in India with the commissioning of India's First 99.999% pure Green Hydrogen pilot plant, with an installed capacity of 10 kg per day at its Jorhat Pump Station in Assam. The plant was commissioned in a record time of 3 months.

OIL: Chairman and MD: Sushil Chandra Mishra; HQ: Duliajan

4. NMDC Conferred at PRSI Awards 2022

The National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd. (NMDC), swept the Public Relations Awards 2022 conferred by Public Relations Society of India (PRSI), winning the first position for their Corporate Website, Annual Report, Layout and Design of Newsletter, and CSR Corporate Video.

NMDC is a Navratna PSU under Ministry of Steel. NMDC: Chairman and Managing Director: Sumit Deb; HQ: Hyderabad



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States/UTs

Andhra Pradesh

1. Andhra Pradesh Gets A New Map, Doubles Districts To 26

Andhra Pradesh got a new administrative map, with the creation of 13 new districts, in a massive overhaul that the state government said will improve governance and delivery of services.

The new districts are: Parvathipuram Manyam, Alluri Seetharamaraju, Anakapalli, Kakinada, Konaseema, Eluru, NTR, Palanadu, Bapatla, Nandyala, Sri Satya Sai, Annamayya and Tirupati.

2. Andhra Pradesh launches Talli-Bidda express

Andhra Pradesh launched YSR Talli-Bidda express, a dedicated transportation facility for new mothers who deliver at Government hospitals. The government was revamping the medical and health department under nadu-nedu. Facilities and services were being improved. Medicines were being supplied as per WHO and GMP standards in the government hospitals. The service is coordinated by 102 /108 call center which operates 24X7.

3. Andhra Pradesh's First 'She Auto' Stands Set Up In Tirupati

In a move to provide safe transport to women and girl students, the police in Andhra Pradesh's Chittoor have set up three 'She Auto' stands, the first of its kind in the state. The three 'She Auto' stands have been set up in RTC Bus Stand, Mahila University, and Ruia Hospital in Tirupati.

Gujarat

1. President of India Inaugurates Madhavpur Ghed Fair

The President of India, Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated five-day long Madhavpur Ghed Fair at Madhavpur Ghed, Porbandar in Gujarat.

Since 2018, the Government of Gujarat in association with the Ministry of Culture is organizing this fair every year to celebrate the sacred union of Lord Krishna and Rukmini.

The fair was suspended for 2 years due to Covid-induced restrictions.

2. Prime Minister addresses 14th Foundation Day of Umiya Mata Temple in Gujarat's Junagadh

On the occasion of Ram Navami, PM Narendra Modi addressed the 14th Foundation Day celebration at Umiya Mata Temple at Gathila, Junagadh in Gujarat via video conferencing.

Umiya Mata Temple at Gathila has become a place of social consciousness and tourism. Inauguration of the temple was also done by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in 2008(When, he was the CM of Gujarat).

3. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurates K K Patel Hospital at Bhuj

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, inaugurated the K K Patel hospital, a Marengo Asia Healthcare network hospital, at Bhuj.

The addition of K K Patel Hospital (KKPH) which is the third hospital of Marengo Asia Healthcare network takes the total bed strength to 1300 plus, with approximately 3500 employees, and about 450 doctors. The Levua Patel Trust has built K K Patel Super Speciality Hospital.

4. PM Modi to launch multiple development projects at Banas Dairy Sankul in Diyodar; To also lay foundation stone of GCTM

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will dedicate to the nation and lay the foundation stone of multiple development projects at Banas Dairy Sankul in Diyodar, Banaskantha, Gujarat.

Mr Modi will also lay the foundation stone of WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine (GCTM) in Jamnagar.

5. India's first portable solar rooftop system unveiled in Gandhinagar

The country's first portable solar rooftop system was inaugurated at Swaminarayan Akshardham temple complex in Gandhinagar.

The installation of 10 PV Port systems in the temple complex has been supported by the German development agency Deutsche Gesellschaft fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).

6. PM Modi inaugurated projects worth Rs 22,000 cr in Dahod and Panchmahal,Gujarat

Projects which the PM inaugurated were alone worth over Rs 1,400 crore.

Among these, Modi inaugurated Dahod District Southern Area Regional Water Supply Scheme, constructed at Narmada River Basin, which is worth around Rs 840 crore.

Foundation stone for manufacturing of 9000 HP Electric Locomotives at the Production Unit in Dahod was also laid. Project cost is Rs.20000 cr

7. PM inaugurates Global Patidar Business Summit

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the Global Patidar Business Summit (GPBS), being organized by Sardardham, via video conferencing. The Chief Minister of Gujarat, Shri Bhupendrabhai Patel and Union Ministers and industrial leaders were among those present on the occasion. Patidars are spread all over Gujarat, with a higher concentration in North Gujarat and Sa

Himachal Pradesh

1. Himachal Pradesh CM announces 50% discount on travelling in HRTC buses for women

Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur has announced 50 per cent discount on travelling in HRTC buses for women. He also announced that all power consumers upto 125 units will get zero bill from July 1. Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar - Governor of Himachal Pradesh

Jharkhand

1. Jamtara in Jharkhand becomes country's first district to have a library in every village

Jamtara in Jharkhand has become the only district in the country where all gram panchayats have community libraries.

This district with a population of about eight lakh has a total of 118 gram panchayats under six blocks and each panchayat has a well-equipped library which is open for students from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Karnataka

1. Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai sets up 'Nandini Ksheera Samridhi Sahakara Bank' to help milk producers

The CM was speaking after releasing the logo of the Nandini Ksheera Samridhi Sahakara Bank at a programme in which UM for Home and Cooperation Amit Shah too participated.

The State government provided Rs.100 crore as its share capital and the Milk Federation and Cooperatives would contribute Rs.260 crore as their share of capital for the proposed cooperative bank.

Maharashtra

1. Maharashtra: Chandrapur records third hottest place in the world, witnesses first forest fire

The first forest fire was recorded in Chandrapur district, the third hottest place in the entire world.

The fire was witnessed in the area of Irai dam.

The fire was seen at the border of Regional forest area, private farms, and buffer zone of national tiger project.

2. Radio Aksh: India's 1st Internet Radio For Visually Challenged Launched In Nagpur

Nagpur's 96-year-old institution, The Blind Relief Association Nagpur (TBRAN) and Samdrushti Kshamata Vikas Avam Anusandhan Mandal (Saksham) are the organisations behind this idea. The channel will be available on various internet radio platforms for free.

To be run 24/7, Radio Aksh would initially have six hours of content.

3. Maharashtra's Tourism Minister inaugurates India's 1st bus service with 'Tap In, Tap Out' or fully digital ticketing facility

Maharashtra's Tourism Minister Aditya Thackeray inaugurated India's first bus service with 'Tap In, Tap Out' or the fully digital ticketing facility.

The service was inaugurated on one of the BEST buses plying on the Gateway of India to Churchgate route, with plans afoot to expand the facility on all 438 routes in the near future.

Manipur

1. Manipur celebrated Khongjom Day at Khongjom War Memorial Complex

Manipur celebrated Khongjom Day at Khongjom War Memorial Complex at Khebaching of Thoubal district.

Khongjom Day is celebrated every year on the 23rd of April remembering those gallant Manipuri warriors who made supreme sacrifice fighting against the British to protect the freedom of Manipur in the battle of Khongjom during the 1891 Anglo-Manipuri War. Manipur: Governor: La. Ganeshan; Chief Minister: N. Biren Singh

Nagaland

1. ADB to provide USD 2 mn loan to support urban development in Nagaland

The Asian Development Bank will provide a USD 2 million loan for designing climate resilient urban infrastructure, strengthening institutional capacity and improving municipal resource mobilisation in Nagaland. Government of India and ADB on signed the USD 2 million Project Readiness Financing (PRF) loan, the Manila- headquartered lender said in a release.

Rajasthan

1. Festival of Gangaur being celebrated across Rajasthan

In Rajasthan, the festival of Gangaur was celebrated across the state with traditional reverence and gaiety. Women did pray for happiness and prosperity by worshipping Isar-Gaur that is Lord Shiva and Parvati at homes and temples. On this occasion, the royal procession of Gangaur took place after two years due to the COVID pandemic in the capital Jaipur. The five-day Gangaur festival has started in Udaipur.

2. Trade Facilitation Centre At Jodhpur Inaugurated

Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Union Minister of Jal Shakti and Smt. Darshana V Jardosh, Minister of State for Textiles & Railways today jointly inaugurated the Trade Facilitation Centre at Boranada, Jodhpur.

Tamil Nadu

1. Tamil Nadu CM M K Stalin inaugurates Periyar Memorial Samathuvapuram

The chief minister of Tamil Nadu Mr. M K Stalin inaugurated today the Periyar Memorial Samathuvapuram (equality village) in Periyakozhuvaari Panchayat in Vanur taluk of Villupuram district in Tamil Nadu adjoining Puducherry. The Samathuvapuram concept was conceived to ensure an egalitarian society.

2. Tamil Nadu will celebrate April 14 as 'Equality Day' in memory of BR Ambedkar: CM Stalin

Making a statement under Rule 110 in the Assembly, CM MK Stalin said that Ambedkar's birth anniversary will be observed as 'Samathuva Naal' (Equality Day). The CM also announced that selected works of Ambedkar will be translated to Tamil by the TN government.

CM Stalin said that the day will be celebrated like how Periyar's birthday is observed as 'Social Justice Day'. September 17, the birth anniversary of social reformer Periyar EV Ramasamy.

Telangana

1. Telangana to get world's largest 3-wheeler EV making plant

California-based Biliti Electric Inc (Biliti) has announced that it would be establishing the world's largest electric three-wheeler factory, with a production capacity of 240,000 EVs per year, in Telangana.

The new plant is estimated to bring an investment of US\$ 150 million and generate over 3,000 jobs.

Uttar Pradesh

1. UP CM Yogi Adityanath Launches 'School Chalo Abhiyan'; Aims For 100 Per Cent Enrollment

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launched the 'School Chalo Abhiyan' with an aim to ensure 100 per cent enrolment in primary and upper primary schools across the state.

The campaign is being launched after two years due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

2. India's first Amrit Sarovar prepared in UP's Rampur

Uttar Pradesh, India's first 'Amrit Sarovar' has been completed in Rampur's Gram Panchayat Patwai.

Seventy-five ponds in Rampur were selected to be developed as Amrit Sarovar. Out of the selected ponds, the work of pond of village panchayat Patwai of development block Shahbad was completed.

Andaman and Nicobar Island

1. Andaman and Nicobar Islands India's first to be 'Covid-free'

The Andaman and Nicobar Islands has become the first state or Union territory in India to be officially rid of the Covid-19 infection, at least for now, with active cases falling to zero in the islands.

The UT had reported a total of 4,932 cases and 62 deaths from the virus.

Jammu and Kashmir

1. J&K: 9th-century sculpture of Lord Vishnu recovered from Jehlum river in Pulwama

In the Kashmir Valley, an ancient sculpture of Lord Vishnu dating back to 9th Century was recovered from river Jehlum in Kakapora area of the Pulwama district.

Some labourers while extracting sand in river Jehleum in Lelhara Kakapora area of Pulwama district, found an ancient sculpture from the river.

2. Palli becomes India's first 'carbon neutral panchayat'

The nondescript hamlet of Palli in Jammu and Kashmir's border district of Samba became the country's first 'carbon neutral panchayat' with Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi dedicating to the nation a 500 KV solar plant, installed in a record time of nearly three weeks.

The project was completed at a cost of ' 2.75 crore in a record time.

3. Cabinet approves 540 MW Kwar Hydroelectric project in J&K's Kishtwar

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the construction of 540 MW Kwar Hydro Electric project located on river Chenab in Kishtwar district of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. The project will be implemented by Chenab Valley Power Projects Private Limited which is a joint venture company between NHPC & JKSPDC. The project has been approved with an investment of over 4 thousand 526 crore rupees.

Ladakh

1. Leh to sign tripartite agreement to develop Hanley as Dark Sky Sanctuary

Leh Administration will sign a tripartite agreement to develop Hanley as Dark Sky Sanctuary and Leh Hill Council, Wildlife and Tourism departments will jointly develop the area for Astro tourism.

The village of Hanle is located in the Hanle river valley.

Hanle is a fantastic destination, which is home to the 17th century Hanle Monastery.

2. Ladakh: Community museum inaugurated in Gya - Sasoma villages of Leh district

In Ladakh, a community museum was inaugurated in Gya - Sasoma villages of Leh district today in the direction of preserving and forwarding its rich cultural heritage to future generations.

Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, LAHDC, Leh Chairman/CEC Tashi Gyaltson inaugurated the Community Museum in Gya - Sasoma.

3. First IT Training & Services centre of Ethosh Digital inaugurated in Leh

Leh has taken the first step towards establishing Information Technology sector.

Ladakh Additional Director General of Police SS Khandare has inaugurated the first IT Training and Services centre of Ethosh Digital, in Leh.

Ethosh Digital is a California-based Multinational Company, working in the field of digital communications and AR-VR products.

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Committees

1. Sebi constitutes committee to strengthen governance of market infrastructure institutions

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) constituted an ad-hoc committee for reviewing and making recommendations for further strengthening of governance norms at Market Infrastructure Institutions (MIIs).

The six-member committee will be chaired by G Mahalingam, former whole-time member of SEBI,

2. Govt forms advisory committee for Semicon India, under the chairmanship of electronics and telecom minister Ashwini Vaishnaw

The government has formed an advisory committee to drive the Rs 72,000-crore project, Semicon India, to make the country a global leader in semiconductor manufacturing, design and innovation.

The committee includes venture capitalist Vinod Dham, who led Intel's iconic Pentium microprocessor from inception, and Arogyaswami Paulraj.

3. Ministry of Information and Broadcasting constitutes AVGC promotion task force

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting announced that in pursuance of the announcement made in the Union Budget 2022-23, an Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming and Comics (AVGC) promotion task force has been constituted to promote the AVGC sector in the country under the aegis of Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

4. Two separate Sebi panels to review ownership norms of MFs, trustees

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has set up two separate expert groups to examine the roles, eligibility criteria and functions of sponsors and trustees at asset management companies (AMCs).

A sponsor is like a promoter who brings in the capital for setting up an AMC, while a trustee plays a supervisory role and is tasked with protecting investors interest.

5. SEBI restructures its advisory committee on market data

Sebi has restructured its advisory committee on market data that recommends policy measures pertaining to areas like securities market data access and privacy.

The committee is chaired by M S Sahoo, Professor at National Law University, Delhi and former chairperson, Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI).

6. Sebi Rejigs Advisory Panel On Leveraging Regulatory, Technology Solutions

SEBI has reconstituted its advisory committee, which provides guidance on enhancing the regulator's technological capabilities and on exploring appropriate technological solutions for early detection of market anomalies.

The Advisory Committee for Leveraging Regulatory and Technology Solutions (ALeRTS) will now be headed by Sunil Bajpai, former Principal Advisor of TRAI.



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POLICY/EXCHANGE RATE & RESERVE RATIO	PERCENTAGE
Repo Rate	4.40%
Reverse Repo Rate	3.35%
Marginal Standing Facility Rate (MSF)	4.65%
Bank Rate	4.65%

APPOINTMENTS

APPOINTMENT	POST
Dr. S Raju	Director-General of the Geological Survey of India (GSI)
Aamir Khan	Brand ambassador of PharmEasy
Vikas Kumar	Managing Director of Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC)
Vinay Mohan Kwatra	Foreign Secretary of India
Viktor Orban	Prime Minister of Hungary
Arunabha Ghosh	UN Chief in High-Level Group on Net-Zero Emissions Commitments
Aprajita Sharrma	Vice-Chairperson of The International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
Murali M Natrajan	Managing Director and CEO of the DCB bank
Aleksandar Vui	President of Serbia
Dr Manoj Soni	Chairman of Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)
Anshuman Misra	Chief Product and Technology Officer (CPTO) of MobiKwik
Shehbaz Sharif	Prime Minister of Pakistan
Jay Shah	Member Board Representative of ICC Cricket Committee
Harsh V Shringla	India's chief G20 coordinator
Iqbal Singh Lalpura	Chairperson of the National Commission for Minorities
Vikram Dev Dutt	Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Air India Asset Holding (AIAHL)
Robin Uthappa	Brand ambassador for Brain Health Initiative
Lieutenant General Manoj Pande	India's Army Chief
Lieutenant General Manoj Kumar Katiyar	Director General of Military Operations
LV Vaidyanathan	Chief Executive Officer of Procter & Gamble
Ajay Kumar Sood	Principal Scientific Advisor To Government Of India
Suman Bery	Vice-Chairman of NITI Aayog
Justice Vineet Saran	Chairman Ravi-Beas Water Tribunal
Emmanuel Macron	President of France

N Chandrasekaran	Chairman of Tata Digital.
Krishnan Ramanujam	Chairperson of National Association of Software and Services Companies (Nasscom) 2022-2023
Vishakha Mulye	Chief Executive Officer of Aditya Birla Capital
Satya Easwaran	Wipro Country Head for India
Vijay Sampla	Chairperson of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC)
Anshul Swami	Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Shivalik Small Finance Bank
Lieutenant General Baggavalli Somashekar Raju	Vice Chief of Army Staff (VCOAS)

AWARDS

WINNER	AWARD
Aarefa Johari	Chameli Devi Jain Award
Prof Ramdarash Mishra	Saraswati Samman
Amar Mitra	O.Henry prize
Kamloops Indian Residential School	2022 World Press Photo of the Year
Narendra Modi	Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award
Falguni Nayar	EY Entrepreneur of the Year 2021
Divyanka Tripathi	Champion Of Change Award
Dr. Bhushan Kumar	International Gandhi Award for Leprosy
Sahyog Kushtha Yagna Trust	International Gandhi Award for Leprosy
Dhananjay Verma	Vanmali Kathasheersh Samman
Geetanjali Shri	Vanmali Rashtriya Katha Samman
Chandan Pandey	Vanmali Yuva Katha Samman
Kathadesh	Vanmali Sahityik Patrika
Prabhat Patnaik	Malcom Adiseshiah Award 2022
UDAN (UdeDeshkaAamNagrik) Scheme	Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Public Administration 2020
Volodymyr Zelenskyy	John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award 2022
David Attenborough	Champions of the Earth Lifetime Achievement Award
'Bidyanando' Kishore Kumar Das	Commonwealth Points of Light Award
Meghalaya e-proposal system	World Summit on the Information Society Forum (WSIS) Prizes, 2022
Max Verstappen	Laureus World Sportsman of the Year 2022
Atal Tunnel	Indian Building Congress' (IBC) 'Best Infrastructure Project' award
Charudutt Mishra	Whitely Gold Award

IMPORTANT DAYS

DATE	DAY	THEME
April 4 th	International Day for Mine Awareness	Safe Ground, Safe Steps, Safe Home
April 5 th	National Maritime Day	Sustainable Shipping beyond Covid-19
April 6 th	International Day of Sport for Development and Peace (IDSDP)	Securing a Sustainable and Peaceful Future for All
April 7 th	World Health Day	Our Planet, Our Health
April 12 th	International Day of Human Space Flight	
April 15 th	World Art Day	
April 18 th	World Heritage Day	Heritage and Climate
April 19 th	World Liver Day	
April 21 st	Civil Services Day	
April 21 st	World Creativity and Innovation Day	Collaboration
April 22 th	World Earth Day	Invest In Our Planet
April 23 rd	World Book and Copyright Day	Read, so you never feel low
April 23 rd	English Language Day	
April 24 th	National Panchayati Raj Day (NPRD)	
April 24 th	International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace	
24 th to 30 th April	World Immunization Week	Long Life for All
April 25 th	World Malaria Day	
April 26 th	World Intellectual Property Day	IP and Youth: Innovating for a Better Future
April 28 th	International Girls in ICT Day	Access and Safety
April 28 th	World Day for Safety and Health at Work	Participation And Social Dialogue In Creating A Positive Safety And Health Culture

OBITUARY

OBITUARY	RELATED FIELD
Manju Singh	Hindi television presenter and actor
Bilquis Bano Edhi	Pakistani humanitarian
Prafulla Kar	Lyricist, Singer and Music Director
J.D. Rymbai	Former CM of Meghalaya
K Sankaranarayanan	Senior Congress leader
Binapani Mohanty	Writer
Mwai Kibaki	Former President of Kenya
M. Vijayan	Structural biologist
Ravi Parthasarathy	Former non-executive chairman of IL&FS
Arun Kumar Bhaduri	Former director of the Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research
Elvera Britto	Former Indian women's hockey team captain

IMPORTANT STATIC & CURRENT INFO
INDIAN STATES, CAPITALS, CHIEF MINISTERS & GOVERNORS

STATE	CAPITAL	CHIEF MINISTER	GOVERNOR
Andhra Pradesh	Amaravati	Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy	Biswa Bhusan Harichandn
Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar	Pema Khandu	Brigadier B.D. Mishra (retd)
Assam	Dispur	HimantaBiswaSarma	Prof. Jagdish Mukhi
Bihar	Patna	Nitish Kumar	Phagu Chauhan
Chhattisgarh	Raipur	Bhupesh Baghel	AnusuiyaUikey
Goa	Panaji	Pramod Sawant	P.S. Sreedharan Pillai
Gujarat	Gandhi Nagar	Vijaybhai R. Rupani	Acharya Dev Vrat
Haryana	Chandigarh	Manohar Lal Khattar	BandaruDattatraya
Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	Jai Ram Thakur	Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar
Jharkhand	Ranchi	Hemant Soren	Ramesh Bais
Karnataka	Bengaluru	Basavaraj Bommai	Thaawarchand Gehlot
Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram	Pinarayi Vijayan	Arif Mohammed Khan
Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	Shivraj Singh Chauhan	MangubhaiChhaganbhai Patel
Maharashtra	Mumbai	Uddhav Thackrey	Bhagat Singh Koshyari
Manipur	Imphal	N Biren Singh	La. Ganesan
Meghalaya	Shillong	Conrad Kongkal Sangma	Satya Pal Malik
Mizoram	Aizawl	Pu Zoramthanga	Dr Kambhampati Haribabu
Nagaland	Kohima	Neiphiu Rio	Jagdish Mukhi
Odisha	Bhubaneshwar	Naveen Patnaik	Ganeshi Lal
Punjab	Chandigarh	Bhagwant Mann	Banwarilal Purohit
Rajasthan	Jaipur	Ashok Gehlot	Kalraj Mishra
Sikkim	Gangtok	PS Golay	Ganga Prasad
Tamil Nadu	Chennai	M. K. Stalin	R. N. Ravi
Telangana	Hyderabad	K. Chandrasekhar Rao	TamilisaiSoundararajan
Tripura	Agartala	Biplab Kumar Deb	SatyadeoNarain Arya
UttarPradesh	Lucknow	Yogi Aditya Nath	Anandiben Patel
Uttarakhand	Dehradun	Pushkar Singh Dhami	Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh
West Bengal	Kolkata	Mamata Banerjee	Jagdeep Dhankhar

UNION TERRITORIES, LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS & ADMINISTRATORS

UNION TERRITORY	LT. GOVERNOR & ADMINISTRATOR
Andaman and Nicobar Island (UT)	Admiral D K Joshi (Lieutenant Governor)
Chandigarh (UT)	Banwarilal Purohit (Administrator)
Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu (UT)	Praful Patel (Administrator)
Delhi (NCT)	Anil Bajjal (Lieutenant Governor)
Jammu and Kashmir (UT)	Manoj Sinha (Lieutenant Governor)
Lakshadweep (UT)	Praful Patel (Administrator)
Puducherry (UT)	Dr.Tamilisai Soundararajan (Addl. Charge) (Lieutenant Governor)
Ladakh (UT)	Radha Krishna Mathur (Lieutenant Governor)

UNION MINISTERS & PORTFOLIO

UNION MINISTER	PORTFOLIO
Narendra Modi	Ministry of personnel, public grievances and pensions Department of Atomic Energy Department of Space
Rajnath Singh	Ministry of Defence
Amit Shah	Ministry of Home Affairs Ministry of Cooperation
Nitin Gadkari	Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
Nirmala Sitharaman	Ministry of Finance Ministry of Corporate Affairs
Piyush Goyal	Ministry of Commerce and Industry Ministry of Textiles Ministry of Consumer affairs, food and public distribution
Narendra Singh Tomar	Ministry of agriculture and Farmers welfare
Dr Subrahmanyam Jaishankar	Ministry of External Affairs
Arjun Munda	Ministry of Tribal Affairs
Smriti Zubin Irani	Ministry of Women and child Development
Dharmendra Pradhan	Ministry of Education Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
Pralhad Joshi	Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs Ministry of coal Ministry of Mines
Narayan Tatu Rane	Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
SarbanandaSonowal	Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH)
Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi	Ministry of Minority Affairs
Dr. Virendra Kumar	Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

Giriraj Singh	Ministry of Rural Development Ministry of Panchayati Raj
Jyotiraditya M. Scindia	Ministry of Civil Aviation
Ramchandra Prasad Singh	Ministry of Steel
Ashwini Vaishnaw	Ministry of Railways Ministry of Communications Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
Pashu Pati Kumar Paras	Ministry of Food Processing Industries
Gajendra Singh Shekhawat	Ministry of Jal Shakti
Kiren Rijiju	Ministry of Law and Justice
Raj Kumar Singh	Ministry of Power Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
Hardeep Singh Puri	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
Mansukh L. Mandaviya	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers
Bhupender Yadav	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Ministry of Labour and Employment
Mahendra Nath Pandey	Ministry of Heavy Industries
Parshottam Rupala	Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
G. Kishan Reddy	Ministry of Culture Ministry of Tourism Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region
Anurag Singh Thakur	Ministry of Information and Broadcasting Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports



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